



County of San Diego

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TO: Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB)

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

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (BHS) DIRECTOR'S REPORT – May 2024

San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital Updates

Leadership Change: Welcoming Angela Yu

BHS is pleased to welcome Angela Yu as the Assistant Medical Services Administrator (AMSA) for Quality Assurance and Regulations. Angela has been with the County of San Diego for 10 years with her clinical focus being on regulatory requirements and quality management strategies for emergency psychiatric treatment and inpatient hospitalization. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing and is a Registered Nurse who formerly served as a Charge Nurse at the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (SDCPH) where she excelled in that role within the emergency psychiatric unit (EPU) and subsequently promoted to a Quality Assurance Specialist. Angela is involved in multiple process improvement initiatives such as workplace violence reduction, and enhanced collaboration with law enforcement and service providers. She has been a key player in improving treatment planning, implementing the first Fall Reduction Committee, and leading the hospital's Quality Council Committee. Angela partners with department managers in developing action plans to enhance quality of care through evidence-based practice. Her strengths include relationship building, data analysis, project management and risk mitigation. She finds it incredibly motivating to use her data background in creating a safer environment for staff and patients.

In her prior career, Angela worked as a nurse consultant for non-profit organizations for five years where she provided medical and behavioral services for the underserved population. She was involved in risk management, oversaw state and licensing surveys, established work standards, education initiatives, and coordinated emergency response.

With the support of the County of San Diego and hospital leadership, SDCPH now has two AMSAs—one focusing on Risk Management and Risk Mitigation and one focusing on Quality Assurance and Regulations.

Mental Health Awareness Events

SDCPH continues to invest in promoting a culture of safety through hosting several activities surrounding self-care, colleague comradery, laughter, and improved health and happiness. The Spirit of Fun Council has hosted a March Madness championship where both Christine Ramos, Mental Health Case Management Clinician and Angela Warneke, Hospital Administrator led the pack. Laughter Yoga,

Gardening, Mural Painting, Love on a Leash Animal Support, Mindfulness Exercises, and Moments of Silence are some events that will be held in the Spring.

Clinical Programming

The Social Work Team has joined forces with the Recreation Therapy Team to become the Clinical Programming Department. This exciting organizational change combines Music Therapists, Recreation Therapists, Licensed Mental Health Clinicians, Mental Health Case Management Clinicians, and Recreation Therapy Aides to provide clinical programming integrated across the individual's hospitalization. The programming will be rooted in functional development and focused on preparing the individual not only for their next level of care but for learning and applying skills while in the care of the SDCPH. The Clinical Programming Department will fulfill the need to elevate and expand programming, by maximizing the expertise of each discipline via co-facilitated and discipline specific sessions.

Opportunities for Connections

SDCPH was fortunate to welcome Chairwoman Nora Vargas for a tour of the hospital, to brainstorm ways to improve the care for individuals served, and to enhance safety for the staff. SDCPH was additionally fortunate to welcome Mayor John Franklin to tour the hospital as an opportunity to discuss improved collaboration to serve San Diego County residents.

Edgemoor Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facility Updates

Accomplishments & Announcements

- Edgemoor Distinct Part Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) remains an overall five-star facility on the CMS Care Compare site for Nursing Homes. Achieving 5 out of 5 stars in all four rating categories (Overall Quality, Health Inspection, Quality Measures, Staffing, and RN Staffing).
- Edgemoor has recently welcomed two new key staff members, an Assistant Director of Nursing (ADON) and a Behavioral Health Program Coordinator (BHPC). The ADON will provide oversight and supervision to the evening and night shift nursing staff and reports to the Director of Nursing. The BHPC will take on the supervision of the Social Services and In-service Education Departments and reports to the Medical Director.

