

INNOVATION PLAN COUNTY of FRESNO

The Lodge - Extension



Department of
Behavioral Health



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FRESNO COUNTY

Innovation Plan-**The Lodge: Researching Targeted Engagement Approach Extension.**

Total Amount Requested **\$3,160,000.**

Duration of Project: **Extension for two additional years.**

Thirty Day Public Comment Commenced-**December 1, 2022.**

[Innovation Plan Extension Introduction](#)

The Lodge is an innovation project launched in Fresno County with the goal to explore, identify, and understand engagement for individuals who are homeless or at-risk for homelessness, who have limited engagement with care, and who are in the pre-contemplation state of change. The project just completed its second year of a three-year project.

The Lodge seeks to support participation in a housing service designed to stabilize a person's living situation while also providing basic supportive services on site. The project is testing a model of providing safe and secure, low barrier (come as you are) lodging focused on meeting an individual's basic need in a setting with 24/7 peer support services.

The Lodge is making a change to an existing practice in the field of mental health, including but not limited to: **application to a different population**; by using Peer Support Specialists trained in motivational interviewing; and other evidence-based practices to understand its effectiveness in engaging a specific population (individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, with an emerging or chronic mental illness, and who are not engaged in the mental health system due to being in the pre-contemplative stage of change).

[Background on the project and outcomes to date](#)

The Lodge is a \$1,400,000 per year Innovation Project, which seeks to understand effective methods of engagements for individuals who are homeless or at risk of homelessness, with an emerging or chronic mental illness, and who are not engaged in the mental health system due to being in the pre-contemplative stage of change. The program examines whether meeting an

individual's basic, intrinsic needs can improve engagement in care, and whether peers with similar experience can be effective facilitators of that engagement.

This project was approved by the California Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) in May of 2020.

An agreement with RH Community Builder's was executed on December 15, 2020, and the ramp-up began after that. The ramp-up included the hiring of staff and then required training in principles of housing first models of care, motivational interviewing, and other key components of the project. The Lodge began to welcome individuals on March 1, 2021.

Currently, the Lodge agreement and project will end on June 30, 2023. This project will have been serving individuals for only two years when it ends, and thus will not have had the duration necessary to truly assess the efficacy of the model and project.

The Lodge has a capacity for 30 individuals at any given time. The location of the Lodge is on a direct public transportation route and has living and recreational space, including space for individuals to safely keep their pets on the premises. The project provides transportation to medical, legal and medication attested treatment for persons served needing those supports.

The Lodge's team has worked to accommodate the needs of its lodgers, including separate private space for those who are gender non-binary or identify as transgender. This allows for responsive care and may serve as a catalyst for some to engage in care (by having a gender affirming place to stay) as many local shelters or centers are not able to accommodate the spacing.

[Proposed Project Refresh](#)

The Lodge project was not proposed as a means to address the homeless or those at risk of homelessness with a serious mental illness, SUD, or a co-occurring disorder. Rather it was developed to test a model that could be used to better engage a specific population through addressing basic needs and utilizing peers implementing evidence-based approaches to move someone through the stages of change so they would engage in care and services.

The Lodge utilizes *Stages of Change* developed by James Prochaska and *Motivational Interviewing* developed by William R. Miller, an evidenced-based practice, as an indicator of readiness for change and assists individuals in moving toward the next steps of change. As best practice, The Lodge utilizes a housing first model based on harm reduction. The Lodge seeks to remove barriers to make it possible for individuals to have equitable access to care and services. The philosophy focuses on safe and stable housing as the entry point to services, not the reward for entry into services. The Lodge staff are trained in Motivational Interviewing and harm reduction strategies and operate from a trauma-informed perspective.

Fresno County Proposal

- ❖ To extend the current Lodge project from a three-year project to a five-year project.
- ❖ To add \$3,160,000 in funding to the project to support the two-year extension allowing for the project to continue at the current level.

Learning Goals

The extension will not make changes to the current project learning goals. Rather the extension addresses the need for additional time to acquire more data to properly assess this project and the model so as to understand what factors a zero barrier shelters play in engagement; the role of peers in successful engagement; what length of stay is needed to change from pre-contemplation stage; and elements that contribute to successful engagement with the focused population.

Based on empirical data, the Department and its partners can develop strategies to evaluate the program itself and the model as applied here and in other settings. Based on examination of sufficient data, an informed decision can be made on if the project can/should continue, whether it should be modified, and why.

