

# ATTACHMENT C

## MHSA Plan Annual Update FY 24-25 Power Point

# Mental Health Services Act: Program Plan and Expenditure Report FY 24-25

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SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**Behavioral Wellness**  
A System of Care and Recovery

# MHSA Overview:

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) was established in 2004 and is a 1% tax on all individuals earning over 1 million dollars a year in the State of California. This 1% tax is a significant revenue stream for the Department of Behavioral Wellness.

Funding is divided into Five separate categories:

Community Services and Supports (CSS): All our Outpatient Clinics, Crisis Services, Crisis Stabilization Units, Crisis Residential Treatment Facilities, Homeless Outreach Wellness Centers

Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI): Access Line and Assessment Teams, Early Intervention for Youth, all Prevention Programs

Workforce Education and Training (WET): Staff training and staff scholarships

Capital Facilities and Technology Needs (CF/TN): Electronic Health Records System

Innovations (INN): Housing Retention and Assistance Team (HART)



# MHSA Annual Update for FY 24-25

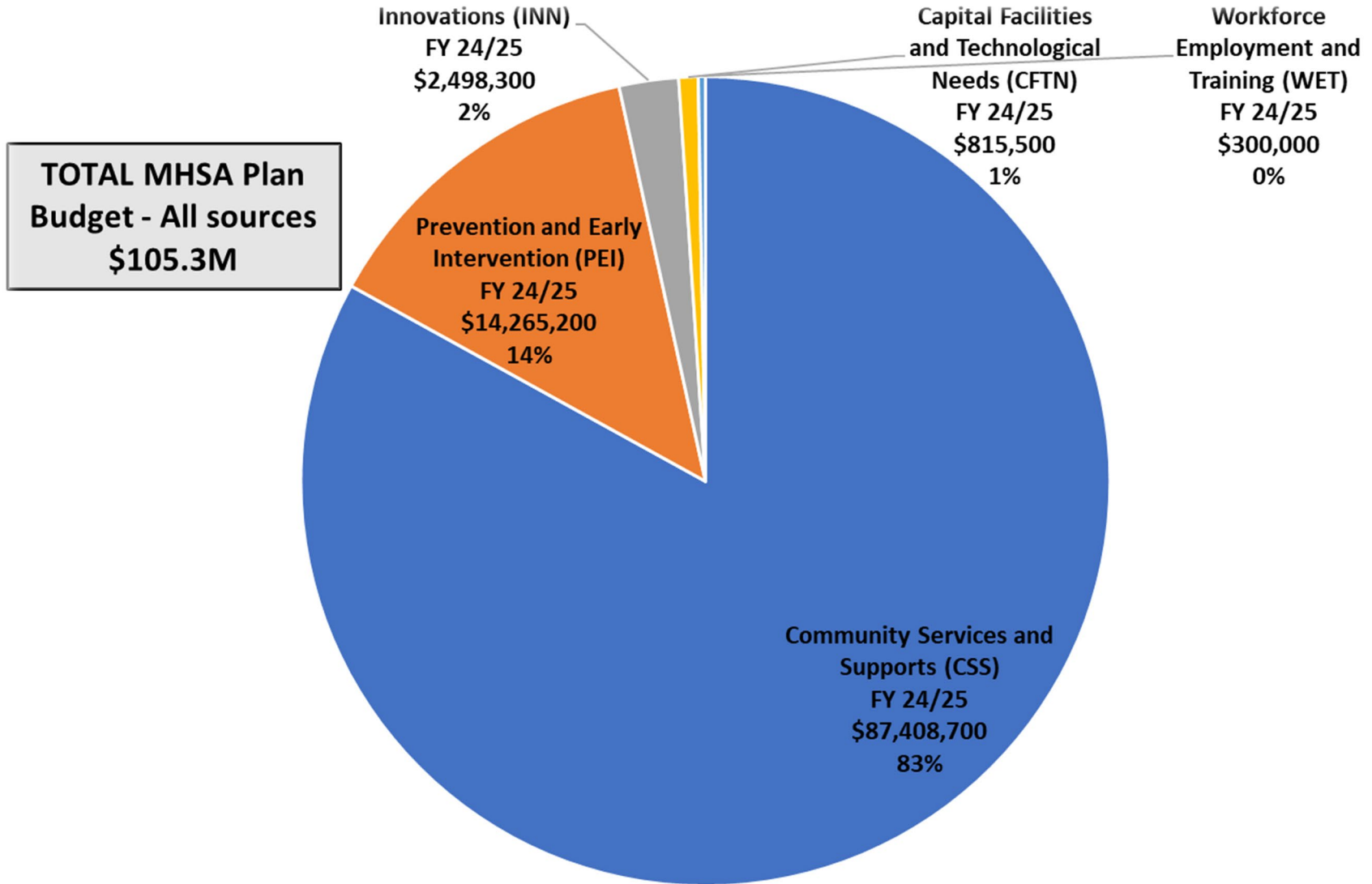
Every three years, we create a new MHSA Three Year Program Plan and Expenditure Report, and then provide an Annual Update for years Two and Three in the Plan. We are here today asking for approval for our Annual Plan Update for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

