

Yolo County Health & Human Services Agency

Mental Health Director's Report

September 26th, 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 submitted their final recommendations to the County Board of Supervisors in July. The Board approved the following recommendations:
 - Provide \$40k to Davis Arts Center for an Art and Mental Health needs assessment and planning grant
 - Provide \$25k to Interactive Healing Arts Project to fund an Arts and Healing curriculum for students and community members
 - Provide up to \$150k for a comprehensive countywide Mental Health Needs Assessment
 - Develop a Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment mini grant program for the remaining \$285k in funding with an opportunity to match with up to an additional \$285k in MHSA funds

- **Food Security:** On August 1st, we met with the Food Security Board Liaisons to discuss the second round of ARP Food security funding. The second round of the ARP Food Security request for proposals opened on August 15th, 2022. The project proposals will serve three priority populations, senior food security, children's food security, and agricultural worker food security. The application closes on September 23, 2022, and a second meeting with the Board Liaisons will take place to discuss proposals. After that discussion, the ARP Food Security Workgroup will take their recommendations to the Board of Supervisors meeting. Funding is anticipated to begin in November.

- **Children, Youth, and Families:** The CYF ARP workgroup recently met with the Yolo County Office of Education to receive a project overview of the countywide needs assessment ("Roadmap to the Future") which will provide a comprehensive overview of needs and gaps for children and youth in Yolo County to inform future investments in programming, supports and services.

The First 5 Childcare Recovery project has launched funding opportunities for local childcare providers serving Yolo County children ages 0-5. The funds are intended to support increased childcare capacity, support non-active providers return to active status, and to help stabilize the many private providers across our community who have performed as essential workers during the pandemic and remain open currently in attempt to recover the 1,000+ childcare slots that were lost in Yolo County during the pandemic. More information about this incredible opportunity can be found [here](#).

- Homelessness: County staff continues to meet with the City of Woodland to finalize the last piece of the Housing/Homelessness recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. Staff anticipate going to the Board of Supervisors at the September 27th meeting with the final recommendations for this funding.

c) **CalAIM –**

HHS staff have been working with Yolo's Managed Care Plan, Partnership Health Plan, to convene and facilitate meetings between providers and Partnership to support their work. In July, staff from Partnership, Dignity, Sutter, and HHS met to discuss the relationships the hospitals have with CalAIM and establish collaborative relationships with Partnership. A follow up meeting will be scheduled in October.

On Friday, September 16th staff from Partnership, HHS, and many housing and homeless services partners met to discuss the Community Support housing related benefits in CalAIM. This was an opportunity for interested providers to learn more and, eventually contract directly with Partnership to provide these benefits. Upcoming, HHS staff will convene meetings between Partnership and interested recuperative/respite care providers. Partners and providers are encouraged to connect directly with Partnership and can find more information [here and here](#).

HHS's Behavioral Health (BH) CalAIM initiative workgroups have moved forward the nine required initiatives to achieve the first set of required milestones deliverables for the 9/30/22 DHCS deadline. We are working closely with Yolo's CalMHSA liaison and feel confident we are on track for the deadline which will earn Yolo County BH additional BHQIP funding.

d) **K-12 Services-**

In July 2022, the K-12 School Partnership Program contracts were increased, using MHSA funds. This increased funding has supported the project expanding to serve more students throughout Yolo County. As the school year is beginning, the community providers are hiring staff to support providing increased mental health services in all five school districts, aligned with the schools' Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS) model. This will be the first full school year that the services are in place. The districts, HHS and the providers are collaborating to support increasing services in all regions to best support Yolo County students and staff. The Health & Human Services Agency with the Yolo County Office of Education has initiated meetings with each district superintendent's office to share the status of the program and hear about the district's needs to ensure the program is aligned based on services and supports already present in the district and the needs of the students.