During the past 16 months of operations, The Lodge has collected and provided relevant data to the project's evaluators. The program's third year of data will not be available until the conclusion of the current contract term (July 1, 2023). This is problematic in that the data will not be available to inform decisions about continuation, sustainability, or adaption. This limitation will impact

the project's ability contribute to statewide learning on possible effectiveness of the model for engagement with the target population. The outcome data is currently limited in terms of statistical significance to make a determination from 20 months of operation.

Currently, the Lodge is set to end on June 30, 2023. Without an extension, additional information and assessment would not be available to determine outcomes of statewide learning. More data is needed to understand the outcomes and which elements of the program model are contributing to the successful linkages. This further learning should be explored further and is allowable under Innovation regulations.

To date, the program has identified that a 45-day stay is insufficient to achieve successful linkages, due to the housing shortages which leave persons at risk of being unhoused in their linkage to care. Part of the refresh is to extend the length of stay from 45-days to a maximum of 90-days. The Lodge believes this additional time will allow for housing placement to assist with a complete linkage and transition in most cases. It will also allow for a greater evaluation of the average time to move through the different stages of change in this model/setting.

The refresh will also allow for possible referrals from Probation (for individuals who meet the project's population criteria). Currently, referrals are from emergency departments, the crisis intervention teams, crisis stabilization, and the Urgent Care Wellness Center.

The Lodge has shared that individuals served by probation or those who are justice-involved may be a unserved or underserved populations. To date, the program had not collected information on justice involvement, and thus the exact number of justices involved persons is unknown. The program intends to collect information on participants who self-disclose as having justice involvement to better understand what number of persons served may be justice-involved.

The Department met with the County's CAO office and Probation Department to explore the possibility of persons who could be referred to the Lodge in the future who meet the project parameters. Probation estimates the number to be low but believed it can be a viable tool to engage persons who would otherwise be unserved or served in hospitals and institutions, or those who face unnecessary incarceration due to their behavioral health challenges.

Feedback from stakeholders included exploring the option of adding optional psychiatric care/consultation to allow for access to medications which may help with stabilization if the individuals should be receptive to it as part of their care. Availability of such services on-site (including tele-health) may improve access and participation for some.

Lastly, the Lodge (formulated in the MHSA 2017-2020) three-year plan sought out to address the need to engage persons whom the CARE Court legislation is now seeking to serve. The Lodge takes a non-coercive approach to engaging persons who are unhoused, not in care, and in the pre-contemplative stage of change. This is done by providing a close-to-zero barrier temporary lodging, addressing basic needs, and use of peer work to engage the persons in care. The County believes that the Lodge provides a possible viable model for rendering care and services to individuals the CARE Court intends to serve.

The extension for the Lodge will allow the County and other similar California counties to identify housing models that can facilitate engagement into care for a population which CARE Court will attempt to serve. CARE Court requires care, the Lodge seeks to engage a person with peers and meeting their basic needs, it does not address housing needs, or direct care components, but the Lodge could be a model which provides the bridge and that step to link the person to all components needed based on their own individual needs.

Part of the Lodge learning is to better identify the role that Peers play in the stages of change and successful engagement. Assessment of the Peer role is determined by participant input and also from peer and staff perceptions. This data is critical and not easily captured and has to be collected over time and compared. Understanding the peer component is a key part of this project and will inform many other models of care from housing, to outreach, diversion programs, navigation, etc.

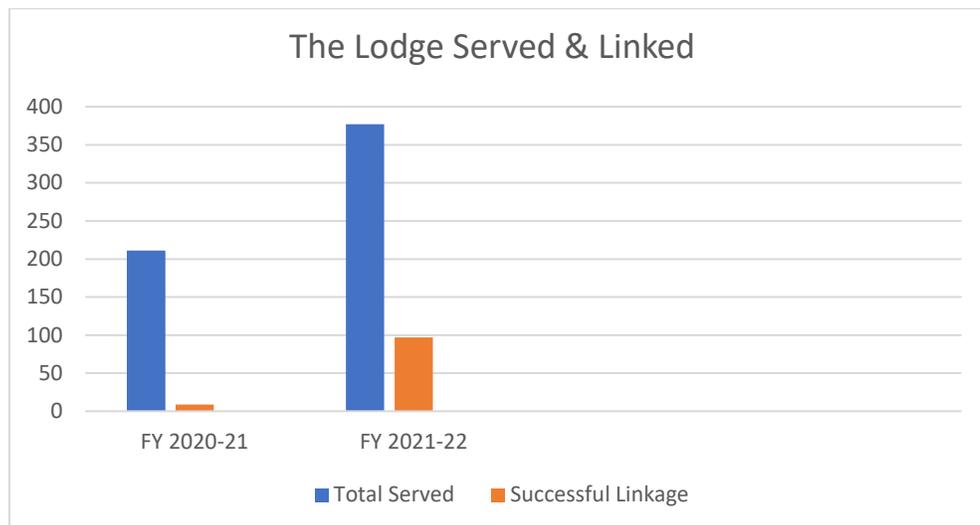
[Project Accomplishments](#)

