

Director's Report

November 20, 2019



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(805) 681-5220 ♦ <http://countyofsb.org/behavioral-wellness>

DEPARTMENT AND COUNTY NEWS

Behavioral Wellness Partners with the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) for Local Youth Innovation Idea Lab: Behavioral Wellness is collaborating with the State MHSOAC to host a Youth Innovation Idea Lab. The Idea Lab is imagined as an intensive, interactive, and free-thinking environment where adult allies will join with youth leaders to immerse themselves in a collaborative thinking process. Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern and San Luis Obispo participants will be joining a state-wide movement that needs the our youth expertise, vision and dreams of what youth mental wellness can look like. The workshop will result in the development of an innovative concept to increase preventative mental health services in schools using youth-led approaches.

The Idea Lab will be hosted at UC Santa Barbara from 11-3 P.M. on Friday, December 6th and is a collaboration between the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission's Youth Innovation Committee, Santa Barbara, Ventura, Kern, and San Luis Obispo counties.

Space is limited and will be closed when capacity is met. If you know of a youth interested in being a part of this exciting opportunity, please email Suzanne Grimmesey at suzkirk@co.santa-barbara.ca.us or Lindsay Walter at lwalter@co.santa-barbara.ca.us to request an invitation be sent to those interested.

New Quality Care Management Program Manager Appointed: Following a competitive recruitment process, Josh Woody has been selected to serve as a Quality Care Management Program Manager. The second manager position is reflective of the expanded work involved in meeting the new requirements for County Mental Health Plans by the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). Josh began in his new role on November 18th. Josh and Jaime will work as a team in a leadership capacity with the Quality Care Management Division. Josh earned his Master of Arts degree in Clinical Psychology from Antioch University and his Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Josh is licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist. He began his work with Behavioral Wellness in the Spring of 2018 as a Quality Care Management Coordinator and has provided tremendous leadership in the implementation of the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System in Santa Barbara County. Prior to his employment with Behavioral Wellness, he worked for 5 years with the California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG) in the Santa Barbara County Jail. Josh has extensive experience working in the behavioral health field in our community including work with Tri Counties Regional Center, New Beginnings Counseling Center, Casa Pacifica and Devereux.

Behavioral Wellness Manager of Clinical Training and Special Projects Appointed: After a competitive recruitment process, Carla Cross has been appointed to the position of Manager of Clinical Training and Special Projects for the Department of Behavioral Wellness. Carla began with the Department on October 7th. She earned her Bachelor of Science with a double major in Psychology and Kinesiology from the University of California Los Angeles. She earned her Master of Arts in Marital and Family Therapy from Loyal Marymount (with a specialization in Clinical Art Therapy). In addition, she has received specialized post graduate training in Critical Incident Stress Management, Child custody evaluations, Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Clinical Supervision and Trauma Informed Care. She has been licensed as a Marriage and Family Therapist for 24 years and is also a board certified art therapist. Carla holds over 25 years of experience working in the Behavioral Health field. Prior to joining Behavioral Wellness, Carla worked with Ventura County Behavioral Health from 2005 to present, serving as the Internship and Workforce Development Manager. She also holds experience as the Graduate Fellowship and Clinical Director with Cedars Sinai Medical Center, Adjunct Faculty/Practicum Coordinator at Loyal Marymount University, Adjunct Faculty at Phillips Graduate University, and Clinical Coordinator for Sherman Oaks Hospital. We welcome Carla to Behavioral Wellness.

MHSA Full Service Partnership (FSP) Program Data Collection and Reporting (DCR) Direct Entry Rollout: Starting in late October, all Full Service Partnership (FSP) programs began direct data entry in the statewide Data Collection and Reporting (DCR) system. The DCR is a statewide data-entry platform for FSP programs to enter the required Partnership Assessment Forms (PAFs), Quarterly Assessments (3Ms), and Key Events (KETs). Previously, programs entered this data into Clinician’s Gateway, and it was then uploaded to the DCR. Behavioral Wellness is excited about this transition and believe that it will streamline and simplify the data entry and tracking process for FSP programs. The interface is intuitive and allows users more visibility into their data, reminders about due dates, and ability to monitor and catch missing data. Behavioral Wellness provided three DCR trainings in October (one in each region), and there was a statewide webinar training on October 17th. The state trainings are available online and Jessica Korsan emailed the county training to all supervisors and attendees. If you have any questions about the DCR or the transition, please contact Jessica Korsan (jkorsan@co.santa-barbara.ca.us) or Caitlin Lepore (clepore@co.santa-barbara.ca.us).

