

Mental Health Director's Report

August 27, 2018

Community Health Branch Director - HHSa is excited to announce that after several months of recruitment we have hired a new Community Health Branch Director. Brian Vaughn joined the team on June 25. Prior to joining our team, Brian had a unique mix of education and experience in community-based health improvement work and high-level systems transformation within the public health world. Most recently, Brian worked at the Sonoma County Department of Health Services as the Director of Health Policy, Planning and Evaluation since 2013. In this role, Brian led his department through a process to develop its strategic plan and developed and implemented strategies to connect services across the county to improve both outcomes and resource efficiencies. Brian also worked as a Health Program Manager at First 5 Sonoma and as the Director of Healthy Start Brooklyn. Brian spent two years in the Peace Corps in Nicaragua, where he worked with a rural and isolated indigenous population to develop early childhood programs in their village.

Brian completed a Local Governance Summer Institute through Stanford University in 2016, received his Master of Public Health from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in 2007, and completed his Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from University of California, San Diego in 2001. Brian is bilingual in Spanish (and proficient in Miskitu, the language of an indigenous group in Central America). Please join me in giving Brian a warm welcome! Staff contact: Karen Larsen

Substance Use Disorder Continuum - Yolo County officially implemented the new Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System Waiver on July 1st, radically changing the way clients are engaged to enter substance use treatment services while greatly increasing the available services. HHSa, CommuniCare Health Centers, and Heritage Oaks Hospital staff are all playing a role in accessing these needed services.

Leading up to the implementation on July 1st, HHSa staff or contracted trainers held 7 trainings in May and June to support the entire system including training on our electronic health record, fiscal training to claim for services, evidence based practices, and more! Since July 1st, we have held 3 trainings with access point staff and have at least 4 more trainings scheduled through the end of the calendar year.

We are also hosting bi-weekly internal meetings to problem solve issues raised by our access points and substance use provider staff, as well as, monthly provider meetings with all substance use providers and bi-weekly meetings with all access point staff. In addition, HHSa is working on developing policies and procedures, frequently asked questions (FAQs) documents, and posting these along with our provider forms on our external facing website to improve clarity and accessibility of these documents for our providers. Staff Contact: Ian Evans

Children's Mental Health Services - FY 18/19 contracts for EPSDT specialty mental health services will begin September 1st. Contract providers include CommuniCare, Stanford Youth Solutions, Turning Point Community Programs and Victor Youth Services. Programs will provide necessary services to assist children in maintaining home placements, improving safety and wellbeing, and addressing impairments related to their behavioral health issues. RISE rural school-based Prevention Early Intervention(PEI) program will be increased in order to serve additional rural communities such as Knights Landing, Clarksburg and Dunnigan. Help Me Grow's PEI program will be increased in order to provide maternal mental health screenings and services. Staff Contact: Kim Narvaez

West Sacramento 2x2 - On July 25th, HHSA hosted the West Sacramento 2x2 at our offices in West Sacramento. A 2x2 is a regularly scheduled meeting between County Supervisors and City Council members aimed at addressing shared interests. This 2x2 included myself and many of my staff. We shared about County services and gave a tour of both buildings. Council members Orozco and Sandeen were very appreciative and will be suggesting that other council members receive similar tours/overviews. The new City Manager, Aaron Laurel was also in attendance.

Hospital partnerships - We are working closely with the hospitals to develop a clear understanding of our system from transport and entry into the hospital to admittance and through discharge to the community. We are specifically trying to address any gaps for those experiencing homelessness who are medically fragile.

California Behavioral Health Directors Association(CBHDA) - CBHDA's Executive Director resigned in June and the association is seeking a new leader. Karen has been chosen to be on recruitment/hiring committee. We are distributing recruitment wide and far, have brought in a recruiter, and raised the salary significantly.

Public Guardian/Adult Protective Services - On August 20th, the Public Guardian's office moved from the County Administration building into HHSA's Gonzalez building. This will allow staff to have access to additional administrative supports and to be co-located with other staff serving similar populations of clients. We have also decided to integrate Public Guardian and Adult Protective Services, with management oversight provided by Laurie Haas. Oftentimes these teams overlap during investigations and referrals from APS to Public Guardian and we see this integration as furthering the work of both teams and improving the care for our probate and LPS conservatees. Staff Contact: Laurie Haas

Pine Tree Gardens - Since our last LMHB meeting, HHSA has met with TPCP as well as Supervisors Saylor and Provenza. All partners continue to strive to find a way to make the PTG houses sustainable.

Continuum of Care - The continuum of care steering committee and the community corrections partnership(CCP) continue to work toward addressing all gaps/solutions identified through the Stepping up Intercept Mapping process. We have formed a group focused on applying for grants and are working with CCP to align County Strategic Plan and CCP Strategic Plan initiatives.

Beamer Street Housing - The Beamer Street housing development has been completed. We are awaiting PG&E to hook up the gas and final sign offs for occupancy. Unfortunately, due to the fires, PG&E may take some time to get to us and it will most likely be October before residents can move in. We will make sure you receive the ribbon cutting date.



Psychiatry Services - Dr. Clare Maxwell, who joined us as a Locum Tenem Psychiatrist for the past 9 months will have her last day with us on August 29th. The county is finalizing its CURES Policy (Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System), which will go into effect October 1, 2018. Doctors and team are required to check the CURES 2.0 Database whenever initiating a prescription for a controlled substance and every 3 months during the maintenance phase.

Mental Health Services Act - Kellymarie Chen, our MHSA Analyst, accepted a new position within the Community Health Branch of Yolo County Health and Human Services and began her new position on July 23. We are excited for her as she embarks on this new journey, and look forward the opportunity this presents for further integration of our Mental Health Services Act across our branches.

We are excited to announce our upcoming community planning meetings to kick off this year's Annual Update to the MHSA Three-Year Plan. These initial meetings will take place across two days, throughout Yolo County. Please join us at one of the following!

September 5, 2018

- 1:00 – 2:30 pm
Arthur Turner Library
[1212 Merkley Ave., West Sacramento](#)
- 3:30 – 5:00 pm
Empower Yolo: Knights Landing Family Resource Center
[9586 Mill Street, Knights Landing](#)
- 6:00 – 7:30 pm, RISE
[17317 Fremont Street, Esparto](#)

September 6, 2018

- 10:30 am – 12:00 pm Redwood Building
[111 Anderson Road, DAVIS](#)
- 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm
HHSA Community Room/Gonzales Building
[25. North Cottonwood Street., Woodland](#)