

Program: Community Mental Health Services Block Grant

Agency: Department of Health and Human Services

Bureau: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Rating: Adequate

Program Type: Block/Formula

Program Summary:

The Community Mental Health Services Block Grant provides funds to states by formula to support community mental health services for adults with serious mental illness and children with serious emotional disturbance.

The assessment found:

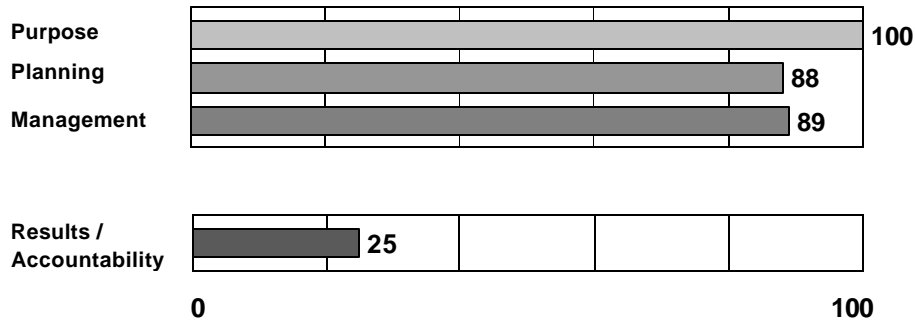
- The Block Grant is the only federal program that provides funds to every state to develop a comprehensive, community-based system of care for individuals with serious mental illness (SMI) and serious emotional disturbance (SED) who are uninsured or who have no mental health coverage.
- The formula for distributing funds to states does not use prevalence of SMI and SED. However, state surveys confirm that the Block Grant is serving low-income individuals with SMI and the maintenance of effort requirement guards against supplantation.
- As a part of the transition to performance partnerships, the program has adopted new long-term outcome measures for states to report on in exchange for additional flexibility. The program does not yet have multiple years of data to measure progress on all newly-adopted long-term outcomes.
- The program will undergo the first of three consecutive independent evaluation studies this year.
- The program does not provide a budget presentation that clearly ties the impact of funding decisions on expected performance. Having new outcome measures in place will enable the agency to better understand the impact of changes in funding and make budget decisions based on program performance.

In response to these findings, the Administration:

1. Proposes to fund competitive planning grants to states to more rapidly facilitate needed changes in the mental health system, in response to the report from the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health.
2. Will continue to work with states to facilitate the transition from the Block Grant to performance partnerships to provide states additional flexibility in exchange for program performance.
3. Will develop an efficiency measure and begin collecting data in the next year.
4. Will identify baselines and targets for the number of SAMHSA-identified, evidence-based practices in each state and the percentage of service population coverage for each practice.

Program Funding Level (in millions of dollars)

<u>2003 Actual</u>	<u>2004 Estimate</u>	<u>2005 Estimate</u>
437	435	436



Key Performance Measures

Year Target Actual

<i>Key Performance Measures</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Target</i>	<i>Actual</i>
Long-term Measure: Rate of readmission to State psychiatric hospitals (a) within 30 days (b) within 180 days	2000		8.2/18.1
	2008	5/15.1	
Annual Measure: Number of SAMHSA-identified, evidence-based practices in each state and the percentage of service population coverage for each practice.			
Annual Measure: Rate of consumers/family members reporting positively about outcomes for (a) adults and (b) children/adolescents.	2000		70/63
	2005	73/65	