New and Revised Policies Approved: Behavioral Wellness frequently updates policies to reflect enhancements and changes to programs and practices. The following policies were recently approved and are available on the Behavioral Wellness website at <http://countyofsb.org/behavioral-wellness/policies>. You can find policies approved within the last 6 months under the tab “View Only RECENT Policies”. You can also search alphabetically, by category, or by keyword.

1. **Test Calls to 24/7 Access Line Monitoring (Revised)** – This policy ensures the monitoring of the County of Santa Barbara Department of Behavioral Wellness’ 24/7 Toll-Free Access Line for beneficiaries and community members.

2. **Network Adequacy Standards/Monitoring (Revised)** – This policy ensures compliance with network adequacy and certification requirements for county Mental Health Plans and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System plans.
3. **Authorization for Out-of-Network Services (Revised)** – This policy ensures procedures for the authorization of medically necessary services outside of the established provider network for beneficiaries enrolled in the County’s Mental Health Plan or Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System.
4. **Beneficiary Information Materials (Revised)** – This policy ensures all Medi-Cal beneficiaries are provided with and have timely access to critical beneficiary informing materials regarding specialty mental health services and substance use disorder (SUD) services.
5. **Authorization of Outpatient Specialty Mental Health Services (Revised)** – This policy ensures that Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness’s beneficiaries are authorized for appropriate outpatient specialty mental health services in a timely manner consistent with clinical guidelines and medical necessity.
6. **Authorization of Day Treatment Intensive Day Rehabilitation Services (New)** – This policy provides guidelines for authorization of Day Treatment/Day Rehabilitation Services for children and adolescent beneficiaries of Santa Barbara County. It applies to all providers and contracted providers that provide these services.
7. **Care Coordination (New)** – This policy ensures that all beneficiaries receive a full range of care coordination services to address their specialty mental health care needs.
8. **Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery Services (DMC-ODS) Care Coordination (New)** – This policy ensures that all DMC-ODS beneficiaries receive a full range of care coordination services to address their special health care needs.

2019 6th Annual School Wellness Summit a Success: On October 30th, the Santa Barbara County School Wellness Council hosted the 6th Annual School Wellness Summit. The summit was a great success and included a diverse group of stakeholders from countywide school districts. The summit allowed an opportunity to share ideas with other leaders on improving student outcomes by transforming schools into centers of health and wellness. Summit highlights included networking opportunities and learning on how to create a culture that fosters student, campus and workplace wellness. **Suzanne Grimmersey, MFT, PIO/Chief Quality Care and Strategy Officer**, who serves on the School Wellness Council, spoke this year on the Signs of Suicide (SOS) program and the success of the local implementation of this program within the Santa Barbara Unified School District.

Mental Health Services Act Innovations Help@Hand Project Update: The Santa Barbara Help@Hand community and volunteer regional focus group is currently working on a worksheet that reframes commonly used stigmatizing words and phrases with hopeful, empowering and affirming language (HEAL) choice words surrounding mental wellness. Once complete, the HEAL worksheet will be available on-line and at community resource tables. Digital health literacy responses to the August meetings will be shared throughout the month of November and December at the monthly Help@Hand meetings. The first Stakeholder Report was shared with the multicounty and city collaborative throughout the in-person meetings in Sacramento and San Mateo in October. The Stakeholder Report will be made available on-line on the Behavioral Wellness website and can be mailed/emailed to you upon request. The

final mobile application pilot vendor list was shared to the collaborative early November. Join us for the November Help@Hand meeting at the Santa Maria Library to discuss the upcoming pilot process, the selection process of vendors, for our monthly self-care meditation with Dr. Brock Travis and our monthly ACCESS California update. All are welcome! The next Santa Barbara county Help@Hand community and volunteer meeting will be held on:

