Transforming California’s Mental Health Services: The Story behind the Mental Health Services Act

Rusty Selix, Co-author of Prop. 63

In 2004, voters in California passed a new initiative on the ballot named Proposition 63 or the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). The Act itself was created and written by Rusty Selix, the state’s lead advocate for mental health, and former Senate pro Tem, Darrell Steinberg, who was an assemblymember at the time. The MHSA was designed to expand and transform California’s county mental health service systems.

Selix will share the story behind the Prop. 63 initiative and why keeping a focus on mental health policy has been critical for the people of California. This lecture is open to the public with a special focus on students from the UC Davis School of Medicine who are interested in policy and healthcare.

The Behavioral Health Center of Excellence launched Oct. 1, 2014 with initial funding from the Mental Health Services Act. The Center bridges research and policy. In addition to the research portfolio, the Center recently launched a policy education program and held a statewide symposium on early psychosis in September 2015.

RSVP required by emailing by Jan. 19, 2016:
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This lecture is open to the public, university faculty, students and staff as part of a series to share the latest research and policy with UC Davis and our community. Further details are available at www.behavioralhealth.ucdavis.edu