The Project was able to be up and running (during the pandemic) within six months. This included the hiring of staff and then specific training needed for staff. The project met with the evaluators early on to complete tasks such as developing data collection tool, and coordinate communication.

In its first year of operation, the project served a total of 211 unduplicated individuals. In the three months of FY 2020-2021 that the Lodge was rendering services to the intended population, it was able to provide nine successful linkages to lodgers.

- A *successful linkage* in this program is narrowly defined to be linkage and engagement in mental health services, substance use services, or both (a co-occurring service). While the program provides an array of linkages to health services, to benefits, housing, and other supports, only linkages to actual care which can then help increase and improve changes or instances of homelessness are counted as being “successful”.

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22 (the first full year of operations), the Lodge provided services to 377 unduplicated individuals. The Lodge provided linkages and referrals to services based on the preference of the individual’s served preference and/or choice of providers. The Lodge focused on services and linkages to community partners to reduce any barriers in accessing ongoing services after their stay at the Lodge. Of the 377 persons that were served, 97 (25%) successfully engaged in mental health or substance use treatment services and care. It should be noted that the 377 persons were persons not currently in any care/services and were in the pre-contemplation stage of change.



Evaluation- limited data

The Evaluation team - Social Research Institute at California State University, Fresno Foundation- is currently working on the evaluation of data based on 15 months of services. The evaluation collects data reflective of general categories such as the number of visitors/lodgers, total linkages, and length of stay. This data is easy to analyze but has limitations. To effectively assess the model there is data that comes from participant perceptions surveys, interviews with participants as well as interviews with staff, and staff/program perception surveys. Those are necessary to truly understand the model and its effectiveness including the role of peers in this milieu. This data requires more effort to collect and synthesize.

When the evaluators complete the evaluation to date, the project will have only information on half the program. The evaluation will be finalized with less than two years of data.

An additional two years (via a two-year extension) will allow for data and evaluation of three full years, and partly a fourth to be available and used in any future strategies. This data will increase the understanding of the model, its efficacy, and inform decisions for sustainability or continuation of the model, or application of the model to other settings and programs, etc.

Community Planning

The Lodge and extension of the Lodge have been discussed in the following MHSA Three Year Community Planning Process (CPP).

- **10.18.2022 CPP** – Discussion about the Lodge and the Department’s interest to extend to learn more. The audience believed that housing and navigation are key services needed for effective care and the Lodge is working to address those for a specific population. Stakeholders were in support of continuing to assess the program.
- **10.19.2022 Behavioral Health Board** – Shared the Lodge as one INN that the Department may want to extend, as it will allow for the County to use funds that could revert, but also allows the Department to examine if the project is as effective as it initially seems, and how to get the most out of it.

- **10.22.2022 CPP** – During a current CPP, there was discussion again about the need for housing, navigation, and connecting persons to care. The Lodge was discussed as a program that is seeking to address some lodging and navigation needs for a target population. Stakeholders supported continuing with the Lodge.
- **11.8.2022 CPP** – During a forum at the Blue-Sky Wellness Center (a peer-run wellness center) the topic of Lodge arose again. There were peers who spoke strongly of the need for engagement, for supports for persons who are homeless with co-occurring. There were some testimonies from persons who knew of others who have engaged in care through the Lodge. Recommendations from stakeholders included extending the length of stay, expand its capacity for a number of services, more housing support, and options for inpatient non-SUD care. Stakeholders were in support of the extension and also wanted to examine how to sustain it and expand the model to more locations, etc.
- **11.9.2022 CPP** – A CCP for Community-Based Organizations and Providers. The Department shared its goal to extend the project for an additional two years so it could have sufficient data to understand if the model was effective and what made it effective. Attendees agreed that to see any learning outcomes, the project would need to be extended so more participants and information could be collected.
- **11.16.2022 Behavioral Health Board-Presentation** on the Department’s Plan for extending the Lodge from a three to five-year plan with an increase funding of \$3,160,000 for the project. There were 33 individuals in that meeting. There were no questions or comments on the proposed extension plan.

