

Fiscal Year 2015-16 MHSA Services by Component

Community Services and Supports Plan

All Ages

New Programs

1. Mental Health - Law Enforcement Partnerships

Program Description: The DMH Emergency Outreach Bureau (EOB) plans to expand its Mental Health - Law Enforcement Teams (MH-LET) that provide field based crisis intervention services to children, adolescents, TAY and adults throughout Los Angeles County. The teams are based on a co-response model: one licensed mental health clinician is partnered with a law enforcement officer to respond to 911 calls or patrol car requests for assistance involving persons suspected of having a mental illness. Teams provide crisis intervention including assessment for WIC 5150, de-escalate potentially violent interactions between clients, family members and police, make appropriate referrals to community agencies, and/or facilitate hospitalization. The teams/programs serve to decrease the need for inpatient psychiatric hospitalization by providing immediate field based services. Additionally, clinical staff will provide training to law enforcement officers on mental health and strategies when engaging persons with mental illness. The expansion will provide additional for 42 teams with law enforcement agencies that have expressed an interest in establishing a partnership with DMH. This funding will cover the cost of the mental health staff. Law enforcement agencies will fund their officers.

Target Population: Individuals in psychiatric crisis brought to the attention of law enforcement including homeless individuals, economically disadvantaged or uninsured, and/or members of a UREP.

Target Service Areas/Team: Expansion of the 42 new teams will be extended to all eight Services Areas. The population to be served includes individuals of all ages who may come into contact with law enforcement.

Program Goals: Reduce the risk of incarceration of mentally ill individuals who are in acute crisis and come into contact with law enforcement by providing immediate field-

based mental health response. MH-LET reduces the potential for officer involved use of force incidents and provides the individual with an immediate clinical assessment and related mental health services (acute inpatient hospitalization, linkage, intensive case management, training, etc.). Diversion from incarceration and into community-based treatment facilities is less expensive than incarceration and provides individuals with a mental disorder with dedicated mental health resources.

Intended Program Outcomes:

1. Increase access to mental health services to mentally ill persons who are in acute crisis and at risk of incarceration.
 - Measured by number persons linked to MH services (acute inpatient hospitalization, outpatient treatment, service area navigator, etc).
2. Improve timely access to mental health services to individuals in acute crisis that come to the attention of law enforcement through 911 system or patrol.
 - Measured by response times from time call was received to time mental health- law enforcement team responded
3. Train officers on effective approaches when responding to persons with mental illness in order to decrease incarcerations and link persons with mental illness to appropriate services.
 - Measured by (1) number of officers trained on mental health and strategies for effective engagement (2) number linked to MH services (acute inpatient hospitalization, outpatient treatment, service area navigator, etc).

Estimated Budget MHSA only: Starting in FY 15/16: \$5,730,000