

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Performance Review Report
Santa Barbara County Program Review
June 27-June 29, 2023

FINDINGS

Finding #1: Santa Barbara County did not include a narrative analysis of the mental health needs of unserved, underserved/inappropriately served, and fully served county residents who qualify for MHSA services in the adopted Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-23 Three-Year Plan (Plan). (California Code of Regulations (Cal. Code Regs.), title 9, section 3650(a)(1)(A)).

Recommendation #1: The County must include a narrative analysis of the mental health needs of unserved, underserved/inappropriately served, and fully served county residents who qualify for MHSA services in each subsequent adopted Plan thereafter.

Finding #1a: Santa Barbara County did not identify the number of children/transition-aged youth/adult/and older adults by gender, race/ethnicity, and primary language in the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3650(a)(1)(A)).

Recommendation #1a: The County must identify the number of children, transition-aged youth, adult, and older adult, by gender, race/ethnicity, and primary language in each subsequent adopted Plan thereafter.

Finding #2: Santa Barbara County did not provide an estimate of the number of clients, in each age group, to be served in the Full Service Partnership (FSP) category for each fiscal year of the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan. The county included the number of FSP clients served in each age group for FY 2018-19. However, the Plan did not include the number of FSP clients to be served for FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22, and FY 2022-23. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3650(a)(3)).

Recommendation #2: The County must provide an estimate of the number of clients, in each age group, to be served in the FSP service category for each fiscal year of the Plan, in each subsequent adopted Plan thereafter.

Finding #3: Santa Barbara County did not indicate the number of children, transition-aged youths, adults, and older adults to be served in the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan and FY 2022-23 Annual Update (Update). The county provided cost per person for each Community Services and Support (CSS), Prevention, and Early Intervention (PEI), and Innovation (INN) programs in the adopted Plan and Update. The Plan/Update needs to include both the number of children, transition-aged youth, adults, and older adults to be served and the cost per person. (Welfare and Institution Code (W&I Code) section 5847(e)).

Recommendation #3: The County must indicate the number of children, transition-aged youths, adults, and older adults to be served and the cost per person in each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter.

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Finding #4: Santa Barbara County did not include a description of each PEI program in the PEI component of the FY 2020-23 Plan and FY 2022-23 Update:

- Early Intervention Program
- Outreach for Increasing Recognition of Early Signs of Mental Illness Program
- Prevention Program
- Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Program
- Access and Linkage to Treatment Program
- Suicide Prevention Program (optional)

(W&I Code section 5840; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, §§ 3705(a-b), 3755)

Recommendation #4: The County must include a description of each PEI programs in the PEI component: Early Intervention program, Outreach for Increasing, Recognition of Early Signs of Mental Illness program, Prevention program, Stigma and Discrimination Reduction program and Access to Linkage to Treatment program in each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter.

Finding #5: Santa Barbara County did not specify the methods and activities to be used to change attitudes, knowledge, and/or behavior regarding being diagnosed with mental illness, having mental illness and/or seeking mental health services for each Stigma and Discrimination Reduction program in the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan and FY 2022-23 Update. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3755(f)(3)).

Recommendation #5: The County must specify the methods and activities to be used to change attitudes, knowledge, and/or behavior regarding being diagnosed with mental illness, having mental illness and/or seeking mental health services for each Stigma and Discrimination Reduction program in each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter.

Finding #6: Santa Barbara County did not explain how individuals, and, as applicable, their parents, caregivers, or other family members, will be linked to county mental health services, a primary care provider, or other mental health treatment for each Access and Linkage to Treatment program in the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan and FY 2022-23 Update; and how the program will follow up with the referral to support engagement in treatment. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, §§ 3755(h)(4), 3755(h)(5)).

Recommendation #6: The County must explain how individuals, and, as applicable, their parents, caregivers, or other family members, will be linked to county mental health services, a primary care provider, or other mental health treatment; and how the program will follow up with the referral to support engagement in treatment for each Access and Linkage to Treatment program for each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter.

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Finding #7: Santa Barbara County did not include any substantive written recommendations for revisions received during the 30-day comment period, and did not summarize, analyze the recommendations, and include a description of any changes made to the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan. (W&I Code section 5848(b); Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3315(a)(3-4)).

Recommendation #7: DHCS recommends the county include any substantive written recommendations for revisions received during the 30-day comment period, summarize, analyze the recommendations, and include a description of any changes made for each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter. If no substantive changes were made, indicate zero changes made.

Finding #8: Santa Barbara County included a Workforce, Education, and Training (WET) budget summary for FY 2018-19, FY 2019-20, and FY 2020-21 in the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan. However, the budget summary is for the incorrect fiscal years and should have included FY 2020-21, FY 2021-22, and FY 2022-23. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3820(e)).

Recommendation #8: DHCS recommends the County include a WET budget summary for each FY of the Plan, which shall include the total budgeted for each funding category for each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter. For example, for the FY 2023-26 Plan, the budget summary will include the following fiscal years: FY 2023-24, FY 2024-25, and FY 2025-26.