



# ORANGE COUNTY INNOVATION PLAN



April 24, 2014



WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE



## Orange County Profile

- Covers 791 square miles
  - 2012 Population Estimate: 3,085,355
    - African American: 2.0 %
    - Asian/Pacific Islander: 19.3%
    - Euro American: 43.1%
    - Latino: 34.1%
    - Native American: 1.1%



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# Orange County Innovation Program

Orange County is requesting \$2,354,414.00 dollars to fund five Innovative Programs titled:

- Proactive On-site Engagement in the Collaborative Courts
- Religious Leaders Behavioral Health Training
- Access to Mobil/Cellular/Internet Devices in Improving Quality of Life
- Veteran Services for Military Families
- Developing Skill Sets for Independent Living



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# Orange County Innovation Program

- Proactive On-site Engagement in the Collaborative Courts

This four-year project integrates mental health education with mental health system navigation services onsite at collaborative courts for probation clients with serious and persistent mental illness and their families. Peer Specialists will teach mental health courses at local mental health clinics. Probation clients and families will learn how to manage their mental illness and support their mental health, navigate the mental health system, and thrive outside the criminal justice system.



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# Orange County Innovation Program

**Evaluation Parameters:**

- **Orange County will assess if participation in a peer-led mental health education program combined with supportive services will increase the quality of services, including better outcomes by:**
  - **Increase in participants' and their families' understanding of serious and persistent mental illness**
  - **Increase in participants' engagement and access to mental health services**
  - **Reduced criminal justice recidivism and hospitalization rates of participants**

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# Orange County Innovation Program

- **Religious Leaders Behavioral Health Training**

This three-year program will increase access to services by introducing formal behavioral health training for 30 faith-based organizations using a train-the-trainers approach, increasing the number of lay persons trained in basic mental health practice skill sets. The intention of the Innovation Project is to recruit adult religious leaders from a variety of denominations throughout Orange County. The trainings will also be offered to transition-age youth and adult congregants from each religious organization and will reflect the cultural and linguistic needs of each group.

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# Orange County Innovation Program

**Evaluation Parameters:**

- The County will assess if training and certifying religious leaders and congregants as behavioral health trainers will result in:
  - Participants' increased understanding of mental health (both the new trainers and the individuals they train)
  - Increased numbers of lay persons in various religious communities who are skilled and knowledgeable in basic mental health practice skills sets
  - Increased numbers of individuals in religious communities who access mental health services

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# Orange County Innovation Program

- **Access to Mobile/Cellular/Internet Devices in Improving Quality of Life**

This three-year project is designed to increase access to mental health services and enhance the quality of life of low-income adults living with severe and persistent mental illness through access to mobile devices, accompanied by Peer Specialist supportive services. Each participant will be provided with a cell phone with internet access. At weekly check-in meetings, Peer Specialist will support participants regarding use of the phone as well as additional opportunities to reduce social isolation, increase social networks of emotionally supportive friends and peers, increase personal safety, search for jobs, manage mental health appointments, and other uses of the technology to improve mental health outcomes.

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# Orange County Innovation Program

**Evaluation Parameters:**

- Learning outcomes will assess if connecting mental health consumers with affordable digital devices and cellular/internet services in the context of peer support will increase access to needed mental health and supportive services and result in:
  - Reduced barriers to accessing mental health services
  - Reduced social isolation and increasing supportive networks
  - Increased self-reliance and management of mental health treatment
  - Improved overall quality of life and wellbeing

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# Orange County Innovation Program

- **Veteran Services for Military Families**

This program will target family members of veterans currently enrolled in Orange County veterans' behavioral health programs, especially, the Veterans' Court programs. Behavioral health clinicians who are themselves veterans or military family members will assess each participant for risk or onset of mental illness, using standardized tools such as the PCL-C; WHO Quality of Life, Dimensions of Anger Reactions II (DAR II), Child Behavioral Check List (CBCL), and Secondary Trauma Scale (STS), and will, with participants, develop a plan for support, treatment, and case management.

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# Orange County Innovation Program

## Evaluation Parameters:

- The learning goal for this Innovative Project is to discover whether using Military Family peers:
  - Reduces the risk and improved recovery for family members to veterans at risk of or with early onset of a mental illness
  - Improves the understanding, communication and coping skills of military family members resulting in improved family cohesion



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# Orange County Innovation Program

## • Developing Skill Sets for Independent Living

This Innovative Project will provide an opportunity for participants who are at risk of homelessness to learn independent living skills through a mental health lens prior to moving into publically subsidized housing or other independent living situations. Participants will actively shape their individual program plans by indentifying their goals, objectives, hopes, and desires, which will individualize project services.



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# Orange County Innovation Program

## Evaluation Parameters:

- This project will assess if participation in independent living skills courses combined with supportive services will result in participants' increased:
  - Understanding of their mental illness and recovery
  - Independent living skill sets while managing mental health symptoms and facilitating recovery
  - Quality of life through learning independent living skills
  - Retention of stable housing



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# Orange County Innovation Program

## Motion:

### Approve Orange County's five Innovative Programs titled:

- "Proactive On-Site Engagement in Collaborative Courts"
- "Religious Leaders Behavioral Health Training"
- "Access to Mobil/Cellular/Internet Devices in Improving Quality of Life"
- "Veteran Services for Military Families"
- "Developing Skill Sets for Independent Living"



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