

DATE: May 6, 2020

TO: ACBH Staff and Community Partners

FROM: Tracy Hazelton, MHSA Division Director



WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE

SUBJECT: *Alameda County Behavioral Health is looking for new Innovation ideas!*

Innovation (INN) is a component of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) which seeks to *learn* how to address a challenging problem in our community. INN ideas come from multiple sources including county staff, consumers and family members, community providers, stakeholder groups and our public system partners. ACBH is interested in *all* innovative ideas, including projects that focus on our historically underserved and inappropriately served ethnic and linguistically isolated communities.

These community-focused ideas are innovative and creative practices or approaches that can be applied to mental health services, and are piloted for effectiveness in addressing mental health challenges. INN projects are time-limited and can run for a maximum of 5 years.

While there are no guarantees that your idea will be used as an INN project, ACBH will thoroughly review the possibility that your idea has practical application to mental health services.

Submitted ideas will go through a review process involving the MHSA Stakeholder Committee, MHSA staff, as well as our county Systems of Care to determine whether your idea is feasible, meets all of the INN requirements, and that there's internal staffing capacity for implementation. Approval of all projects under the INN component of MHSA is subject to approval by the State Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission.

If you're interested in learning more about the criteria for INN projects, history and background of INN and/or have an INN idea or suggestion you believe has potential, please click [here](#). Once in the INN portal click on the yellow box that says: "*Please share your INNOVATIVE IDEAS*". Currently all ideas are due on or before May 30, 2020.

Let's get excited to innovate!

