

## Chapter 1

### Section 3: NorthCare Practices Improvement Leadership Overview

To assist in developing and improving the standards of clinical care, MDCH mandated the creation of a regional Improving Practices Leadership Team (IPLT) at each Prepaid Inpatient Health Plan (PIHP) in 2005. According to MDCH, the formation of the IPLTs was aimed at fostering a learning organization within the public mental health system so that emerging, promising and evidence-based practices quickly became part of the choices available to consumers during the person-centered planning process. The NorthCare Practices Improvement Leadership Team (PILT) has been a successful team composed of:

- ✚ Senior management
- ✚ Clinical experts in the content areas of working with children, families, individuals with developmental disabilities, individuals with serious mental illness and individuals who experience co-occurring substance use disorder
- ✚ Family members of individuals receiving services
- ✚ Individuals receiving services
- ✚ Peer Support Specialists
- ✚ And community members

The PILT has guided the adoption of numerous evidence based practices as well as supported regional trainings in the EBPs and other clinical practices that have shown efficacy in working with individuals receiving services at the Community Mental Health (CMH). Funding for trainings has been provided in large part through grant opportunities sponsored by the federal and state government. Initially, MDCH and the NorthCare PILT focused on improving clinical practices for individuals with serious mental illnesses but as our system of care has become more recovery oriented, it is more useful to have a single group focusing on improving practices for all of the individuals receiving CMH services. The policy that outlines the adoption, implementation and evaluation of regional practice guidelines is the NorthCare Clinical Practices Guideline Policy.