

Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency

Mental Health Director's Report

June 27th, 2022 (6-8pm)

a) **COVID19 update** - For more information please visit our Dashboard on our County Webpage, here is the [LINK](#).

b) **ARP Rescue Plan Workgroups –**

- **Mental Health:** The Mental Health ARP workgroup is currently finalizing their recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors. These recommendations include:
 - \$40k to Davis Arts Center for an Art and Mental Health needs assessment and planning grant
 - \$25k to Interactive Healing Arts Project to fund an Arts and Healing curriculum for students and community members
 - \$125-150k for a comprehensive countywide Mental Health Needs Assessment (would need to RFP)
 - A mini grant program for the remaining funding and matching MHSA funds
 - Still under consideration is a \$155k proposal by NAMI and the District Attorney for a substance abuse treatment peer support program pilot for individuals involved in low-level drug crimes. The ARP workgroup will be meeting soon to determine if they will recommend this proposal to the Board of Supervisors.
- **Food Security:** Update will be provided for July's Mental Health Director Report
- **Children, Youth, and Families:** The CYF workgroup will be reconvening to meet with Concordia, an agency contracted by YCOE to support the CYF needs assessment funded by ARP funds known as the Roadmap to the Future for Children and Youth. The workgroup will receive an update on the plan for the needs assessment process and progress thus far. The workgroup will convene in mid-July to discuss next steps for remaining funding subcategories.
- **Homelessness:** The Housing and Homeless ARP Workgroup met on May 23rd to review additional proposals and make recommendations for the Board to consider with the remaining funding. This workgroup has just over \$1M left in funding to recommend and reviewed over \$3M in proposals at the May 23rd meeting. There may be an additional request coming forward as well, that if it materializes, the workgroup will likely reconvene to consider if any adjustments to the current recommendations are warranted. HHSA, CAOs office and representatives from Davis and Woodland are meeting in late June and early July to discuss some of the remaining proposals ahead of bringing the final recommendations to the Board of Supervisors at a meeting date still to be determined.

c) **CalAIM –**

The internal HHSA sub-workgroups are very active, moving forward the 9 required initiatives to achieve the first set of milestones and secure the required deliverables for the 9/20/22 deadline. We have engaged with our EHR vendor to avail ourselves of all they have to offer for any IT related items. Further, we have signed an agreement with CalMHSA to be a party to their developed DHCS-

approved policies, documentation manuals, learning platforms, and other resources to ensure we are educating HHSA staff and vendors on all that is expected and what has changed.

Additionally, HHSA has continued its' facilitation and coordination efforts between Partnership Health Plan and community providers regarding the Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS) components of CalAIM. On Thursday June 16th, the Provider Stakeholder Workgroup (PSWG) meeting was solely dedicated to CalAIM ECM and CS to answer questions, facilitate conversation and clarity, and discuss next steps. HHSA encouraged providers to connect directly with Partnership Health Plan if interested in any ECM or CS service delivery and will be setting up meetings with Partnership and interested providers upcoming that will focus on housing/homeless, recuperative/respite care, and the hospital systems. Lastly, staff will be providing a CalAIM presentation to the Board of Supervisors on July 12th.

d) **Peer Certification –**

CalMHSA rolled out an application process for 11 scholarships - 9 mental health (MH) peers, 2 substance use disorder (SUD) peers - to 'grandfather in' peers for the new certification who have already completed a training program in another state or county. Yolo currently does not have anyone who qualifies. The scholarship application for 11 new peers (9 MH and 2 SUD, who will need to complete an approved CalMHSA training program as well as 1,500 hours of work experience) is expected to become available at the end of June 2022. Based on the state requirements for peer certification (per Senate Bill 803), several of our system's peer staff (within HHSA and contracted providers) have decided to withdraw their interest in being certified in the next FY.

e) **K-12 Services**

The K-12 School Partnerships project formally launched on November 15, 2021 with the execution of behavioral health contracts to serve the identified catchment areas:

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

HHSA continues to work closely with the Office of Education, the individual Districts, and the contracted providers to develop and improve processes to improve access to services for students in the districts. The partnered entities continue to explore funding opportunities. Total project funding is approximately \$3 million for FY 22/23, consisting of funding from the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) grant and MHSA. HHSA is currently working to amend contracts with providers that will allow for an expansion of services due to the increase of MHSA funding. The Partnership is also supporting the Yolo County Office of Education in developing a proposal for the Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program (SBHIP), which will provide more than \$1.8 million of funding to support school-based infrastructure through December 2024.

