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MENTAL HEALTH & RECOVERY SERVICES

MHRS UPDATE

DATE: April 20, 2023

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 April 2023

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

Housing Services: On 3/8/23, Jamboree Housing hosted a groundbreaking celebration for Paseo Adelanto in the city of San Juan Capistrano. Paseo Adelanto is a 50-unit affordable housing community that will have 24 units reserved for homeless individuals with serious mental illness. Onsite supportive services will be provided by Telecare Home First, Housing FSP. Paseo Adelanto construction is expected to be complete in April 2024.

Collaborative Services: During the release of a new solicitation for Spanish Speaking Full Service Partnership (FSP) Services and Veteran FSP Services, HCA received one proposal for Spanish Speaking FSP Services and is currently being evaluated. The date for the new Adult Vietnamese Speaking FSP contract to go out to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) was moved to 4/25/23. The Collaborative Court FSP (WIT program) had three graduations in March, for a total of seventeen graduations since the beginning of the fiscal year.

Older Adults Services (OAS): For the month of March, **the Older Adult Services Clinic** admitted 44 new clients, while 34 clients either graduated or successfully transitioned to a lower level of care. The OAS clinicians continue to prioritize getting homeless clients into stable housing such as assisted living facilities and subsidized senior housing. In addition, clinicians have referred over 28 clients to CalAIM supportive services to address food insecurity and homebound older adults. They also continue to assist clients and families with linkages to County Wellness and Senior Centers.

OASIS: For the Month of March OASIS enrolled 12 new members and discharged 10, with 1 discharge being a graduation. In addition, OASIS currently has 52 members successfully linked to independent housing. This month there were 11 medical hospitalizations and 4 psychiatric hospitalizations. OASIS continues to offer a variety of support groups to members to help decrease isolation and provide opportunities for members to socialize. In addition, 3 clinicians began training on PEARLS which is an evidence-based program to help Older Adults with depression. OASIS clinicians will begin to implement this treatment soon.

Central Services: The **Peer Mentoring (PM)** program operated by College Community Services, contains two Tracks, both of which are fully operational. Track 2 will expand their services to College Costa Mesa Hospital's (CCMH) Inpatient unit effective 4/12/23. Track 2 services will continue to be available at CCMH's Crisis Stabilization unit. In-person field visits are being conducted by peers in both Tracks. Staff

from both Tracks maintain contact with their clients to assist with their basic needs and options for available community resources.

The **Adult Supported Employment** program operated by Goodwill (GW), hosted their Job Club on 4/13/23, it offered tips and suggestions about seeking, obtaining, and maintaining employment. GW has established partnerships with our county and county-contracted programs, and their Job Club is offered as a remote service to clients/members in those programs.

Non-Emergency Transportation Services, currently operated by California Yellow Cab (CYC) is partnering with the three Wellness Centers to offer transportation services to members who are having difficulties in attending activities offered by the centers. Transportation services will be available by mid-April. CYC transportation services will be limited to only Wellness Center destinations and will be limited to 10 rides per month; trips will need to be pre-scheduled at least 24 hours in advance.

Children, Youth and Prevention Mental Health and Recovery Services

On 3/28/23, the BOS approved Amendment No. 1 to renew the Contract with Children's Hospital of Orange County (CHOC) for **Inpatient Mental Health Services for Youth** for the term of 7/1/23 – 6/30/24. The CHOC contract serves ages 3 - 17, provides inpatient psychiatric hospitalization services for SED/SMI children and youth experiencing a behavioral health crisis while allowing parents to stay on the unit with their children. Services include but are not limited to physician services, psychologist services, transportation services, case management, and therapy.

On 3/14/23, the BOS approved Amendment No. 2 to renew the Contract with Waymakers for provision of **FSP services for Collaborative Court (CC)** for the term of 7/1/23 – 6/30/25. The CCFSP target population is children and transitional age youth 12 - 21 with SED/SMI with Orange County Juvenile Court involvement. CCFSP employs the FSP “whatever it takes” approach to provide intensive field based behavioral health services that include case management, individual/family/group therapy, medication support, psychiatry, peer support, housing coordination as well as education and employment support and guidance. In support of the “whatever it takes” approach, CCFSP utilizes funding to support clients through targeted assistance related to, but not limited to, basic living expenses, housing, employment, specialty treatments and transportation.

Substance Use Disorder Mental Health and Recovery Services: The Alcohol & Drug Education & Prevention Team (ADEPT) supports the efforts of the Drug Enforcement Administration by promoting the National Prescription Drug Take Back Day, held every April and October since 2010. The purpose of Take Back Day is to remove unwanted, unused medications from the home to reduce access that may contribute to opioid misuse. This message is being communicated locally through a press release and on social media. Throughout the year, ADEPT staff conduct workshops on safe medication handling, which includes information on how to monitor, secure, and destroy unwanted prescriptions in the home. Additionally, the ADEPT website, <http://www.ochealthinfo.com/adept> provides a list of year-round medication drop boxes throughout Orange County.

MHRS continues to collaborate with several partners in educating the community regarding opioid overdose prevention, which includes training on administering Naloxone and distribution. The community forum held in Buena Park in March, which was in collaboration with the Buena Park Police Department and the Orange County Sheriff's Department, had nearly 100 participants. In Collaboration with Chairman Wagner's office, the next SUD forum will take place in Lake Forest on 4/26/23 with another event in Mission Viejo on 5/10/23. Additional forums are in the planning stages for the summer months.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

On 4/12/23, the MHSA Office held its final community planning meeting to review the **MHSA 3-Year Plan**, (20 meetings were held on the topic during the past 30 days). The 30-Day Public Comment for the Three-Year Plan ended on 4/18/23. Responses to those public comments will be included in the final version of the Plan that goes before the BOS for approval on 6/6/23. The MHSA Office would like to invite everyone to attend the in-person Behavioral Health Advisory Board Meeting's Public Hearing on the Three-Year Plan to be held on 4/26/23, from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm at the Delhi Center in Santa Ana. Additionally,

the MHSA Office will be holding the regularly scheduled planning meeting on 5/15/23 where there will be a review of the Community Planning Process for the past fiscal year and a discussion about what improvements the community would like to see implemented or changed for increased outreach and participation.