

Peer Support Specialist Full Service Partnership (FSP) Teams

Los Angeles County Innovation Project
Debbie Innes-Gomberg, Ph.D.



WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE



The Need

- The Department is seeking to make a change to an existing practice in the field of mental health practice (FSP service delivery model and staffing) within Los Angeles County by:
 - Expanding the reach of peers in LA – evolution over time
 - 1-2 peer staff required for FSP teams → client-run centers → WOW workers/volunteers → health navigators → Peer Respite Homes → Peer Resource Center → Whole Person Care- Kin through Peer → **Peer FSP**
 - Optimize meaningful roles for peers in the mental health system
 - Improve engagement practices and access to mental health care for individuals incarcerated or at risk of arrest and incarceration with a mental health condition.
 - Breaking incarceration cycles
- The primary purpose is to improve the quality of mental health services and achieve outcomes
- This project would represent a significant step forward for the LA County Department of Mental Health, in expanding the role of peers. Further, it is not a practice we found in other counties.

The Innovation

- Implement 2 FSP teams comprised primarily of peer support specialists.
 - Composition of each team:
 - 5 Peer Support Specialists
 - Licensed Clinical Supervisor (supervise all staff)
 - Psychiatrist
 - Licensed clinician (to do mental health assessments and treatment plans)
 - 1 administrative staff and 1 clerical staff
- Traditional FSP programs have been staffed with a multi-disciplinary clinical team which have included peers. This PSS FSP program will modify the existing FSP team staffing to consist primarily of peers utilizing their lived experience
- The manner in which the full array of FSP services are delivered will utilize lived experience as the foundation for engagement and service delivery.

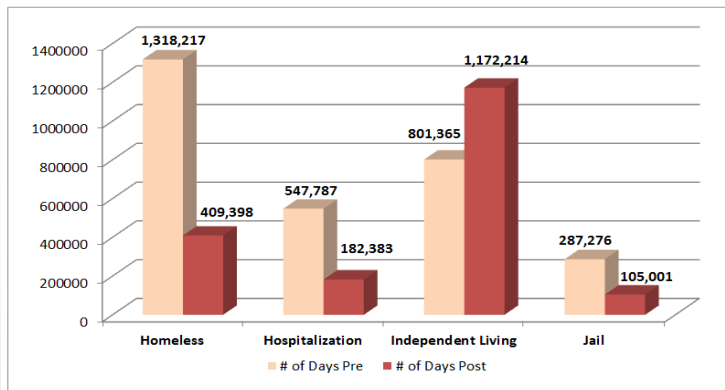
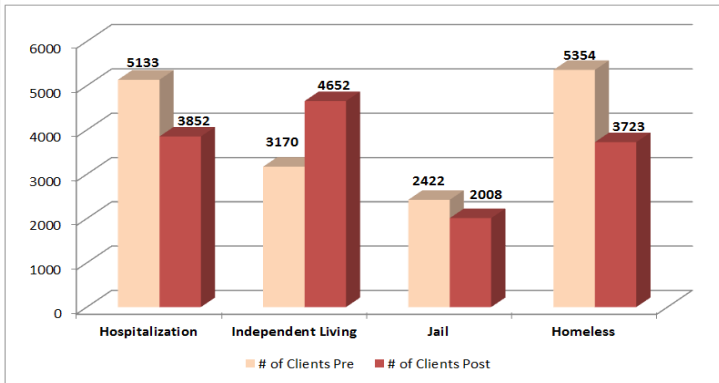
Overarching Learning Questions and Evaluation

- Will justice involved individuals remain enrolled in FSP services with greater consistency throughout their treatment if support and care is provided by a PSS FSP rather than a traditional FSP team?
 - Compare reasons for disenrollment (met goals, lost contact, disenrollment due to incarceration of 6 or more months)
 - Compare average tenure in FSP for differences
 - Compare FSP clients who remain in FSP for 1 and 2 years with traditional FSP teams serving justice-involved populations.
- Are there differences in FSP data quality between PSS FSP and traditional FSP programs?
 - Compare missing baseline reports, Key Event Tracking/Change completion rates and Three Month/Quarterly (3M) outcomes.
- Are justice- involved FSP clients individuals less likely to recidivate if services are provided by a Peer FSP Team?
 - Compare incarceration outcome reports (Baseline incarcerations from the year prior to entering FSP to incarcerations after enrollment; cohort incarceration analyses after 1 and 2 years in FSP)

Overarching Learning Questions and Evaluation

- Does the work of Peer Support Specialists result in FSP clients who are more successful in integrating back into their communities?
 - Compare employment and volunteering patterns, distinguishing between in-house and community-based employment and volunteering.
 - Compare living arrangement outcomes, particularly independent living, congregate living and homelessness.
- What unique supports need to be put in place for Peer Support Specialists to be maximally effective in their roles in order to achieve effective client outcomes?
 - Qualitative interviewing of Peer Support Specialists at intervals during the project. This information will not only be used for the evaluation of the project but also to inform ongoing training and technical assistance.
- Will PSS staff be able to provide the array of FSP services within their current scope of practice?
 - Compare overall FSP outcomes for Peer Support Specialist FSP to outcomes for traditional FSP programs serving justice-involved populations.
 - Qualitative analysis of Peer Support Specialist competencies in providing each service array element.

FSP Adult Living Arrangement Outcomes



- 69% reduction in days homeless
- 67% reduction in days hospitalized
- 63% reduction in days in jail
- 46% increase in days living independently
- 30% reduction in clients homeless
- 25% reduction in clients hospitalized
- 17% reduction in clients in jail
- 47% increase in clients living independently

Number of Clients Included: 12,807
 Number of Baselines Included: 13,481

The Budget

4 year project

- FY 2018-19 \$2,511,082
- FY 2019-20 \$2,454,601
- FY 2020-21 \$2,454,601
- FY 2021-22 \$2,454,601

Net Total \$9,874,886 MHSA INN

Sustaining the Project: Should the project be successful, funds will be sought through the MHSA Community Services and Supports Plan- FSP for continued funding.

Proposed Motion:

- MHSOAC approves Los Angeles County's Innovation Project as follows:
 - Name: Peer Support Specialist Full Service Partnership
 - Amount: \$9,874,886
 - Project Length: Four (4) Years