

Tri-City	Total Funding (RFA_002 & RFA_003): \$4,852,204	Partnership Entities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tri-City Mental Health Authority • Los Angeles County Office of Education • 3 school districts including Pomona, Claremont, and Bonita • The School of Arts and Enterprise
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Summary of Services:

The Tri-City Mental Health Authority (Tri-City) Mental Health Student Support Services Act Project (MHSSA Project) aims to increase access to collaborative, coordinated, culturally relevant, community and school-based services to high-risk youth in Pomona, Claremont, and La Verne. The MHSSA Project will strengthen partnerships with local school districts (Pomona, Claremont, Bonita), charter school (The School of Arts and Enterprise), higher education, law enforcement, health providers, and community agencies to leverage resources that help students succeed. Goals include:

- Increasing service provision for children, youth, and young adults;
- Improving behavioral and physical health and functioning for individuals served;
- Providing person- and family-centered, trauma-informed care;
- Maximizing behavioral health and school personnel workforce’s clinical capacity and culturally relevant competencies; and
- Optimizing all available funding/support sources to facilitate clients’ positive outcomes.

Tri-City will use MHSSA grant funds to build a robust staffing structure to support recovery, to assist with obtaining mental health services, and to create rapid access-to-care pipelines and linkages to resources. Positions include one Clinical Supervisor, two Clinical Therapists, two Clinical Wellness Advocates (Peer Support Specialists), two Mental Health Specialists, one Program Analyst, one Data Analyst/IT Support, and one Psychiatrist. Staff will provide mental health services on school campuses in early intervention, suicide prevention, drop-out prevention, evidence-based mental health practices, and development and coordination of service plans for ongoing needs. Personnel will triage to determine appropriate level of care, tailor services to an individual’s identity, culture, and lived experience, connect with providers, and complete referrals as necessary.

Tri-City’s MHSSA Project will improve timely access to services for underserved and high-risk youth populations (e.g., foster youth, youth who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or queer, and youth who have been expelled or suspended). Services and activities include:

- The creation of a screening tool for partners/community members to identify at-risk youth who could benefit from early intervention;
- Case management; offers and linkages to therapeutic outpatient services; prevention and early intervention;
- A community-wide campaign to increase mental health awareness and to reduce and end mental health stigma and discrimination;
- Training for MHSSA Project staff and community members to recognize signs of mental illness and substance use disorders, to provide initial support to youth who may be experiencing a problem, and to help connect them to appropriate care; and
- Making grant funds available for partners to support associated efforts that provide increased access to mental health services.