Date: November 14th, 2019

Time: 11AM-2PM

Location: Santa Maria Library- Nelson Room 421 South McClelland Street Santa Maria, CA 93454

Note that limited transportation is provided by Help@Hand team from Santa Barbara and Lompoc to the Santa Maria Library. For information about public transit and new bus schedules throughout Santa Maria call Santa Maria Public Transit at 805.928.5624. If you are interested in learning about or being involved with the Help@Hand project, email Vanessa Ramos at vramos@sbcbswell.org or call at 805.865.0360 * Hablo espanol

Agnes Street Crisis Residential Program Opens in Santa Maria: The 10 bed Agnes Avenue Crisis Residential Treatment (CRT) Program, located in Santa Maria, opened doors to the community on October 31, 2019. The Agnes Avenue CRT program is operated by Telecare Corporation in partnership with Behavioral Wellness. Agnes Avenue CRT provides comprehensive recovery-focused mental health treatment for individuals who have experienced a mental health crisis. Services are offered in a home-like alternative to hospitalization and incarceration for persons experiencing a mental health crisis. The goals of the program are to provide a safe and welcoming environment for persons in crisis where they can heal and learn new skills to avoid future crisis episodes. Services provided include comprehensive assessments, individualized service plan development, integrated treatment for co-occurring mental health and substance use issues, individual and group therapy, planned social rehabilitation and recovery activities, peer support, case management, medication support services, and comprehensive discharge planning. The program features a rich and varied daily group and activity calendar that can be tailored to each client's needs, as well as many opportunities for clients to engage with services, benefits and resources (both on and off-site) to assist with a successful transition and lasting stability after leaving the program.

Behavioral Wellness Graduate in County Leadership Certificate Program: On October 24th, [Shana Burns, LMFT, Behavioral Wellness Regional Manager](#), graduated from the Santa Barbara County Leadership Certificate Program (LCP). The graduation took place at the Santa Barbara Historical Museum with a beautiful celebration. The LCP is a countywide pilot program in which participants engaged in an in-depth 6 month leadership training program. Behavioral Wellness congratulates Shana on this success!

Addressing Targeted School Violence Conference: Santa Barbara City College and the Santa Barbara Unified School District collaborated in bringing a powerful training opportunity to the community. The Addressing Targeted School Violence Conference provided attendees with an overview of pre-incident indicators to targeted school violence. [Behavioral Wellness](#) participated as a speaker in helping to identify the mental health considerations in the management of people and students of concern. Legal strategies were discussed in the mitigation of threats of violence as well as the role of law enforcement response to a

mass casualty attack. Participants included educators, investigators, intelligence and investigative analysis, mental health professionals, security personnel and prosecutors.

What Should We Do about the Opioid Epidemic?: On Thursday, October 24th, Westmont College sponsored a discussion topic of tremendous community impact. At the event, community members gathered at small tables and discussed potential solutions to the opioid epidemic. The event took place at First Presbyterian Church in Santa Barbara and engaged public conversation which allowed both for learning as well as active pursuit of solutions. To learn more about the Westmont Initiative, contact Jordan Baldrige at jbaldridge@westmont.edu.

Alcohol and Drug Program Update: There are many updates to report within the Behavioral Wellness Alcohol and Drug Program (ADP). The **Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS)** is fully underway. 86 clients are being served either by Withdrawal Management or Residential Treatment services. Quality Care Management hosts a full integration of Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Program oversight and support. Through grant funding, ADP is working collaboratively with the Sheriff's Department, Jail and WellPath to provide **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)** within the jail and linking people to services in the community upon their release. **In custody screenings** for alcohol and/or drug services is taking place through use of designated confidential telephone lines which connect with Access Screeners to link people to individualized treatment. Additional ADP case workers will be hired to assist with **care coordination** of clients with complex needs. Funding through the **MAT Access Points grant** will allow the hire of additional recovery assistants to support the funded MAT screening and assessment program which is currently being implemented to occur within the South County Crisis Services Program site in Santa Barbara. Through recent Prop 47 funding awarded, a **Sobering Center and Step-Down Housing** are being established in efforts of diversion of individuals from the criminal justice system. The program is expected to begin in January of 2020. On November 13, a **Motivational Interviewing** training took place for clinicians and CenCal case managers and was well attended. A **media campaign** is currently active in the community which focuses on safe medicine storage and disposal and follows a recent campaign on the dangers of underage and perinatal cannabis use.

