

# ADMHS *Director's Report*

Prepared for the Mental Health Commission, December 16, 2015

## ALCOHOL, DRUG AND MENTAL HEALTH INTEGRATION EXPLORED AT JOINT MEETING

*Summary:* On Monday, December 7, members of the Mental Health Commission joined the Advisory Board on Alcohol and Other Drug Problems during the regularly scheduled Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP) Advisory Board meeting. The joint meeting was productive and well-attended. Six commissioners, including the Mental Health Commission Chair, Mike Gorodezky, joined twelve Advisory Board members, including Chair Sharon Byrne, to discuss how both groups could work together and integrate services. It was agreed that quarterly joint meetings would be beneficial to share information, integrate services and affect change in policies. ADP Program Administrator John Doyel was pleased with the turnout, encouraged future assemblies of both groups and committed his department to making the joint meetings meaningful and results-driven for all members.

## PUBLIC INTRODUCED TO NEW CRISIS STABILIZATION UNIT

*Summary:* On November 18<sup>th</sup> seventy-five attended a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the First Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) in Santa Barbara County. In opening remarks, Santa Barbara County Supervisor Janet Wolf stated, "I am thrilled that the Crisis Stabilization Unit, located in the second district on the County Campus, will open soon. It has taken extensive work from our staff to open this wonderful, state-of-the-art facility, which will serve as another resource for those individuals who may be experiencing a mental health crisis."

County Supervisors Salud Carbajal and Steve Lavagnino, Sheriff Bill Brown, Assistant Santa Barbara County Executive Officer Terri Nisich and representatives of Cottage Hospital, County Probation, the Santa Barbara City Housing Authority, the County Education Office and the Mental Health Commission were among those who heard opening remarks by County Supervisor Wolf, Alice Gleghorn, Ph.D., Director of the County Department of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services (ADMHS) and Leslie Lundt, M.D., Medical Director of the Psychiatric Health Facility. Two days later, nearly 100 community members attended an open house for the CSU.

Operated by ADMHS, the Santa Barbara facility will offer short-term, rapid stabilization for individuals experiencing psychiatric emergencies. The program serves as an integral component within the overall crisis services system. Brief evaluation, linkage and referral to follow-up care are available.

The CSU will be staffed with nurses, counselors, and peer support specialists and physicians. The facility provides a safe and secure alternative for individuals in a comfortable, non-clinical setting aimed to provide a calming, stable environment to help individuals move away from crisis. It will open this month.

CSU services are accessed using the Mobile Crisis Team and Crisis Triage and through

the Santa Barbara County ACCESS Line, 1-888-868-1649. The Crisis Stabilization Unit was made possible by a grant authorized by California Senate Bill 82 awarded to ADMHS in April 2014. Plans are underway to open a second CSU in Santa Maria.

## PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS JOIN ADMHS MEDICAL TEAM

*Summary:* ADMHS is delighted to announce the hiring of Physician Assistant Regina Ewing, who is serving clients of the Lompoc Adult Clinic. She has many years working with the adult mental health population. She found her passion for this work during her military service. In January, Ms. Ewing will be joined by Physician Assistant Steven Scharding. The Lompoc Clinic has had a great need for medical psychiatric services for several years and is thrilled to have them coming on board. Ms. Ewing and Mr. Scharding will be supervised by Irwin Lunianski, MD.

## MANY STAFF MEMBERS RECEIVE SAFETY TRAINING

*Summary:* Mark Lawler, ADMHS Psychiatric Technician, Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Team Supervisor and Safety Subcommittee Co-Chair, has provided safety training to ADMHS staff with the PHF, Crisis Stabilization Unit, Mobile Crisis and Triage Teams, Justice Alliance and adult programs from all regions. Mark was trained at the Crisis Prevention Institute (CPI). CPI is a non-violent crisis intervention program that enables staff to identify escalating behaviors and intervene at an early stage before the behaviors become physical. If required, steps are taught to control, in the least restrictive manner possible, the impact of a person acting out. A certified CPI instructor, Mark has been working with ADMHS staff to teach effective de-escalation techniques. During his 38 years as a Licensed Psychiatric Technician, Mark has taught de-escalation techniques to professionals serving a variety of populations, including persons with developmental disabilities, youth authorities, forensic state hospital patients, sex offenders and inmates.

