

Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency

Mental Health Director's Report

July 25th, 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:** An update will be provided in the next Mental Health Director's report.
- **Food Security:** An update will be provided in the next Mental Health Director's report.
- **Children, Youth, and Families:** The CYF ARP workgroup recently met and, in concept, approved a proposal to allocate \$50,000 of the \$200,000 total set aside to contract with a non-profit organization to assist with local Resource Family Recruitment and Retention, with a focus on culturally reflective placements. The goal is to increase the number of local Resource Family home placements available within Yolo County to increase the percentage of children and youth in care who can remain in their community. The workgroup is also providing significant input into the Roadmap to the Future project and will be discussing next steps for the funding that is currently set aside for projects related to equity.
- **Homelessness:** County staff is meeting with City of Woodland and City of Davis staff to review their requests for funding and identify priorities within those requests. There are currently 3 outstanding requests for ARP funding that County staff have received and in total they are for more than \$3M, with only a little of \$1M remaining. Staff anticipate going to the Board of Supervisors in August with the final recommendations for housing and homelessness ARP funding following the meetings with the jurisdictions.

c) **CalAIM** –

Staff presented to the Board of Supervisors on July 12th outlining the major milestones and components of CalAIM, highlighting the two tracks of CalAIM between the behavioral health reform components which HHS is required to participate in and the additional Medi-Cal benefits (Enhanced Care Management, Community Supports, etc.) which are the responsibility of the managed care plan. The behavioral health reform components are well under way and staff is working to achieve each deliverable milestone on time.

In Yolo, Partnership Health Plan is the managed care plan and HHS staff have been working to convene and facilitate meetings between providers and Partnership to support their work. Staff from Partnership, Dignity, Sutter, and HHS met on Friday 7/22 to discuss the relationships the hospitals have with CalAIM and establish connections with Partnership. Upcoming, staff will be convening meetings between housing providers and Partnership and interested recuperative/respite care providers and Partnership. Partners and providers are encouraged to connect directly with Partnership and can find more information here: [CalAIM Initiatives Launch Timeline as of February 2022 CalAIM Initiative and Programs \(partnershiphp.org\)](#).

d) **Peer Certification** – On July 13, 2022, HHS held an informational session for any HHS and provider peer and family member staff who are interested in pursuing the CalMHS-governed Peer Support

Staff Certification in the next year. Currently DHCS, via CalMHSA, is offering Yolo County 22 scholarships for this certification: 11 for “grandfathered” peers who have already completed the required training classes, continuing education units, and hours; and 11 for new, untrained but active peer staff. It appears that no peer staff in the Yolo BH system of care qualifies for the grandfathering option. However, at least three current peer staff have applied for one of the 11 new peer scholarships. Once the scholarships expire in November 2022, HHSA and contracted providers will be expected to pay for any qualified and interested peers to complete the certification training process.

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

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 Grant and MHSA. The Partnership is also supporting the Yolo County Office of Education in developing a proposal for the Student Behavioral Health Incentive Program, which will provide more than \$1.8 million of funding to support school-based infrastructure through December 2024.

The Partnership has worked collaboratively to ensure that students and families will receive services over the summer vacation that suit the needs of each individual catchment area. Contracted providers are continuing to provide individual and group services to students and their families that coordinate with summer school programming to ensure that children with identified needs continue to receive support and to strengthen the relationship between the provider, district, and community. In addition, the contracted providers have provided support for community response to several tragic and untimely deaths for students that occurred at the end of the school year and over the summer. Though it was not necessary, these incidents demonstrated the potential of the project to provide a robust and broad layer of support, as multiple contractors were prepared to quickly provide support across catchment areas. This ability of the service providers to coordinate and quickly mobilize to provide a response for a community-level crisis is an asset that did not previously exist to this extent prior to the development of the K-12 School Partnership project.

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 will be meeting every 6 weeks to check-in on the deliverables below. Please see the most recent updates below:

Deliverable	Status Update
Outdoor Billboards	In progress: Locations have been selected throughout the county. Examples of what the signs will look like and where they will be presented at the next meeting on August 9.
Activity/Coloring books for school aged children	In progress: The Activity/Coloring Books have been printed and delivered to HHSA and will be deployed to schools when the 22/23 school years starts.
Flash Cards	In progress: The flash cards have been drafted and will be presented at the meeting on August 9.
Itonlytakes.com website development	In progress: The website has undergone several rounds of edits and will continue to be edited as content gets added.

