

Guide to Commenting on the Mental Health Plan

The public is invited to comment online regarding the State Plan of the Mental Health Block Grant for New Hampshire. The Bureau of Behavioral Health (BBH) prepares the plan and uses the funds primarily to maintain Peer Support in New Hampshire communities statewide.

Comments may be submitted online at any time by going to
<https://bgas.samhsa.gov/>

When reaching the site, look for STATE USERS on the left, and click on the CMHC Block Grant (the most recent year will be displayed) LAUNCH. (*Do not click on SAPT.*) This will take you to the login box. The login must be typed in exactly as shown below.

Your USER NAME is: NH_citizen
Your PASSWORD is: Concord#836560

The home page and all single sections of the application permit Public Feedback by clicking the Submit Feedback link, near the top of each page.

ABOUT THE PLAN

PART C is the New Hampshire state plan.

Section I through III contain the NARRATIVE. This describes the NH public community mental health system and services, for the Adult System and the Children's System.

Section III #2 is titled **Goals, Targets, and Action Plans** These PERFORMANCE MEASURES track the State's progress on key elements of the plan. The national outcome measures (NOMS) are ones that all states must use, to help assess the nation's public community mental health services. The performance measure data justifies the federal funds that are awarded to each state.

The NH plan is determined by managerial, financial, and administrative decisions involving other state data, assessments, planning and policy considerations. The plan is indirectly linked to other state efforts, such as the Mental Health Commission Reports and the Department of Health and Human Services MH "Ten Year Plan" (A Strategy for Restoration, 2008).

The State's biennial budget process, Medicaid regulations, and legislative procedures, should be taken into consideration when commenting about changes within the public MH system, as these are the primary drivers of the system's boundaries, available funds, and feasibility.

The public may also access the MH Plans and Reports on the DHHS web site.

http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/DHHS/DHHS_SITE/default.htm

Click on Mental Health (on the Most Requested list on the left), then click on Behavioral Health (first item, center), and then click on State Planning (last item on the list on the right). All of the block grant materials are there, including the federal Guidance for preparing the application. The State Planner contact information is also provided, or e-mail lustinich@dhhs.state.nh.us