

# Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency

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## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

### Local Mental Health Board Mental Health Director's Report April 25, 2016

#### **HHSA Director**

On April 15, HHSA Director Joan Planell made the personal decision to leave her position. Joan brought significant positive social change to Yolo County. From advancing our approach in addressing homelessness to her amazing leadership with Agency integration, Joan has been on the forefront of leading positive change. We will miss her passion, knowledge, and leadership. Our CAO's goal in moving forward is to quickly identify a leadership structure that maintains our positive forward progress with integration. For the next few days, while he considers how best to move forward, Patrick Blacklock has asked Deputy County Administrator Jill Cook to assist the HHSA leadership team with any issues that may arise. While this is difficult news to receive, I do have great confidence in our HHSA Executive Leadership Team and know that our clients and community will continue to be well served.

#### **Whole Person Care Pilot**

On April 8, HHSA submitted a Letter of Intent to California Department of Health Care Services indicating our desire to participate in the Medi-Cal 2020 Whole Person Care (WPC) pilot. The WPC pilot is a five year program authorized to test locally based initiatives that will coordinate physical health, behavioral health, and social services for vulnerable Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are high utilizers of multiple systems and continue to have or are at risk of poor health outcomes.

Yolo County's proposal centers around our older adult population with a focus on highly vulnerable Medi-Cal beneficiaries that interact with multiple public systems (including the local physical health, behavioral health, criminal justice, and homeless systems). The proposed pilot is a high priority for Yolo County, because it is well aligned with our County and Agency Strategic Plans, our mission and our history of innovation toward the benefit of our most vulnerable residents. The WPC pilot is the logical next step for our County in continuing this integrated path toward improving beneficiary health and well-being while reducing the per capita cost of care for our older adult population. Yolo County was awarded \$499,000 over the next two years for our proposed Bridge to Health and Housing project.

[See attached press release.](#)

#### **Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System Waiver**

Phase III of the Drug Medi-Cal Waiver officially began March 30th. As we've previously discussed this waiver will allow Medi-Cal reimbursement for a broader array of substance use disorder services locally and statewide. We have assigned Ian Evans, LMFT, as our coordinator for this process locally. We have begun hosting monthly meetings with providers to provide technical assistance and collaborate to develop our new and improved continuum of care. We will also be hosting meetings for public input and encourage LMHB to participate in that process.

#### **Jail/Juvenile Detention Facility Contract**

In December, the County issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to provide Medical and Behavioral Health Services for detainees of the jail and juvenile detention facilities. After a process of proposal review that included representatives from the Sheriff, Probation, County Administrator and HHSA departments, a consensus recommendation was reached regarding the Jail/Juvenile Detention Facility Medical and Behavioral Health Services proposals. On March 9, HHSA issued an intent to award notification to CFMG,

the current contractor. Next steps are to develop, review and finalize the draft contracts. We anticipate bringing this item for Board review and approval on April 26

### **2016/2017 Budget**

The agency is still finalizing our 2016/2017 projected budget in collaboration with the County Department of Financial Services and the County Administrator’s Office. While the agency integrated last July, we continue to develop budgets based on our historical funding streams (i.e. public health, mental health and social services). That being said we have already begun to restructure certain areas to maximize revenue, decrease expenses and achieve efficiencies and financial sustainability. The plan is for Katy Eckert, Deputy Director of Fiscal and Administrative Services to present to the LMHB next month.

### **MHSA Plan Update**

The 2016/2017 MHSA plan update will be posted in the coming week. It will be posted for 30 days and we encourage all community members, staff and stakeholders to review and provide comment during that time. We will be hosting a public hearing toward the end of May and will bring the plan to LMHB for approval at that time as well.

### **Housing California Conference**

On Thursday, April 14, a group from Yolo County including Tracey Dickinson, Homeless Coordinator, Lisa Baker, CEO Yolo County Housing and Sergeant Kinney and Officer Angle from West Sacramento Police Department presented at the annual Housing California conference in Sacramento. Housing California is California’s statewide non-profit organization that conducts advocacy work around affordable housing and homeless services. Each year, the Annual Conference brings together advocates in the affordable home and homeless communities from across the state to discuss important issues and best practices. Our presentation, entitled *Providing a Bridge to Housing: A New Model for Addressing Encampments*, provided a case study of Bridge to Housing from beginning to end, including a description of the comprehensive planning process, implementation and outcomes.

### **Woodland Homelessness**

On Tuesday, April 26, the Woodland City Council considered a proposal for a Bridge to Housing 2.0 project in Woodland. The City Manager is requesting \$100,000 in City funds which will be matched by \$100,000 in County funds to support services and interim housing for approximately 10 individuals at any point in time. We are excited to partner with the City of Woodland on the project and look forward to all we will accomplish together.

## County Press Releases

### **Yolo County Receives Grant to Assist Medically Vulnerable Homeless**

**Post Date:** 03/24/2016 3:40 PM

#### Press Release

(Woodland, CA) – Partnership HealthPlan of California has awarded the Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency \$499,125 to improve the health and well-being of medically vulnerable people experiencing homelessness through the Bridge to Health & Housing project.

The Bridge to Health & Housing project is a collaborative effort between Yolo County, Fourth & Hope, Sutter Davis Hospital, Yolo Community Care Continuum and Woodland Memorial Hospital which will provide outreach, intensive case management and housing navigation for homeless persons with an acute or chronic health condition or substance use disorder. The project will feature a 24-hour response to Yolo County emergency rooms in cases involving frequent utilizers who are homeless, ensuring they are appropriately assessed and linked with services and shelter upon discharge.

This two-year grant award is part of Partnership HealthPlan's Social Determinants of Health Initiative which aims to remove barriers that prevent access to quality health care.

Yolo County's proposal was based on local data showing a significant service gap for people experiencing homelessness who are medically vulnerable. For example, Dignity Health reports 545 visits from 235 homeless individuals in their Woodland Memorial Hospital emergency room between November 1, 2014 and October 31, 2015, with some patients having over 20 visits in the year. Additionally, the most recent homeless count found 74% of the 498 people experiencing homelessness in Yolo County reported having at least one serious health condition.

The two-year Bridge to Health & Housing project aims to accomplish three goals, including:

1. Identifying the most medically vulnerable people experiencing homelessness in Yolo County.
2. Diverting people experiencing homelessness with medical issues from the local emergency rooms into appropriate primary care settings.
3. Improving the overall well-being of medically vulnerable people experiencing homelessness by targeting four social determinants of health: housing stability; physical health; behavioral health and self-sufficiency.

For more information about Yolo County's Homeless Services, visit the Homeless Services webpage under the Health & Human Services menu at [www.yolocounty.org](http://www.yolocounty.org).

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