



County of San Diego

NICK MACCHIONE, FACHE
AGENCY DIRECTOR

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES
3255 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH, MAIL STOP P-531
SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-3806
(619) 563-2700 • FAX (619) 563-2705

LUKE BERGMANN, Ph.D.
DIRECTOR, BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

October 28, 2021

TO: Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB)

FROM: Luke Bergmann, Ph.D., Director, Behavioral Health Services

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR'S REPORT – NOVEMBER 2021

ACTION ITEM: AUTHORIZATION OF TELECONFERENCING MEETING OPTION PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953(e).

- 1) Find that there is a proclaimed State of Emergency.
- 2) Find that State and local officials have recommended measures to promote social distancing.

Action Item: Vote to approve the two findings authorizing the continuance of BHAB teleconferencing meetings.

ACTION ITEM: ELECTION OF THE 2022 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) bylaws provide for establishing a Nominating Committee in September of each year. The following BHAB members were appointed to serve on the Nominating Committee: Bill Stewart, John Sturm, and Phillip Deming.

The Nominating Committee presented the following recommended slate of 2022 Executive Officers at the BHAB meeting on October 7th, 2021.

Chairperson	Bill Stewart
1st Vice-Chairperson	John Sturm
2nd Vice-Chairperson	Phillip Deming
Member at Large <i>Representing the alcohol and substance use community</i>	Che Hernandez
Member at Large <i>Representing the mental health community</i>	Judith Yates

Action Item: Vote to approve the slate of 2022 Behavioral Health Advisory Board Executive Committee Officers.

ACTION ITEM: PROCUREMENTS AND CONTRACT EXTENSIONS

The County of San Diego (County) Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) Behavioral Health Services (BHS) department provides a comprehensive array of community-based mental health and substance use disorder services through contracts with local public and private agencies to vulnerable populations, including individuals who are experiencing homelessness, individuals with justice involvement, and children and youth with complex behavioral health conditions.

Approval of today's recommended actions authorizes competitive solicitations, single source procurements, and amendments to extend existing contracts, to support critical behavioral health services.

- Competitive solicitations for:
 - a. Adult Drug Court Services
 - b. Bio-Psychosocial Rehabilitation Services
 - c. Crisis Residential Treatment Services
 - d. Integrated Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services
 - e. Opioid Treatment Program
 - f. Psychotropic Medication Clinic
 - g. Re-entry Court Services
 - h. Strength-Based Case Management Services
 - i. 24-Hour Transitional Residential Mental Health Treatment Services
- Single source negotiations with Sharp Mesa Vista Hospital and University of California, San Diego for Outpatient and Inpatient Electro-Convulsive Therapy.
- Contract extensions for:
 - a. Community Research Foundation (Contract #556368)
 - b. Telecare Corp (Contract #551670)
 - c. New Alternatives, Inc. (Contract #555955)
 - d. Community Research Foundation (Contract #547132)
 - e. Food Management Associates (Contract #556128)
 - f. Mental Health Systems, Inc. (Contract #556419)
 - g. Telecare Corp (Contract #554707)
 - h. Mental Health Systems, Inc. (Contract #556420)
 - i. Mental Health Systems, Inc. (Contract #556358)
 - j. Community Research Foundation (Contract #556936)
 - k. San Ysidro Health Center, Inc. (Contract #553070)
 - l. New Alternatives, Inc. (Contract #555513)
 - m. McAlister Institute for Treatment and Education (Contract #554896)
 - n. McAlister Institute for Treatment and Education (Contract #554895)
 - o. McAlister Institute for Treatment and Education (Contract #554897)
 - p. Episcopal Community Services (Contract #554898)
 - q. McAlister Institute for Treatment and Education (Contract #556354)
 - r. Vistal Hill Foundation (Contract #556355)
 - s. Mental Health Systems, Inc. (Contract #554929)
 - t. Neighborhood House Association (Contract #548930)
 - u. Family Health Centers of San Diego, Inc. (Contract #554899)
 - v. Union of Pan Asian Communities (Contract #551401)
 - w. Pathway Community Services, LLC (Contract #552662)
 - x. McAlister Institute for Treatment and Education (Contract #556177)
 - y. Rady Children's Hospital of San Diego (Contract #556103)

