

# Board Inquiry Form

Board Member	
Carbajal	
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Inquiry Number: 05

Department: ADMHS

Date: 06/05/12

Page(s) of Budget Book: D-85 Upper right

**Request/Question:**

The SOAR training to assist high risk adults in applying for SSI - How much did we spend & what has been the outcome? I've been told we spent \$800K for very few returns.

Response Prepared by: Ann Detrick, ADMHS

**Response:**

MHSA INNOVATION PROGRAM: There are two major components of the Innovation program:

SOAR Training: ADMHS has adopted a national, evidenced based approach to applying for benefits, called SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access & Recovery).

- 99 individuals have been trained this fiscal year: 46 were ADMHS attendees and 53 were attendees from other organizations (e.g., Sheriff's Department; Department of Social Services; Public Health; Social Security Administration; CBOs, including homeless services providers; Representatives of Bringing Our Community Home and Common Ground; and Santa Barbara City Housing Authority Regarding services).

Services:

- Within ADMHS Crisis and Recovery Emergency Services (CARES) North and South sites, Innovation provides treatment, case management, medication management, peer support and assistance along with the benefit application process. There is also a half-time jail homeless discharge planner funded through the Innovation program.
- 120 clients have received treatment, case management, medication management and peer recovery support in the past year through CARES.
- A total of \$979,555 in costs is projected for the Innovation program this year, of which \$780,064 is for staff costs. The majority of the funds cover essential treatment services to uninsured persons while the staff helps them obtain disability/health benefits. This is helping to reduce significant indigent care costs in ADMHS Core Mental Health Fund 44.
- 69 applications have been prepared and submitted to Social Security Administration (SSI). Of these:
  - 32 applications were approved.
  - 27 applications were denied.
  - 10 applications have been submitted and are pending approval/denial.
- Upon obtaining benefits, ADMHS received Medi-Cal revenue for the services provided to these individuals, and the individuals receive monthly Social Security Income (SSI) payments which support housing and other key living costs.

Cost benefits/offsets: For all clients served in the program, the per capita service cost this year has been \$8,163. The total Medi-Cal revenue generated for the 32 clients to date has been \$336,386, with an average per client revenue of \$10,512: (\$336,386 divided by 32 clients). Of this \$10,512 per client, ADMHS must pay approximately one-half or \$5256 in matching dollars. Therefore, the net per capita cost to ADMHS for each client is \$2,907 (\$8,163 per service per client less \$5,256 in Federal revenue). Net cost savings for ADMHS for the 32 clients is \$168,192 for all clients. The Federal revenue is expected to grow in the coming years as individuals to continue to receive Medi-Cal services from the Department.

The per capita SSI benefit is \$10,248 per year. Together, the net Medi-Cal revenue savings and SSI benefit per client is approximately \$15,504 per year (\$5,256 plus \$10,248). The total net service and SSI benefit for 32 clients is \$496,128. This total revenue benefits the County as well as individuals, by providing a cost offset to mental health care and potential housing for persons. Further, the revenue reduces the risks/costs to individuals/community of homelessness. There will also be a reduction in the cost to the County of indigent physical health care.