

**Goal: Set foundation to develop and implement a county-wide youth behavioral health framework founded on common approaches, objectives and modalities**

- **Strategy 1: Relationship Development.** Develop strong and lasting relationships as a foundation to partnership between School District leadership, local health care, court-related stakeholders, other relevant service providers, and community-based youth-serving organizations - to meet the holistic mental health and related needs of youth.
- **Strategy 2: Fund Comprehensive Youth Behavioral Health System Assessment:** Provide JCEP (4 School Districts) with funding to execute a comprehensive behavioral health services audit covering the four school districts, relevant local health care providers, court-related stakeholders, other relevant service providers, and community-based youth-serving organizations represented at the Jefferson County CHIP Youth Age Band table.
- **Strategy 3: Develop and Initiate Execution of Action Plan:** Use audit results to collaboratively develop priorities and implement plan to achieve a cross functional community-wide approach to fill gaps in reach and knowledge that improve access to and effectiveness of whole-person youth care that meets the holistic mental health and related needs of Jefferson County's youth.
- **Strategy 4: Fund School's Internal Capacity:** Fund School Liaison Interventionist to serve as in-building behavioral and academic specialists who collaborate with the school community, including the administrative team, instructional staff, support staff, and families, to support the development and implementation of a school-wide positive behavioral intervention system which supports a positive learning environment and a high level of achievement for all students.
- **Strategy 5: Assess Available Housing Data:** Collaborate with OlyCAP to assess what housing data is available and how to functionally integrate useful data tracking into BHC's current data tracking efforts to set up a foundation to better understand and address unstable housing impacts on the county's behavioral health system
- **Strategy 6: Develop Housing Analysis Plan:** Develop an analysis plan to address unstable housing throughout the county and implement as appropriate.
- **Strategy 7: Improve Rural Transportation Agency Cross Assessment and Action:** Create a nexus between our rural transportation agencies – school districts and Jefferson Transit - to assess, prioritize, strategize and support/execute actions to address widening gaps for equitable access. This strategy sets the foundation to address equitable access to behavioral health supports, youth extracurricular activities and school functions.
- **Strategy: Expand EMS Data Collection Effort:** Build on the BHC's current data collection efforts by expanding EMS data collection from one Fire District to procuring data from Jefferson County EMS Council to improve our data substance and insights, and the action plans developed and executed.

## NARRATIVE > METHODOLOGY >

### ADDRESSING THE NOFO'S GOAL-SPECIFIC AND OVERARCHING METHODOLOGIES

#### Approach to Address Structural and Systemic Barriers to SUD

The BHC will address structural and systemic barriers to ensure the accessibility of SUD and other behavioral health and support services throughout Jefferson County. Our approach will be to expand the BHC to include public school system and other additional relevant representatives to anchor the collective effort shown below to **create an east-county-wide youth behavioral health framework that meets the holistic mental health and related needs of youth**. Our approach is to:

- **Develop strong and ongoing relationships:** The BHC recognizes a cross-functional community-wide approach is critical to realizing the goal outlined above. Jefferson County is fortunate to have had RCORP funding over the past three years to develop a Behavioral Health Consortium focused on addressing the full spectrum of behavioral health prevention, treatment and recovery support services. This table includes local/community, state and regional level representatives from health and behavioral health agencies and providers, law enforcement, community recovery organizations and others critical to securing community buy-in for the youth-focused behavioral health framework we are seeking to develop. The relationships that exist at that table already will be and are foundational to all of Jefferson County's behavioral health system-related work.

The BHC's awareness of the need to develop and execute an intentional approach to address youth behavioral health has been rising with urgency since 2018. This funding will provide momentum to support our community's youth who face an increasingly complex array of risk factors, including vulnerabilities of socio-economic factors, ethnic minority and/or LGBTQ status, all of which can compound to inhibit health development and resiliency.

We propose to use the BHC's well established Consortium table, where there is a foundation of shared language, understanding and intent established to expand, convene and intentionally develop the strong and lasting partnerships between the public school leadership, local health care, public health, School-Based Health Center (SBHC) and court-related stakeholders; other relevant service providers, youth, impacted families and caregivers; community-based youth-serving organizations and stakeholders from the various geographic areas that make up our county. We recognize all these representatives and their perspectives are key to the development and implementation and to realize the desired positive outcomes of an east-county-wide youth behavioral health framework.

