



CLAYTON CHAU, MD PhD
DIRECTOR/COUNTY HEALTH
OFFICER

VERONICA KELLEY, DSW, LCSW
CHIEF OF MENTAL HEALTH &
RECOVERY SERVICES

405 W. 5th STREET, 7th FLOOR
SANTA ANA, CA 92701

www.ocalthinfo.com

MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES

MHRS UPDATE

DATE: September 20, 2022

TO: Members of the County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

FROM: Veronica Kelley, DSW, LCSW
Chief of Mental Health & Recovery Services

SUBJECT: Mental Health & Recovery Services (MHRS) Update for September 2022

Adult and Older Adult Mental Health & Recovery Services (MHRS)

Collaborative Services: The **Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Full Service Partnership (FSP)** had their Family Appreciation Night on 9/1/22. This event allowed family members to have a meet and greet with the treatment team, and included a brief presentation about the AOT program, court process, peer services, group services offered, and the importance of family involvement in supporting members in their recovery journeys. The **STEPS FSP** has had success in increasing member participation in their co-occurring program, which includes weekly face-to-face check-in with staff, attending co-occurring groups at least three days a week, and participating in 12 step meetings in the community twice a week.

Central Services Updates: All three **Wellness Center** facilities are open Monday - Saturday, including one late night for each of the centers. Additionally, all three centers are offering hybrid groups, allowing remote participation for their membership. Each of the centers are coordinating various events, including a Job Fair and The Celebration Recovery Picnic taking place on August

Goodwill (GW) hosted their Job Club on 9/8/22, which offered tips and suggestions about seeking, obtaining, and maintaining employment. GW has established partnerships with county and county-contracted programs, and their Job Club is offered as a remote service to clients/members in those programs. They recently partnered with all Wellness Centers, allowing viewing parties to be held at each of the centers.

The **Adult and Older Adult (AOA) Peer Mentoring (PM) Program** is fully operational for both Tracks. Track 2 has expanded their services to work alongside the CAT team in the field and is underway in partnering with Aliso Ridge Behavioral Health Hospital. This would include a Peer Navigator embedded as part of the multi-disciplinary team in their inpatient setting to work with clients who need assistance in meeting their follow-up outpatient service obligations. Track 2 Services are in collaboration with College Hospital and Huntington Beach Hospital to add one Peer Navigator to their inpatient services as well soon.

Housing and Supportive Services: On 8/16/22, National Core hosted the **Santa Angelina groundbreaking ceremony**. Santa Angelina is in the city of Placentia, and is 100% affordable housing for seniors, 62 and older. 21 of the 65 units will be Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) units for homeless seniors living with severe and persistent mental illness. The identified onsite supportive services provider will be Pathways OASIS.

Older Adult Services: During the month of August, **OASIS** enrolled 6 new members. During the month of August, OASIS took 13 members to the Angels Baseball game and provided lunch for the members.

The **Older Adult Services (OAS)** clinic admitted 39 new clients, while 38 clients either graduated or successfully transitioned to a lower level of care. Additionally, OAS was able to successfully transition 4 homeless clients living in their car or homeless shelter to stable housing. The clinicians and psychiatrists are making efforts to accommodate client's need such as practicing covid 19 safety protocol and meeting with clients at their home.

SUD Services: The Health Care Agency (HCA) is seeking Drug Medi-Cal certified providers for **Residential and Withdrawal Management Treatment**. In addition, on 9/7/22, Exodus will be providing **Sobering Services** at the Be Well campus located in the city of Orange.

DUI and Drug Court: The programs celebrated a high number of graduations from the court programs. Drug court is in the beginning stages of implementing the newest Misdemeanor Court and the treatment providers are designing the curriculum that will be utilized. During September, DUI and Drug courts will be celebrating Recovery Happens month with activities, presentations, and celebrations of recovery throughout Orange County.

