



## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD ACTION ITEM - JUNE 6, 2019

### ADVANCING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTINUUM OF CARE QUARTERLY UPDATE BOARD LETTER

On July 24, 2018, Supervisor Kristin Gaspar initiated a Board Conference to present a comprehensive assessment of the state of inpatient psychiatric care in San Diego County and provide immediate and long-term recommendations for addressing a potentially significant loss of future services for people in psychiatric crisis, resulting from inpatient behavioral health units closing at local hospitals.

In response to Supervisor Gaspar's request, the County of San Diego Health and Human Services Agency convened the Board Conference on October 30, 2018 titled: *Caring for People in Psychiatric Crisis*. After an overview of the current system, panelists across multiple sectors described specific challenges, responses and opportunities to optimize care for people with serious psychiatric needs who interact with multiple systems. The Conference included immediate strategies to address the loss of inpatient psychiatric services and long-term strategies to better serve people when they experience a psychiatric crisis or help them prevent such a crisis. The strategies focused on reviewing and strengthening the full continuum of behavioral health care services through regional collaboration to achieve the best collective results for the people we serve.

On December 11, 2018, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Administrative Officer to procure a consultant to facilitate follow up actions in response to the Board Conference and return to the Board of Supervisors quarterly with updates on the progress of this regional collaboration and possible recommendations for further action of the Board of Supervisors. Today's item will provide the second quarterly update on Advancing the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care Through Regional Collaboration and Innovation.

**It is THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that your Board vote to support these recommendations to accept this update.**