



NEVADA COUNTY CALIFORNIA

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: November 12, 2024

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: **Phebe Bell**

SUBJECT: Resolution approving Nevada County Behavioral Health's Mental Health Services Act Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Implementation Innovation Plan for Fiscal Year 24/25 through Fiscal Year 26/27 and authorizing the Behavioral Health Director to submit the Plan to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: The estimated program expenditures for implementing the Innovation Plan are \$1,365,000. Funds will come from Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds received by the department. The Proposed Plan does not require any county match or county general fund dollars.

BACKGROUND: The Mental Health Services Act (Proposition 63 or MHSA) adopted by the California electorate on November 2, 2004, increased overall State funding for the community mental health system by imposing a 1% income tax on California residents with more than \$1 million per year in income. One of the funding components of MHSA is Innovation (INN), which counties must utilize to design and implement an Innovative Project that meets one of the following criteria:

- 1) Introduce a mental health practice or approach that is new to the overall mental health system, including, but not limited to, prevention and early intervention.
- 2) Make a change to an existing practice in the field of mental health, including but not limited to, application to a different population.
- 3) Apply to the mental health system a promising community-driven practice or approach that has been successful in non-mental health contexts or settings.

The goal of this proposed Innovation Project is to prepare Nevada County's MHSA funded partners for the implementation of Proposition 1, or the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). Nevada County anticipates that BHSA will dramatically impact available funds for Prevention and Early

Intervention (PEI) Programing. Nevada County's proposed project aims to help currently funded PEI providers, especially community-based organizations, to maximize billable Medi-Cal revenue and decrease their reliance on MHSA/PEI funding. Most mental health providers in our region are small, grass roots organizations with limited capacity to shift their agency infrastructure in the ways that are required to maximize billable Medi-Cal revenue. This Innovation Project intends to support these organizations through this transition toward generating billable revenue, ensuring they can continue providing essential services and increase their self-sufficiency around funding in order to maintain the mental health safety net our rural community relies on. To facilitate this process, we will partner with a consultant to host a learning collaborative with up to 20 local providers, offering both group and individualized support with current system and service analysis, development of administrative policies, and exploration of EHR/billing systems for those without current systems. Additionally, this plan intends to prepare our Full-Service Partnership (FSP) providers for the aspects of BHSA that will require both full fidelity FSP models, as well as specific FSP reporting and data requirements.

MHSA regulations require a Notice of Public Comment Period for the Plan, which occurred from September 4, 2024 through October 4, 2024. The final public hearing was held at the local Mental Health and Substance Use Advisory Board meeting on October 4, 2024, where the Board approved the Plan. Additionally, MHSA Regulations require approval from the Board of Supervisors for the proposed Innovation Plan, prior to final plan approval by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC). The proposed Innovation Plan is scheduled to be heard by the MHSOAC on November 21, 2024.

The Behavioral Health Department respectfully requests that Board approve the Mental Health Services Act Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Implementation Innovation Plan for Fiscal Year 24/25 through Fiscal Year 26/27 and authorizes the Behavioral Health Direction to submit the Plan to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).

Approved by: Phebe Bell, Behavioral Health Director