

REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE
Pursuant to P.A. 63 of 2011
Section 302
Mental Health Study Response

Section 302: The department shall provide a report to the members of the senate and house appropriations subcommittees on corrections and community health, the senate and house fiscal agencies, MDCH, and the state budget director with a report on the actions taken to implement the recommendations of the mental health study required under section 302 of 2007 PA 124 with which it agrees and an explanation of any disagreements with recommendations. It is the intent of the legislature to review the department’s implementation plan and, in coordination with the department, to identify funds with which to implement the plan, as appropriate.

Assessment and Screening:

One of the recommendations from the Mental Health Study was the adoption of a standardized assessment tool. The department successfully implemented a reception screening/appraisal/evaluation process in 2008 that is consistent with National Credentialing Council for Healthcare Professionals (NCCHP) and the American Psychological Association (APA) prison mental health programs. Every inmate who arrives at the reception center is seen face-to-face by a Qualified Mental Health Provider (QMHP). This intake process effectively identifies prisoners with mental illness, and the Department now has an 18% mental health population in comparison to a previous 7% mental health population prior to 2008.

Overview of Mental Health Activities:

As part of Section 302 of PA 124 of 2007 funds were appropriated to contract for an independent study of mental health. In the final report that was prepared there were several recommendations in which the Department agreed to implement. The table below describes the mental health activities that are currently taking place related to the recommendations it agreed to implement. A brief explanation of each of the activities, and the related recommendation number it corresponds to from the original report is included in the table. Many of these activities are complete, whereas a few are still in progress. That information is listed in the last column of the table.

MDOC Activities	Explanation of Activities	Corresponding Recommendation from Mental Health Study	Status of Activities
Consolidation of Mental Health Services	The Corrections Mental Health Program employees have become employees of MDOC. The consolidated mental health unit has been under the leadership of the Mental Health Services Director since last year.	1, 2, 15, 26	Complete

MDOC Activities	Explanation of Activities	Corresponding Recommendation from Mental Health Study	Status of Activities
Operating Procedures	Policies have been updated to reflect changes in segregation for prisoners with a mental illness. Additionally, language, definitions, and general updates are being completed in all relevant mental health policies and procedures.	4, 5, 6, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 23, 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 38, 40	In progress. All mental health Operating Procedures are currently under review.
MHM Correctional Services, Inc. Contract	A contract with MHM was established in April 2010 to assist in filling psychiatric vacancies.	11	Complete
Development of a Mental Health Continuous Quality Improvement Committee	A Mental Health Quality Improvement Committee met in 2011 with the goal of facilitating, communicating, and evaluating measurable improvements of mental health services. That separate Committee has now combined quality improvement activities with Health Care to ensure integrated services.	7, 9, 10, 22, 24, 25	Complete
Pharmacy Service and Medication Management	The Pharmacy Operating Procedure has been revised to include improved medication controls, and improved access and accountability. The Medical Services Advisory Committee (MSAC) and Psychiatric Services Advisory Committee (PSAC) continue to monitor the overall system of prescribing patterns and formulary changes.	12, 13, 14, 16, 41	Complete

MDOC Activities	Explanation of Activities	Corresponding Recommendation from Mental Health Study	Status of Activities
Diversion Strategies	A workgroup consisting of various State agencies and community partners are working on an action plan for the Governor. A primary goal of the plan is to increase the rate of diversion (when it is appropriate) from incarceration for individuals with mental illness. The group is identifying and establishing best practice models for re-entry from jails to the community for persons with mental illness. The group is also coordinating information sharing efforts, and ensuring there are sufficient resources in place to support needed treatment capacity in the community	36	In progress – Coordinated by Department of Community Health with Department of Corrections participation.