The Department has held several conversations about the Lodge. The County’s Chief Administrative Officer’s (CAO) office is well aware of the program and the role it has played in helping address some of the challenges with unhoused populations and providing more resources in a continuum to address unhoused persons and those with a serious mental illness (SMI).

The CAO's Office is interested in the Department's extension of the program and sustainability and will seek to identify funding support for the Lodge for the future. At this time, specific funding sources have not been identified, but it is the goal of the CAO's office to work with the Department to find future funding. The ability to provide temporary lodging with close to zero barriers can be a model for other programs for unhoused persons.

The CAO's office is in support of exploring the Department's plan for utilization of the Lodge as a possible model for serving persons that may be referred through the CARE Courts.

The County's Probation has individuals it serves who are unhoused or at risk of homelessness, who have behavioral health needs, but due to the pre-contemplation stage have not engaged in care. The Lodge can provide a model or option in the future to support individuals who would benefit from care but need to be moved through the stages of change, so they are receptive to care. Currently, Probation does provide some housing through room and board for some and programs for others, but it does not have an effective engagement strategy in those programs (as some may resist placement, seeing it as supervision versus engagement) and the programs they use lack the peer support that could be vital in moving an individual from pre-contemplation stage to contemplation, preparation, etc. Low barrier shelter with peer support may be a model that can support some of their populations. The Lodge could be a good option to serve some of its population, or to apply models of the Lodge to other settings in the community. Probation is seeking options for community care for persons in their system and not use incarceration as a means of care.

The Lodge's service provider, RH Community Builders, reported interest in continuing the project for at least the two additional years, to examine what elements of the program are most effective for engagement, the ability to explore certification of its peers, utilization of peers, and if extended length of stay can increase successful linkage.

Other community-based organizations have expressed their support for continuation of the Lodge and to explore what factors in the program or components of the model are yielding successful engagement.

RH Community Builders has received positive feedback and support for the Lodge from some of the partners in the system of care. Jessica Padilla, Kings View Behavioral Health PATH Program Manager stated *"We work very close with The Lodge. I can say that if it was not for the Lodge many of those clients would not get connected to mental health services. The Lodge offers an alternative path to engagement than traditional mental health programs."*

The Lodge Extension Plan was posted on December 2, 2022, for 30-day Public Comment as required by MHSR regulations.

A Public Hearing has been scheduled for January 18, 2023, as part of the Behavioral Health Board (BHB) monthly meeting. Upon support from the BHB the Department will be seeking formal approval from the MHSOAC at a commission meeting in January 26, 2023 or latest February 24, 2023.

Upon approval by the MHSOAC, the Department will submit the approved plan extension to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval in conjunction with amendments to the existing contracts to extend the agreements (both with RH Community Builders and Fresno State) for two additional years making it a five-year agreement to align with the approved plan.

Contractors

The Lodge project has two current contractors. It is the intention of the County to continue to work with both contractors for the duration of this plan, and to amend their existing agreements to allow for the two additional full years. The two current contractors on this plan will remain the contractors for the two-year extension:

- *RH Community Builders* will provide the Lodge and the related services, these include screening, assessment, peer support, case management, transportation, wellness activities, didactical groups, benefit assistance, and navigation and linkage to care services driven by the individual.
- *California State University, Fresno Foundation's Social Research Institute* which has experience in the area and who has been conducting the work for the past two years will

continue to conduct the evaluation of the project for two additional years. The Agreement will be amended to fund the evaluation for two additional years.

Innovation Project Sustainability

The extension of two years will provide additional opportunities for possible future funding, beyond MHSA.

Inception of CalAIM will allow for increasing reimbursement for a large part of services that are currently rendered. CalAIM and Federal Financial Participation (FFP) or Medi-Cal can help offset costs or reduce the amount of MHSA funding needed. The current Lodge contractor has already contracted with several of the local Managed Care Plans for CalAIM services.

