

INNOVATION PROJECT STAFF ANALYSIS:

Crossroads to Hope Extension

Sonoma County

Project Overview

Commission Approval History

Original Commission Approval Date: February 24, 2022

Original Commission Approved Funding Amount: \$2,500,000

Original Approved Duration of Innovation Project: Five (5) Years

Project Start Date: July 1, 2023

Current Request

Additional INN Funding Requested: \$864,476

Request for Additional Time: None

BHSOAC Consideration of Project: October 23, 2025

Review History

Approved by County Board of Supervisors: February 9, 2022

Behavioral Health Board Hearing: April 15, 2025

Public Comment Period: March 17, 2025 to April 17, 2025

County Final Submission Date: August 19, 2025

Project Information

Background Problem

Originally approved by the Commission in February 2022, Sonoma County's Crossroads to Hope project strived to address the increase in criminal justice-involved individuals, a large portion of whom present with co-occurring behavioral health issues. Diversion programs are alternatives to formal prosecution and incarceration, giving these individuals a chance for recovery and connection with programs that will reduce the risk of future justice system involvement. Some common obstacles to recovery for this population include a lack of long-

term housing stability and community supports. The Crossroads to Hope project was thus created to close this gap by combining housing assistance and peer-led services.

Original Project

Crossroads to Hope is a program that combines the following strategies together to better address the behavioral health needs of justice-involved individuals:

Housing First: This approach prioritizes permanent housing for folks without requirements of sobriety or absence of criminal history that can hinder one's ability to receive support.

Assertive Community Treatment: This is a team-based approach to mental health care that utilizes peers and community resources to create a client-centered environment conducive to recovery.

To participate in this program, individuals must meet eligibility requirements through the Pretrial Risk Assessment Tool and Public Safety Assessment, administered by the County's Department of Probation. Appropriateness is then determined following a needs assessment by a clinician, who upon approval then hands off the participant to the Crossroads to Hope peer provider support team. With the help of a multi-disciplinary team of peers, behavioral health providers, and medical providers, the program provides educational groups, individual and group therapies, medication evaluations, access to and navigation of community resources, establishment of long-term housing, and creation of a support network.

Extension Request

This extension request is for an additional \$864,476 in Innovation funds that will support continued implementation of the Crossroads to Hope program. Since its original start date, Sonoma County's living wage and rising costs of necessary goods and resources required for successful operation of the program have all increased, making it difficult to sustain the project and meet its learning goals.

There will not be any changes to program activities, learning goals, or evaluation; the increase in funds is to enable the program to retain essential Peer Providers, who are critical to achieving the projects' objectives and provide vital services and supports to program participants.

BHSA Alignment and Sustainability

Although originally approved prior to the passing of Prop 1, this project aligns with the BHSA by addressing multiple BHSA priority populations as outlined in WIC 5892(d), including adults

and older adults who are at risk of homelessness, in or at risk of being in the justice system, and reentering the community from prison or jail.

The sustainability plan for the project upon completion and success will not change with this increased budget request. In collaboration with the community through the Community Program Planning Process and backed by data analysis, the County still plans on supporting this program using government dollars, CalAIM, and support from local resources such as the Probation Department.

Community Planning Process

The original project underwent its 30-day public comment period between November 30, 2021 through December 30, 2021, and was heard before the local behavioral health board on January 18, 2022. It was approved by the Board of Supervisors on February 8, 2022.

Per Sonoma County, the Innovation project extension, with proposed increases in the budget, was most recently included in the expenditure plan section of the county's Annual Update for FY 25-26. The 30-day public comment period of the Annual Update for FY 25-26 began on March 17, 2025, and a local behavioral health board hearing was held on April 15, 2025.

Budget

Sonoma County is requesting authorization to increase the project budget by \$864,476. Adding this onto the originally approved \$2,500,000 amount would result in a project total of \$3,364,476 over a period of five (5) years. One-hundred percent (100%) of the project will continue to be supported by Innovation funding. The revisions by category are indicated in the following table.

Category	Original Budget	Revised Budget
Personnel	\$1,312,141	\$2,558,089
Program Operations	\$1,064,359	\$366,624
Non-Recurring	\$4,500	\$0
Indirect	Embedded in Personnel & Operations*	\$320,763
Evaluation	\$119,000	\$119,000
Total	\$2,500,000	\$3,364,476

** For a specific breakdown of the project's original indirect costs, see pages 27-29 of the original proposal, which is accessible from the Sonoma County website at https://share.sonoma-county.org/link/slLxt30jw_8/.*

CONCLUSION

The proposed extension request for the Sonoma County project, Crossroads to Hope, appears to meet the minimum requirements listed under MHSA Innovation. Additionally, this project aligns with the Behavioral Health Services Act and provides information regarding sustainability.