

# Proposed Evaluation of Innovation Projects

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# Overview of MHSA Innovation

- The general requirements of Innovative Projects are:
  - ◆ Introduce a mental health practice or approach that is new to the overall mental health system, including, but not limited to, prevention and early intervention.
  - OR
  - ◆ Make a change to an existing practice in the field of mental health, including but not limited to, application to a different population.
  - OR
  - ◆ Apply to the mental health system a promising community-driven practice or approach that has been successful in non-mental health contexts of settings.
  - OR
  - ◆ Participate in a housing program designed to stabilize a person's living situation while also providing supportive services on-site.



# Overview of MHSA Innovation

- The Primary Purpose of Innovative Projects are to achieve one of the following:
  - ◆ Increase access to mental health services to underserved groups, including permanent supportive housing.
  - ◆ Increase the quality of mental health services, including measurable outcomes.
  - ◆ Promote interagency and community collaboration related to mental health services or supports or outcomes.
  - ◆ Increase access to mental health services, including permanent supportive housing.



# MHSA Innovation

- Innovative Project Regulations
  - Reporting out of demographics annually
  - Additional information in the Annual progress report, independently or embedded
  - Final outcome report, independently or embedded



# MHSA Innovation

- Evaluation results to be included in the:
  - The Annual Innovative Project report:
    - ◆ Available data
    - ◆ Elements of project contributing to outcomes
  - The Final Innovative Project Report:
    - ◆ Description
    - ◆ Outcomes (established vs. new)
    - ◆ Assessment
    - ◆ Explanation



# MHSA Innovation

- Other evaluation elements required:
  - County to design the method
  - Evaluation will measure intended mental health outcome selected by County
  - County to select appropriate indicators to measure this intended mental health outcome.
  - Measurement selected needs to be related to the Primary Purpose of the County's Innovative Project.



# MHSA Innovation

- Update:
  - Counties continue to submit concept papers and project proposals
  - Several new Innovative projects have been approved over the past year by the Commission.
  - MHSOAC seeks to develop a robust technical assistance process to support the advancement of more innovative service programs.
    - ◆ Expanding involvement of OAC staff with Counties and internally.
  - MHSOAC staff are developing a flow chart on how to effectively achieve this TA process.
  - Focus is also moving toward building out the evaluation component of Innovation



# The Ask....and the Why

- The MHSOAC wants to know what innovative projects have the Counties accomplished through this MHSA component.
  - Why- ?
- Collaboration between OAC, counties, and stakeholders to put forth an agenda on
  - Currently no expectation on what elements are to be reported out on Annual and Final Innovative Project reports
  - May not be on the same page, but how about getting into the same chapter-?
- Dissemination
  - How to set up a learning opportunity for the State and the mental health field.