Overdose Awareness/Prevention- HHSA and CommuniCare staff continue to partner on several pieces of this campaign including planning an upcoming event with tables for different providers and partners to share resources and raise awareness. HHSA received approval from County procurement recently to purchase fentanyl strips and will be working with various internal and external teams to distribute those upcoming.

The DA's office and HHSA continue working with procurement on a vendor to do larger media campaign with billboards, advertisements, and various materials to raise awareness and ensure the public knows how to access care for those in need.

h) Crisis Now –

HHSA released the Request for Proposals (RFP) on June 29th and held the pre-proposal bidder's conference on July 14th for interested vendors. The RFP will remain open until August 18th and the County anticipates completing the evaluations by September 22nd. The review panel for the RFP includes a representative from LMHB, Probation, West Sacramento, Davis, Woodland, Dignity, and Sutter, along with two HHSA staff.

Additionally, staff are working with the General Services Department to secure an Architect/Engineer firm to develop remodel design plans for the buildings that will be used for Crisis Now, including estimated construction timelines and costs. Once developed, staff will be presenting these to the Capital Investment Committee and Board of Supervisors for approval and once that approval is secured, construction will get underway.

The full launch of Crisis Now is planned for some time in 2023 and will be informed largely by when the building construction is complete and when the contractor vendor is fully staffed and trained to ensure a successful launch of this critical program.

i) Department of State Hospital (DSH) Programs

The District Attorney's Office is working with HHSA and DSH to transition grant/contract management responsibilities from their office to HHSA for the felony incompetent to stand trial

program which has been operating in Yolo County for approximately 2 years. The DA's office initially administered the grant due to HHSA capacity concerns, but the program funds almost exclusively HHSA staff and was recently approved in the Governor's budget to transition from a grant funded program to an ongoing funding opportunity annually in the State budget so all parties agreed a transfer to HHSA made the most long-term sense to manage the program. The program currently provides robust community supports for 8 individuals found incompetent to stand trial or likely to be found incompetent on felony charges.

The Jail Based Competency Treatment (JBCT) program officially launched last months after years of work between multiple partners and DSH. The program provides in-custody supports to 7 felony incompetent to stand trial clients that otherwise would be waiting months for a transfer to a state hospital bed. The program is fully funded by the State and is in addition to the community-based program mentioned above, provides significant local support to Yolo clients that otherwise would be treated at a State hospital. More information can be found here.

<https://www.yolocounty.org/Home/Components/News/News/13049/4918>

- j) **QM Audits/Reviews** – Yolo BH was audited by DHCS for its DMC-ODS and SABG funding in late June 2022. In response, we submitted additional evidence to address potential gaps or deficiencies to the state audit on July 12, 2022. We are awaiting the final DHCS report.

Our DMC-ODS EQRO audit will occur on August 29-30, 2022. Currently, program and quality management staff are gathering the necessary documents and evidence for submission to the BHC reviewer by August 1, 2022. A meeting with the reviewer is scheduled for July 22, 2022 to finalize the two-day review agenda.

- k) **988 Launch**

Yolo County residents can now reach the National Suicide Prevention Hotline by calling 988. Previously, community members experiencing a mental health or substance use related crises would call the National Suicide Prevention Hotline at 1-800-273-8255, Suicide Prevention of Yolo County at the dedicated local and toll-free numbers or 911. With the launch of 988 on July 16th, community members can call or text 988 and will reach trained counselors who can listen, provide support, and share resources.

California's 988 effort is being led by Didi Hirsch, a mental health care and suicide prevention agency, in partnership with 13 private and public crisis centers- including Suicide Prevention of Yolo County. The intent is to use a number that is easier to remember and to offer more accessibility to crisis services. It is anticipated that calls to the Suicide Prevention Hotline will increase with the launch of 988.

Locally, the implementation of Crisis Now will provide important additions to our crisis continuum and intends to work seamlessly with 988. The Crisis Now project includes a 24/7 high tech call center which will serve as our 24/7 Access and Crisis line for anyone needing screening and referral to mental health or substance use services and for anyone who is experiencing a behavioral health crisis needing support and response. Over time, the intention is to have this call center link seamlessly with Suicide Prevention of Yolo County, 988, and local dispatch to ensure that a caller contacting any of those numbers can be transferred to the appropriate services.