

**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Performance Review Report
Del Norte County Program Review
November 21, 2023**

FINDINGS

Finding #1: Del Norte County did not submit the MHSA adopted Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-23 Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan (Plan) or FY 2022-23 Annual Update (Update) to Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) within 30 days after adoption. (Welfare and Institution Code (W&I Code) section 5847(a)).

Recommendation #1: The County must submit the adopted MHSA Plan and Update to DHCS within 30 days after adoption.

Finding #2: Del Norte County's adopted FY 2022-23 Update did not include a detailed description of new programs, programs that have changed from what was previously described in and/or discontinued from the previous FY 2021-22 Update and FY 2020-23 Plan. (W&I Code section 5847), (Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) MHSA Annual Update Instructions pg 4).

Recommendation #2: The county must include a detailed description of any and all new programs, programs that have changed from what was previously described in and/or discontinued from the previous FY Update and Plan. The description shall include the rationale for all added, changed, or discontinued programs. Descriptions should include, but not be limited to, any and all stakeholder input and/or evaluation data that contributed to the decision to add, change, or discontinue a program, and any and all impact on individuals served in changed or discontinued programs in each of the county's subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter. If no changes made, identify no changes made.

Finding #3: Del Norte County did not include any substantive written recommendations for revisions received during the 30-day comment period in either the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan or 2022-23 Update. (W&I Code section 5848(b)).

Recommendation #3: The County must include any substantive written recommendations for revisions received during the 30-day comment period in each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter. If no recommendations for revisions received, identify no recommendations received in the Plan or Update.

Finding #4: Del Norte 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 FY 2020-23 Plan. (California Code of Regulations, title 9, section 3650(a)(1)(A)).

Recommendation #4: 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.

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Finding #5: Del Norte County did not include an assessment of the county's capacity to implement mental health programs and services in the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan. (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 9, § 3650(a)(5)).

Recommendation #5: The County must include an assessment of its capacity to implement mental health programs and services in each subsequent adopted Plan thereafter. Specifically:

- a. The strengths and limitations of the county and service providers that impact their ability to meet the needs of racially and ethnically diverse populations.
- b. The evaluation should include an assessment of bilingual proficiency in threshold languages.
- c. Percentages of diverse cultural, racial/ethnic and linguistic groups represented among direct service providers, as compared to percentage of the total population needing services and the total population being served.
- d. Identification of possible barriers to implementing the proposed programs/services and methods of addressing these barriers.

Finding #6: Del Norte 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. (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 9, § 3650(a)(3)).

Recommendation #6: 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 #7: Del Norte County did not indicate the number of children, Transitional Age Youth (TAY), adults, and older adults to be served, or cost per person for Community Services Support (CSS), Prevention & Early Intervention (PEI) and Innovation (INN) in the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan and FY 2022-23 Update. There were no INN projects during FY 2022-23 Update. (W&I Code section 5847(e)).

Recommendation #7: The County must indicate the number of children, TAY, adults, and older adults to be served, and cost per person for CSS, PEI, and INN, in each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter.

Finding #8: Del Norte County did not have at least one of each PEI program in the PEI component of the FY 2020-23 Plan. Specifically, there was no Outreach for Increasing Recognition of Early Signs of Mental Illness Program, Stigma and Discrimination Reduction Program and Access to Linkage to Treatment Program. However, the FY 2022-23 Update did include at least one of each PEI program type in the PEI component.

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Recommendation #8: The County must have at least one of each PEI program type in the PEI component in each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter:

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

- Suicide Prevention Program (optional)
- (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3705(b)(1)).

A county may opt out and/or combine/integrate programs if all the requirements are met.

Finding #9: Del Norte County did not explain how each Access and Linkage to Treatment program will follow up with the referral to support engagement in treatment in the adopted FY 2022-23 Update. The county did 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. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, §§ 3755(h)(4), 3755(h)(5)).

Recommendation #9: 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 each subsequent adopted Plan and Update thereafter.

Finding #10: Del Norte County did not include the Annual Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) report as a part of the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan or the FY 2022-23 Update. (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3560.010).

Recommendation #10: The County must include the Annual PEI report as a distinct part of each subsequent adopted Plan and/or Update hereafter to ensure that future Annual PEI reports are easily located and identified. It should be clearly labeled, indicating what years are being reported and the location of the report within the Plan or Update. The Annual PEI report is not to be used in lieu of Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 9, § 3755, which are the regulations for the PEI Component of the Plan and Update. DHCS recommends the county submit the report as an addendum or attachment to the Plan or Update and include a cover page for the Annual PEI report with the title:

Annual PEI Report
FY XXXX to XXXX

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Finding #11: Del Norte County did not include the Three-Year Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Evaluation report as part of the adopted FY 2020-23 Plan or FY 2022-23 Update. (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 9, § 3560.020).

Recommendation #11: The County must include the Three-Year PEI Evaluation report as a distinct part of each subsequent adopted Plan and/or Update hereafter. It must be clearly labeled, indicating what years are being reported and the location of the report within the Plan or Update. The Three-Year PEI Evaluation report is not to be used in lieu of Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 9, § 3755, which are the regulations for the PEI Component of the Plan and Update. DHCS recommends the county submit the report as an addendum or attachment to the Plan or Update with a cover page for the Three-Year PEI Evaluation report with the title:

*Three-Year Prevention and Early Intervention Evaluation Report
FY XXXX to FY XXXX*

The Three-Year PEI Evaluation report is due every third year as part of the Plan and/or Update and shall report on the evaluation(s) for the three prior fiscal years. (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 9, § 3560.020).

Finding #12: Del Norte County did not submit evidence of compliance for having county identified positions responsible for the overall Community Program Planning Process (CPPP). (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 9, § 3300(b)).

Recommendation #12: The County must provide evidence of compliance for having county identified positions responsible for the overall CPPP in their policy and procedure or duty statements.

SUGGESTED IMPROVEMENTS

Suggested Improvement #1: DHCS recommends that the county submit all pertinent MHSA documents to DHCS prior to the scheduled MHSA program review. Documents must be submitted by the due date to be considered for the review.