Pacific Pride Foundation Making a Difference in the Community: Pacific Pride Foundation provides county-wide alcohol and drug prevention, outreach and harm reduction programs with a focus on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ+) issues. In FY 18/19, they trained 18 community based organizational providers and provided two 3-hour training sessions. Their participants reported an 88.5% increase in knowledge regarding sexual orientation and gender identity, an 86.5% increase in knowledge of welcoming practices, and an 82.3% increase knowledge of LGBTQ+ and substance misuse. With regard to harm reduction efforts, Pacific Pride provides overdose prevention and reversal. They distribute Naloxone/Narcan to clients, clients' families and CBO's and provide trainings on how to administer it in response to an overdose. In FY 18/19 they provided 22 general educational presentations, trained nearly a thousand people, distributed 1,373 Naloxone kits, and recorded 387 known reversals - lives saved!

Longest Night Vigil Taking Place on December 21st: Transitions Mental Health Association and the Central Coast Rescue Mission, in Collaboration with LEAD (Lived Experience Advocacy and Development) is

holding the Longest Night Vigil on Saturday, December 21st at 5:30 P.M. at the Santa Maria City Hall. The Longest Night of the year is when we remember community members who are without shelter and to honor those who died while homeless this past year. Donations will be accepted at the Vigil for the following items: Sleeping bags, socks, beanies, hats, gloves, and toiletries. Donations will be passed out to those who are homeless and living in Santa Maria. For questions or more information, please call Denise Manriquez at (805)928-0139 or email at dmanriquez@t-mha.org

2019 Bridges to Resilience Conference a Success: The Bridges to Resilience Conference took place on October 14th at the Santa Barbara Hilton. The conference supported local organizations to gather and learn new evidence-based practices for working with children with adverse childhood experiences. There were 350 people in attendance, including Case Workers, Social Workers, Therapists, School Teachers, Foster Parents and Pediatricians who work with children in our county. The event was sponsored by many, some of which included Behavioral Wellness, Social Services, Casa Pacifica, Fighting Back Santa Maria, Community Action Commission and many more. The 2019 Bridges to Resilience Conference proved once again to be a huge success.

Behavioral Wellness Outreach in the Community: Several opportunities took place in October and early November for Behavioral Wellness to join community activities and sponsor a resource table for participants.

Housing Santa Barbara Day took place on October 19. Behavioral Wellness staff **Luis Alvarado Diaz** and **Shelley Tan** supported a resource table for the department.

The **Buenaventura Community Resource Fair** took place on October 23 in Nipomo and October 24 in Lompoc. Both locations were well attended with 350 people joining in Nipomo and 150 joining in Lompoc. A huge thank you to the Behavioral Wellness staff who supported these events: **Enrique Bautista**, **Tony Hollenbeck**, and **Lilia Bazan**.

Assemblymembers Limon and Gary held an Information Hearing in Santa Barbara on the **Role of Non-Profit Organizations in Disaster Response**. **Suzanne Grimesey** presented on the panel along with other county partners.

A **Dia De Los Muertos** event was held at the Veterans Community Memorial Center in Santa Maria on October 27. Big thanks to **Lourdes Syslo** and **Rocio Willard** for hosting the Behavioral Wellness resource table.

On November 9, **Enrique Bautista** and **Olga Santos** supported the Behavioral Wellness resource table at the **Migrant Family Conference** which took place in Santa Maria.

Behavioral Wellness Santa Barbara Homeless Services staff **Sara Grasso** and **Madeleine Mauk** hosted a resource table at the **Santa Barbara Rescue Mission** on November 14th for a community event.

Behavioral Wellness was again honored with leading a 4 day Mental Health curriculum for the **San Marcos High School Health Education class**. Behavioral Wellness facilitators included **Suzanne Grimmersey, Lindsey Milner, Josh Woody** and **Maria Arteaga**.

