

Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Local Mental Health Board Mental Health Director's Report February 27, 2017

Homelessness

We continue to prioritize services and solutions to homelessness as an Agency and a County. Over the past month a great deal has occurred in this realm. We completed the homeless count and will be releasing the results within the next few weeks. The BOS adopted the "Getting to Zero" resolution, a partnership between Sutter Health, Yolo County, Yolo cities, and the counties Sacramento and Placer and their cities, aimed at ending chronic homelessness in our region.

MHSA Housing Project

We received an extension on the project due to weather and hope to break ground by May.

Mental Health Services Act 3 Year Plan

The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 3 Year Plan was posted on 02/20/17 for the 30 day comment period. The plan will come back to LMHB for support at the end of the 30 day posting.

Public Guardian Transition

The County Department of Financial Services will be conducting an audit of Public Guardian's Office. This audit will assist us in identifying business practices and procedures in-line with financial standards and efficiencies.

Ombudsman Services

We are developing a communication plan, complaint form, and flyers for the new ombudsman services. We have obtained a dedicated email address and will also be getting a toll-free number as well. We are thrilled that Bret Bandley has agreed to take on this assignment.

Mid-Year Budget

On 02/21/17 the County mid-year budget was presented. HHS continues to have a budget deficit. \$4.5 million of this deficit is specific to the behavioral health portion of the budget. The vast majority of the behavioral health deficit is directly tied to inpatient psychiatric hospitalization. We have begun interventions including partnering with our local hospitals to place HHS and Community Intervention Program staff on site at our hospitals, contracting with psychiatric health facilities in Yuba City, purchasing additional beds at Safe Harbor, and including navigation centers and mental health urgent care sites in our MHSA 3 Year Plan. We are dedicated to decreasing the length of stay for hospitalization, decreasing readmissions to our hospitals, and reducing inappropriate hospitalizations of clients who can be served more appropriately in other settings.

External Quality Review Organization

California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) contracts with a private company to visit each County Mental Health Plan annually to review several metrics tied to quality, access to care, cultural competency, and IT issues in addition to several others. The external quality review organization (EQRO) visited Yolo County at the beginning of February. They met with stakeholder groups including clients, family members, staff, contract providers, and Spanish and Russian speaking groups. Overall, the review

went well and EQRO will be issuing a report with suggested areas of focus for continued quality improvement efforts. We will be sharing the report with LMHB when it is released.

Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System Waiver

As was shared last month, Yolo County submitted our Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) application to the state Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). DHCS has since submitted our DMC-ODS waiver application to the Centers for Medicare (the federal agency over Medicaid). We are working on the rate structure which will also need to be submitted.

Child Welfare Services and Children's Mental Health Positions

As you may recall, we requested five positions associated with the Child Welfare Services (CWS) sessions to the BOS. We requested a supervisor and two social workers to assist in the front end of child welfare services, or emergency response. We also requested two mental health clinicians, one to assist in decreasing child/youth hospitalizations and one to assist in assessing mental health needs of children and youth. After further review we have realized we could shuffle staff to add an existing supervisor to the emergency response unit, fund the two social worker positions with our Commercially Sexually Exploited Children (CSEC) allocation from the State, and the two mental health clinicians through a mix of Mental Health Services Act and Medi-Cal funding.

Community Intervention Program

We have met with Turning Point Community Programs and are actively working on increasing Community Intervention Program (CIP) coverage to 24/7 especially for our hospital partners.

Community Intervention Training

We are in active conversations with our law enforcement partners to expand Community Intervention Training (CIT), adding an 8 hour refresher course and a course aimed at other first responders or custody staff.

Oroville Dam Evacuation

On 02/12/17 Yolo County opened an evacuation shelter for residents of Sutter and Yuba counties due to Oroville Dam issues. Residents began arriving at 11:00 PM Sunday evening and continued to arrive over the next few days. By the time the evacuation order was lifted, we had 596 residents onsite with us at the Yolo fairgrounds. Amongst the individuals on site, were 119 mental health consumers from several facilities and 12 skilled nursing facility residents, not to mention several pets and over 100 children. The effort showed the best of Yolo County. I was honored to be included and so proud of our community.