



INNOVATION PLAN EXTENSION APPROVAL SUMMARY San Diego County Innovation

Name of Innovative Program: Faith-Based Initiative

Initial Total Requested for Innovation Expansion: \$1,009,203

Duration of Innovative Program: Three Years

Initial Plan Approval by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC or Commission): February 26, 2015

Innovation Plan Summary

The Commission approved San Diego County's Innovative (INN) Program, Faith-Based Initiative (FBI) on February 26, 2015 to serve two county regions. San Diego County is requesting an additional \$336,401 annually (\$1,009,203 over the three years) to extend the program scope to \$2,504,778 for three years. The additional funds are being requested to expand the program and allow for the implementation of Crisis Response and Wellness & Health Ministry components in the North Inland region. The goals and the learning objectives have remained the same.

The County procurement process has delayed implementation of the FBI Program. The program is due to start March 1, 2016. The primary purpose of the program is to increase access to underserved groups and promote interagency collaboration by establishing collaborative partnerships between San Diego County Behavioral Health Services (BHS) and Faith-based (FB) leaders/clergy and members of their congregations. This collaboration will provide targeted outreach and engagement to the African American and Latino faith communities in a culturally and linguistically relevant manner.

The program's main purpose is to develop long-lasting collaborations and partnerships with FB leaders/clergy and congregations to address underserved populations dealing with mental illness. While there are successful examples of collaboration between mental health systems and FB communities, this adaptation seeks to combine the following components into one unique program: (1) collaboration and partnerships, (2) community education, (3) crisis response, and (4) wellness and health ministry.

Through this approach, the County expects to address barriers to developing collaboration in the following ways:

- *Collaboration and partnerships:* Targeted outreach and engagement will be utilized to identify and partner with “FB champions” or “FB community leaders” to participate in a “Faith-Based Academy.” The academy’s goal is to develop and increase knowledge about mental illness and wellness, behavioral health services including in the community and in jails, faith/spirituality principles and values, and community support services related to recovery from mental illness.
- *Community Education:* FB Champions will facilitate a community educational series in two County regions with a focus on mental illness and BHS resources.
- *Crisis Response:* A mobile community-based FB team will pair a clinician with a clergy member to respond to individual/family mental health crisis situations, including suicides, homicides or domestic violence, on a 24/7 on-call system. The team will provide at-home crisis intervention, counseling, support services and linkages to BHS and other community supports as needed.
- *Wellness and Health Ministry:* The program will serve adults in jail with a severe mental illness and will include engagement and connection; spiritual support; information about the impact and effects of untreated mental illness, co-occurring disorders and trauma; support for mental and physical health and wellness; support services consistent with pastoral counseling; and links to community resources to support reintegration.

Evaluation:

The program will measure improved access to BHS and to community mental health resources for currently underserved populations, for the INN Program overall, and for all program elements. In addition, each engagement strategy will be evaluated independently as each has distinct intended outcomes. Data to be collected include:

- *Interagency Collaboration:* How many mental health, substance abuse agencies and faith communities collaborate and what elements contributed to successful partnerships.
- *FB Academy:* The level of knowledge gained about mental health and substance abuse recovery and behavioral health services; and reduced stigma, including congregants’ comfort to seek behavioral health services for themselves or others. The evaluation will assess how individuals use this new information and their new relationships
- *Wellness and Health Ministry:* The program will evaluate if this intervention increases engagement in behavioral health services by comparing rates pre- and post-incarceration, length of time engaged in services post-incarceration, and recovery measures.
- *Crisis Response:* The program will evaluate the effectiveness of this intervention with participants and family members as assessed by successful linkages to BHS services and community supports, diversion from incarceration or juvenile detention, increased knowledge about mental illness and wellness, stigma reduction measures, and participant satisfaction.

The evaluation will provide bi-annual reports of services and outcomes for each of the three years of the program. Results will be presented to the Central and North Inland Faith Based Councils for review and input.