




STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES
A Healthcare Service Agency

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

PATRICIA A. REHMER, MSN
COMMISSIONER

MEMORANDUM

To: State Operated CEOs
OOO Staff

From: Patricia A. Rehmer, MSN 
Commissioner

Date: June 9, 2010

Subject: **COMMISSIONER'S POLICY STATEMENT ON TRAUMA**

The Trauma Guide Team is very pleased to present the Commissioner's Policy Statement on Trauma. The development of this Policy has been the result of many years of hard work by numerous champions of the trauma movement; especially driven by the people in recovery, who through their grass-root efforts, have made us all aware that trauma matters.

Special thanks go to the Trauma Guide team, the people in recovery who provided their knowledge, experiences and keen insight into the creation of this policy. We want to thank the many DMHAS trauma champions who, over the years, spent much time and effort encouraging us all to this move this policy forward. In addition, special mention should be made to Valerie Leal, who served as the Trauma Project Lead for many years and who sadly passed on a year ago. Valerie's passion regarding trauma and its fundamental importance to the quality of care delivered was inspiring and motivational.

We hope that this Policy leads the way to values-based cultural change; where true transformation happens, new models of care and practices emerge and that the characteristics of the DMHAS system of care continue to strive to embrace, safety, trust, collaboration, choice and empowerment.