REPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

SOCIAL WORK MENTAL HEALTH STIPEND PROGRAM, 2007-08 COHORT

September 2008

This report provides an overview of CalSWEC's mental health stipend program since the submission of the June 2008 report. The first section of the report provides a summary of the Mental Health Committee's activities including the CalSWEC Mental Health Committee Board meeting in September 2008 and the continued curriculum implementation efforts. The second section of the report provides an update on the 2007/08 cohort of students, including enrollment, graduation and employment data. This report does not include information on the previous two cohorts of students which have now met the 'payback' requirement of the stipend program [with the exception of those whose appeals have been approved] by obtaining and maintaining employment over the past year. Additional follow-up information on this cohort will be provided in due course.

I. CalSWEC MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

CalSWEC Mental Health Summit II

The CalSWEC Mental Health Initiative Committee meeting sponsored a Mental Health Summit that took place in Sacramento on September 24, 2008. Participants in the summit represented Mental Health Directors, Deans, and faculty from Schools/Departments of Social Work, Department of Mental Health Staff, representatives from CMHDA, BBS and the California Network of Mental Health Clients, and a variety of individuals from concerned stakeholder groups and organizations**.**

DMH Workforce Development & Training and the MH Stipend Contract

At the Summit, Mr. Warren Hayes of the Department of Mental Health Workforce Education and Training Division gave a brief update on the statewide contract with UC Berkeley for the next 3 years: 2008-2009, 2009-2010 and 2010-2011. Thanks to efforts by both DMH and UC Berkeley, the contract was completed and signed prior to the end of the fiscal year and was thus not impacted by the new fiscal year budget negotiations and discussions.

Mr. Hayes also gave a brief update about the new state funded stipend programs in the professional disciplines of Marriage and Family Therapists, Psychologists and Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners. Awards have been made to 3 MFT Schools/Programs and the RFP announcements are out for the other disciplines. Up to this point, Social Work has been the only program to receive state stipend funds; we are now competing with the other professional schools. The likelihood of additional dollars coming to the Social Work MH Stipend Program is very low.

A number of issues have been raised over the past several years regarding interpretation and implementation of the MH Stipend Program. Mr. Hayes developed a matrix document which listed the issues and potential action which was discussed in depth at the meeting. The issues tend to revolve around two major topics: fiscal issues and language issues. It appears extremely unlikely that any fiscal adjustments will be made to the contract at this time. Extensive discussion followed, with individuals identifying the most critical areas needing immediate attention.

Following the Summit, the Ad Hoc Mental Health Initiative Committee (Dr. Marv Southard and Dr. Allan Rowland (representing CMHDA), Mr. Hayes (representing DMH), Dean Lorraine Midanik, Dr. Teresa Morris and Dr. Beverly Buckles (representing CalSWEC) met to discuss the contract and interpretation issues.

At the meeting, Mr. Hayes again discussed the fact that from 2011 onward, Workforce, Education and Training dollars will be allocated to counties; who may choose to use a portion of their allocation for stipends to support a number of professional groups, including social work schools, along with loan forgiveness programs, etc. Regional partnerships are clearly the priority for the future and it will behoove schools to develop strong relationships with county and regional representatives and to participate actively in the MH Regional Collaborative.

Additional discussion centered on several other important areas:

- Need for a clearing house approach to identify job vacancies in county and contract agencies to assist new graduates in securing employment as soon after graduation as possible. Adrienne Shilton, MHSA Training Coordinator with CMHDA is looking into the possibility of developing a statewide (or perhaps region wide) system of job posting announcements.
- MHSA funding will continue to grow in the area of supporting Prevention and Early Intervention Services (P&EI). Curriculum development in that area may be an important focus for future work.
- UC Davis will be developing a Pilot Interdisciplinary Program with Psychiatrists to focus on training to be team members. Considering the movement of public mental health to an integrated treatment model, this pilot may have important results for the MH Stipend Program as well.

