

Mental Health Director's Report

May 21, 2018

May is Mental Health Awareness Month – On May 8th, the Board of Supervisors presented James and Brett with a Resolution for May is Mental Health Awareness Month. Each Supervisor received a Mental Health Matters coffee mug and several other items. On the same day, the BOS received an update on our county-wide efforts to reduce the numbers of mentally ill in custody. [Click here for the full May is Mental Health Month calendar.](#)



Pine Tree Gardens – The ad hoc meeting is being held immediately before the LMHB meeting and may have more updated information than this report. We continue to work with Turning Point on options that could lead to financial sustainability for Pine Tree Gardens.

Yolo Family Service Agency – Several weeks ago the County learned that the Yolo Family Services Agency (YFSA), a long time provider of services for Yolo residents, was unexpectedly closing down effective April 30, 2018. In fiscal year 2017-18, the Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency had two contracts in place with YFSA totaling \$691,000, to provide mental health services for children. Staff from HHS and the County Administrator’s Office have been working closely with YFSA over the past few weeks to develop a transition plan that will ensure the children and families served by the organization continue to receive high quality services. Several important steps have been taken, including the following:

- HHS and CAO staff facilitated negotiations with YFSA and other local providers, resulting in three local providers (including CommuniCare Health Centers, Turning Point Community Programs and RISE, Inc.) agreeing to assume all of the County funded services previously offered by YFSA.
- HHS assumed responsibility for the care of the 86 clients during the transition period, while contracts are being transferred to new providers. HHS hired 10 staff members formerly employed by YFSA as HHS extra help for a period of several weeks, to ensure continuity of care for the children being served.
- CommuniCare, Turning Point and RISE have since interviewed and hired the majority of these staff members in permanent positions under their new contracts.
- HHS expects that all 10 employees and 86 children will have transitioned to one of the three providers by the end of May.

Substance Use Disorder Continuum of Care – HHS is in contract negotiations with several organizations who submitted successful responses to the recent Substance Use Disorder RFP’s. It is expected that most contracts will be in place and starting services July 1st. See attached for upcoming trainings associated with assuring we have a stable and coordinated roll-out of the expanded system.

Governor’s May Revise – As if a gift for Mental Health Month, the Governor included millions of dollars in new state funding investments for mental health and homelessness. [Click here for an overview from CBHDA.](#)

Some highlights include:

- Children’s mental health mandate repayment- \$254 million
- Homelessness and Mental Health \$358.8 million
- Criminal Justice Incompetent to Stand Trial Treatment and Diversion \$100 million plus
- OIG Repayment \$180 million
- Oversight and Planning \$6.7 million for 48 staff at DHCS to provide oversight of Counties
- DMC-ODS - \$148.31 million

Personnel Updates –

Psychiatrist hires- We are delighted to announce that Dr. Kaan Ozbayrak has accepted a full time psychiatry position with Yolo County. Dr. Ozbayrak has experience with adults, children, and medical-psychiatry, as well as administrative psychiatry and teaching medical students and residents. He will be a valuable addition to our team! Both Dr. Ozbayrak and Dr. Nora Kim will start on June 11th! Dr. Ozbayrak will be based full time in Woodland. Dr. Kim will start in Woodland 3 days per week, and will work in other clinics as appropriate. Dr. Kim speaks fluent Spanish and Korean. We are delighted to welcome both of them to our team.

Homeless Coordinator-HHSA's recently hired Homeless Services Manager is no longer working for HHSA. We will assure staff on the Homeless Services team – including a Program Coordinator, Clinical Supervisor and Associate Analyst – receive sufficient support during this transition, as we work to locate the right person to fill the challenging role of overseeing Yolo's Homeless Services continuum. In addition to supporting the team on an interim basis, both Sandra Sigrist and Tracey Dickinson (prior Homeless Coordinator) will assure reports and applications associated with critical funding in the local continuum are submitted as required.