COVID-19 Update

California's COVID-19 State of Emergency ended on February 28, 2023, and the Federal Public Health Emergency for COVID-19 ended on May 11, 2023. The weekly requirements to report certain metrics related to vaccinations, positive cases, and other COVID related metrics to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) through the National Healthcare Safety Network (NHSN) portal remain in place. Edgemoor continues to require masking in direct patient care areas for facility staff and contractors. Visitors are not required to mask although it is being strongly encouraged. On February 28, 2024, the CDC released a new recommendation that adults 65 years and older receive an additional dose of the 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine four months after their previous 2023-2024 COVID-19 vaccine. Edgemoor will begin administering the additional dose for residents in April. Edgemoor continues to follow all other requirements of various local, state, and federal health organizations.

Facility Improvements

The Edgemoor Inpatient Unit plans are currently undergoing a preliminary review with California Department of Public Health (HCAI) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH). In early 2024, the project will undergo its final review with HCAI before construction begins in early 2025. With the design complete, BHS is now shifting its focus to the staffing and licensing planning. The inpatient unit will be a 12-bed unit built into the existing floor plan of Edgemoor. Licensure of this new acute unit will provide continuity of care and access for patients from the SNF for stabilization as well as service planned admissions from the community. Edgemoor will be licensed as a distinct part skilled nursing

facility of the new unit and no longer be licensed under the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital's license.

Edgemoor's dish room reconfiguration and dishwasher replacement project were almost complete at the end of the quarter. In April, the temporary dishwashing trailer will be removed, and final inspection will occur.

The roof replacement project is complete.

Other upcoming facility projects include:

- Nine electric vehicle charging stations will be installed.
- Upgraded security cameras.
- Relocation of the security guard desk.
- Dietary ceiling tile replacement.
- New badge readers.
- Cooling system maintenance
- Parking lot resurfacing.

Edgemoor Reimbursement Rates

The current Medi-Cal per diem rate increased from \$724.44 to \$741.93 retroactively to August 1, 2023. Traditionally, the Medi-Cal rate year runs from August through July; however effective January 1, 2024, this will shift to a calendar rate year. Therefore, the rate of \$741.93 will be in effect until December 31, 2024.

The current private pay rate of \$908 per patient day was effective July 1, 2023, although Edgemoor has a very few, if any, private pay residents.

Effective January 1, 2024, available Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (MCPs) in San Diego County will shift from six providers to four. Available providers will be Blue Shield of CA Promise Health Plan, Community Health Group (CHG) Foundation, Molina Healthcare of CA, and Kaiser Permanente. Note: Kaiser will only be available as an option if certain criteria are met. Enrollment of eligible Edgemoor residents in available Medi-Cal MCPs is well underway and nearly complete.

Resident Occupancy/Census

Edgemoor's third quarter resident census totaled 14,104 days with an average daily census of 155.0 residents. Occupancy remains steady with almost all the 160 available beds filled (32 beds are offline due to upcoming construction). The average occupancy for this fiscal year is 97% of the available 160 beds.

Edgemoor IT Updates

Several IT projects are underway which include the following:

- Replacement Nurse Call System: Project progressing. Construction and wire installation began on 3/13/23. A temporary wireless system was installed for continuity of operations until the permanent system is fully functional which is expected May 2024.
NetSolutions Enhancements: Enhancements underway to this system include e-Assignment and Physician Orders entry as well as e-Prescribing.

Recruitment, Performance Evaluations and Human Resources Update

Edgemoor continues to focus on filling new and open positions. Edgemoor has a total of 371 county positions of which 342 were filled at the end of Quarter 3.

Regulatory and Performance Improvement and Compliance

Edgemoor's last recertification survey was completed in October 2021 and usually reoccurs every 9 – 15 months. We expect CDPH to conduct the next unannounced revisit at any time.

BHS 2024 SPECIAL EVENTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Children and Youth Mental Health Well-Being Celebration – May 11, 2024

The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) San Diego Community Advocacy Program will host the 10th annual Children and Youth Mental Health Well-Being Celebration on Saturday, May 11, 2024, from 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the main courtyard of the Grossmont Center mall. This is one of the "Mental Health Matters Month" events. This celebration is free of charge and will offer a variety of fun activities for all ages, opportunity drawings, and more.

Respectfully submitted,



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- Cecily Thornton-Stearns, Assistant Director and Chief Program Officer
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