



STAFF INNOVATION SUMMARY—SAN FRANCISCO

Name of Innovative Project: Addressing the Needs of Socially Isolated Adults (ANSIA)

Total Requested for Innovative Project Amendments: \$635,000.

Duration of Innovative Program: Additional Two Years for a Total of Four Years

Review History

County Submitted Innovation (INN) Plan: January 26, 2015

Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability COMmission (MHSOAC or Commission) Plan Approval: February 26, 2015

County contacts Commission to discuss additional funding for ongoing INN projects: April, 2016.

County Submitted Innovation Plan Extension Request: June 29, 2016

MHSOAC consideration of project amendment: July 28, 2016.

Summary

San Francisco seeks approval of \$635,000 in additional funding for an INN Program project that was originally approved by the Commission on February 26, 2015.

The County's program, *Addressing the Needs of Socially Isolated Adults (ANSIA)*, has as a primary purpose to increase access to services by engaging and connecting vulnerable, socially isolated adults with social networks and behavioral health services through the use of the peer-to-peer model. The program's start date was June 1, 2015. The County reports having expended approximately \$354,500 of the original \$500,000 budget to date (71 percent) through approximately 14 months of the original, 24-month duration (58 percent).

This project was designed to engage with low-income, isolated, older adults in the Tenderloin District, many of whom reside in Single Room Occupancy hotels, through trained Peer Outreach Specialists.

The County reports that it underestimated the time and cost that would be required to get the program in place and to adequately evaluate its impact on clients and on Peer Outreach Specialists. The County reports it has made substantial progress towards one of its two stated learning objectives for the project, relating to support needed by Peer Outreach Specialists.

Staff views the requested additional funding and time as likely to help the County meet its other learning objective: whether the project's peer-to-peer approach can effectively

engage, empower, and provide linkages to services for lower-income, socially isolated older adults. Staff recommends approval.

Background

The Commission on February 26, 2015, approved San Francisco County's plan to implement a plan to increase access to services for low-income, socially isolated older adults in the Tenderloin area through an innovative peer-to-peer model of connecting clients

The County has expressed that while the results have shown a supported connection between the peers and isolated seniors, the peers in the program have requested more time to build and maintain rapport during the relationship-building phase. The San Francisco housing crisis was also not taken into consideration during the initial request. The County has found an increase in homelessness and isolation amongst low-income seniors, increasing the demand for and urgency of this project.

The initial project proposal shows a three phase timeline: start up (six months); implementation (12 months); and a final phase for reflection, evaluation, and dissemination (six months). This timeline had a very small window for any unforeseen obstacles or barriers to the project.

Conclusion

The County seeks approval of additional Innovation funding for the ANSIA project, as follows:

- Two (2) additional years of duration totaling four (4) years;
- \$635,000 in funding extension, totaling project funds to \$1,135,000.

The County underscoped the funding and time required to complete this project successfully. Staff concludes that the County's request for extension due to the unforeseen circumstances, as noted in their request summary, is valid and will allow for better results to the INN project.