

Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency

Mental Health Director's Report

October 25th, 2021 (6-8pm)

- a) **COVID19 update** - For more information please visit our Dashboard on our County Webpage, here is the [LINK](#).
- b) **DHCS Funding Opportunity** – In September, HHSa responded to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), Crisis Care Mobile Unit (CCMU) Grant Request for Application (RFA) with an ask of \$5,000,000 to help fund the following:
- 1) Establishing a Community Crisis Team focused on Yolo County's youth,
 - 2) Establishing a Sobering/Receiving Center,
 - 3) Improve upon existing call center and dispatch technology and infrastructure; and
 - 4) Support the integration of existing our Co-responder Teams and the new Community Crisis Team into the Crisis Now Model.
- HHSa was notified on October 4th of a conditional award not to exceed \$5,000,000.00. Final approval and award is contingent upon budget revisions to comply with newly released specifications around direct and in-direct expenditures. While much of the proposal is no longer allowed due to the new specifications, HHSa is working to see if a smaller award focused on building a Youth Crisis Response Team and infrastructure improvements is allowable.
- c) **ARP Rescue Plan Workgroups**- The Board agreed to create workgroups for the Priority areas to be funded via ARP. HHSa will be staffing workgroups around food security, housing and homelessness, children/youth and families, and mental health. We appreciate the members of this Board who have agreed to participate in this important work.
- d) **K-12 Services**-The K-12 School Partnerships program seeks to build upon the prior school-based programs that were limited to access and linkages and school-based mentoring by effectively integrating the behavioral health provider(s) into the milieu of the school environment. Additionally, the selected contractor(s) will provide evidence-based behavioral health interventions by professionals that do possess expertise to address an array of behavioral health conditions include anxiety, depression, and grief utilizing a trauma-informed approach. At this time, it is not possible to project the total number of behavioral health professionals that will be available to provide services through these contracts, but it is anticipated that the program is unlikely to be able to meet the full demand for needs for service at the outset of the project. The program does seek to provide access and linkage to other services and will leverage the existing behavioral health system of care to the extent possible to support the project.

A critical component of the project is the development of regional committees within each catchment area that will include representation from the Districts, the contract provider, HHSa, and relevant stakeholders. This may be an opportunity for parents to identify specific resources, such as support groups, to assist the committees with prioritizing decision-making regarding the best use of resources within each catchment area. HHSa welcomes the input of NAMI with regards to input for developing performance measures for this project.

HHSA issued the four separate requests for proposal on May 26, 2021 for the K-12 School Partnerships Program. Each contract intends to provide school-based mental health treatment in each of the following geographical catchment areas: Davis, West Sacramento, Woodland, and Rural Areas (Esparto/Winters). The County received 10 proposals from four vendors on or about July 9, 2021 and issued intent to award letters to the selected providers on August 19, 2021. The providers selected are as follows:

- Davis Catchment Area: CommuniCare Health Care Centers
- West Sacramento Catchment Area: Victor Community Support Services
- Woodland Catchment Area: CommuniCare Health Care Centers
- Rural Areas: Rural Innovations in Social Economic, Inc.

The County is currently in the process of negotiating and finalizing contracts with the selected providers and anticipates a start date of November 1, 2021 for these services to begin.

e) **Upcoming RFPs**-Please see linked page for information on upcoming RFPs. [LINK](#)

f) **Pine Tree Gardens-**

HHSA, North Valley Behavioral Health (NVBH), Yolo County Housing/New Hope, and the Save PTG group continues to meet. HHSA is preparing a presentation for the Board of Supervisors in November, so at the last meeting the group reviewed and discussed the presentation including progress made on updates to the houses, properties, ongoing responsibilities of each entity involved, some outcome measures from the first term of NVBH's contract, and looking ahead for sustainability of Pine Tree Gardens but also looking at the upcoming Governor's funding around Community Care Expansion to expand Board and Care type opportunities in Yolo County. Additionally, HHSA staff will be providing updated assessments for clients at Pine Tree Gardens to help determine what services may be needed for some clients who are not already receiving wraparound support through an FSP provider.

g) **Public Guardian-**

Health and Human Services Agency began overseeing the Public Guardian in 2017 and as you can see from the below data, caseloads fluctuate year over year.

