The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) funding gives counties a unique opportunity to implement programs to help prevent the onset of mental illness or to provide early intervention to decrease severity. San Diego County has funded 25 contractors to provide PEI programs for adults and older adults, and eight contractors for youth and Transition Age Youth (TAY) and their families. The focus of these programs varies widely, from reducing the stigma associated with mental illness to preventing youth suicide. Each contractor collects information on the demographics of their participants and their satisfaction with the services provided. This information is summarized in the following report.

### DATA: Child and Adult PEI Programs

**REPORT PERIOD: 7/1/2015-6/30/2016**

**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS WITH DATA IN FY 2015-16: 44,007 (Unduplicated)**

*Data for all students participating in the HERE Now Suicide Prevention program were calculated from a representative sample of students who provided demographic and satisfaction information.

†All known duplicates are excluded from this count; however, unduplicated status cannot be verified among programs that do not issue client identification numbers.

#### SYSTEMWIDE PARTICIPANT DEMOGRAPHICS

**AGE (N=44,007)**

- <18: 6.7%
- 18-24: 6.4%
- 25-59: 27.0%
- 60 and older: 5.1%
- Unknown/Missing: 54.6%

Fifty-five percent of participants were under the age of 18 and 27% were between the ages of 25-59.

**GENDER (N=44,007)**

- Female: 50.4%
- Male: 47.7%
- Other: 0.4%
- Unknown/Missing: 1.4%

Fifty percent of participants who received services identified their gender as female.

**RACE/ETHNICITY (N=44,007)**

- White: 27.3%
- African-American: 6.0%
- Asian: 3.6%
- Hispanic: 40.9%
- Native American: 8.9%
- Multiracial: 3.0%
- Other Non-White: 2.7%
- Unknown/Missing: 7.6%

Forty-one percent of participants who received services identified their ethnic background as Hispanic. Race/ethnicity was not reported for 8% of the participants.

*Participants can self-identify as more than one race/ethnicity so percentages may add up to more than 100%.
Of the Hispanic population served, 49% identified their ethnic background as Mexican American/Chicano.

*MILITARY SERVICE*

In the adult PEI programs, participants were asked about their own military involvement. The children’s PEI programs reported whether the children’s caregivers had served in the military. Of the 14,420 participants in both systems for whom military service status was known, 3,121 (22%) stated that either they or their child’s caregiver had served in the military. The majority of these individuals served in the Navy (28%), the Army (21%) or the Marine Corps (15%). The remaining military branches were not highly represented.

*PROGRAM SATISFACTION*

Information on satisfaction with the PEI programs was available for approximately 45% of the participants. Of these participants, most agreed that they were better able to handle things and solve problems as a result of the program. Most also said that they knew where to get help when they needed it, and that they felt more comfortable seeking help now. Overall, 92% of the participants who responded were satisfied with the services they received.

*The Child and Adolescent Services Research Center (CASRC) is a consortium of over 100 investigators and staff from multiple research organizations in San Diego County and Southern California, including: Rady Children’s Hospital, University of California at San Diego, San Diego State University, University of San Diego and University of Southern California. The mission of CASRC is to improve publicly-funded mental health service delivery and quality of treatment for children and adolescents who have or are at high risk for the development of mental health problems or disorders.*

*The Health Services Research Center (HSRC) at University of California, San Diego is a non-profit research organization within the Department of Family and Preventive Medicine. HSRC works in collaboration with the Quality Improvement Unit of the County of San Diego Behavioral Health Services to evaluate and improve behavioral health outcomes for County residents. Our research team specializes in the measurement, collection and analysis of health outcomes data to help improve health care delivery systems and, ultimately, to improve client quality of life. For more information please contact Andrew Sarkin, PhD at 858-622-1771.*