In this past year, The Lodge began to draw down FFP, but it was a limited amount based on their initial implementation of that funding component and limits on the services it was eligible to receive reimbursements. The project's first attempt for FFP draw down was slightly over \$10,000. The program does anticipate an increase in FFP in the coming years, and the CalAIM option and the possibility of certified peers billing for their work can increase alternative funding exponentially.

During the additional two years of the extension, the County and the Lodge will explore additional funding opportunities including eligibility for some Bridge Housing allocations, justice funding, or possibly some CARE Court funding for services.

Communication

A dissemination plan was identified in the initial Lodge plan. There is not any change to that plan, other than to expand the possible outlets for sharing the learning from the program. Locally, there seems to have been good communication, as many are familiar with the Lodge and its work, even though the program has been up and running for less than two years in our community. Outcomes are to be shared locally, with all housing and inpatient programs, outreach programs, navigation services, as well as all those identified in the initial plan.

The County proposes to expand that communication to other counties working on efforts around CARE Courts, which can include DHCS; sharing learning with the MHSOAC as it relates to CARE

Courts and housing models; and finally, with CSAC, who has an interest in models which can support the target populations in other communities.

Timeline

The current agreement and project will end on June 30, 2023. The requested extension shall change this project from a MHSOAC approved three-year plan to a MHSOAC approved five-year plan. The extension will add two more years to the project and subsequent funding for two additional years.

Date	Action
December 2022	30-Day Public Comment and Public Hearing
December 2022-January 2023	December 2, 2022, Post for 30 Day Comment. Submit to the MHSOAC for Approval January 2, 2023, End 30-Day Public Comment January 18, 2023, Public Hearing
January 2023	January 24, 2023, Present Plan to MHSOAC and Obtain Extension Approval
March 2023	BOS Approval of INN Plan Extension BOS Approval to amend and extend service agreements for two additional years.
March 2023-June 2025	Continue with Lodge services, data collection and project/model analysis
June 30, 2025	Project Completion/End

- This is an existing program, that is almost fully staffed, has been operating at near capacity, and is rendering services. There will be no lost time with starting with a new project, new vendor, etc.
- The Evaluator is an existing evaluator who was involved from the beginning of the project and there will not be changes in the evaluator, program data collection, or overall evaluation design. Minor changes to some data may occur with extending the length of stay from 45-days to 90-days.

- Overall, there will be minimal changes to the current program and services, with the extension request.
- Upon approval from the MHSOAC, the agreement with RH Community Builders for the Lodge will be extended from a three-year term to a five-year term.
- The evaluation agreement with the Social Research Institute will be amended to extend from a three-year term to a five-year term.
- Under a new five-year plan, the Lodge would end on June 30, 2025.

Budget Narrative

The budget was developed with an effort to maintain the same annual budget as the current program. The extension is asking for a total of \$3,160,000 of Innovation funding. The additional \$3,160,000 will ensure the project can continue as it is currently for two additional years, giving the project time to truly assess the model (with three-plus years of data rather than 20 months).

The project will increase the annual budget for the Lodge by \$100,000 for each of the two years with the goal of allowing for retention efforts of personnel as well as the possibility of psychiatric services support on-site. This will increase the annual budget for the services by \$200,000 over the two-year extension.

The evaluation will remain the same with \$50,000 allocated for each additional year. A total increase of \$100,000 for the two-year extension.

The Department is limiting the allocation of funds from this project for its role. \$60,000 will be allotted to the Department for the two-year extension (approximately \$30,000 a year). The funds are to provide administrative support for the project by the department.

This budget does not include efforts to increase use of FFP, payment reform, and or peer billing. The budget is intended to cover the project and program costs in full for the full term of the project.

The agreement for both contractors on this project will have individual budget breakdowns for cost of the services. As the Department has contracts with those independent vendors, it has

provided contract amounts for the vendors and not specific line-item budgets of those vendors in the original plan or this extension.

The Department does have innovation funding in the current and future years to invest in this project for two additional years, as well as to support other innovation ideas. Some of the funds being allocated to this project extension are subject to reversion at the end of this current fiscal year.

Budget

Proposing \$1.5 million (year four of the project) and \$1.5 million (year five of the project) for a total \$3 million for two more years of Lodge. This would increase the annual allocation of the Lodge by \$100,000 to allow for additional on-site supports and services.

The extension is seeking a total \$100,000 of additional funding for year each of the two additional years of evaluation (\$50,000 for year four and \$50,000 for year five).

