

Mental Health Director's Report

January 8th, 2024

A) Current Requests for Proposals (RFPs)

- Crisis Residential- A new contract with Yolo Community Care Continuum (YCCC) for Crisis Residential Treatment at Safe Harbor is in place as of January 1, 2024. HHSA is working closely with YCCC to implement this revised program to include short-term crisis residential services as outlined in the Crisis Now model.
- Integrated Behavioral Health Services- The Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) selected CommuniCare+OLE as the vendor to offer Integrated Behavioral Health Services through their Creando Recursos y Enclaves para Oportunidades (CREO) program, a new contract will go to the Board on January 9, 2024.
- 24/7 High Tech Call Center- The RFP for a new High Tech Call Center closed and a vendor has been selected. The notification of award will be made the week of January 2, 2024.
- Community Based Navigation Center/Services- CommuniCare+OLE has been selected as the vendor to offer these services in Davis as of April 1, 2024. They are also the current vendor of this program.
- Youth Substance Use Disorder Services- The RFP for Adolescent Substance Use Disorder services closed, and a vendor for outpatient services has been selected.
- Children's System of Care- The RFP for the Children's System of Care, which includes children's Full-Service Partnership, Community Based Mental Health Programs, Therapeutic Behavioral Services, and Wraparound programs will be released in early January 2024.
- Therapeutic Foster Care- The RFP for Therapeutic Foster Care will be released in Spring 2024.

B) Medi-Cal Mobile Crisis Benefit Implementation

Yolo County's Mobile Crisis Services Implementation Plan was approved by the Department of Health Care Services on December 29, 2023. Starting January 2, 2024, Countywide, 24-hour mobile crisis response services for Medi-Cal beneficiaries are available seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Mobile crisis services provide rapid response, individual assessment and community-based stabilization to Medi-Cal beneficiaries who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis. Mobile crisis services are designed to provide relief to beneficiaries experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including the use of de-escalation and stabilization techniques to reduce the immediate risk of danger and subsequent harm, as well as avoiding unnecessary emergency department care, psychiatric inpatient hospitalizations, and law enforcement involvement. Additional information about the Mobile Crisis Services benefit can be found at the DHS website at: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Pages/CalAIM-Mobile-Crisis-Services-Initiative.aspx>

The call center for Mobile Crisis Services will be the County's 24/7 Access and Crisis Line: 888-965-6647 | TDD 800-735-2929. Calls will be screened for safety concerns and diverted to 911, if necessary. A dispatch screening will determine if a mobile response is warranted; callers will be able to access 24/7 crisis counseling as before and may be referred to ongoing behavioral health services as appropriate. If a mobile response is warranted, the call will be dispatched to one of the mobile crisis response teams. HHSA is coordinating with both emergency dispatch call centers to expedite service delivery and to address any safety concerns.

Yolo County will be piloting this benefit utilizing two short-term contracted providers and internal staff to provide the services. Children and youth ages 0-17 will be served by Victor Community Support Services (VCSS), which currently provides similar services to current and former foster youth through the Family Urgent Response System (FURS). Adults will be served through internal staff with support from American Medical Response (AMR). The use of medical professionals for these services can provide a layer of support that is not available in traditional mental health services, as they may be best positioned to support physical examinations, when needed, and provide individualized care to beneficiaries who are at risk of preventable hospital admission or re-admission due to chronic care or acute physical

needs. These providers may also support a behavioral health professional's assessment to determine if a beneficiary requires emergency transport to an alternative setting for continued care.

Yolo County's long-term plan is to release two separate requests for proposals (RFPs) for the child/youth and adult systems of care. The child/youth RFP will be included in the overall children's system of care RFP that will be released on or about January 8, 2024 and intends to package Mobile Crisis Response, FURS, and a school-based mobile crisis response services into one cohesive program (the inclusion of school-based crisis response services is dependent on the outcome of a Round 5 funding request from the [Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative](#)). The RFP for the adult system of care is currently under development.

At this time, the HHS is not electing to screen callers for insurance type and will be serving individuals with private insurance to the degree that is possible. Whether the County utilizes contracted providers or internal staff, these services will be expensive because of the 24/7/365 requirement and because of the dire shortage of licensed mental health professionals in the local area and in California. Like most counties, Yolo County is unsure of what to expect with regards to call volume or the caseload mix of Medi-Cal and non-Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Yolo County Behavioral Health is optimistic and will be closely monitoring these services to provide continuous quality improvement and to develop an understanding of the demand for services that will inform future decisions about benefit implementation and the long-term, sustainable approach to ensuring 24/7 access to mobile crisis services.