Many thanks to **Tony Hollenback** and **Gloria Nuno** for their representation of Behavioral Wellness at the Mental Health Matters event held at **Righetti High School** on November 12.

Behavioral Wellness co-presented mental health considerations at the **“Addressing Targeted School Violence”** training held at Santa Barbara City College and co-sponsored by the Santa Barbara Unified School District on November 15. Attendance included 150 participants representing law enforcement, education and mental health.

Lompoc (West County) Regional Partnership Update: The next Lompoc Regional Partnership meeting will take place on November 20th from 8:30 – 10 A.M. in the Lompoc Adult Clinic Conference Room. The Lompoc Children’s Team is successfully working with the Transition Age Youth Full Service Partnership (TAY FSP) program in strong collaboration with the Community Action Council to engage high risk youth in services, develop new groups to promote wellness and expand support to TAY FSP families. The Adult Team continues to explore ways to effectively support those receiving services and has strengthened their partnership with Santa Ynez Valley People Helping People program to assist with employment, housing, food and other basic needs.

With the recommendation of the Cultural Competency Action Team, the Lompoc Region has created a space in its lobbies to recognize any clients who have lost a loved one during the month of November. Modeled after the “Day of the Dead” celebrated in the Latino community, the intention is to support clients who have been impacted by the loss of a loved one with honor, recognition and reverence. This time of the year can be difficult with the upcoming holiday season.

South Counties Regional Partnership Update: The most recent Santa Barbara Children’s Regional Partnership meeting took place on October 17. Evolve Treatment Center’s Kara Gross and Matt Metcalf presented on their program and services. Evolve offers mental health and substance abuse services to teens aged 12-17 years who have private insurance. They provide 3 levels of care including residential treatment for up to 3 months, outpatient services and after school programming. The program offers a free assessment which includes assessing for safety, level of care, family-based systems perspective, hierarchy of needs and history of therapy. Their team includes a psychiatrist and nursing staff. For admission information, please contact 877.620.4598. For information on the program, Kara can be contacted at 805.729.1428.

North County Regional Partnership Update: The Santa Maria’s North County Regional Partnership Meetings are held monthly at the Santa Maria Adult Outpatient Clinic located at 500 W Foster Road in Santa Maria, CA (large conference room):

- Children’s Regional Partnership Meeting – 3rd Mondays @ 10:00 am – 11:00 am
- Adult Regional Partnership Meeting – 3rd Mondays @ 11:00 am – 12:00 pm

The Santa Maria regional partnership meetings focus on promoting the expansion of cross-sector collaboration through strengthening and sustaining key community partnerships, such as those with the county of Santa Barbara's Department of Public Health, Department of Social Services, law enforcement, CenCal Health and a variety of community-based organizations (CBO) providing mental health and/or substance abuse treatment to children, transitional aged youth (TAY) and adults in the Santa Maria region. In October, the partnership meetings focused on provider updates and Behavioral Wellness' Full Service Partnership (FSP) New Heights Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) program serving youth ages 16-25 in partnership with Community Action Commission (CAC). FSP New Heights TAY clients receive the highest frequency of services in the outpatient setting with the therapeutic model offering a "whatever it takes" philosophy, in which youth are engaged outside of the traditional clinic environment at home and in the community. Additionally, Behavioral Wellness' Homeless Outreach Services program Team Supervisor, Sara Grasso, LMFT shared the application process and eligibility criteria for the upcoming Depot Street Permanent Supportive Housing residences being built in Santa Maria, which will offer 80 housing units for chronically homeless individuals and families.

Housing Services (HEART) Action Team: No meeting occurred in October.

Cultural Competence and Diversity Action Team (CCDAT) Update: The Cultural Competency and Diversity Action Team (CCDAT) meets on the 2nd Friday of each month from 9:30-11 in the Santa Barbara. A highlight of the Cultural Competence Diversity Action Team meeting of October 11, 2019 was the Consumer Perceptions Survey which demonstrated client's confidence in Cultural and linguistic services that are being provided by Behavioral Wellness providers. Additionally, Vanessa Ramos is leading the MHSA innovation project to explore and identify mobile applications that are affirming and empowering to engage members of the community that are impacted by mental health.

