

Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Local Mental Health Board Mental Health Director's Report December 5, 2016

Mental Health Services Act 3 Year Planning Process / Research Development Associates

On November 22, Karen Larsen presented to the Board of Supervisors about the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 3 Year Plan process and asked for their feedback and participation in the upcoming community forums. The Board of Supervisors seemed very interested in seeing data before approving the next plan. Additionally, HHSA has looked into the concerns regarding the plan consultants, Research Development Associates (RDA) and a potential conflict. RDA's Roberta Chambers clarified that RDA did in fact enter into a contract with the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) to evaluate community planning processes, but this work was completed prior to Yolo MHSA's last 3 year planning process. At the time of the evaluation, RDA was not performing community planning for counties, but had earlier worked with one county. The issue of conflict of interest was discussed with the MHSOAC before the contract was finalized. In the end, RDA did research for the MHSOAC on best practices in community planning, which was included in their report, and of course, potentially benefits all counties (including those who work with RDA). RDA facilitated community planning with 3 counties last year, but only one this year—Yolo. The MHSOAC evaluation in question was completed well over 3 years ago and did not evaluate work RDA had done for Yolo County.

Public Guardian

On November 22, the Board of Supervisors heard the first reading of the ordinance transferring Public Guardian to HHSA. Karen Larsen, Carolyn West, and Julie Barga presented to the Board of Supervisors in terms of next steps, what we are doing to ease the transition, and ways to mitigate potential conflicts. We will be returning to the Board of Supervisors on December 13 to discuss options for an Ombudsman for Public Guardian as well as other HHSA services. ([Click here to view the meeting video](#))

Child Welfare Services

On November 22, Karen Larsen, staff, and consultants from Child and Family Policy Institute of California presented the final workshop on Child Welfare Services to the Board of Supervisors. The presentation covered 8 key focus areas included in our action plan and requested additional resources to support these efforts. Some of the resources requested were to support increased mental health access for children in the Child Welfare system.

5150s

The County is in the midst of resolving issues associated with 5150s and West Sacramento Police Department (WSPD). In August 100% of all WSPD 5150s began going to Sutter Davis Hospital due to the fact that WSPD must transport to nearest hospital. Sutter Davis Hospital has seen a 30% increase in volume since August and are struggling to keep up with the pace and keep all patients and staff safe. As a temporary fix we have allowed Sutter to go on diversion as well as to alternate odd and even days with Woodland Memorial with 5150s coming from WSPD. We are attempting to resolve this issue, support Sutter and ensure the best possible care for our residents in crisis. Sutter hopes to have increased staffing support by March 1, 2017.

Homelessness

We have several exciting opportunities to assist us in reducing homelessness in Yolo County. Partnership Healthplan, Sutter Health, Proposition 47, and Board of State Community Corrections all have initiatives aimed at supporting housing for persons experiencing homelessness or involved in the criminal justice system. These opportunities, in addition to our work with the cities within Yolo County may very well result in a significant increase in housing options locally.

Stepping Up Initiative

Our County workgroup continues to meet regarding the strategic plan goal of “Creating a Continuum of Care from Prevention through Intensive Services.” A Yolo County delegation will be attending the California Stepping Up Summit in Sacramento, January 18-19. We have identified key participants for each of the intercepts within the criminal justice system. These sub-committees will begin to meet and develop strategies for reducing the numbers of mentally ill in custody in Yolo County.

Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System

We are putting the final touches on our implementation plan for the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System. This plan will be submitted to the California Department of Health Care Services within the week.

Mental Health Wellness Center

Construction has begun on the Wellness Center remodel at the Bauer Building.