



INNOVATION PLAN APPROVAL SUMMARY
Riverside County
Recovery Learning Center

Total Requested for Innovation: \$7,853,534

Staff Recommend: APPROVAL

Review History

County Submitted Innovation Work Plan: July 19, 2010
MHSOAC Vote regarding Plan Approval: August 26, 2010

County Demographic Profile

Riverside County is located in the southeastern part of the state. Riverside County has the sixth largest population in California and is growing rapidly.

- Population: 2,125,440
 - Latino: 45%
 - Caucasian (not Hispanic): 41%
 - APA: 6%
 - Native American: 1% (12 federally-recognized Indian reservations)
 - African American: 7%
- Age
 - 29% under age 18
 - 11.5% age 65 or older

Duration: 32 months

Similar to other MHSA Innovation Programs: Los Angeles

Key Features of Innovation Program

- Creates and pilots a multi-cultural and multi-language peer-led recovery center in rural and urban clinic sites as an alternative level of care within the existing Mental Health delivery system
- Creates a new service delivery model that is consumer-driven, with peer staff at all levels. Peer services are central to treatment rather than auxiliary.
- Peer practitioners envision, develop, and deliver services
- Uses Wellness Recovery Action Plans (WRAP) and wellness tools as central components of treatment/recovery
- Includes ancillary services, including medication management, provided by a psychiatrist and nurse who have lived experience of serious mental illness

- Program components adapted to meet the cultural and linguistic needs of Riverside County’s diverse multicultural population
- Serves as training field placement sites for multicultural diverse graduate students in behavioral science disciplines

Expected Contribution to Learning and Development of New/Improved Mental Health Approaches

- Assesses whether peer-led services lead to better outcomes, including improved treatment adherence and participation, consumer self-reliance, self-determination, wellness, and self-concept
- Tests whether program reduces dependence on the mental health system, with associated cost savings
- Explores whether integrating professional learning into a peer-centered wellness and recovery program influences the treatment philosophy of emerging mental health practitioners
- Compares implementation challenges and impact of integrating a Recovery Learning Center into an existing clinic versus developing a free-standing regional Recovery Learning Center

Example Reviewer Comments

- Appreciation for Riverside County’s extensive community planning and the clear relationship between planning and the proposed Innovation Project
- Appreciation for consistency between learning goals and project measurement
- Appreciation for the integration of workforce education and training through the inclusion of student interns
- Requested and received clarification about involvement of family members to ensure Innovation Project meets “family-driven” General Standard
- Inspiring example of how a county can use Innovation funds to pilot an approach with the potential to move the mental health system toward wellness, resilience, recovery, and a client-driven mental health system