



Behavioral Health Services February 2025 Events/Highlights

Ian Kemmer

Email: ikemmer@ochca.com



Community Events

February 2025 Events

Feb 1 - Orange County Black History Parade & Unity Festival - D2
 Feb 1 - Chinese Lunar New Year Festival - D3
 Feb 4 - Santa Ana College- Staff Naloxone Training/distribution - D2
 Feb 4 - Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Lunar New Year Celebration - D2
 Feb 5 - Addressing the Opioid Crisis in OC Forum - D4
 Feb 6 - Community Emergency Response Team - Opioid prevention and Naloxone training - D5
 Feb 6 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D2
 Feb 7 - Rooted In Postivity: Pressed Flower Affirmation Cards - D4
 Feb 9 - Serenity Sundays - D4
 Feb 10 - Suicide Prevention, Intervention, and Safety Planning Training
 Feb 11 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 Feb 12 - Cal State Fullerton's Spring 2025 Agency Fair - D4
 Feb 13 - Orange Coast College Lunar New Year Celebration - D5
 Feb 13 - Western Youth Services- School Based Outreach - Fentanyl/Naloxone Training - D2
 Feb 13 - LHA Love as a Virtue Workshop - D2
 Feb 14 - APAIT Petals & Pigments - D2
 Feb 15 - Expressions of Hope: A Mental Health Awareness Art Exhibit - D1
 Feb 16 - Serenity Sundays - D4
 Feb 20 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 Feb 20 - LHA Heal Your Mind, Health Your Heart Workshop - D4
 Feb 21 - Mental Health Community Art Show Event "Setting Intentions" :Recovery and Growth Through Art - D2
 Feb 21 - SAUSD's We Care Wellness and Education Fair - D2
 Feb 21 - Hope Card Project at Veteran Art & Resource Expo - D5
 Feb 22 - City of Mission Viejo's Oso Fit Community Health Fair & 5K Run
 Feb 24 - Fentanyl and Naloxone Training - Dental Hygiene Students - D2
 Feb 25 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 Feb 26 - UC Irvine Mental Health Fair - D5
 Feb 26 - Santa Ana College Resource Fair - D2
 Feb 27 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4

March 2025 Upcoming Events

March 1 - Garden Grove USD's Resource Fair - D2
 March 1 - Cal Optima Health Community Resource Fair - D5
 March 1 - Veterans Stand Down - D2
 March 4 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 March 5 - Narcan Distribution - Los Alamitos Unified - D1
 March 6 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 March 7 - Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Pride Night - D2
 March 8 - Woman Veterans Mental Health Symposium - D5
 March 8 - 13th Annual Women Veterans in High Education Conference - D4
 March 9 - Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: UC Irvine Night - D2
 March 12 - Naloxone Training-Precious Life Shelter - D1
 March 13 - Esplanade Elementary School Fentanyl and Naloxone Training - D2
 March 13 - Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Fan Appreciation Night - D2

March 14 - Pacific Coast Church Opioid overdose prevention and naloxone training - D5
 March 14 - OC Veterans Community Network & Resource Fair - D1
 March 14 - Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Educators Appreciation Night - D2
 March 17 - LGBTQ Center OC Nutrition and Care Fair - D2
 March 18 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 March 22 - Operation Welcome Home Event - D1
 March 23 - Bond & Beyond Youth and Family Day - D1
 March 26 - Fullerton Free Church Annual Spiritual Event - D4
 March 27 - Naloxone training and distribution - D5
 March 27 - OC Same Day Solutions Fair - D2
 March 27 - 2025 Veterans Resource/ Health Fair
 March 28 - Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Healthcare Appreciation Night - D2
 March 28 - Student Day at Pacific Clinics/ Recovery Education Institute - D2
 March 28 - PYLUSD Wellness Parent Night - D4
 March 29 - Rio Vista PTA Annual Health Fest - D4
 March 29 - Supervisor Chaffee's Kids Fishing Derby - D4
 March 29 - Community Health Care & Social Services Fair - D1
 March 29 - Radiant Health Centers 39th Annual Gala - D2
 March 30 - City of Fullerton's Health & Wellness Fair - D4

April 2025 Upcoming Events

Apr 1 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D2
 Apr 3 - Godinez High School's Open House Event - D2
 Apr 3 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 Apr 5 - UPLIFT U - D4
 Apr 8 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D2
 Apr 9 - Anaheim Unified High School Parents- Naloxone training and distribution - D2
 Apr 9 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D4
 Apr 10 - