

Local Mental Health Board

Director's Report

April 27, 2020

- a. **Governor's Press Conferences** – On April 3rd Governor Newsom came to West Sacramento for his press conference at noon regarding the launch of Project Roomkey. The press conference was held in Yolo County as a testament to the fact that we had already sheltered 120 of the 869 sheltered statewide in Project Roomkey. On April 18th the Governor again publicly acknowledged Yolo County as one the counties going above and beyond in Project Roomkey.
- b. **COVID19(All)** –
 - a. **Cases/Deaths - Dashboard**
 - i. **Senior Living Facilities**
 - b. **Project Roomkey** – Yolo County HHS requested and received funding from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to provide non-congregate shelter opportunities for homeless individuals who meet certain criteria: COVID + and in need of quarantine, COVID tested and in need of isolation, 65+ years and older, chronic health condition placing the individual at increased risk of complications from COVID19. In addition, HHS has applied for a funding allocation from the California Medical Services Program (CMSP) for wrap-around services at motel settings and has received community benefit grants for mobile medicine from both Sutter and Dignity Health Systems.
 - i. **Shelter** – 8 motel leases, for a total of 246 rooms.
 - ii. **Food** – provided by Yolo Food Bank, brought daily to the motels by Yolo Bus and County Disaster Service Workers.
 - iii. **Services** – Four community-based organizations are providing a Lead Air Traffic Controller” role at each motel, case management and “runners” (for urgent supplies) and “callers” who check in several times per week with each motel resident. The four organizations include CommuniCare Health Centers, Turning Point Community Programs, Empower Yolo and Yolo County Children’s Alliance.
 - iv. **Medical**- Two motel medicine teams, each with a Physician, Nurse and Medical Assistants, are rotating 5 days per week through all 8 motels providing immediate medical care as indicated.
 - b. **Pine Tree Gardens/Adult Residential Facility** – The County is working with Turning Point and the Save Pine Tree Gardens group to explore options available for utilizing the funds originally allocated for Pacifico. These funds must be encumbered prior to June 30th or they revert.

- d. **Mental Health Urgent Care** - Yolo HHSA suspended its Sacramento Mental Health Urgent Care as of Monday, April 13, 2020. In light of the current COVID-19 crisis, coupled with low usage data and lack of fiscal sustainability, the County has decided to suspend operations of the First Responders Mental Health Urgent Care for the near future; we will reassess once the crisis has fully resolved.

In the meantime, HHSA continues to provide drop-in crisis mental health services and accept law enforcement drop offs in West Sacramento, Monday through Friday 8:30am – 4:30pm, as well as continue to have a Clinician available for crisis response in support of our local hospitals. Drop in crisis services and law enforcement drop offs are also available at our Woodland and Davis clinics, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Monday to Friday.

We have been meeting with our hospital partners as well as our law enforcement partners to discuss the best approach moving forward to serve our residents who may be experiencing a mental health crisis.

- e. **Crisis Services FY20-21**- HHSA has been meeting with our hospital partners as well as our law enforcement partners to discuss the best approach moving forward to serve our residents who may be experiencing a mental health crisis. In light of expected revenue loss next FY due to COVID-19 and the economic downturn, adjustments have had to be made. Despite this, HHSA is committed to providing as full a contingent of services as possible. While specifics will be made available in the near future, the following will be in place:

- Walk-in crisis services and law enforcement officer drop off, including medication support from our Sutter Nurse Practitioners, at all three County clinics during business hours;
- Crisis clinician field response to accompany our County law enforcement partners in the community;
- County-provision of initial and annual CIT training for all County enforcement agencies;
- Crisis evaluations in both County ERs by hospital staff; and
- Inpatient facility placement coordination by HHSA staff.

- f. **MHSA** – HHSA staff continue to work on finalizing the new Three-Year MHSA Programs and Expenditure Plan 2021-2024. COVID-19 response efforts have delayed finalization of the plan and forced staff to revisit initial revenue and expenditure projections based on the expected economic impact of COVID-19. Staff hopes to finalize the draft plan in the next couple of weeks and post for public review in May.

The MHSA Coordinator recruitment was placed on hold along with all other county positions as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic response. We will be working with county Human Resources to release the recruitment in the next few weeks.

- g. **Substance Use Treatment** – Despite the COVID-19 crisis, substance use services remain active in Yolo through telehealth and telephone with some very limited in-person services. One residential provider is only accepting 2 male and 2 female clients per week from custody as a way to mitigate exposure for existing clients and staff at the facility. In May, the next Opioid Coalition meeting will be held so each provider can briefly discuss the services they are providing and the protective measures they are taking during this time.
- h. **Collaborative Courts** – Yolo was one of the first, if not the first, County in CA to hold specialty courts during the COVID-19 crisis. In the last two weeks, Mental Health Court and Addiction Intervention Court were both held via zoom with all protective measures to ensure the clients understand how the zoom court sessions were happening and staff utilized the wait room feature to ensure only those allowed to participate in the court sessions were a part of the proceedings. Both courts went off without a hitch and the team plans to continue utilizing zoom meetings until the courts fully re-open.
- i. **Network Adequacy** – Yolo County received notification from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) on April 6, 2020 that it has successfully implemented the approved Corrective Action Plan (CAP) for the 2019 Mental Health Network Adequacy Certification, and that the CAP is hereby closed. In September 2019, Yolo County was placed on a CAP due to non-compliance in a) Outpatient Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) Provider Capacity - Children/ Youth (age 0-20) and b) Timely Access.

As part of the Mental Health Plan (MHP) and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) contracts with DHCS, in accordance with network adequacy standards developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, Yolo County is required to demonstrate that it:

- Has the capacity to serve the expected enrollment in its service area;
- Offers an appropriate range of specialty mental health and substance use disorder services that are adequate for the anticipated number of beneficiaries for the service area; and
- Maintains an MHP network of providers and a DMC-ODS network of providers that are each sufficient in number, mix, and geographic distribution to meet the needs of the anticipated number of beneficiaries in the service area.

On April 17, 2020, Yolo County submitted the 2020 Network Adequacy Certification Tools and supporting documentation for both the MHP and the DMC-ODS.

- j. **Services at HHSA Mental Health Clinics** – Essential (and in-person) mental health services, i.e. crisis intervention and long acting injectable medication appointments, continue to be provided at all three County Mental Health Clinics in Woodland, Davis and West Sacramento. Other mental services continue to be provided by telephone or telehealth – medication evaluations and prescriptions, assessments, therapy, and case management. Prescribers have retained very close to normal schedules, reaching clients

by phone for their scheduled appointments. Clients should expect that phone calls from their County provider may appear from a “restricted” number – not the clinic, in most cases. For clients coming into a clinic for injection appointments, they will be asked to wear a face covering, and injections will be given in a larger room than usual. They can expect nursing staff to also be wearing a mask.

For any questions about appointments, or to reschedule appointments, our County support staff can be reached at 530-666-8630. The Mental Health Crisis and Access line continues to be available at 888-965-6647 for screening and referrals for mental health and substance use treatment needs.

- k. **Meditation Offering** – Dr. Harrington, Medical Director for Behavioral Health Services, who has previously led groups in the Woodland Wellness Center that include meditation, is offering a weekly 15-20-minute meditation to our staff and community on Tuesdays at 4pm. Call in number is: 669 900 6833. Meeting ID: 974 416 852. Password: 423567