Access & Crisis Manager – Our Manager over Access and Crisis also left our employment. We will be recruiting for this position.

CURES –

California launched legislation to help prescribers have more information about what medications clients are receiving from other providers. One of the goals of this legislation is to decrease risk of overdose and over prescribing of opioids and other scheduled medications such as benzodiazepines. Starting October 2018 prescribers will be required to check the CURES Database prior to prescribing a Schedule II-IV medication, such as Ativan or Klonopin, and periodically thereafter.

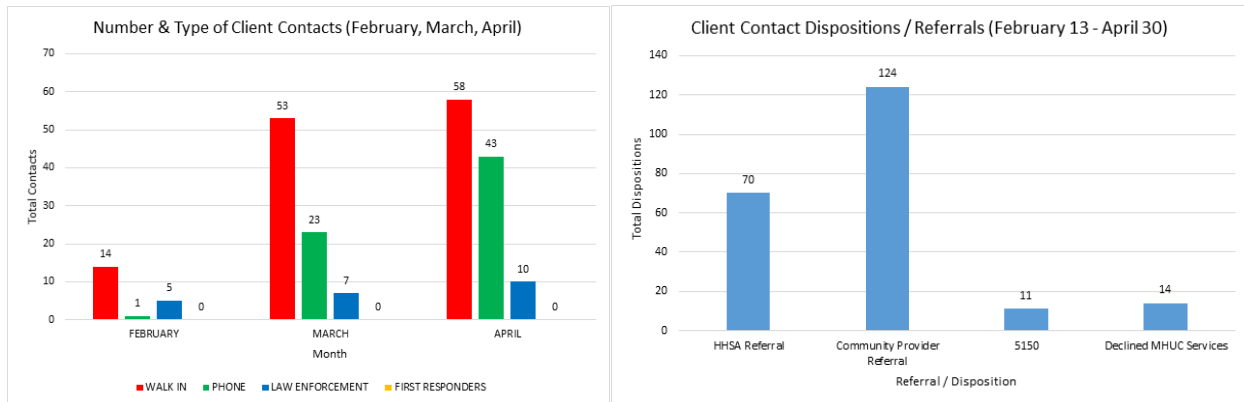
UC Davis Medical School Update –

Our first medical student, Andy Shen, has been working with us during the month of May, and it has been a pleasure to work with him. Staff and clients are eager to help him learn as he is to gain in knowledge and understanding during his time with us. We've been impressed with the open-minded eagerness he has shown towards understanding not only the mechanics of prescribing, but also the breadth and depth of our system and the relationships we can forge with those we serve.

Tele-Psychiatry Services –

Dr. Zev Wiener has been providing tele-psychiatry services for our clients since August of 2017. In providing tele-psychiatry services, we have to follow the Ryan-Haight Act, one component of which is that Scheduled Medications (controlled substances) cannot be prescribed without Pharmacy Certification and DEA Licensure of our facility. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our QM staff, Fabian Valle in particular, we have now secured this licensure for our Woodland Clinic. Although we rarely prescribe controlled substances, this will make for better continuity of care on the rare occasion such a medication is necessary.

Data- First Responder Mental Health Urgent Care Utilization



Over the first two and a half months since the opening of the Yolo County First Responder Mental Health Urgent Care (MHUC), the total number of client contacts has increased nearly six-fold, from 20 contacts in February to 111 contacts in April (N=219 total contacts from 2/13/18 to 4/30/18). During that time, over half (57%) of the contacts were clients walking into the MHUC seeking services, nearly one-third (31%) were phone calls regarding services, and around 10% were clients brought in by law enforcement.

The vast majority of client contacts resulted in a referral to services with either HHS (32%) or a community provider (57%), and only around 5% resulted in a 5150 legal hold. These preliminary results suggest (1) an increasing awareness of the availability of the MHUC services among the Yolo County community, and (2) the MHUC is looking to be an important access point for clients to get linked to needed mental health and social services in the community.