**Success metric:** Engaged school system and other relevant stakeholders convened at the BHC table; stakeholder partnerships actively filling the gaps in reach and knowledge that will ultimately improve access to, and effectiveness of, Jefferson County's youth-focused whole-person care.

- **Audit/Assessment:** The proposed comprehensive behavioral health services audit will be co-initiated and undertaken with a partnership of the leadership for the Jefferson County Education partnership (JCEP) and the CHIP Youth Age Band Workgroup. The audit/assessment will include Brinnon, Quilcene, Port Townsend and Chimacum School Districts, local health care, SBHC and court-related stakeholders; other relevant service providers, youth, impacted families and caregivers; community-based youth-serving organizations and stakeholders from the various geographic areas that make up our county. This audit/assessment effort will incorporate a review of what is needed to strengthen the SUD and behavioral health workforce, including where data collection, training and establishment of interdisciplinary care teams are indicated, to address the full spectrum of behavioral health care prevention, treatment and recovery support services for county youth, their families and caregivers. Specifically, this audit will assess gaps to:
  - Ensure that our rural healthcare facilities and other relevant entities are providing SUD and other behavioral health services that are evidence-based and trauma-informed for our community's youth, family and youth caregivers.
  - Have appropriate capacity for coordinated behavioral care between and within rural healthcare facilities and other relevant entities for our community's youth, family and youth caregivers.
  - Provide enhanced discharge coordination, particularly for youth patients moving from inpatient to outpatient care, as well as youth who are themselves or whose family or caregivers are being discharged from the criminal justice system.
  - Ensure that services will be accessible and affordable to individuals most in need, including the uninsured and underinsured populations, both during and after the period of performance. Our goal is no individual will be denied services due to an inability to pay.

**Success metric:** A written Audit/Assessment report of findings that address the content noted above, an overall SWOT analysis, suggested priorities, proposed next steps, and success metrics to consider for a built and well-functioning east-county-wide youth behavioral health framework that meets the holistic mental health and related needs of youth.

- **Develop and Initiate Execution of Action Plan:** Relevant BHC Members will explore the Audit/Assessment Report findings, collaboratively confirm or evolve the priorities and develop a strategic implementation plan to achieve a cross functional community-wide approach to fill gaps in reach and knowledge that improve access to, efficiency, and effectiveness of whole-person youth care that meets the holistic mental health and related needs of Jefferson County's youth. This strategy will ensure that SUD and other behavioral health and support services are integrated, coordinated, and accessible across the prevention, treatment, and recovery spectrum of care.

**Success metrics:**

Milestone 1: Strategic Plan developed with defined action, accountability, and timelines.

Milestone 2: Subsequent Quarterly Strategic Action Update Reports

Potential Milestone 4: Strategic Plan Metric Reporting; Review and Update of Strategic Plan

- **Subsequently, Develop Sustainability Plan:** Once the Strategic Action Plan is in the implementation phase, gather stakeholders to develop a sustainability plan addresses the key components of relationship, workforce, finance, and data collection.
- **Fund School's Internal Capacity:** Fund School Liaison Interventionist to serve as in-building behavioral and academic specialists who collaborate with the school community, including the administrative team, instructional staff, support staff, and families, to support the development and implementation of a school-wide positive behavioral intervention system which supports a positive learning environment and a high level of achievement for all students. This position will be used to intentionally address disparities in behavioral health and support services, as well as the unique needs of populations that have historically suffered from poorer health outcomes, health disparities and other inequities as compared to the rest of the population.
- **Success metric:** Resource recruited, data being collected in that resources work and impact.

### Approach to Address the Improvement of the Quality and Sustainability of Rural Behavioral Health Care Services

The BHC will continue and expand their efforts to improve the quality and sustainability of rural youth behavioral health care services through supporting rural health care providers to offer coordinated, evidence-based, trauma-informed SUD and other behavioral health care services.