Caseload:

FY16/17:	83 LPS; 69 probate = 152
FY17/18:	84 LPS; 63 probate = 147
FY18/19:	108 LPS; 88 probate = 196
FY19/20:	103 LPS; 71 probate = 174
Current:	133 LPS; 88 probate = 221

Referrals:

FY 17/18 = 42 referrals (23 probate; 19 LPS)
FY18/19 = 41 referrals (15 probate; 26 LPS)

FY19/20 = 36 referrals (13 probate; 23 LPS)

FY20/21 = 42 referrals (15 probate; 27 LPS)

FY21/22 = 10 referrals to date, on pace for 40 total

Given that there is a 15% increase in cases in FY19/20 compared to FY16/17 and a 45% increase in cases when comparing current caseloads to FY16/17 when HHSA brought Public Guardian in house again, efforts are in motion to find additional supports for staff to adequately meet conservatee needs. A possibility that is being considered is to utilize MHSA funds for one or two MH case manager positions to address LPS conservatee needs and support the work for the Conservatorship Officers assigned to LPS conservatees.

h) FSP Transition-

As of 10/18, there has been 139 total FSP clients transferred to Telecare and Hope Cooperative.

- 85 to Telecare with 69 being Adults and 16 being Transition Aged Youth
- 54 to Hope Cooperative with 39 being Adults and 15 being Older Adults

Additionally, as part of the FSP transition, HHSA was able to create a moderate level of care for clients who need more than just medication management but do not rise to the level of needing FSP support. On HHSA's access team there are now 4 case managers to support these clients; 1 for TAY, 1 for Adults, 1 for Older Adults, and a case manager of the day who can triage clients that present with pressing needs. Additionally, HHSA is looking to add peer support positions to ensure that each case manager on this moderate level of care has a peer to work with them and their clients.

i) NPLH Developments

For the Mercy Housing development in West Sacramento, as of 10/18 there have been 30 applications submitted for the NPLH units. There are 41 total HHSA/NPLH slots and staff continue to work with all providers to ensure all 41 units are occupied timely and meet the varying requirements of the units. Telecare will be providing the majority of the support to these 41 units.

For the East Beamer Way development in Woodland, partners including HHSA, City of Woodland, Friends of the Mission, Fourth and Hope, Woodland Opportunity Village, Yolo Housing Authority, and Legal Services of Northern California continue to meet about the 61 units project, of which 29 are HHSA/NPLH units. Due to construction and funding timelines, it is now anticipated that these units will be online mid-2022. Hope Cooperative will be providing the support for the 29 NPLH units.

j) CalMHSA Peer Support Specialist Certification Update-

As permitted under Senate Bill 803 (Chapter 150, Statutes of 2020), Yolo County selected the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) to represent them in implementing the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist Certification Program. CalMHSA will submit a program implementation plan for DHCS' review by November 19, and DHCS must approve the plan before CalMHSA can implement a certification program. CalMHSA began holding community sessions on October 5 (through Oct 26) to

gather input on specific topics for program implementation. CalMHSA will have the certification program in place so peers can be certified starting in July 2022.

DHCS is in the process of submitting to CMS all federal Medi-Cal waivers and State Plan Amendments required to implement the new peer support specialist benefit. Upon CMS approval, peer support specialist services could begin by July 1, 2022.

k) Project Roomkey/Homekey-

Yolo County continues to operate versions of Project Roomkey in Davis, Woodland and West Sacramento.

In Woodland HHS and Empower Yolo staff have continued to work to serve COVID+ or COVID exposed individuals experiencing homelessness through relationships with local motels to ensure these individuals have a safe place to isolate/quarantine. Much of the past month in Woodland's PRK has been coordinating with 4th and Hope, public health, Empower Yolo, and motels to isolate individuals from the 4th and Hope outbreak.

In Davis' Project Roomkey has focused on keeping individuals housed at the main PRK motel and working with partners on COVID+ or COVID exposed placements at other motels throughout the city. 8 individuals successfully transitioned last month into HEART of Davis' rapid rehousing program funded through HHS and the City. Additionally, the City and County are looking at alternative housing locations for the remaining PRK clients and a solution is likely to come to fruition by November 29th, at which time PRK in Davis will shift solely to COVID+ and COVID exposed homeless individuals.

West Sacramento has partnered with HHS to continue Roomkey through at least November in their jurisdiction and continues operating Homekey.

l) FY20/21MHS Outcome Data-[LINK](#)

Adult Hospitalization data: The noted uptick in Adult Hospitalizations data evidenced in FY17/18 was predominantly due to the inclusion, for the first year, of client placement data for our Psychiatric Health Facility (North Valley Behavioral Health PHF). This data has been included in all subsequent years.

m) FY20/21 MHS Fiscal Data-[LINK](#)