



**MEMORANDUM
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
SYSTEMS OF CARE
County of Placer**

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors **DATE:** August 23, 2022
FROM: Robert Oldham, Director of Health and Human Services
BY: Joey Wojtowicz, Staff Services Analyst
SUBJECT: Placer County Mental Health Services Act Annual Update and Expenditure Plan

ACTION REQUESTED

1. Adopt the Placer County Mental Health Services Act Plan Annual Update for FY 2022-2023, which includes the FY 2017-2021 Prevention and Early Intervention Evaluation Report and the Final Report for Homeless Integrated Care Coordination and Evaluation Innovation Project.
2. Approve the Expenditure Plan for FY 2022-2023 in the amount \$24,092,918.

BACKGROUND

In 2005, Placer County received funding and implemented services under the State-funded Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). Placer County has used this State funding to expand intensive mental health and crisis services to people with severe mental illness and develop evidence-based prevention programs to reach those who were at risk of mental illness. This funding has been managed to allow these services to remain stable during economic downturns and support County-operated programs, community-based programs, and necessary administrative support for management and evaluation. The Board of Supervisors is required to approve Annual Updates and their Expenditure Plans. The Annual Update reports on Fiscal Year 2020-2021 data, addresses activities for Fiscal Year 2021-2022 and any proposed changes for Fiscal Year 2022-2023.

The MHSA consists of five core components, each with different goals. Seventy-six percent (76%) of MHSA funding goes towards Community Services and Supports (CSS), which expands and transforms services provided for children, youth, adults, and older adults living with a Serious Emotional Disturbance (SED) or Serious Mental Illness (SMI) towards recovery-oriented services. More than half of this funding is used for direct services known as Full-Service Partnerships (FSPs), a 24/7 intensive wraparound “whatever it takes” model assisting individuals struggling with serious mental illnesses successfully remain in the community. It is an alternative to higher cost institutional placement or incarceration and results in significant positive outcomes. In FY 2020-2021, 486 individuals were enrolled in FSPs. For adults enrolled at least two years, there was a decrease in reported residency in: Psychiatric Hospitalization (46%), Incarceration (44%), Emergency Shelters (31%) and Homelessness (24%) and a decrease in the number of days across all categories compared to the prior year of enrollment. The annual expected expenditure for Full-Service Partnership funding is approximately \$10 million.

CSS also includes system transformation programs aimed at developing capacity to provide values-driven, evidence-based, and promising clinical practices. Over 3,000 residents across all age groups have been served by programs such as community-based individual and group mental health services, culturally specific supports for Native American and Latino Communities, Peer Support and Advocacy for youth, adults and families, Housing and Supports with nearly 140 combined beds, Crisis Services, embedded school and county Wellness Centers, and 2-1-1 services. The expected annual expenditure for Non-FSP Community Services and Supports is approximately \$8.5 million.

A portion of CSS funding is allocated each year towards Workforce Education and Training (WET) and Capital Facilities and Technology Needs (CF/TN). WET activities included training of professionals and paraprofessionals in evidence-based interventions and culture responsiveness, leadership development, increased availability of e-learning, and development of mental health career pathways. Capital Facilities and Technology Needs (CF/TN) provided funding for county behavioral health capital facility improvements, electronic health record system enhancements and a dedicated MHSA data management portal. The expected annual expenditures are \$390,000 for WET and \$500,000 for CF/TN.

Nineteen percent (19%) of MHSA funding goes towards Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) programs, which are short-term interventions intended to prevent mental illnesses from becoming severe and disabling. Programs also include education for increasing recognition of early signs of mental illness, suicide prevention, and stigma and discrimination reduction activities. There are 41 services funded that have helped nearly 4,000 people with a focus on strengthening families and youth with parenting classes, therapy, social skill development, and culturally appropriate services. Through community-based contractors, County programs and administration, the expected annual expenditure for PEI is approximately \$3.5 million.

Counties are required to submit a Three-Year Prevention and Early Intervention Evaluation Report with its Annual Update or Three-Year MHSA Plan every three years to report the impacts of its PEI programs. Placer County's Three-Year PEI Evaluation Report due this year for FY 2018-2021 is included as a separate document from the Annual Update and includes four full years of data (FY 2017-2018 was not included in the prior Evaluation Report). Despite challenges faced during the pandemic, including workforce shortages and less face-to-face consumer access, this report shows providers continued to deliver these important programs to the community by adapting service delivery and outreach. In FY 2020-2021 alone, over 1,200 individuals received prevention services, with 80% of those who received a pre and post assessment showing improvement in their symptoms over time.

Five percent (5%) of MHSA funding goes towards Innovation projects designed to develop a new strategy or new learning in the county behavioral health system. MHSA Innovation projects are on a different timeline per regulation requirements. Placer County's approved Innovation

project for FY 2021-2026, now known as “Lotus”, is a 24/7 Adult Crisis Respite Center that will be opening soon at our Cirby Hills campus. This project addresses the identified community priority to expand our crisis continuum and paves the way for much needed short-term crisis care outside of highly impacted hospital emergency rooms. This project is utilizing multiple funding sources, including Medi-Cal and hospital funding, in addition to \$550,000 per year of Innovation dollars over the five years.

Placer County successfully completed a five-year Innovation project during FY 2016-2021, the MHSA Homeless Integrated Care Coordination (HICCE) connected to the Whole Person Care Pilot Program. The Final Report, to be submitted with the Annual Update, shows 504 total individuals were served, with 187 Whole Person Care members successfully housed over the life of the project. Partnering agencies and programs have learned important lessons about collaboration and coordination from this successful project.

The MHSA Annual Update and associated expenditures are vetted with the Mental Health, Alcohol, and Drug Advisory Board, our local stakeholder Steering Committee (Campaign for Community Wellness) and were posted for 30 days to receive public comment. A Public Hearing was held by the Mental Health, Alcohol, and Drug Advisory Board on June 20, 2022. Comments included several identified errors that were corrected, recognition of the underserved older adult population, the importance of peer services, and the need for ongoing education with providers around cultural humility and inclusive and equitable practices, and acknowledging ongoing efforts needed to improve the accessibility of the content in these reports for the community.

The Campaign for Community Wellness (CCW), a community-based steering committee overseeing the implementation of this Mental Health Services Act Plan in Placer County, has noted the positive results of the investments made through this plan. The CCW goal is to support the traditional and non-traditional mental health system in Placer County using innovative, collaborative, culturally responsive, and consumer-guided approaches. CCW supports the continuation of these programs to improve services and supports for all people in Placer County experiencing mental health issues.

FISCAL IMPACT

The total costs associated with this item are covered by Mental Health Services Act funds and is included in the Department’s FY 2022-23 budget and will be included in future budgets. There is no additional impact to the General Fund.

ATTACHMENTS

None

The FY 2022-2023 MHSA Annual Update and Expenditure Plan, FY 2017-2021 PEI Evaluation Report and Final HICCE Innovation Report are on file with the Clerk of the Board for review.

