

**COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH CENTER
INVITATION TO NEGOTIATE COMMITTEE
PURPOSE STATEMENT**

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The Lancaster County Board of Commissioners established the Community Mental Health Center (CMHC) Planning Committee in June of 2011 for the purpose of reviewing how the County is providing mental health services at the CMHC, determining the best model for providing services in the future, and advising the Board as to the proper role of the County in funding and providing these services. The stated goal of the Committee is to provide the County Board with an effective, sustainable long-term plan regarding how community-based mental services should be provided in Lancaster County.

The CMHC Planning Committee submitted its final report to the Lancaster County Board in February of 2012, recommending the creation of a new recovery-based service model which integrates primary care and behavioral health services, with extensive consumer involvement and emphasis on peer supported programming. The Planning Committee further recommended the County Board work with Region V Systems to prepare specifications for the new service model to be used in soliciting cooperative and creative proposals through an Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) process. The County Board accepted these recommendations and the CMHC Invitation to Negotiate Committee was established to assist the Board in defining the essential components of the new service model.

To accomplish this purpose the ITN Committee will review current CMHC and Region V Systems behavioral health programs and services, consumer needs and interests, best practice and evidence based service models, and recommend to the Lancaster County Board and Region V Systems a recovery based service model that best meets the interest and needs of consumers. The Panel will also suggest a process for transitioning the CMHC from County Governance to the private sector and adopting the new service.

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS IN THE PLANNING PROCESS

- The system should support recovery, best practices, evidence-based practices, and the social inclusion of consumers in the community
- There should be an assessment of what people want and need and a determination of the gaps existing in services
- The integration of behavioral health and primary care should be an important consideration in the planning process
- The process should encourage innovation and demonstrate collaboration in the coordination of services
- The location of services should be in the best interest of consumers and, where appropriate, essential key services should be located at one location
- Sufficient time should be allowed to provide for the effective transition of services to new providers or locations
- Desired outcomes of the system should be identified, tracked, measured and evaluated
- The system should be financially sustainable