§ 1340/25. Development of Network Plans: Regional Integrated Behavioral Health Networks Act

Each Network shall develop a plan for its respective region that addresses the following:

(a) Inventory of all mental health and substance use disorder services, primary health care facilities and services, private hospitals, State-operated psychiatric hospitals, long term care facilities, social services, transportation services, and any services available to serve persons with mental and substance use illnesses.

(b) Identification of unmet community needs, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Waiting lists in community mental health and substance use disorder services.

(2) Hospital emergency department use by persons with mental and substance use illnesses, including volume, length of stay, and challenges associated with obtaining psychiatric assessment.

(3) Difficulty obtaining admission to inpatient facilities, and reasons therefore.

(4) Availability of primary care providers in the community, including Federally Qualified Health Centers and Rural Health Centers.

(5) Availability of psychiatrists and mental health professionals.

(6) Transportation issues.

(7) Other.

(c) Identification of opportunities to improve access to mental and substance use disorder services through the integration of specialty behavioral health services with primary care, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Availability of Federally Qualified Health Centers in community with mental health staff.

(2) Development of accountable care organizations or other primary care entities.

(3) Availability of acute care hospitals with specialized psychiatric capacity.

(4) Community providers with an interest in collaborating with acute care providers.
(d) Development of a plan to address community needs, including a specific timeline for implementation of specific objectives and establishment of evaluation measures. The comprehensive plan should include the complete continuum of behavioral health services, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) Prevention.

(2) Client assessment and diagnosis.

(3) An array of outpatient behavioral health services.

(4) Case coordination.

(5) Crisis and emergency services.

(6) Treatment, including inpatient psychiatric services in public and private hospitals.

(7) Long term care facilities.

(8) Community residential alternatives to institutional settings.

(9) Primary care services.