Crisis Action Team Update: The Crisis Action Team met in October to explore options for voluntary admission and transport to LPS facilities for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis. The Department of Behavioral Wellness continues to strive for use of least restrictive environments and voluntary treatment options whenever possible. Often times, clients will present in a mental health crisis and are actively seeking help. These individuals are not appropriate for a 5150/5585 hold as they are wanting help/treatment for their mental health issues. This presents a challenge when an out of county facility does not wish to accept unless the person is on a hold and American Medical Response (AMR) may have the same challenge in ability to transport.

The California State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) has a voluntary admission form on their website that Behavioral Wellness staff uses for client signature when they are seeking voluntary admission to and LPS facility (DHCS Form 1812 and 1808). In addition, the Department of Mental Health info notice 01-01 insures that Medi-Cal payments for psychiatric inpatient stays are not contingent on solely on a client's legal status. As a Mental Health Plan, Behavioral Wellness is responsible for ensuring access to and payment of psychiatric inpatient hospital services for beneficiaries who meet medical necessity, regardless of legal status at admission. Effective January 1, 2019 a new assembly bill was passed preventing LPS facilities from refusing admission to an inpatient psychiatric facility for someone on a voluntary status.

Based on all of the above information, Behavioral Wellness staff will continue to work with LPS designated hospitals to accept clients for treatment when on a voluntary status.

Matt Higgs, EMS System Coordinator for the County of Santa Barbara reported on the recent System Review they went through with Fitch and Associates on the current status of our American Medical Response (AMR) contract services. The extensive system review involved all county stakeholders and identified 5150/5585 transports and responses to all mental health calls as the most significant impact on AMR service county-wide. A number of possible solutions were identified. Additionally, the County Board of Supervisors voted to put the county's emergency transport services contract out to bid in three years. During this time, the County will be exploring alternative transport options for individuals on 5150/5585 holds needing transport o LPS facilities throughout the state. Behavioral Wellness will be very involved in the discussion of these options.

Children's System of Care (CSOC) Action Team Update: The CSOC Action Team Meetings are held monthly on the 4th Thursdays @ 10:30 am – 12:00 pm at the Buellton Recreation Center (301 2nd Street, Room A, Buellton, CA).

Mission & Vision Statement:

The CSOC Action Team integrates a wide variety of leaders and stakeholders invested in cross-sector collaboration to ensure access and high quality behavioral/mental health care to children, adolescents, transitional aged youth (TAY) and their families throughout Santa Barbara County.

We look to achieve this by continuing to foster trauma-informed organizational cultures that provide trauma-responsive care, promote cultural humility, build and sustain community resiliency and steer systemic transformation.

During the month of October, CSOC Action Team members shared their input regarding the success of the Bridges to Resilience Conference earlier in the month, which led to a dynamic continued discussion on cultural humility and collective culture-shifting to further integrate trauma-informed approaches into each organizational culture. Members have also begun brainstorming ways to fill gaps between hospitals and providers with the shared goal of improving the transition process for youth returning home to their communities.

For the month of November, the CSOC Action Team and the CAPC (Child Abuse Prevention Council) will join forces for the 2nd annual meeting at the Buellton Rec Center on Thursday, November 21st @ 9– 11 A.M.

Consumer Family Member Action Team (CFMAT): The October CFMAT meeting was informative including presentations and updates from Sheeren Khatapoush, Chuck Hughes, Vanessa Ramos and Shari Herndon. Members had an opportunity to learn about the Consumer Perception Survey, CFMAT and CCDAT updates. Shereen reviewed the survey results with the members, reporting that the survey had a 80% response rate this year which is higher than previous years. The findings suggest average scores across several domains. Chuck Hughes's power point presentation the "CFMAT outreach" was created for the members as a resource to educate the community about CFMAT and to increase membership. Vanessa Ramos reported that the Help@Hand project is moving forward with regional workgroups in the three regions. This workgroup has been renamed to HEAL (Hopeful, Powerful and Affirming Language). Shari Herndon provided an update on the current work of the Cultural Diversity Action Team.

