

MHSOAC FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Assembly Bill 1134 (Gloria), Chapter 412, Statutes of 2017, authorizes the Commission to establish a Mental Health Policy Fellowship Program for a mental health consumer and a mental health professional. These Fellowships create an opportunity for collaborative learning for Fellows, the Commission, and the diverse array of stakeholders who partner and work with the Commission. The Mental Health Services Act states that people with lived experience should be engaged in all aspects of decision-making regarding mental health policies and programs. Establishing the Fellowship allows the Commission to add to the strategies already in place to ensure the expertise of consumers and practitioners are embedded in the Commission's operations and work.

The goal of the Commission's Mental Health Policy Fellowship Program is to strengthen the Commission's work and to create improved understanding and awareness of the Mental Health Services Act the Commission's strategies to achieve the goals of the Act.

The Mental Health Policy Fellowship seeks to:

- Expand opportunities for consumers and practitioners to inform the work of the Commission and public policy.
- Create professional opportunities for consumers and practitioners to work in the field of mental health policy.
- Highlight the value of lived experience and state-of-the-art practices in the mental health field.
- Enhance opportunities for the Commission to understand new and emerging mental health challenges and opportunities.

Establishing the Mental Health Policy Fellowship

Staff proposes to establish a Mental Health Policy Fellowship that will provide a paid, year-long opportunity, where appropriate, for a mental health consumer and for a mental health professional, to work with the Commission and Commission staff, on the core work of the Commission, or on a project-by-project basis.

To develop and establish the Fellowship, the Commission will convene a series of public, advisory meetings to explore the following components:

- Establish eligibility criteria, application and selection process
- Develop branding, outreach, application dissemination and communication approach
- Explore mentor and staffing support strategy for Fellows
- Identify administrative practices for the Fellowship – compensation, health insurance, workers compensation insurance, reimbursement and other personnel and administrative needs.

Tentative Timeline

July 2018-September 2018:	Advisory Committee Meetings
September 2018-November 2018:	Develop materials, infrastructure and personnel practices
December 2018-February 2019:	Launch application process
March 2019-May 2019:	Selection Process
June 2019-July 2019:	Welcome Mental Health Policy Fellows