Please see the work plan component detail included on:

- Page XX related to the focus on the [Development of strong and ongoing relationships](#)
- Page XX related to the strategy for the [Audit/Assessment](#)
- Page XX related to the strategy to [Develop and Initiate Execution of Action Plan](#)
- Page XX related to the strategy to [Subsequently, Develop Sustainability Plan](#)
- Page XX related to the strategy to [Fund School's Internal Capacity](#)

#### ADD SUMMARY OF SPECIFIC PROJECTS FROM BHC's CURRENT RCORP-I WORK PLAN

Additionally the BHC's current and robust RCORP-Implementation highly detailed and focused [Work Plan](#) is being executed to ensure that rural healthcare facilities and other relevant entities are providing SUD and other behavioral health services that are evidence-based and trauma-informed. That ongoing work is funding through August, 31,2023, and focused on increasing the capacity for coordinated behavioral care between and within rural healthcare facilities and other relevant entities. The ongoing BHC's efforts have been developed to enhance discharge coordination, including for patients moving from inpatient to outpatient care, as well as those being discharged from the criminal justice system. Further, the BHC is working to ensure services will be accessible and affordable to individuals most in need, including the uninsured and

underinsured populations, both during and after the period of performance. These current efforts are [documented in the monthly BHC meeting videos, slide decks, and meeting notes shown at this link](#). The work proposed in this grant application builds on that body of work and expands the current work to address the heretofore missing aspect of a county-wide youth-specific behavioral health framework founded on common approaches, objectives and modalities.

### **Approach to Improve Rural Behavioral Health Care System to Address Community Risk and Social Determinants of Health**

The BHC will continue and expand their efforts to improve the capacity of the behavioral health care system to address rural community risk factors and social determinants of health that affect the behavioral health of rural residents. Our approach is to:

- **Assess Available Housing Data:** The BHC proposes to set a foundation to address the root causes and risk factors that contribute to SUD and other behavioral healthcare disorders, including Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and social determinants of health expanding the BHC Membership to include the Olympic Community Action Program (OlyCAP), the local non-profit agency helping people build resilient communities by providing equitable access to housing solutions and opportunities to people in Jefferson and neighboring Clallam County (both rurally designated counties). The BHC proposes to collaborate with OlyCAP to assess the housing data they have available and how to functionally integrate useful data tracking with BHC's current data tracking efforts. Our goal is to set up a foundation to better understand and address unstable housing impacts on the county's behavioral health system, and ultimately to create insights that can be used to address the root causes and risk factors that contribute to SUD and other behavioral healthcare disorders, including the fact that housing as a social determinant of health is a key contributor to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs).
- **Strategy 6: Develop Housing Analysis Plan:** Develop an analysis plan to address unstable housing throughout the county and implement as appropriate. The BHC will develop this analysis plan as a foundational effort as we work to ensure that individuals are connected with needed supportive services to assist in their recovery, including, but not limited to, housing, food access, job training, childcare, and primary healthcare.
- **Strategy 7: Improve Rural Transportation Agency Cross Assessment and Action:** Create a nexus between our rural transportation agencies – school districts and Jefferson Transit - to assess, prioritize, strategize and support/execute actions to address widening gaps for equitable access. This strategy sets the foundation to address equitable access to prevention, treatment and recovery behavioral health supports, youth extracurricular activities and school functions. Through this action the BHC intends to set the stage for rural transportation to have the benefit of more truly rural representation – and through that representation begin to address the root causes and risk factors that contribute to SUD and other behavioral healthcare disorders, including the fact that transportation access as a social determinant of health is a key contributor access to care for youth, and their families and caregivers.

- **Strategy: Expand EMS Data Collection Effort:** Build on the BHC's current data collection efforts by expanding EMS data collection from one Fire District to procuring data from Jefferson County EMS Council to improve our data substance and insights, and the action plans developed and executed. (ADD whatever needs to be included from pg 32!)

Please see the work plan component detail included on (add specifics from this section to the strategies enumerated below):

Address: The BHC will incorporate prevention and harm reduction activities into the project plan, such as naloxone distribution, mental health first aid training, parent education, evidence-based education programs in schools, etc

- Page XX related to the focus on the [Development of strong and ongoing relationships](#)
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#### Goal-specific Methodology elements that must be addressed

- The BHC will address the root causes and risk factors that contribute to SUD and other behavioral healthcare disorders, including Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and social determinants of health.
- The BHC will ensure that patients are connected with needed supportive services to assist in their recovery, including, but not limited to, housing, food access, job training, childcare, and primary healthcare.
- The BHC will incorporate prevention and harm reduction activities into the project plan, such as naloxone distribution, mental health first aid training, parent education, evidence-based education programs in schools, etc