

STEPS TO SUCCESS PROJECT SUMMARY

Background

In November 2016, **the Board of State and Community Corrections** released a funding announcement for the Proposition 47 Grant Program. Using cost savings generated by the 2014 voter-approved initiative, the purpose of the grant is to provide mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, and misdemeanor division programs for persons involved with the criminal justice system.

In March 2017, the **Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency**, in partnership with **the District Attorney's Office, Probation Department, and Public Defender's Office**, submitted an application to expand Yolo County's existing continuum of criminal justice diversion programs. Specifically, the project proposed to apply the principles of restorative justice and trauma-informed care to provide wraparound services to individuals that are eligible for a diversion program, but are unlikely to succeed without intensive supports due to their history and current issues with mental health and/or substance use disorders.

On June 8, 2017 the BSCC Board awarded HHSA **\$5,968,215** in funding for a 38-month project, which equates to approximately \$1,884,699 annually.

Target Population

The project's target population is persons who:

1. Have been arrested, charged with, or convicted of a criminal offense;
2. Are currently eligible for a diversion program in Yolo County; and
3. Have a history of mental health issues and/or substance use disorders.

Project Goal

The project proposes to reduce recidivism and advance the recovery of people in the target population by improving four key areas in the lives of each participant, including:

1. Criminal justice involvement;
2. Housing stability;
3. Behavioral and physical health; and
4. Self-sufficiency.

Project Description

The project's components include:

1. Outreach and assessment;
2. Criminal justice diversion;
3. Intensive case management and treatment;
4. Civil legal services; and
5. Permanent housing assistance.

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1. Outreach and Assessment

The project's outreach and assessment step will feature two Clinicians and one Probation Officer. Working in collaboration with local law enforcement agencies, the team will conduct outreach to locate and engage potential participants.

Once staff identifies a participant and the DA's Office verifies his or her eligibility for diversion, the team will administer a series of assessments to determine risk of recidivism, mental health and substance use disorder diagnoses, as well as level of vulnerability.

2. Criminal Justice Diversion

Individuals deemed eligible and approved by the DA's Office will be offered the opportunity to participate in the diversion program best suited for their individual needs. If a participant chooses to opt-in, he or she will work with the existing diversion team to address their criminal offenses and become connected to the services described in the following steps.

3. Intensive Case Management and Treatment

Once admitted to a diversion program, participants will be connected with the case management and treatment step of the project. Utilizing one Clinical Program Manager, one Clinician, and two Case Managers, the team will create and implement case plans for each participant.

4. Civil Legal Services (optional)

In addition to the criminal legal issues being addressed by the DA's Office, some participants may have civil legal problems. Participants with these issues will be connected with the civil legal services step of the project for legal assistance. The civil legal services will include helping participants address any non-criminal barriers to accessing basic necessities such as healthcare, housing, government benefits, and employment. To encourage self-sufficiency, this step will also offer "know your rights" educational sessions.

5. Permanent Housing Assistance (optional)

Participants who are unstably housed or experiencing homelessness will be connected with the permanent housing assistance step of the project. Utilizing a rapid rehousing model, participants will be offered rental subsidies, for a period of no more than 24 months. Participants may also be offered financial assistance with paying deposits and/or utility bills to secure permanent housing and purchasing needed household items when moving into new housing.

Project Staffing, Equipment, and Subcontracts

- 1 HHS Analyst
- 1 Paralegal
- 1 Probation Officer
- 7 County vehicles
- 1 Passenger van
- \$175,000 per year outreach and assessment subcontract
- \$750,000 per year case management and treatment subcontract
- \$150,000 per year civil legal services subcontract
- \$400,000 per year rapid rehousing subcontract
- \$9,284 per year evidence based practice training subcontract
- \$50,000 per year evaluation

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Performance Measure Objectives

HHSa, in partnership with a professional evaluation firm, will use a Results-Based Accountability model to measure progress towards the following objectives.

1. How much did we do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 150 people will be contacted and assessed during outreach each year • 75 people will be provided with case management and treatment each year • 200 people will be provided with civil legal education and/or services each year • 30 people will be provided with rapid re-housing assistance each year
2. How well did we do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 90% of potential project participants will have an assessment completed (ORAS, LOCUS, ASAM, ANSA and/or VI-SPDAT as appropriate) within 30 days of initial engagement • 50% of individuals who are contacted through outreach and determined to be eligible for the program will choose to voluntarily participate • 90% of project participants will be engaged in case management and treatment services within 30 days of enrollment in the project • Demographic makeup of project participants will be comparable to demographic makeup of overall arrestee population in Yolo County (approximately 47% white, 34% Hispanic or Latino, 3% Asian, 3% Other/Multiple Races, 13% Black)
3. Is anyone better off?
<i>Criminal Justice Involvement</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of participants will not recidivate while engaged with the program • 75% of participants will not recidivate within 12 months of graduating the program • 50% fewer days in jail for participants while in the program • 50% fewer arrests/tickets for participants while in the program
<i>Housing Stability</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 70% of participants will secure and/or maintain permanent housing • 80% of participants who secure permanent housing will remain housed at 6 months
<i>Physical and Behavioral Health</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% fewer emergency care visits while in the program, as compared to year prior to enrollment • 75% fewer days in psychiatric hospitalization while in the program, as compared to year prior to enrollment
<i>Self-Sufficiency</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60% of participants will secure monthly income (employment or permanent benefit) • 90% of those eligible will enroll in CalFresh • 100% of those eligible will enroll in health insurance