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

g) **Public Media Campaign(s)**-

Wellness Campaign- HHSA Staff and Supervisor Villegas met with the advertising contractor, EMRL on Wednesday June 22nd to discuss the status of the “It Only Takes,” campaign. EMRL provided an update on additional actions taken after receiving feedback. While the campaign’s contract was set to expire on June 1, HHSA staff have extended the contract with no additional funding to the end of the calendar year so all deliverables may be completed. In-progress deliverables include:

- Outdoor Billboards
- Activity/Coloring books for school-aged children
- Flash Cards
- Itonlytakes.com website
- Website Traffic Reporting
- Social Media Campaign

Overdose Awareness/Prevention- HHSA and CommuniCare staff continue to meet regarding this campaign while the District Attorney’s office finalized a contract for a consultant to assist with the project. HHSA and CCHC’s discussions have focused on community event planning, billboard, and lawn sign creation to help raise awareness and drive traffic to substance use resource pages, working with a media company on short, animated videos to raise awareness and incorporate prevention strategies, and purchasing fentanyl testing strips along with NARCAN kits to distribute to various teams. Once the consultant contract is finalized with the DA’s office, the larger workgroup will reconvene to discuss additional areas of need for this work.

h) Crisis Now –

HHSA and General Services are working on selecting an architect and engineering firm to create redesign and remodeling plans for the potential county sites that would house the 24/7 high-tech call center, the crisis receiving/sobering center, and the short-term stabilization center. The RFP for the provider who would be contracted to provide all the services is in final stages of development with County procurement, awaiting final budget numbers, and anticipating release in the next few weeks.

i) Department of State Hospital (DSH) Programs-

The DSH Diversion Program is a collaboration between DSH and county governments to develop or expand diversion programs for individuals with serious mental illness who face felony charges and could be determined to be Incompetent to Stand Trial (IST). The DSH Diversion Program provides funding to counties to support community mental health treatment and other services for these individuals. Some people who are Incompetent to Stand Trial committed felonies that stem from serious mental illness or being homeless. They may have difficulty accessing mental health services and committing to treatment and often cycle through the criminal justice system. The goal of the DSH Diversion Program is to provide these individuals, when a judge deems it safe and appropriate, with long-term community-based mental health treatment and other services and to avoid criminal charges and institutionalization.

j) QM Audits/Reviews –

HHSA expects to receive the state’s feedback regarding our County Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS)/Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) audit on June 22, 2022. A remote

audit meeting will occur June 29 or 30th, 2022 so we may answer questions and/or provide additional evidence. Our DMC-ODS External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) audit is scheduled for August 30 and 31, 2022 and we are awaiting the notification from the auditing vendor.

k) **Safe Harbor –**

In collaboration with YCCC management, HHSA is working on a contract amendment for FY22/23 that will keep the number of contracted beds at six (6) for the upcoming fiscal year but will notably expand the contract language to detail both YCCC and HHSA's roles and responsibilities. YCCC management has also been meeting bi-weekly with HHSA management to address several challenges and concerns regarding the new client referral process. A critical priority over the next fiscal year is to resolve challenges with the current admit process to improve timely access to these important services and ultimately, increase utilization.

l) **Substance Use System of Care Event –**

HHSA is excited to share that the next Substance Use System of Care event, part of the 24-month technical assistance project with Health Management Associates, is booked. This will be an annual "check-up" of our system following last April's kick-off event and will include updates and progress on goals, review our system, and highlight emerging trends or issues like the rise in fentanyl.

Please hold your calendars for Friday August 12th from 9:00am – 12:30pm until we can get the official flyer and registration link out. The current plan is to hold this as a hybrid in-person/virtual event at the Woodland HHSA Bauer Building at 137 N Cottonwood Woodland CA 95695 in the Walker/Thomson room. The Walker/Thompson room is equipped to allow individuals who wish to join remotely to do so via the virtual link that will be included and HHSA anticipates limiting the in-person attendance to 30-40 individuals.

m) **CARE Courts –**

Senate Bill 1338 (Umberg) continues to work its way through the legislative and budget process at the State level. There continues to be much conversation and problem solving occurring between county partners and advocates including the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), Urban Counties of California, the California Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA), California Welfare Directors Association (CWDA), and the California State Association of PA/PG/PC which can be found [here](#). All partners agree that additional housing and increased access to services are needed for the critical population identified in the CARE Courts proposal, the concerns or hesitations lie in the details surrounding implementation and lack of adequate funding.

n) **Medical Director Announcement–**

HHSA has secured a new Medical Director, Dr. Indira Prasad, for the next year. She comes to us with extensive clinical experience and a desire to assist the mental health clinics in gaining stability after the protracted period with this critical position vacant, and to help us recruit for a permanent replacement.