CORRESPONDENCE NO. 1 Page 1 of 1

MHSOAC

MINIAL HEALTH SERVICES OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

> 1300 17th Street, Suite 1000 Sacramento, CA 95811 (916) 445-8696 mhsoac@mhsoac.ca.gov

BUARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Dear Mental Health Policymaker:

As a leader in mental health policy, the Client and Family Leadership Committee of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) has selected you to receive a copy of its recent policy paper on transformation of the mental health system titled, "Client-driven, Family-focused Transformation of the Mental Health System Through the California Mental Health Services Act."

This MHSOAC Policy Paper presents a picture of a mental health system "transformed" in the way it values, utilizes and promotes the wisdom of mental health consumers/clients and family members including parents of children affected by mental health conditions. The vision of transformation depicted in this paper is driven by the experience and inherent understanding that the client/family community has developed about what works and what does not, and how systems can utilize that expertise to achieve radically better outcomes for systems and the individuals they serve.

This paper presents both a broad vision and specifics of how things would look in a mental health system routinely and continuously informed by clients and family members with lived experience of mental health conditions across the lifespan. The MHSOAC offers this policy paper as a resource to further define the Mental Health Services Act vision and effect positive change in California's public mental health system through essential client and family leadership.

Please let us know if you have any comments about this paper by writing to us at <u>mhsoac@mhsoac.ca.gov</u>. In addition to the enclosed hard copy, you may find the document posted at <u>www.mhsoac.ca.gov</u> for your further use and dissemination.

Sincerely,

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Eduardo Vega, MPA Chair, MHSOAC Client and Family Leadership Committee

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Ralph E. Nelson Jr., M.D. Vice-Chair, MHSOAC Client and Family Leadership Committee

ATTACHMENTS AVAILABLE