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

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

Wellness Campaign- Advertising firm EMRL continues to promote the "It Only Takes" ([LINK](#)) wellness campaign throughout Yolo County. The campaign's objective is to promote the well-being of all-Yolo County residents by providing local resources and reminders of the small things

we can do to improve all aspects of our health. The campaign includes several ways to reach individuals in our community including:

- Outdoor Billboards
- Activity/Coloring books for school-aged children
- Wellness Activity/Flash Cards for all ages
- Social Media Campaign
- Educational Emails
- TV Commercials

HHSA staff met with EMRL staff on September 20th and will receive monthly updates through the end of the calendar year when the campaign wraps up.

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.

Staff from both HHSA and CommuniCare worked to issue a [press release](#), on August 31st, International Overdose Awareness Day, containing an English and Spanish version of the first awareness video with the tag line “Carry the Narcan, Save a Life. Yolo County CAN end opioid overdose.” HHSA recently received approval from the procurement department to work with the same company CommuniCare utilized to produce the Narcan videos and will be using substance use specific ARPA funding to expand the current collaborative harm reduction/overdose awareness work. More to come in the next several months.

Additional funding was secured to expand this campaign to all ages and CCHC and HHSA are working to develop an all-ages opiate media campaign.

g) Crisis Now –

On August 30, the Board approved an agreement with Lionakis to work on redesign plans, anticipated costs, and construction timelines for the remodeling needs of the non-secure portion of JDF and the old Probation portables necessary for Crisis Now call-center, receiving/sobering center, and stabilization center operations. While an exact timeline is unknown, Lionakis included a 7-month estimate in their proposed scope of work. Given this timeline, HHSA staff worked with the procurement department to cancel the current Request for Proposals (RFP) “due to a material change in scope and timeline.” HHSA and procurement will work on re-issuing an RFP in the coming months. We’re setting our target to launch all Crisis Now services for July 1, 2023, but we want to ensure this program is as successful as possible, and we will launch at the right time, allowing for completed construction, appropriate staffing hiring and training, communication to partners, and the community at large.

h) Department of State Hospital (DSH) Programs

The DSH contract administration is currently transitioning from the District Attorney’s Office to HHSA. All DSH referrals must be from the state hospital waitlist and determined to be incompetent to stand trial

(IST). There is housing money associated with each client accepted into the program through December 2022. HHSA recently hired a new clinician to replace Cory Henning, and he will be onboarding in the next few weeks. We look forward to our continued partnerships with the DA, PD, probation, jails and criminal justice system and treatment providers.

i) QM Audits/Reviews

On August 30-31, 2022, HHSA participated in the DMC-ODS EQRO review by remote means. During the two-day review, two consumer focus groups were held, a group of line staff were interviewed, and contract provider management representatives were interviewed. This was in addition to sessions focusing on client care, access, service timeliness, and outcomes. The review team left on a positive note and we expect a draft report for HHSA review and input by the end of September 2022.

HHSA is also preparing the final Corrective Action Plan (CAP) response submission to the recent DHCS SABG and DMC-ODS audits that occurred on June 29, 2022. Our response is due by September 26, 2022.

j) 2022 PIT Count-

On September 20, 2022, HHSA released the 2022 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count report. The PIT is a survey of individuals and families identified as experiencing sheltered or unsheltered homelessness within the boundaries of Yolo County on a single night. The 2022 count identified 746 people experiencing homelessness on February 23, 2022. This year's count represented the first unsheltered PIT since 2019 as a winter surge of COVID-19 delayed the 2021 count.

The surveys collected demographic information on the homeless population in terms of race, ethnicity, age, how long they have been in Yolo County, how long they have been unhoused, and other key information to help programs understand the needs of those unhoused in Yolo County. While Yolo County experienced an overall increase of 13.9% in the 2022 count compared to 2019, Yolo County saw a decrease of 4.8% in unsheltered homelessness. When considering the numbers in the count, it is important to recognize that they reflect only those persons identified as homeless within the County on a single day. Many people move in and out of homelessness during a year, meaning that the actual number of people experiencing homelessness in 2022 may be higher than the numbers included in this report. Here is a [link to the press release](#).