II. CALSWEC Curriculum Development

Curriculum Implementation and Support Activities

An active discussion was held regarding strategies that schools are using to implement the current Mental Health Curriculum Competencies. The following issue areas and strategies were identified: difficulty of offering specialized electives, utilization of specialized seminars for MH Stipend Students, utilization of extra hours of field seminar/seminars to ensure delivery of all of the content areas, weekly support groups, carving out a percentage of time for Mental Health in the program overall, social work curriculum, depth and breadth issues in social work education requirements – how to make the fit with CSWE requirements and specialization areas in the curriculum, student experience with practicing the content learned in the field agency setting may be uneven – transformation of an agency takes time, consider comparing MH competencies with Civil Service exam knowledge expectations, participation on departmental committees gives access to other faculty and an opportunity to support mental health curriculum, and utilization of training by local MH contract agency staff.

III. UPDATE ON THE 2007/08 MENTAL HEALTH STIPEND COHORT

The 2007/08 cohort is CalSWEC's third cohort of students in the consortium to receive mental health stipends. As in previous reports, a survey was sent to the project coordinators at each of the universities regarding their cohort's enrollment, graduation, and employment status. All the surveys were returned and the results were tabulated and combined into summary tables.

Table 1 contains summary information on student enrollment. **Table 2** includes student course completion and graduation dates for each school. **Table 3** provides employment updates for each school. **Table 4** consists of the appeal list for the 4th quarter. **Table 5** indicates ethnicity of students, **Table 6** consists of the languages spoken by the students, and **Table 7** is the gender distribution in the schools. **Table 8** contains the geographical orientation of students by region.

2007/08 Cohort Enrollment Data

As mentioned, schools used the surveys to report changes to the enrollment status of their students. Changes to student enrollment were defined as a student dropping or adding the mental health stipend program.

The original number of students enrolled in the 2007/2008 Cohort was 185 and with one program drop out from UCLA, the total number of students enrolled at the end of the year was 184.

Table 1
2007/08 Cohort: Enrollment Update
September 2008

School	Original Number Enrolled	Current Number Enrolled
CSU, Bakersfield	5	5
CSU, Chico	8	8
CSU, East Bay	15	15
CSU, Fresno	10	10
CSU, Humboldt State	3	3
CSU, Long Beach	20	20
CSU, Los Angeles	7	7
CSU, Sacramento	20	20
CSU, San Bernardino	15	15
CSU, San Diego State	14	14
CSU, San Francisco State	9	9
CSU, San Jose State	10	10
CSU, Stanislaus	4	4
Loma Linda	6	6
UC Berkeley	10	10
UCLA	10	9
USC	19	19
TOTAL	**185**	**184***

* 1 student from UCLA dropped out of the program and lowered number enrolled to 184

Course Completion Requirements (Graduation)

Currently, **179** or **97%** of students graduated by June 30, 2008. Of the **179** students graduating by June 30, **123** or **67%** graduated in May and **56** or **30%** graduated no later than June 30. The remaining **5** or **3%** of students *not* graduating by June 30 are requesting a delay and are following the designated appeals protocol. This information is presented in Table 2.

Table 2
2007/08 Cohort Course Completion Update
September 2008

School	MSW Requirements Completed *by* June 2008	Completion Date
CSU, Bakersfield	4	6/6/2008
CSU, Chico	8	5/1/2008
CSU, East Bay	15	6/14/2008
CSU, Fresno	10	5/16/2008
CSU, Humboldt State	3	5/17/2008
CSU, Long Beach	20	5/28/2008
CSU, Los Angeles	7	6/8/2008
CSU, Sacramento	18	5/24/2008
CSU, San Bernardino	14	6/14/2008
CSU, San Diego State	14	5/23/2008
CSU, San Francisco State	8	5/28/2008
CSU, San Jose State	9	5/26/2008
CSU, Stanislaus	4	5/30/2008
Loma Linda	6	6/15/2008
UC Berkeley	10	5/22/2008
UCLA	10	6/13/2008
USC	19	5/16/2008
TOTAL	**179***	

*5 students have not completed coursework and have been granted appeals

Employment Update

The survey responses from the schools regarding student employment status was tabulated using four categories: accepted offer, has prospects, seeking employment, and other. At the time this report was written, **129** of the students or **70%** accepted offers at qualifying mental health agencies. Additionally, **6** students or **3%** of the cohort had prospects. For purposes of this report, "has prospects" was defined as potential job leads. Many students in the prospects category received informal offers that will be official once their graduation is verified. **29** or **16%** of the students were seeking employment. Students in this category had no definitive employment prospects. **20** or **11%** had filed appeals for extensions to find employment. Please see **Table 3**.