- Single source contract extensions for:
 - a. Sharp Healthcare (Contract #555088)
 - b. Sharp Healthcare (Contract #555089)
 - c. KF Community Care (Contract #536297)
 - d. Alpine Special Treatment Center (Contract #43206)
 - e. Regents of the University of California, UCSD (Contract #520867)
 - f. Changing Options, Inc. (Contract #532799)
 - g. Regents of the University of California, UCSD (Contract #555817)

It is THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that BHAB vote to support the authorizations and approvals needed to advance the recommendations in this Board Letter.

ACTION ITEM: UPDATE ON HARMFUL SUBSTANCE USE IN SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD LETTER

To address the unprecedented crisis in substance use harms, including alarming trends in accidental drug overdose deaths, the San Diego County Board of Supervisors (Board) has taken a number of actions to advance existing efforts and aggressively address this issue and the associated stigma which is frequently associated with people who struggle to overcome substance use. Recent actions include, but are not limited to:

- Implementing the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) in 2018 which provided an unprecedented opportunity to accelerate the integration of substance use disorder (SUD) specialty care with mainstream healthcare;
- Finding prior Board direction opposing harm reduction programs including the "Resolution to Oppose Needle Exchange Programs" to be no longer in effect;
- Directing creation of an Action Plan to realize a Syringe Services Program to meet the needs of San Diego County and;
- Directing the creation of a comprehensive County Substance Use Harm Reduction Strategy (Harm Reduction Strategy).

Today's update includes a report on the Harm Reduction Strategy presented June 8, 2021 (04), the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System, and other related bodies of work from the County's Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) including efforts to provide housing resources for those with chronic substance use conditions.

All updates and actions align with County's strategic approach to strengthen service delivery and the *Live Well San Diego* vision by transforming treatment for addiction, while continuing to educate the larger community on effective care for people who misuse substances.

It is THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that BHAB vote to support approval of the recommendations and actions outlined in this Board Letter.

ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF 2021 DATA NOTEBOOK

Annually, local Behavioral Health Advisory Boards (BHAB) are asked by the California Behavioral Health Planning Council to complete a Data Notebook. This helps local boards fulfil their mandate to report on program goals, needs, and provide input to the legislature and the public. Participation informs advocacy decisions by the California Behavioral Health Planning Council.

The County of San Diego Behavioral Health Advisory Board has taken the following action:

Month	Action
October 9, 2021	Staff emailed BHAB members the 2021 Data Notebook, which aids the California Behavioral Health Planning Council's advocacy for behavioral health services and requested their input to be provided by 10/14/21.
October 22, 2021	- Staff drafted responses to items requiring factual or quantitative responses. - BHAB Members were emailed the draft responses to the 2021 Data Notebook for their review and in anticipation of approving the Data Notebook at the BHAB meeting on 11/4.
November 4, 2021	BHAB votes on submission of Data Notebook final draft, after discussion of any pending changes, as needed (Action Item).

It is **THEREFORE**, staff's recommendation that **BHAB vote to approve the draft Data Notebook and authorize staff to submit it to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council ahead of the November 30th deadline.**

LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO UPDATES / SPECIAL EVENTS

Upcoming Event

Virtual Live Well Advance- Recover, Renew, and Reconnect, November 17th and 18th

The 2021 *Live Well Advance Conference and Schools Summit* virtual event will be held on November 17th and 18th. The event connects community leaders and organizations working to advance a shared vision of a healthy, safe, and thriving San Diego region. This year, *Live Well San Diego* partners will have an opportunity to create an exhibitor profile page to be included in the virtual Connection Hub. Partners will be able to highlight their organization and help make connections with attendees and other partners.

The event is free and open to the public. For more information and to register, visit <https://www.livewellsd.org/content/livewell/home/news-events/advance.html>.

Event Recap

Prescription Drug Take Back Day, October 23, 2021

The Nationwide Community Prescription Drug Take Back Day was held on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. This Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) event made available numerous drive-thru locations across the county where the public could safely dispose of expired, unused, and unwanted medications, including animal medications - no questions asked. The locations did not accept sharps but did accept vape devices as long as batteries were removed prior to disposal.