## SYSTEMS TRAINING COORDINATOR SETS 2016 GOALS

*Summary:* On November 9<sup>th</sup> ADMHS welcomed Talia Lozipone as the interim System Training Coordinator. As a member of the ADMHS Office of Quality Strategy Management (OQSM) team, Talia leads ADMHS systems training countywide. Prior to joining ADMHS, Talia worked as the Programs Coordinator and Communications Manager for a non-profit publishing company, creating and organizing educational programs in the fields of wellness, meditation, understanding the mind and maximizing work potential.

In her capacity as System Training Coordinator, Talia serves as the Chair of the Training Subcommittee for the Compliance Committee. According to Celeste Andersen, JD, ADMHS Compliance Chief, "In her recent report to the Compliance Committee outlining her goals for the coming year, Talia's energy and enthusiasm for her work were palpable. She plans to focus on: 1) implementing Relias, a new online training platform, throughout the system; 2) supporting staff development; 3) establishing a reliable means of tracking staff fulfillment of required trainings; 4) continuing to develop trainings for clinical documentation, the LPS/5150 process, crisis prevention, Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS), and Full Service Partnership reporting; 5) surveying staff on their desired trainings; and 6) developing a robust

training subcommittee. We look forward to working with Talia in the coming year.”

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH SERVES INDIVIDUALS WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH NEEDS

**Summary:** In 2015 ADMHS organized and/or participated in five community behavioral health events featuring mental health and substance use screenings, information exchanges and distribution of educational materials. Events held in Santa Barbara, Carpinteria, Santa Maria and Lompoc reached a total of 49 people who might not have otherwise received assistance.

## ADMHS SYSTEMS CHANGE CALENDAR

**December 16 - Change Agents:** Meets the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month 9 am - 1 pm at the Marriott Hotel, Buellton. Contact: Kathie Cisek at 681- 4773 or [kcisek@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:kcisek@co.santa-barbara.ca.us)

**December 16 - Crisis Action Team:** 3 - 4:00 pm at the ADMHS Santa Barbara Children's Conference Room 119. For more information, contact Dr. Ole Behrendtsen, [obehrendtsen@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:obehrendtsen@co.santa-barbara.ca.us); 681-5235 or Deana Huddleston, [dhuddleston@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:dhuddleston@co.santa-barbara.ca.us), 934-6546.

**December 17<sup>h</sup> - Children's Regional Partnership Santa Barbara:** Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of month at the Santa Barbara Children's Clinic 429 N San Antonio Rd., Room 119. 1:30 pm -2:30 pm. Contact: Crystal Ramirez, [cramirez@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:cramirez@co.santa-barbara.ca.us) .

**December 21 - Regional Partnership, Santa Maria:** Meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month at the main Foster Road Conference Room. Children's 1 - 2 pm; Adults 2 - 3:30 pm. Contact Deana Huddleston, (805) 934-6546 or [dhuddleston@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:dhuddleston@co.santa-barbara.ca.us).

**January 11 - Peer Action Team:** 10-11 am via video conference, Santa Barbara MHSA Conference Room, Santa Maria Foster Road Small Conference Room, Lompoc Cypress Conference Room. Contact Tina Wooton, [twooton@co.santa-barbara.ca.us](mailto:twooton@co.santa-barbara.ca.us); 681-5323 or Kit McMillion, 259-9609; [naftili@icloud.com](mailto:naftili@icloud.com).



ADMHS ■ Santa Barbara County of Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Services  
(805) 681-5220 ■ Alice Gleghorn, Ph.D., Director ■ [www.admhs.org](http://www.admhs.org)