

EXTENDED HOPE:

A PROJECT TO SERVE HOMELESS PERSONS WITH CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS

Background

In March 2016, the **Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** released a funding announcement for the Cooperative Agreements to Benefit Homeless Individuals (CABHI) grant with the purpose of increasing the capacity of local communities to provide treatment services, permanent housing, peer supports and other critical services for people experiencing homelessness with a mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

The **Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)**, in partnership with **Fourth and Hope**, submitted a proposal to provide intensive wraparound care to people experiencing homelessness with co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders through the Extended Hope Project.

In July 2016, HHSA was awarded **\$2,399,328** to fund the three-year project (\$799,776 annually).

Project Goal

The project aims to advance the recovery of people experiencing homelessness with CODs in Yolo County by improving several key areas in the lives of each participant, including (1) housing stability, (2) behavioral and physical health, (3) self-sufficiency, (4) criminal justice involvement, and (5) purpose and community.

Target Population

People experiencing homelessness in Yolo County who have co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders (COD).

Project aims to contact 150 people experiencing homelessness through outreach each year, and enroll 75 people experiencing homelessness with CODs in intensive case management.

Project Description

The project will advance client recovery through use of a two-year integrated treatment approach that includes three key components including (1) identification, assessment and triage, (2) intensive case management and treatment, and (3) housing navigation and permanent placement.

1. Identification, Assessment and Triage

The outreach component of the project will utilize two full-time Outreach Workers who will assist with identifying, assessing, and providing services to the target population.

Identification: Workers will conduct street outreach, provider outreach and jail inreach to identify the target population.

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Assessment: Workers will use the Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT) to assess the vulnerability of all homeless persons that they identify.

Triage: Workers will enroll the most vulnerable individuals (with CODs) in the case management component of the project. Clients with lower levels of vulnerability, or not meeting the target population, will be linked with services from partner agencies.

2. Intensive Case Management and Treatment

The case management component of the project will utilize 1 Clinical Program Manager and 2 Case Managers to create and implement individualized case plans for each client. Additionally, 4 Peer Recovery Support Specialists will provide recovery support through mentorship and educational sessions, and 1 Employment Specialist will assist clients with securing employment. The case management team will also provide 24-hour crisis response coverage to address urgent client needs, intended primarily to avoid hospitalizations and arrests.

The project will also provide residential substance use treatment for approximately 10-12 clients each year, with a stay of no longer than 90 days per client.

3. Housing Navigation

The Housing Navigation component of the project will utilize 1 Housing Navigator to provide assistance with securing and maintaining permanent housing placements for clients on the case management caseload.

Project Staffing

- 1 Clinical Program Manager
- 2 Outreach Workers
- 2 Case Managers
- 4 Peer Support Specialists
- 1 Housing Navigator
- 1 Employment Specialist
- 24-Hour Crisis Response

Project Partners

- **Fourth & Hope** will operate the direct service delivery components of the project.
 - **Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA)** will serve as the project administrator. HHSA will be responsible for providing executive oversight of client admission and treatment plans, convening a steering committee, monitoring data collection, and evaluating performance measures.
 - **Sacramento Steps Forward** will provide infrastructure development services and back-end programming for the local Homeless Management Information System.
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