



# **Final Follow-Up to JLARC's 2000 Mental Health Audit: Status Briefing**

**Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee**

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# Presentation Overview

- Purpose of this Report
- Background on JLARC Audits of Mental Health
- Legislative changes to the mental health system since 2000
- Other key activities affecting the mental health system

# Why this Status Briefing now?

- In 2000, JLARC published the “Mental Health System Performance Audit”
- JLARC requested an update on the 2000 Audit in the 2005-07 work plan
- This Status Briefing is that update

# The 2000 Audit and JLARC's Follow-Up



- The 2000 Audit had 14 recommendations, many with several subparts
- JLARC has performed 3 formal follow-ups:
  - In 2001 and 2003 JLARC reviewed DSHS progress implementing the recommendations
  - In 2004 JLARC reviewed the DSHS study of the prevalence of serious mental illness in the state
- All 14 recommendations have been either fully or partially implemented
  - Partial implementations were for valid reasons



# Other JLARC Mental Health Studies

- JLARC has performed 4 other studies related to public mental health since 2000:
  - 2000: Mentally Ill Offenders: Study of the Impact of 2SSB 6214
  - 2002: Children’s Mental Health Study
  - 2004: Mental Health Advanced Directives Impacts
  - 2006: Analysis of Establishing a Regional Jail Facility for Offenders with Mental Health or Co-Occurring Mental and Chemical Dependency Disorders

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# Legislative Action Since 2000

- The Legislature passed 25 bills that make changes to Washington's mental health system since 2001
- These bills were in 4 major areas
  - Service coordination
  - Mentally ill offenders
  - Best practices and evidence-based practices
  - Children's mental health

# Additional Activities and Developments



- Joint Legislative and Executive Task Force on Mental Health Services and Financing
- 2005 DSHS Reorganization
- Mental Health Transformation State Improvement Grant (federal, year 2 of 5)
  - Transformation Work Group
  - Seed funding for projects
- Mental Health Transformation Initiative
- WSIPP Studies

OTHER  
ACTIVITY

# Conclusions

- The mental health system is in the middle of a major transition, parts of which are newly implemented or still to be implemented
- There are areas that may be appropriate to evaluate in new studies (after FY 2009)



# Contact Information

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