Forensic Action Team Update: This month Behavioral Wellness announced changes in the outpatient service system management organizational structure, some of which will impact Forensic Services. **John Lewis, Ph.D.** will be transitioning out of his current role as Forensic Services Manager and **Shana Burns, LMFT** will assume this position. Ms. Burns has extensive experience providing treatment to individuals involved in the criminal justice system, and she has served as the Regional Manager for our Santa Maria Adult and Children's Outpatient Clinics during the past two years. She will co-facilitate the Forensic Action Team meetings with Celeste Andersen, and we welcome her to this new role. Dr. Lewis will assume the Crisis Services Manager position on an interim basis, and following this he will transition to a part time position within Behavioral Wellness in support of various forensic projects and programs.

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the next Forensic Action Team meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20 from 2-3:30 p.m. in Room 127 of the Children's Mental Health Services building at 429 N. San Antonio Rd. in Santa Barbara. Unfortunately, videoconferencing from Santa Maria will not be available on this date but anyone wishing to join by teleconference call may contact John Lewis in advance at 805.450.2545 to make arrangements

NATIONAL AND STATE NEWS

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM): The following executive summary of CalAIM was released from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). DHCS has developed a framework for the upcoming waiver renewals that encompasses broader delivery system, program and payment reform across the Medi-Cal program, called CalAIM: California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal. CalAIM advances several key priorities of the Administration by leveraging Medicaid as a tool to help address many of the complex challenges facing California's most vulnerable residents, such as homelessness, insufficient behavioral health care access, children with complex medical conditions, the growing number of justice-involved populations who have significant clinical needs, and the growing aging population. This proposal recognizes the opportunity to provide for non-clinical interventions focused on a whole-person care approach via Medi-Cal that target social determinants of health and reduce health disparities and inequities.

Furthermore, the broader system, program, and payment reforms included in CalAIM allow the state to take a population health, person-centered approach to providing services and puts the focus on improving outcomes for all Californians. Attaining such goals will have significant impact on an individual's health and quality of life, and through iterative system transformation, ultimately reduce the per-capita cost over time. DHCS intends to work with the Administration, Legislature and our other partners on these proposals and recognizes the important need to discuss these issues and their prioritization within the state budget process. These are initial proposals whose implementation will ultimately depend on whether funding is available. CalAIM also explores the opportunity to apply to CMS for a waiver of the IMD exclusion.

There are many opportunities for participation in CalAIM. More information can be found on the DHCS website [here](#) or by going to the following link: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/calaim>

California Health and Human Services Agency Announces New Hotline for those Most Vulnerable during Power Shutoffs: As utility-initiated Public Safety Power Shutoffs continue to impact residents across California, a nonemergency hotline has been established to help medically vulnerable Californians and health and community care facilities find resources in their communities during power shutoffs.

The hotline number is **(833) 284-3473** and will provide information about resources available during public safety power shutoffs. During power shutoffs or potential power shutoffs, hotline assistance will be available 9 A.M. – 9 P.M. Assistance is available in many languages. 711 Telecommunications Relay Services (TRS) are available for individuals with hearing or speech related disabilities. Individuals experiencing a medical or psychiatric emergency should call 911. Individuals who need medical services or a medication should call their health plan’s member services number. Individuals who have a problem getting services or assistance with their health care can contact the Department of Managed Health Care’s Help Center at (888) 466-2219 or www.HealthHelp.ca.gov.

CHHS has also created a new online tool that allows individuals to complete a personal [emergency plan](#). This is designed to help those with access and functional needs be prepared for power shutoffs. Also, a new [consumer page](#) provides various resources available for those in de-energization areas. CHHS has also created a data dashboard for local response partners to allow local governments, state agencies, and community partners to share information to better plan and respond to power shutoffs. This [data dashboard](#) includes information related to individuals with durable medical equipment, healthcare facilities, community care facilities, weather, and utilities.