Changes upcoming under Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA):

- The Passing of Proposition 1 redefines the framework established by the Mental Health Services Act in 2004, now rebranded as the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA).
- As Santa Barbara County gears up to comply with new BHSA regulations starting July 2026, it is important to note that this transition does not come with new funding. We will navigate the task of expanding certain services while redefining BHSA support for other programs, including prevention initiatives, workforce support and primary treatment.
- The initial planning for these service adjustments has begun internally at BWell, with a comprehensive planning process slated for early 2025. The implementation of BHSA will commence with the FY 26/27-28-29 Three-Year Plan.



# FY 2024-25 MHSA Plan TOTAL Budget by MHSA Component



# MHSA Plan FY 2024/25 - Primary Sources of Funding

- **TOTAL MHSA PLAN Budget \$105.3M**
- **MHSA allocation (\$45.7M; 43.4%)**
  - 1.76% of all CA monthly personal income tax (PIT) payments
    - *Very volatile from year to year, **not** tied to services.*
    - *Ongoing allocation is distributed 76% to CSS; 19% to PEI; 5% to INN*
    - *MHSA allocation funds must be spent within 3 years.*
- **Medi-Cal Billing revenue (\$45.7M; 43.4%)**
  - Federal funding from billing for Medi-Cal Plan Administration, Quality Assurance and specialty mental health services (SMHS) provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
    - *Funding level is dependent upon volume of services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries and successful billing of these services to the Department of HealthCare Services (DHCS).*
    - *Behavioral Health Payment Reform has significantly changed all aspects of SMHS Medi-Cal billing.*
- **2011 Behavioral Health Realignment allocation (\$13.9M; 13.2%)**
  - Funded with 1.0625% cent sales tax and certain vehicle license fees
    - *Not as volatile as MHSA, but also **not** tied to services.*

# Meaningful Community Involvement

In order to develop the MHSA Annual Update for FY 24-25, we hosted **27 stakeholder sessions** with local stakeholders, including:

- Consumers and Families Members
- Spanish Speaking Populations
- LatinX populations
- Mixtec communities
- Homeless and At-Risk of Homeless Populations
- LGBTQIA+ populations
- TAY populations
- College and High School students
- Staff and tenants at Supportive Housing sites
- Primary care Providers
- Veterans
- Law Enforcement staff
- School counselors and Psychologists
- Justice involved populations
- Older Adults

Our stakeholder process must always include representatives of unserved and/or underserved populations and family members, stakeholders who represent the diversity of the demographics of the county, and consumers living with serious mental illness and/or serious emotional disturbance and their family members.

The goal of our Annual Update is to provide the community and stakeholders with meaningful information about the status of our local programs and expenditures, as well as gather input for Program planning for the next fiscal year.



