



Transforming Mental Health Services

San Joaquin County Behavioral Health Services MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention Planning Process

Required Targets

Through the PEI planning process, counties must select Key Community Mental Health Needs and Priority Populations from those identified and approved by the State of California Oversight and Accountability Commission:

PEI Key Community Mental Health Needs

1. **Disparities in Access to Mental Health Services:** reduce disparities in access to early mental health interventions due to stigma, lack of knowledge about mental health services or lack of suitability (i.e., cultural competency) of traditional mainstream services.
2. **Psycho-Social Impact of Trauma:** reduce the negative psycho-social impact of trauma on all ages.
3. **At-Risk Children, Youth and Young Adult Populations:** increase prevention efforts and response to early signs of emotional and behavioral health problems among specific at-risk populations
4. **Stigma and Discrimination:** reduce stigma and discrimination affecting individuals with mental illness and mental health problems
5. **Suicide Risk:** increase public knowledge of the signs of suicide risk and appropriate actions to prevent suicide.

Priority Populations

1. **Underserved Cultural Populations:** those who are unlikely to seek help from any traditional mental health service whether because of stigma, lack of knowledge, or other barriers (such as members of ethnically/racially diverse communities, members of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender communities, etc.) and would benefit from Prevention and Early Intervention programs and interventions.
2. **Individuals Experiencing Onset of Serious Psychiatric Illness:** Those identified by providers, including but not limited to primary health care, as presenting signs of mental illness first break, including those who are unlikely to seek help from any traditional mental health service.
3. **Children/Youth in Stressed Families:** Children and youth placed out-of-home or those in families where there is substance abuse or violence, depression or other mental illnesses or lack of caregiving adults (e.g., as a result of a serious health condition or incarceration), rendering the children and youth at high risk of behavioral and emotional problems.
4. **Trauma-Exposed:** Those who are exposed to traumatic events or prolonged traumatic conditions including grief, loss and isolation, including those who are unlikely to seek help from any traditional mental health service.
5. **Children/Youth at Risk for School Failure:** Due to unaddressed emotional and behavioral problems.
6. **Children and Youth at Risk of Juvenile Justice Involvement:** Those with signs of behavioral/emotional problems who are at risk of or have had any contact with any part of the juvenile justice system, and who cannot be appropriately served through Community Services and Supports (CSS).