

Priority: Basic Needs
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs: 25062, 25067

Lead Agency: County Human Services
Program Contact: Karl Brimmer

Program Characteristics:

Executive Summary

The Culturally Specific Mental Health Services program directs funding resources to five traditionally underserved communities that have faced significant barriers to accessing mental health treatment serving 383 individuals. Culturally specific services ensure that people of color receive culturally specific services based in their community culture and traditions and accessible in their language. Populations of people of color are under represented in traditional mental health services and many are over represented in criminal justice systems.

Program Description

This program offer funds mental health services for a total of 383 individuals from five traditionally underserved communities: Eastern European, African-American, Asian-American, Latino-American, and Native American. Mental health issues are particularly pressing for several of these communities. For example, Client Process Monitoring System (CPMS) data suggests that members of the African-American and Native American communities are more likely than other populations to suffer from severe mental illnesses that require a higher level of care. African-Americans are four times more likely to be involuntarily placed in a hospital setting than members of other culturally specific groups.

Culturally specific services address mental health problems with early access to treatment, mitigating the potential need for expensive hospital, residential care, or crisis services as well as reducing the risk of inappropriate incarceration or homelessness.

The county contracts for culturally specific services with mental health providers that understand community norms and have established a relationship of trust with the ethnic communities they serve. These providers offer a wide variety of mental health services in a supportive and culturally competent setting. Services include clinical evaluation and assessment, case and crisis management, transition planning, medication management, and linkage to community support systems.

Program Justification

Culturally Specific Mental Health Services eliminates barriers to mental health treatment for underserved communities. Barriers are overcome by ensuring adequate funding for culturally competent programs. When individuals feel that providers are familiar with their culture they are more likely to access and engage in treatment which could prevent a mental health crisis. This program is aligned with the Poverty Elimination Framework by providing adequate healthcare to underserved individuals and families. By providing competent and coordinated healthcare services for children it is also aligned with the Early Childhood Framework.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY07-08)	Current Year Purchased (FY08-09)	Current Year Estimate (FY08-09)	Next Year Offer (FY09-10)
Output	Total Culturally Diverse Individuals Receiving Services ¹	0	383	383	383
Outcome	Culturally Specific Persons Served per 1000 Culturally Diverse in Population ²	0	2	2	2

Performance Measure - Description

¹ All persons receiving publicly funded mental health services are entered into State CPMS data regardless of payor. Total count served is taken from CPMS.

² Service Rate Per 1000 Calculation Numerator: Total unduplicated culturally diverse individuals served. Denominator: Total county census for similar groups for 2007 taken from US Census Data. The outputs and outcomes above reflect the projected decrease in funding shown in the significant program changes section below.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

N/A

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2009	2009	2010	2010
Contracts	\$1,266,900	\$0	\$1,266,900	\$0
Subtotal: Direct Exps:	\$1,266,900	\$0	\$1,266,900	\$0
Administration	\$103,807	\$0	\$108,751	\$0
Program Support	\$230,032	\$0	\$238,741	\$0
Subtotal: Other Exps:	\$333,839	\$0	\$347,492	\$0
Total GF/non-GF:	\$1,600,739	\$0	\$1,614,392	\$0
Program Total:	\$1,600,739		\$1,614,392	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Program Revenues				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Revenue:	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

County General Fund - \$1,266,900

Significant Program ChangesLast year this program was: #25078, Culturally Specific Mental Health Services