Table 3
2007/08 Cohort: Employment Update
September 2008

School	Accepted Offer	Prospects	Seeking Employment
CSU, Bakersfield	2	0	2
CSU, Chico	7	1	0
CSU, East Bay	13	1	0
CSU, Fresno	2	0	7
CSU, Humboldt State	0	0	3
CSU, Long Beach	19	1	0
CSU, Los Angeles	4	1	2
CSU, Sacramento	15	0	1
CSU, San Bernardino	9	0	0
CSU, San Diego State	9	0	5
CSU, San Francisco State	5	1	0
CSU, San Jose State	7	0	2
CSU, Stanislaus	3	0	1
Loma Linda	1	0	5
UC Berkeley	9	1	0
UCLA	8	0	1
USC	16	0	0
TOTAL	**129**	**6**	**29**
	70%	3%	16%

20 students are appealing for more time to complete program or find employment

Effects of the Recent Budget Cuts to Schools

With the recent state budget cuts, concern was expressed by some schools that mental health stipend students may experience difficulty in securing employment after graduation. Although media reports suggest that the budget and employment situation generally is troubling, the information provided by the schools in September 2008 about the employment prospects of students who graduated during the summer of 2008 (2007/08 cohort) is generally optimistic and indicates that 70 percent of these students have accepted employment offers. However, 16 percent were still seeking employment. The remainder were either in the process of securing employment or were rated as having “good prospects”.

To obtain more information, Deans or Directors of seven schools in different parts of the state were contacted and asked to give their opinion of the current and future situation. In some cases, information was provided by the Project Coordinator. Four of the seven schools are located in Southern California and three of the seven are located in Northern California. Three of the seven schools reported no difficulty with their students securing employment while four thought that the situation was difficult and possibly deteriorating. There appeared to be no marked regional variations. In one of the Southern schools all students found jobs and in another Southern school 7 of 9 found jobs, while in one of the Northern schools 6 of 8 students found jobs but the other 2 students are on appeal. The other schools reported that between 17 percent to 60 percent of their students had found jobs. However, many of the directors or project coordinators predicted that next year may be more difficult for students because many of the counties have frozen jobs.

Ethnicity

The largest percentage of students self-identify as White/Caucasian (43%) followed by Hispanic/Chicano /Latino at 24%. Asian or Asian Pacific Islander comprised 13%, Black/African American identification is 10%, 7% identified as other, 1% American Indian, and 2% declined to state.

Table 5
2007/2008 Ethnicity of Students

	CSU, Bakersfield	CSU, Chico	CSU, East Bay	CSU, Fresno	Humboldt State	CSU, Long Beach	CSU, Los Angeles	CSU, Sacramento	CSU, San Bernardino	San Diego State	San Francisco	San Jose State	CSU, Stanislaus	Loma Linda	UC Berkeley	UCLA	USC	TOTAL	Percentages
American Indian	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	**2**	**1%**
Asian or Asian Pacific Islander	0	1	3	2	0	4	0	2	2	1	4	2	0	0	1	0	1	**23**	**13%**
Black / African American	1	0	2	1	0	2	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	4	**18**	**10%**
Hispanic/Chicano/Latino	2	0	2	5	1	9	3	2	4	1	1	0	1	2	2	2	8	**45**	**24%**
White / Caucasian	2	6	8	2	1	4	2	11	6	10	2	6	3	1	5	6	5	**80**	**43%**
Declined to State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	**3**	**2%**
Other[1]	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	3	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	2	1	**13**	**7%**
Total	**5**	**8**	**15**	**10**	**2**	**20**	**7**	**20**	**15**	**14**	**9**	**10**	**4**	**6**	**10**	**10**	**19**	**184**	**100%**

[1.] This category includes a variety of self-reported ethnic affiliations such as multicultural, Israeli, and Armenian.