Children, Youth and Prevention Mental Health and Recovery Services

Effective 9/9/22, HCA has contracted with three providers, with seven locations cumulatively, for Drug Medi-Cal outpatient and intensive outpatient services for adolescents 12 through 17 years old. The providers include: Phoenix House Orange County, Inc., located in Santa Ana; Twin Town Treatment Centers, located in Laguna Hills, Los Alamitos, and Orange; and Wel-Mor Psychology Group, Inc., located in Fullerton, Laguna Hills, and Newport Beach. Services include assessment, care coordination, individual and group counseling, family therapy, drug testing, and patient education. Additionally, Phoenix House will offer on-site Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) for youth with Opioid Use Disorder. Outpatient and intensive outpatient services are available for youth who either have a Substance Use Disorder diagnosis or are at risk for the development of one.

Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP):

In observation of **National Suicide Prevention Month** in September, HCA is hosting a week-long campaign called **Light Up Hope OC** to raise awareness for suicide prevention. Starting on 9/19/22, HCA will be spotlighting some iconic buildings throughout Orange County including Huntington Beach Pier, Knotts Berry Farm, Arctic Center, Nixon library, John Wayne Airport and several others. The spotlight will be teal and purple colored lights to highlight the message that suicide is preventable and that there is help available for those who might be struggling and inspire hope. The colors purple and teal symbolize suicide prevention awareness and serves as a reminder that suicide is an issue we need to talk about openly. (www.LightUpHopeOC.com.)

The suicide prevention awareness campaign was launched at HCA with a message from the Chief of MHRS to HCA staff and the presentation of a Resolution from the Orange County Board of Supervisors proclaiming September as National Suicide Prevention Month to raise awareness of this important topic. HCA has collaborated with community providers to organize a variety of activities to raise awareness and foster community dialogue. The events calendar can be found at: (www.ochealthinfo.com/sites/healthcare/files/202209/2022%20SUICIDE%20PREVENTION%20CALENDAR_0.pdf)

In addition, HCA and community partners will be actively posting mental health wellness and suicide prevention awareness messaging on social media. Other highlights from September included a tabling event promoting mental health awareness at the Los Angeles Angels fiesta Day on September 3rd and Game day on September 4th, which also included a Rally Monkey giveaway that had Mike Trout's suicide prevention awareness logo "Your Game Isn't Over Yet" on the back of its jersey, the OC Navigator scan code for mental wellness tips and resources and was lime green in color to symbolize mental health and wellness. Throughout September, Know the Signs signage and the OC Navigator information will be displayed in the stadium and on the Big LED outside the stadium.

Lastly, HCA would also like to spotlight the *Directing Change Program* who was awarded a cash prize of \$2,800 from the sale of an Angels Jersey that was signed by all the team players. The Program was recognized for their contribution to engage and empower Orange County's youth to raise awareness on mental health stigma reduction and suicide prevention.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

The MHSA Office continues to hold **Informational and Planning Meetings**, on 9/19/22 the topic was Culture and Diversity in Suicide Prevention. MHSA Invited two representatives from Palo Alto University who presented on **Suicide Prevention Trainings Infused with Diversity and Culture**. Following their presentation, HCA's Office of Suicide Prevention discussed the local initiatives, activities and events. At the conclusion of the discussion, MHSA Coordinator Michelle Smith gave updates to the findings from the previous two planning meetings (Veterans and Early Childhood Services). The October Information and Planning meeting is scheduled for 10/17/22 and is tentatively scheduled to focus on Prevention Programs.

Agenda Staff Reports approved by the Board of Supervisor in September:

8/9/22	Waymakers for transitional age youth crisis residential services, effective 9/10/22 - 6/30/24	\$1,570,226
8/9/22	The Priority Center, Ending the Generational Cycle of Trauma, Inc. for Children's In-Home Crisis Stabilization services, effective 9/10/22 - 6/30/24	\$1,579,998
8/9/22	Chorus Innovations, Inc. for Behavioral Health System Transformation OC Navigator services, effective 8/9/22 - 6/30/24	\$13,000,500
8/9/22	Waymakers for collaborative courts full-service partnership services, effective 9/10/22 - 6/30/23	\$866,669
8/23/22	Pathways Community Services, LLC for children's full service partnership/wraparound services, effective 9/10/22 - 6/30/24	\$5,229,426
8/23/22	Pathways Community Services, LLC for transitional age youth full service partnership/wraparound services 9/10/22 - 6/30/24	\$1,992,084
8/23/22	Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance, Inc. for children and transitional age youth full service partnership/wraparound services 9/10/22 - 6/30/24	\$1,779,184