# Top Five Priorities Established from Stakeholders

1. Increasing FSP (Full Service Partnership) Capacity
2. Increasing Warm Handoff and Navigation Services for Those in Crisis
3. Increasing Mental Health Education and Prevention Programming for Youth and Families
4. Implementing Mental Health Programs Specifically for Older Adults
5. Recruitment and Retention of Behavioral Health Workforce





# Priority #1: Increasing FSP (Full Service Partnership) Capacity

## What we did in FY 23-24:

- Increased FSP budgets to include **flex funding to spend on client's non-mental health needs** including rent, rental deposits, medical and dental needs
- **Created FSP Manager position** to create better uniformity of care, continuity of service and aid in retention of employees
- Started **Growing Grounds**: BWell contracted with Transitions Mental Health Association (TMHA) to provide a Relapse Prevention Program stressing resiliency factors and supported employment for mental health consumers; this program is new, and takes referrals from Santa Maria FSPs

## What we are planning for FY 24-25:

- Investigating ways to **measure Client-Focused Outcomes** that prioritize quality of life for FSP clients and improve healthcare outcomes for FSP clients
- Increasing **staffing for Justice Alliance FSP** to enable them to better serve their clients



## Priority #2: Increasing Warm Hand Off and Navigation Services for those in Crisis

### What we did in FY 23-24:

- In January 2024, we implemented new **Mobile Crisis Benefit** as part of Cal-AIM payment reform

### What we are planning For FY 24-25:

- Created new **Peer Assessment Team** that specifically reaches out to new clients post-hospitalization and post-crisis intervention to begin providing peer support services and help people entering our system of care to participate in services
- Starting December 1<sup>st</sup> 2024, will implement new **Access and Linkages Team** to provide outreach and linkages to services for all referrals including CARE Court referrals
- Starting a new **Homeless Early Intervention Team** that provide early intervention mental health treatment to unhoused populations throughout the County.



## Priority #3: Increasing Mental Health Education and Prevention Programming for Youth and Families

### What we did in FY 23-24:

- Implemented **New LEAD Program**: LEAD will organize free community presentations and trainings in Youth Mental Health First Aid, or QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) for families and youth in the Santa Maria and Santa Ynez area.
- Implemented **New Casa Pacifica Suicide Prevention Training** for Schools and Staff County-wide
- Implemented **New County-Wide Youth Council**: had over 30 high school students county-wide participate as Peer Advocates to serve as trusted sources for mental health resources information
- Implemented **New Youth-Linkages Network**: BWell contracted with YouthWell to educate school staff and those working with youth including resource navigators, probation officers, and school counselors

### What we are planning for FY 24-25:

- Starting **New Mental Health Education** program to **LatinX Youth and Families in South County** With Resilience Institute
- Starting **New Mental Health Education** program to **Mixtec Youth and Families in North County**



# Priority #4: Implementing Mental Health Programs Specifically for Older Adults

## What we did in FY 23-24:

- Implemented **New Peer & Parent Partners in Wellness and Recovery for Families:** Program designed to provide outreach and support to families with adults living with unmet or undiagnosed mental health, social, health care needs
- Implemented **New Wellness Promotion for Seniors Program:** a new Prevention Program for Seniors living in Senior Housing Developments throughout the County

## What we are planning For FY 24-25:

- Implement specific **Outreach to older LatinX adults** with trusted community leaders county-wide
- Implement a **Behavioral Health Awareness** campaign specifically addressed to Older Adults



# Priority #5: Recruitment and Retention of Behavioral Health Workforce

## What we did in FY 23-24:

- **Masters in Social Work Scholarship Program:** BWell funded up to \$25,000 for 4 staff this year pursuing MSW degrees
- **Staff Retention and Training Program:** Provide best practices, cultural competency and leadership trainings for interested staff to aid in retention and development of a diverse and competent workforce

## What we are planning for FY 24-25:

- Will fund up to **\$25,00 per scholarship** for 4 additional staff pursuing Masters in Social Work degrees (8 scholarships total for FY 23-25)
- Work on **Developing Workforce Pipeline:** Present at High School and College Job Fairs throughout the County on Behavioral Health Career Pathways, Career opportunities in our Department, and information about Bilingual allowance for staff.



# Recommended Action for the Board

We are asking the Board to Approve the MHPA Three Year Program Plan and Expenditure Report Annual Update for Fiscal Year 2024-25.