- \$1,500,000 per year for a total of \$3,000,000 for two additional years of Lodge Programming component.
- \$100,000 for two additional years of evaluation (allocating \$50,000 a year).
- \$30,000 for DBH Admin cost per year. For years four and five it will be a total of \$60,000.
- Seeking total \$3,160,000 additional funding to support the extension of the project from three years to five years.

The services are not provided directly by the Department but are contracted out and thus the budget is reflective of the cost to the county for the project, but does not include the specific program/service budgets of each vendor.

Year	Allocation	Total
Fiscal Year 2023-2024	\$1,580,000	
Fiscal Year 2024-2025	\$1,580,000	
		\$3,160,000

The two-year extension funding is a total of **\$3,160,000**.

Appendix A – Public Comments

PUBLIC COMMENT RECEIVED 1/2/2023, via email

Greetings,

I have reviewed the Innovation Plan EXTENSION REQUEST for Fresno County, and I have found their Reason for a Request is convincing.

The Lodge is an Innovation project launched in Fresno County with its main Goal to explore, identify, and understand engagement for individuals who are homeless or at-risk for homelessness, who have limited engagement with care, and who are in the pre-contemplation state of change.

The Project just completed its second year of a three-year project. Currently, the Lodge agreement and project will end on June 30, 2023.

This project will have served individuals for only two years and thus will not have had the time necessary to truly assess the efficacy of the Model and the Project.

This proposed Extension will not make changes to the current project learning goals.

Rather, the REQUESTED EXTENSION ADDRESSES THE NEED FOR MORE TIME TO ACQUIRE MORE DATA in the following Focus Areas to properly assess this Project and the Model so as to understand the following:

1. What factors do “zero barrier shelters” play in Engagement?
2. What is the role of Peers in successful Engagement?
3. What Length of Stay is needed to change from the pre-contemplation stage?
4. What are the Elements that contribute to successful Engagement with the focused population, and how do we keep our Clients focused on the Goal?

Without an extension, additional information and assessment would not be available to determine outcomes of statewide learning.

More data is needed to understand the Outcomes, and which Elements of the Program Model are contributing to successful linkages. This Deep Learning should be explored and is allowable under Innovation regulations.

I am a Committee Member on the MHSOAC Client Family Leadership Committee as a parent of a child with early onset (age 14) and I approve this Plan because (a) it will grant an extension of time to observe Clients, (b) to gather relevant and pertinent information (c) to narrow the Barriers to Resistance for treatment.

I wholeheartedly support this Innovation Plan and I look forward to reading the quarterly reports.

In Service,

Sharon R Yates
Advocate Consultant Facilitator
MHSOAC - Client Family Leadership Committee Member

Public Hearing Questions and Answers

Question	Answer
<p>Onsite, what is the Peer Support Specialist to resident ratio? On average what is the equation for the number of individuals 1 peer support specialist will provide help for? At any given time, day or night? Is it balanced, is peer support always available? Does the need meet expectation on what was planned for?</p>	<p>The Lodge Innovation Project was designed with 24/7 peer support. The project operator, RH Community Builders, employs 7 peers and 1 peer supervisor. There are two peer support specialists on site at any given time. The maximum capacity of The Lodge is 30 individuals, and the average number of individuals served at any given time is 18. As such, the ratio of peers to individuals served is between 1:9 and 1:15 at any given time.</p>
<p>What evaluating process is being used? Is three years a sufficient amount of time to determine the true answers to questions posed with opportunity to try different strategies to learn from and receive a clear picture of what may or may not succeed?</p>	<p>Innovation projects are limited to a maximum of 5 years by the MHSOAC. The projects are required to have an annual update with a final report that will be produced at the conclusion of the project. All of these reports are available at fresnomhsa.com.</p>

Appendix B – Public Hearing Presentation

The Lodge

Researching A Target Engagement Approach-*Extension*



Proposed Project Refresh/Extension

Plan was approved in April 2020.

A three-year project at \$4,200,000.

Seeking to extend the project by two additional full years for an additional \$3,160,000 for the two years.

Making this a \$7,360,000 five-year project that will conclude June 30, 2025.