C) BOS Mental Health Study Session and Hot Topics Presentation

HHS will provide a study session at the January 9, 2024 Board of Supervisors meeting on several current and relevant mental health topics impacting Yolo County's local system including:

- Mental Health System of Care Overview and Role of the County
- Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)
- K-12 School Partnerships Project
- Forensic and Justice Involved Care
- California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)
- Local Mental Health Board (LMHB)
- Crisis Now 2.0
- Hot Topics
 - Medi-Cal Mobile Crisis Benefit
 - 988 and Suicide Prevention Services
 - Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT)
 - Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act
 - Senate Bill (SB) 43
- Current and Upcoming California Initiatives

The agenda item and presentation materials can be found [here](#).

D) Health Council Prop 1 Summary and Crisis Now Update Presentation

HHS will provide a brief presentation and question and answer session at the January 11, 2024 Yolo County Health Council meeting. The council is interested in receiving a summary of the proposed changes to the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) under Prop 1 and a brief update on Crisis Now 2.0. This meeting is held in person in the Health and Human Services' Gonzales Building, Community Room located at 25 N. Cottonwood Street in Woodland.

Information about the Yolo County Health Council can be found [here](#).

E) Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Engagement Workgroup (CEWG) Meeting 1/16/24

NEW: Yolo MHSA, through the RFP process, has selected and partnered with [EVALCORP](#) to provide professional support

services inclusive of research, analysis, community planning, facilitation, and technical writing in the development of upcoming MHSA plans (FY 24-25 Annual Update; FY 25-26 Annual Update; FY 26-29 Three Year Plan). EVALCORP has been conducting countywide needs assessments and evaluations of MHSA-funded projects throughout California since 2008.

Special thanks to LMHB member Christy Correa for participating in the MHSA RFP review process.

Upcoming: Yolo MHSA will reconvene the Community Engagement Work Group (CEWG) in January to begin the FY 24-25 Annual Update community planning process. The CEWG is an ongoing engagement workgroup to support Mental Health Services Act Planning. The group is open to any stakeholder in Yolo County who wants to participate.

Save the Date: Yolo MHSA Community Engagement Work Group is scheduled for Tuesday January 16, 2024 @3:30pm – 5:00pm (<https://www.yolocounty.org/Home/Components/Calendar/Event/57512/21>).

- **Agenda:** Annual Update-Community Planning Process
- MHSA JAN CEWG [Flyer](#) for distribution (attached)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82104162473?pwd=VjV4dlpxUktkYUVUaEtmK3ZDd24rdz09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 821 0416 2473

Please forward along to anyone you feel would be interested in joining the meeting. All MHSA meetings are open to the public. We invite you to join us. We want to hear from YOU!

F) Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Engagement Audit 23/24

HHSa received notification of the upcoming DHCS Engagement Audit. This audit will take place April 30th- May 10th, 2024, and will review both Specialty Mental Health Services (SMHS) and Substance Use Disorder Services (SUDS) funded through Drug Medi-Cal and the Substance Use Block Grant (formerly the Substance Abuse Block Grant). The SMHS portion of this audit is occurring as part of Yolo County's triennial review cycle with the last SMHS audit having taken place in Spring of 2021. This behavioral health audit will focus on Fiscal Year 22-23. In advance of the audit period, HHSa is required to submit several hundred documents showing evidence that contractual regulations selected by DHCS for review have been met. The document submissions are due in March of 2024.

G) CYBHI Grant Awarded

Yolo County Health and Human Services (HHSa) received two funding awards through the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative's Round 2: Trauma Informed Programs and Practices. HHSa received \$12,595 for training in Cue Centered Therapy (CCT), a new evidence-based intervention from the Stanford School of Medicine to treat youth with a history of chronic trauma. Additionally, HHSa received \$10,500 for trainings in Child Parent Psychotherapy (CPP), an evidence-based therapy model for children aged 0-5 and their caregivers. Child Parent Psychotherapy was a model identified by the HHSa Clinical Manager because HHSa would like to expand and improve the mental health services offered to the 0-5 population.

HHSa will use the funding for CPP to train more clinicians on the Children's Mental Health Team to provide CPP. Cue Centered Therapy was chosen as a modality so that clinicians can offer an evidenced based treatment for youth with history of chronic trauma, not an isolated trauma incident. The entire HHSa children's clinical staff will be trained in CCT. Following the training of the clinical team, one clinician will enroll in CCT's train the trainer program, so they can train clinicians from our county contracted providers in CCT.