



**Recommendation to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute an Interagency Agreement with the University of California, San Diego to Conduct an Evaluation of Methods for Engaging and Serving Transition Age Youth (TAY)**

November 21, 2013



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## Presentation Overview

- MHSOAC commitment to evaluation
- Overview of the Evaluation of Methods for Engaging and Serving Transition Age Youth (TAY) Contract
- Rationale for using an interagency agreement
- Contractor qualifications
- Proposed motion



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## MHSOAC Commitment to Evaluation

**There is a statutory role for MHSOAC to evaluate California's public community-based mental health system**

[W&I Code 5845(a) and 5845(d)(12)]

"The MHSOAC is committed to an approach of continuous evaluation, learning from and building upon each progressive completed evaluation. The approach will be focused on quality improvement."

MHSOAC adopted Policy Paper, *Accountability through Evaluative Efforts*



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## MHSA TAY Programs

The MHSA requires that programs established in the children and adult's systems of care include services to address the needs of transition age youth ages 16 to 25.

Since this focus was put forth, many counties have begun to offer programs aimed at serving TAY and addressing the needs of this very specific population.



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## Overview of TAY Evaluation: Primary Research Questions

- What is the extent to which counties have begun to offer and evaluate TAY programs and engagement methods, and use those evaluations for quality improvement purposes?
- How effective are currently available programs in engaging TAY and producing positive outcomes?
- What standard indicators and research methods should be adopted to best evaluate the status of the programs and outreach efforts used for this population?
- What guidance and support do counties and providers need to strengthen their evaluations of TAY engagement strategies and services?



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## Overview of TAY Evaluation: Scope of Work

- Summary and synthesis of county-led TAY outreach efforts, programs, evaluations, and quality improvement efforts designed to strengthen TAY programs and outreach efforts
- Development of standard TAY indicators and recommended evaluation and quality improvement methods for TAY programs and outreach efforts
- Provision of technical assistance to improve county-led evaluations of TAY outreach efforts/services and promote quality improvement processes
- Identification of statewide policy and program implications and recommendations for how to strengthen TAY outreach, programs, and evaluations statewide



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## Rationale for the Interagency Agreement with the University of California, San Diego and Dr. Todd Gilmer as Lead Researcher

1. Interagency agreements are exempt from the competitive bidding requirements.
2. Evaluation Committee Members and current MHSOAC contractors highly recommended Dr. Gilmer based on his breadth of knowledge and MHSOAC-related work.
3. Dr. Gilmer has conducted prior research on MHSOAC services and clients, including FSPs and TAY and is a subject matter expert in these areas.



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## Rationale for the Interagency Agreement with the University of California, San Diego and Dr. Todd Gilmer as Lead Researcher

4. Dr. Gilmer meets the contractor qualifications that the MHSOAC typically seeks out via evaluation RFPs.
5. Using an interagency agreement contract versus going out to bid via RFP allowed staff to take more time to work directly with Dr. Gilmer to develop the scope of work and deliverables for this contract.



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## Proposed Motion

Authorize the Executive Director to execute an interagency agreement not to exceed \$500,000 with the University of California, San Diego to conduct an Evaluation of Methods for Engaging and Serving Transition Age Youth (TAY).



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