

**Local Mental Health Board
Mental Health Director's Report
May 22, 2017**

State of Reform Conference- On April 27th Karen Larsen participated on a panel at the annual State of Reform conference in Sacramento. The other panelists were Sarah Arnquist from Beacon Health Solutions and Adrienne Shilton from The Steinberg Institute. The panel focused on the impacts of the Affordable Care Act on behavioral health services in California. The conference was a non-partisan, policy agnostic and multi-track effort at bridging the gap between health policy and the provision of healthcare. Karen spoke on a panel titled "Reform Opportunities from the View of the Behavioral Health System", and shared information about Yolo's ongoing efforts to strengthen the local system of care for people with behavioral health issues in Yolo County.

Personnel- We are happy to announce that we have hired Rebecca Mellott as the new Assistant Director for HHSA. Rebecca will be responsible for the leadership and oversight of the Administrative Branch within the Agency, and will be joining us beginning on Monday, June 12th.

Prior to coming to Yolo County, Rebecca served as Placer County's Health and Human Services (HHS) Administrative Services Director for 6 years, where she was responsible for the successful centralization and integration of the HHS Administration Division. She also worked in various fiscal positions for 5 years in the Shasta County HHSA, contributing to the initial formation of the Agency as a key member of the Business and Support Services Branch. Rebecca has significant finance and technical accounting expertise, with a combined 20 years in both private and public finance.

Rebecca received her Bachelor's degree in Accountancy from National University and is a California State Association of Counties California Credentialed County Senior Executive. She serves as the chair of the statewide HHSA Administration and Finance Directors committee, past co-chair of the Financial Analysis and Data System Subcommittee for the California Welfare Directors Association, and author of the charter to create the Financial Analysis and Review Subcommittee for the California Behavioral Health Directors Association.

Additionally, we are recruiting for a Public Health Director in light of Jan Babb's resignation. Jan has worked for Yolo County for 14 years and will be missed. She has accepted a position in Solano County. We wish her all the best.

MHSA programs- We have begun issuing RFPs for all of the new MHSA programs. Some conditional award announcements have been made to vendors and we are in the contract negotiation period for several. We want to thank all of the LMHB members who have assisted in reviewing proposals.

Housing Project- As you may have noticed, the site for the MHSA housing project has been completely transformed. The site is now prepared to begin construction. We expect the groundbreaking to happen within a month and the construction to take approximately 14 months to completion.

Homelessness- We have several exciting developments on the homelessness front. Partnership Healthplan of California announced that they will be issuing an RFP to support housing. Yolo County will need to apply but is eligible for approximately \$2 million. We are pulling together our City partners to

strategize. We also have the Getting to Zero initiative through Sutter Health supporting several projects in Yolo County and No Place Like Home is on the horizon as well. Our partners in the City of West Sacramento and Woodland are moving forward with projects aimed at providing housing as well.

Board of Supervisors – On May 9th, James Glica-Hernandez was presented with a resolution from the Board of Supervisors in recognition of May as Mental Health Month. Additionally, James will be sharing the LMHB annual update and strategic plan on May 23rd.



Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission- We will be presenting our Innovation plans to the MHSOAC at the end of July. Additionally, the MHSOAC has partnered with IDEO and Google/Verily to convene an innovation summit this Summer. They have brought in four counties (LA, Monterrey, Santa Clara and Yolo) to assist with the planning etc. IDEO visited Yolo May 1-2nd and met with several key stakeholders regarding innovation. We are honored to be a part of this discussion.

Crisis Management Program- A significant new strategy for the coming fiscal year is the implementation of a countywide crisis management program. This program will include a Mental Health Urgent Care, and will be fully staffed by the Health and Human Services Agency. The Mental Health Urgent Care location will provide stabilization and support 7 day per week, 9 hour per day, at a community-based site, and will receive individuals brought in by law enforcement first responders, family or those who are self-referred. In addition, County Clinicians will be available 24/7 to respond to the two local emergency rooms to conduct assessments and direct individuals to care specific to meet their presenting concerns.