

# Overview of Duration of Untreated Mental Illness study

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# Background

- Regulations for Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) programs and Innovation projects were developed by MHSOAC staff and took effect in October 2015
- PEI reporting requirements include assessing and reporting on duration of untreated mental illness (DUMI)
- Procedures and definitions for assessing the dates associated with onset of mental illness and appropriate treatment vary and pertain mostly to psychosis



# Background

- Provider staff in San Diego reported during a site visit that there is confusion regarding the measurement of DUMI and provided examples of different methods to assess the time between first symptoms and treatment
- Counties and CBHDA have requested MHSOAC guidance and technical assistance for measuring DUMI



# Study Goals

- To understand how early psychosis programs define, measure, and record duration of untreated psychosis
- To explore how these processes can inform methods to assess DUMI with high reliability and validity



# Methods

Expand Tara Niendam's study of early psychosis programs by:

- Conducting on-site interviews with counties with active programs
- Interview protocol and tool developed with stakeholder involvement



# Project Findings

Will be used to:

- Provide guidance to counties on method(s) for assessing DUMI
- Assist in the interpretation of county data to assess the impact of PEI programs

