Division of Behavioral Health Services
Innovative Projects

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Innovative Project Requirements

**Innovative Projects contribute to learning**

Innovation Projects must do one of the following:

- Introduce a mental health practice or approach that is new to the system
- Makes a change to an existing practice in the field of mental health
- Introduces a new application of a successful non-mental health promising community-driven practice/approach to the mental health system
Innovative Project Requirements (cont’d)

Primary Purpose:

- Increase access to mental health services
- Increase access to mental health services to underserved populations
- Increase the quality of mental health services, including measurable outcomes
- Promote interagency and community collaboration
Innovative Project Requirements (cont’d)

Project must align with the 5 Essential Elements:
- Community Collaboration
- Cultural Competence
- Client and Family Driven
- Wellness, Recovery and Resilience Focus
- Integrated Service Experience
Innovative Project Requirements (cont’d)

- Time-limited; not more than 5 years
- Time frame is based on complexity of the approach and evaluation of the approach
- If successful, County may continue the project but must transition it to another funding category
Innovative Project Approval

- Research and articulation of innovation
- Community stakeholder/planning process
- Technical Assistance
- Project Plan Template
- Projects require two levels of approval
  - Local - Board of Supervisors
  - State - MHSOAC