The National Prescription Drug Take Back Day aims to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for misuse of medications.

The next Prescription Drug Take Back Day will be held on Wednesday, April 27, 2022. For more information and for past collection results, visit the Department of Justice DEA/ Diversion Control Division website at https://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/.

UPDATE FROM THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL (SDCPH)

SDCPH Nominated for CSAC Challenge Award

SDCPH was nominated for a California State Association of Counties (CSAC) 2021 Challenge Award through Behavioral Health Services (BHS), which exemplifies programs that have developed innovated approaches to the delivery of patient care. SDCPH's proposal demonstrated an enhancement to integrated care within hospital emergency and inpatient settings as a response to a decrease in community-based services, staffing shortages, and an escalation in substance use related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

New Locum Tenens Contract Executed

In July 2021, SDCPH executed a new contract for locum tenens services with Interim Physicians, LLC. (Interim). Historically, the SDCPH had utilized three separate agencies, one being Interim to staff the hospital with both psychiatrists and medical consultants. Consolidating the services into one contract provides SDCPH the ability to streamline the management of the medical staff. Many of the medical staff associated with the other two agencies chose to stay with SDCPH services and were able to be absorbed by Interim. This has ensured seamless continuation of care for the patients we serve.

UPDATE FROM THE EDGEMOOR DISTINCT PART SKILLED NURSING FACILITY (Edgemoor)

Accomplishments

Edgemoor remains a five-star rated Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services facility. Achieving five out of five stars in all rating categories (Health Inspections, Staffing, and a Quality Measure rating—based on 15 different physical and clinical measures).

Newsweek announced its [Best Nursing Homes for 2022](#) and rated Edgemoor number three in the state and number one in the county. Edgemoor was rated the Best Nursing Home in the state and county in 2020 and 2021.

COVID-19 Update

The COVID-19 pandemic continues to be at the forefront of operations at Edgemoor. Edgemoor continues to follow and implement the continually changing guidance of various local, state, and federal health organizations. Current precautions include restrictions on indoor visits (visitors must be vaccinated or show proof of a negative COVID-19 test performed within 72 hours of the visit), staff and contractor vaccine mandate, entrance screenings which include temperature checks, masking, on-going staff education, communication with resident and families/responsible representatives, and response and surveillance testing of residents, staff, and contractors.

At the beginning of the year Edgemoor partnered with CVS Pharmacies to administer COVID-19 vaccination clinics on-site as part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Pharmacy Partnership Program for skilled nursing facilities. Now Edgemoor is exploring several options to provide the Pfizer vaccine booster shots to residents, staff, and contractors. Currently, staff and contractors on-site at the facility are subject to the vaccination requirements of the California Public Health Order of August 5, 2021.

Facility Improvements

The planning and development of a 12-bed acute psychiatric facility into the existing floor plan of Edgemoor continues. Design teams have done schematics and on-site inspections of the nursing unit that is planned to be renovated. The project is pending California Department of Public Health and California Department of Health Care Access and Information (formerly the California Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development) review and approval.

Resident Occupancy

In preparation for construction of the acute psychiatric unit a reduction in patient capacity will be necessary by the start of the construction phase, with potential of 12 patients remaining in the affected nursing unit during construction, should this be allowable, to maintain continuity of care. Finding alternate placement to discharge residents to is unlikely; therefore, admissions have been limited, allowing the census to naturally decline to the desired capacity. Average occupancy is still above 90% of capacity.

Recruitment and Hiring

Edgemoor continues to recruit and hire for open positions within the facility. Human Resources has put a focus on the hiring process for nursing staff. This has drastically decreased the open positions in this department.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'LUKE BERGMANN', with a stylized, flowing script.

LUKE BERGMANN, Ph.D., Director
Behavioral Health Services

Cc Nick Macchione, Agency Director
 Aurora Kiviat, Assistant Director and Chief Operations Officer
 Cecily Thornton-Stearns, Assistant Director and Chief Program Officer
 Nadia Privara Brahms, Acting- Assistant Director, Chief Strategy and Finance Officer