Governor Newsom [announced \\$75 million](#) for local and state governments to mitigate impacts of power shutoffs and, [last week](#), demanded that California’s Investor-Owned Utilities adhere to previously-agreed protocols for their power shutoff decisions and coordinate with state and local officials to protect public safety and limit impacts during these events.

SYSTEMS CHANGE CALENDAR

- **Behavioral Wellness Commission:** The Behavioral Wellness Commission meets on the third Wednesday of every month from 3:00pm – 5:00pm. Video conferencing is available at the Santa Barbara Children’s Clinic large conference room, Santa Maria Clinic Conference Room and the Lompoc Children’s Clinic Newport Harbor Room. Questions: Karen Campos, kcampos@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **Change Agent Meeting:** Change agents meet the fourth Wednesday of every month 9 – 11 am except during quarterly in-person meetings, which are 9 am – 12 noon. Video conferencing is available at the Santa Barbara Children’s Clinic, Small conference room; Lompoc Conference Room, ACT, upstairs, 401 E. Cypress and Large conference room, 500 West Foster Road, Santa Maria. Questions: Dalila Brown, dbrown@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **Lompoc Regional Partnership Meeting:** Meetings occur every other month on the third Tuesday at 301 N. R Street. Questions: Anthony Hollenback, ahollenback@co.santa-barbara.ca.us

- **Santa Barbara Adult Regional Partnership:** meets every 3rd Monday of the month from 10:00 am – 11:00 am at the Santa Barbara Children’s Clinic, large conference room. Questions: Veronica Heinzelmann, vheinzelmann@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **Santa Barbara Children’s Regional Partnership:** 3th Thursday of the month from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm at the Santa Barbara Children’s Clinic, large conference room. Questions: Veronica Heinzelmann, vheinzelmann@co.santa-barbara.ca.us.
- **Santa Maria Children’s Regional Partnership Meeting** is held every 3rd Monday of the month at 10 am in the large meeting room at the Foster Road Clinic. Questions: Shana Burns at sburns@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **Santa Maria Adult Regional Partnership** occurs every 3rd Monday of the month at 11 am in the large meeting room at the Foster Road Clinic. Questions: Elodie Patarias, epatari@co.santa-barbara.ca.us or Geoff Bernard, gbernard@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **The Housing, Empowerment, Action and Recovery Team (HEART)** meets the second Wednesday of every other month, 1:00-2:30 p.m. Locations: Behavioral Wellness Conference Room 261 and Santa Maria Annex via videoconference. Contact Laura Zeitz, lazeitz@sbcbswell.org
- **The Cultural Competency and Diversity Action Team (CCDAT)** meets the second Friday of each month, 9:30-11:00 am, Locations: Santa Barbara Children’s Clinic Large Conference Room 119, Santa Maria Annex and Lompoc B St. Contact Maria Arteaga at 805-681-5208 or marteaga@co.santa-barbara.ca.us or Anthony Hollenback at 805-737-6610 or ahollenback@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **The Peer Action Team** meets the second Thursday of the Month from 2 – 4:00 pm. Locations: Behavioral Wellness Santa Barbara Conference Room 261, Lompoc Children’s New Port Room the Santa Maria Annex Room via videoconference. Contact Maria Arteaga at 805-681-5208 or marteaga@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **The Crisis Action Team** meets the second Thursday of the month, 2:30 – 4:00 pm, Santa Barbara Children’s large conference room 119. Contact John Winckler, jwinckler@sbcbswell.org
- **The Children’s System of Care Action Team** meets the 4th Thursday of the month, 10:30 am - 12:00 noon. SELPA Conference Room, 240 E. Hwy. 246, Suite 200, Buellton CA 93127. Contact Shana Burns at sburns@co.santa-barbara.ca.us
- **Forensic Action Team** will be meeting every other month on the 4th Wednesday from 2:00 – 3:30. The next meeting will take place on November 20th due to the upcoming Thanksgiving holiday. The meeting will be held at the Behavioral Wellness Children’s Mental Health Services building, room 119, located at 429 N. San Antonio Rd in Santa Barbara. While normally videoconference is available, at the November 20th meeting, only teleconference is available. Anyone wishing to join by teleconference or have questions may contact John Lewis at jolewis@sbcbswell.org