A Community-Wide Approach to Mental Health Services Planning and Policy Development

> Lynda E. Frost, J.D., Ph.D. Melissa Cook, J.D., L.M.S.W. Hogg Foundation for Mental Health The University of Texas at Austin

> > Susan Stone, J.D., M.D. Susan Stone and Associates Rosanky, Texas

## **Brief History**

■ June 11, 2002: Death of Sophia King Oct. 15, 2003: HF Community Forum Dec. 2003: Begin planning of Task Force Aug.-Dec. 2004: Task Force meetings Jan. 2005: Task Force report released Mar. 2005: Monitoring Committee appointed 2006: First Annual Report issued 2007: Second Annual Report issued

### **Mental Health Task Force Goals**

 Identify the criteria that defines a mentally healthy community, including infrastructure, resources, policies, programs, training, and attitudes.

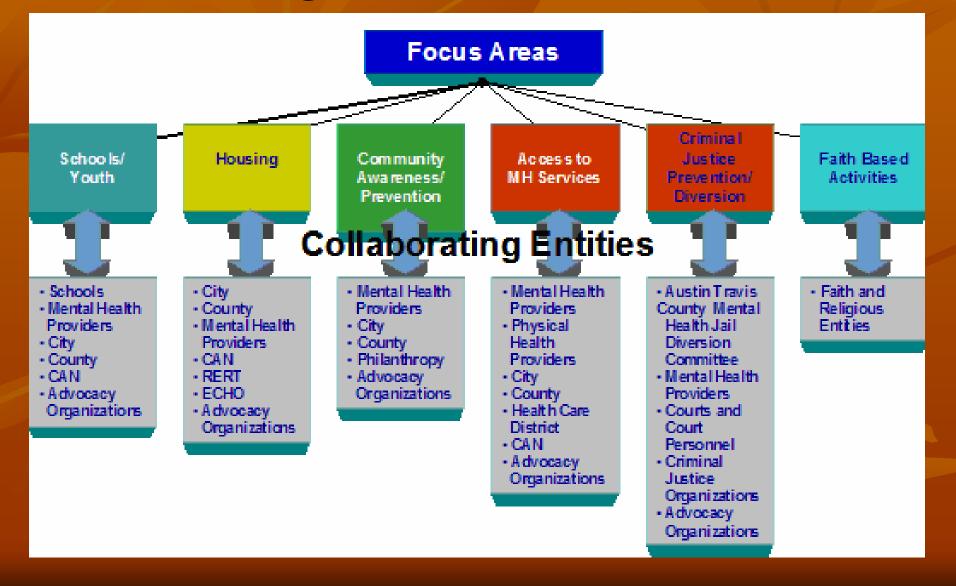
 Measure the status of each criterion in Austin/Travis County

 Develop an action plan to become a more mentally healthy community by building on Austin/Travis County's strengths and addressing any weaknesses

### **Task Force Critical Areas**

Education and community awareness
Justice systems
Housing
Short- and long-term treatment

#### **Monitoring Committee 2006 Focus Areas**



Copyright 2007, Lynda E. Frost, lynda.frost@austin.utexas.edu

MMHTF Monitoring Committee Planning and Policy Activities

System Mapping
Community Score Card
Comprehensive Housing Plan
National GAINS Center Pilot Site
National Inst. on Corrections Learning Site
Outpatient Restoration Pilot Project

### **Lessons Learned**

Helpful to have community concern Must include all stakeholders Identifying gaps and duplications in services focuses efforts Good group facilitation and leadership is essential Educational function is easy to underestimate Need strong feedback loop with community Must institutionalize the process

### **Thank you for your interest!**

# For more information: www.mmhtfmc.org

lynda.frost@austin.utexas.edu

Copyright 2007, Lynda E. Frost, lynda.frost@austin.utexas.edu