

FY 2019-20 MHSA Innovation Projects

Below are brief summaries of the proposed five Innovation Projects for San Mateo County.

1. Addiction Medicine Fellowship in a local community setting

Estimated Project Amount & Length: \$663,125 / 4 years

The proposed project is an accredited Addiction Medicine Fellowship sponsored by San Mateo County that is tailored to addressing the needs and priorities of the public sector including treating the most vulnerable communities with co-occurring substance use disorders, advancing equity on multiple levels and contributing to educational projects in clinical and community settings. This would also be the first Addiction Medicine Fellowship based in a local health safety net health system, serving as a model for California's 58 counties.

2. Co-location of Prevention and Early Intervention Services in Low-Income Housing

Estimated Project Amount & Length: \$925,000 / 4 years

The proposed project will provide prevention and early intervention services including behavioral health resources, supports, screening, referrals and linkages to young adults, ages 18-25, on-site at affordable housing properties, minimizing stigma and reducing barriers to accessing behavioral health care.

3. PIONEERS - College-Age Pacific Islander Mental Health

Estimated Project Amount & Length: \$925,000 / 4 years

The proposed project, Pacific Islanders Organizing, Nurturing, and Empowering Everyone to Rise and Serve (PIONEERS) provides a culturally relevant, college behavioral health program for NHPI youth that prioritizes the mental wellbeing of students and their respective communities through empowerment, leadership and advocacy.

4. Older Adult Homelessness Prevention due to Economic Stress

Estimated Project Amount & Length: \$750,000 / 4 years

The proposed project will reach-out and engage isolated older adults who may be at risk of becoming homeless. Trust and safety will be established to reduce shame/stigma. Older adults will be screened for economic stress, behavioral health issues, and connected to homeless, housing and behavioral health resources for planning, and support, to prevent acute homelessness and to slow the growing older adult homeless population trend. The innovation will create a new partnership between Human Services Agency Center for Homelessness providers, Older American Act programs, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, and Aging and Adult Services.

5. Social Enterprise Cultural and Wellness Café

Estimated Project Amount & Length: \$2,625,000 / 5 years

The proposed project is a cultural arts and wellness-focused social enterprise café that offers youth development and mental health programming on site. The social enterprise café will hire and train at-risk youth from Northern San Mateo County and serve as a culturally affirming space for Filipino/a/x youth and community. The social enterprise model has proven to be a more sustainable approach when it comes to stable and diversified funding streams. Most of the existing community organizations that offer some elements of the proposed project rely heavily on grant-writing and fundraising.