FINDING A JOB IN COMMUNITY-BASED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
What Gives You An Advantage?

- Understanding of how the system functions
- Required training
- Credentials
Why Reform Our System?

Reform started in 2001 with a mandate from the General Assembly to reform the publicly funded mental health system.

- Legislation clearly lays out the basic values and requirements for service delivery.
- The Division’s mission, vision and guiding principles capture the essence of these values.

(NC DMH/DD/SAS Strategic Plan 2006)
The Division’s Mission

North Carolina will provide people with, or at risk of, mental illness, developmental disabilities, and substance abuse problems and their families the necessary prevention, intervention, treatment services and supports they need to live successfully in communities of their choice.

(NC DMH/DD/SAS Strategic Plan 2006)
Guiding Principles

- Participant Focused
- Community Based
- Prevention Focused
- Recovery Oriented
- Evidence-based
- Best Practices
- Cost Effective

(NDMHD/DDS Strategic Plan 2007-2010)
Components of Our New System

Figure 1. Key Components of an Effective Community-Based Human Service System
Unless otherwise indicated, the LME name is the county name(s). Reflects LMEs and Regions as of July 2008.
Highlight of Services

- Community Support
- Community Support Team (CST)
- Assertive Community Treatment Team (ACTT)
- Intensive In-Home
- Child & Adolescent Day Treatment
- Partial Hospitalization
- Mobile Crisis Management
- Facility-Based Crisis
Highlight of Substance Abuse Services

- Substance Abuse Intensive Outpatient Program (SAIOP)
- Substance Abuse Comprehensive Treatment (SACOT)
- Residential Treatment
- Halfway House
- Detoxification
- Opiod Treatment
Where You Fit in This System

- Staff Designations
  - Qualified Professional (QP)
  - Associate Professional (AP)
  - Paraprofessional (PP)
What You Can Expect

- Some of your responsibilities will likely include:
  - Provision of services
    - In-home/community-based treatment
  - Documentation & billing
  - Person-Centered Planning
    - Developing, monitoring, revising
  - Assuming *First Responder Crisis* responsibilities
  - Monitoring of services
  - Supervising staff
Requisite Skills & Abilities

- Knowledge of the system
- Familiarity with service definitions
- Understanding of mental health and substance abuse disorders and their treatment
- Facilitation skills
- Person-Centered Planning
- Coordination of services
- Ability to manage time effectively
Requisite Skills & Abilities

- Knowledge of community resources
- Crisis intervention skills
- Supervisory capabilities
- Ability to communicate effectively
- Teach coping skills
Resources

- Training
  - AHEC
  - NCEBPC- Fayetteville
- Job Posting Sites
  - NCSAPPB
  - NASW-NC