



INNOVATIVE PROJECT APPROVAL SUMMARY

Stanislaus County

Name of Innovative Project: FSP Co-Occurring Disorders Project

Total Requested for Project: \$2,377,554

Duration of Innovative Project: Three Years

Staff Recommends: APPROVAL

Review History

County Submitted Innovation (INN) Plan: July 23, 2015

Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC or Commission) vote on INN Project: August 27, 2015

Innovative Project Summary

Stanislaus County is seeking MHSOAC approval for the Full Services Partnership (FSP) Co-Occurring Disorders Project. This three-year project is a response to the significant proportion of people with severe mental illness who also have a co-occurring substance-use disorder (SUD), which can substantially interfere with the effectiveness of treatment. Co-occurring disorders will be the primary “lens” through which this project supports clients’ recovery. Although FSPs feature “whatever it takes,” the county intends to test whether an adapted integrated FSP approach using a combination of strategies with greater focus throughout on substance abuse as well as mental illness, will improve client outcomes.

The Innovative Project is a response to challenges to integrated care that can result from differences in training, philosophy, and approach between mental health and substance abuse providers. The project will feature a client-centered, stage-based approach to concurrent treatment of both mental health and SUD disorders, integrated at every level of client contact. This approach differs from the more common practice of addressing substance abuse and mental illness separately and sequentially. The county hopes to develop greater shared understanding among staff and clients through this project which will create theoretical and practical frameworks that incorporate both substance abuse and mental health recovery approaches. The FSP will be co-located on a SUD treatment site in Ceres, California, where clients will have access to peer support as well as integrated primary care and dedicated “Housing First” services.

The County expects this innovative combination of services to yield better health and behavioral health outcomes for clients, positively affecting the quality as well as the length of their lives, with potential application to other FSPs.

Evaluation

The County intends this INN project to inform the behavioral health field about the combination of strategies and services in a FSP that are most effective at various stages of mental health and SUD recovery. Learning questions for the project include:

1. Will the project successfully engage clients with co-occurring disorders?
2. Will using concurrent, integrated stage-based treatments for both mental health and SUD concurrently contribute to improved client outcomes?
3. What combination of strategies and services are most effective at the different stages of concurrent mental health and SUD recovery?

The evaluation will include both formative and summative aspects and qualitative and quantitative methods. The evaluation will utilize the following measures:

- Substance Abuse Treatment Scale (SATS)
- Mental Health Recovery Treatment Stages (MHRTS)
- Client satisfaction surveys
- Data Collections Reporting System (DCR)
- California Outcomes Measurement System (CalOMS)
- Tracking of referrals
- A qualitative analysis of staff work with Stages of Recovery frameworks.

DCR and CalOMS data will be compared to information regarding clients who receive services through existing FSPs, including information regarding homelessness, incarceration, and medical and psychiatric hospitalizations. Throughout, an established peer group will review data and progression of the project and make recommendations. A staff focus group will be conducted at the end of the project to discuss the findings and explore implications. Stanislaus County will share project outcomes with the peer group, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) staff, and stakeholders.