Languages Spoken

94% of the languages spoken by the 2007/2008 cohort are English (50%), Spanish or Spanish Creole language (31%), and Asian languages (13%).

Table 6
2007/2008 Languages Spoken by Mental Health Stipend Students
September 2008

	CSU Bakersfield	CSU, Chico	CSU, East Bay	CSU, Fresno	Humboldt State	CSU, Long Beach	CSU, Los Angeles	CSU, Sacramento	CSU, San Bernardino	San Diego State	San Francisco	San Jose State	CSU, Stanislaus	Loma Linda	UC Berkeley	UCLA	USC	TOTAL	Percentages
English Language Only	3	7	8	4	2	10	2	12	8	4	4	9	3	2	6	5	2	**91**	**50%**
Asian and Pacific Island languages (such as Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, Korean, Hindi, Urdu, Farsi, Arabic etc.)	0	0	4	2	0	3	0	2	1	1	6	1	0	0	1	0	2	**23**	**13%**
Native North American Languages	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**0**	**0%**
Spanish or Spanish Creole Languages	2	0	2	3	0	7	3	5	5	8	0	0	1	2	3	1	14	**56**	**31%**
European Languages (such as French, Russian, Italian, Portuguese, etc.)	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	1	3	0	0	1	0	4	1	**15**	**8%**
African Languages (such as Ethiopian, Swahili, Zulu etc.)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	**3**	**2%**
American Sign Language	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	**2**	**1%**
Total*	**5**	**8**	**15**	**10**	**2**	**21**	**7**	**20**	**15**	**15**	**13**	**10**	**4**	**6**	**10**	**10**	**19**	**190**	**104%**

*Langauges spoken exceeds the number of students enrolled because some students speak more than one language.

Gender

82% of the 2007/2008 cohort are women and 18% are men.

Table 7
2007/2008 Gender of Students

	CSU, Bakersfield	CSU, Chico	CSU, East Bay	CSU, Fresno	Humboldt State	CSU, Long Beach	CSU, Los Angeles	CSU, Sacramento	CSU, San Bernardino	San Diego State	San Francisco*	San Jose State	CSU, Stanislaus	Loma Linda	UC Berkeley	UCLA	USC	TOTAL	Percentages
Men	0	1	7	1	1	7	0	2	2	2	2	1	0	0	3	0	5	**34**	**18%**
Women	5	7	8	9	1	13	7	18	13	12	7	9	4	6	7	10	14	**150**	**82%**
Total*	**5**	**8**	**15**	**10**	**2**	**20**	**7**	**20**	**15**	**14**	**9**	**10**	**4**	**6**	**10**	**10**	**19**	**184**	**100%**

*One student identifies himself as FTM transgendered.

Geographical Distribution of Students by Region

Almost one-third of the 2007/2008 cohort of students originated from the Los Angeles Area (30%) and the smallest group (5%) are from the Northern California counties. 25% are from Bay Area Counties, 21% from Southern Counties, with 19% from the Central Counties.

Table 8
2007/2008 Geographical Orientation of Students

	CSU, Bakersfield	CSU, Chico	CSU, East Bay	CSU, Fresno	Humboldt State	CSU, Long Beach	CSU, Los Angeles	CSU, Sacramento	CSU, San Bernardino	San Diego State	San Francisco*	San Jose State	CSU, Stanislaus	Loma Linda	UC Berkeley	UCLA	USC	TOTAL	Percentages
Northern Counties		8			2													10	5%
Central Counties	4		1	9				20					1					35	19%
Bay Area Counties			14								9	10	3		10			46	25%
Southern Counties				1					14	14				6			3	38	21%
Los Angeles Region Counties	1					20	7		1							10	16	55	30%
Totals	5	8	15	10	2	20	7	20	15	14	9	10	4	6	10	10	19	184	100%