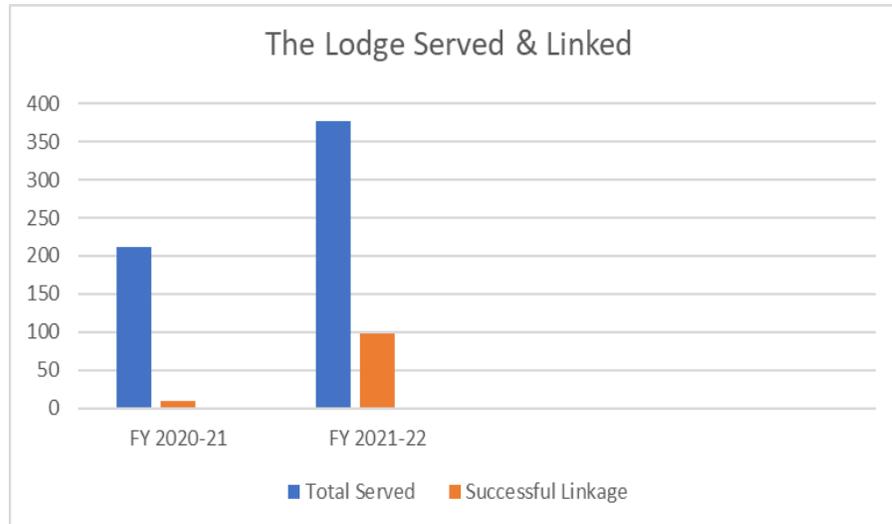
THE COUNTY OF FRESNO
**Department of
Behavioral Health**

Review of the Lodge

- Testing a strategy for engagement of an underserved, unserved, inappropriately served population, using peer driven approach in conjunction with low barrier lodging and meeting an individual's basic needs first.
- Provide Lodging up to 30 individuals at a time who are homeless/risk of homelessness, serious or on-set of serious mental illness and are in pre-contemplation stage of change
- Stabilize participant's living situation using harm reduction approaches.
- Focus on the individual's basic needs, so they can then be able to consider other options.
- Explore how using trained 24/7 Peer Support in such a milieu applying Motivational Interviewing may be a catalyst for a decision to engage in services.
- Through evaluation process try to understand if the approach of *“come as you are, peer driven engagement, meeting basic needs first and harm-reduction approach were effective in engagement of those in a pre-contemplation stage”*.



Project Accomplishments To Date



Successful Linkage- narrowly defined to be linkage and engagement in mental health, substance or both services.

Year One- was ramp up (hiring staff, training staff, setting up program, data collection. u211 served in the first year with nine (9) linkages (or 4%)

p program, data collection.

Year Two- 377 persons served with 97 (or 25% linked)

Significance- These were persons not in care, and in the pre-contemplation state of change (not interested in services)



Reason for Extension

Extended time will allow for program to have operated long enough to have data available to understand the following:

1. What factors do “*zero barrier shelters*” play in engagement?
2. What is the role of the Peers in successful engagement?
3. What length of stay is needed to transition from the pre-contemplation stage of change to contemplation stage of change?
4. What are the elements that contribute to successful engagement with the focused population.

The project has under two years of participant data which hinders a true assessment of the learning goals or the pilot.



Community Input and Planning

Extension was discussed in several different public forums:

- 10.18.2022 CPP Focused Individuals Served
- 10.22.0222 CPP General Public/Sat Forum
- 11.8.2022 CPP Focus on Individuals Served (Blue Sky)
- 11.9.2022 CPP Focus on CBO and Providers

Shared publicly in the Director's Update at the BHB on :

- 10.19.22-BHB intention to extend to truly assess.
- 11.16.2022 BHB- Shared plan to extend Lodge from 3 to 5 year plan with additional funding for years four and five.
- Public Comment-** Posted for 30-day 12.1.2022 and remained open to 1.3.2023
- Public Hearing-**Today 1.18.2023



Extension Budge

- \$1,500, 000 per year for a total of \$3,000,000 for two additional years of Lodge Programming.
- \$100,000 for two additional years of evaluation (allocating \$50,000 a year).
- \$30,000 for the Department Admin Cost per year. For a total of \$60,000 for the additional two years.
- Increase the total project allocation by \$3,160,00 over two additional years.

Year	Allocation	Total
FY 2023-24	\$1,580,000	
FY 2024-25	\$1,580,000	
		\$3,160,000



Next Step

Complete Public Hearing (today)

Submit to the MHSOAC (by 1.31.2023)

Present to the MHSOAC Hearing on 4.21.2023

When approved go to BOS to amend the contract with vendors, to include additional two years and funding for the two additional years prior to 6.30.2023.



THE COUNTY OF FRESNO
**Department of
Behavioral Health**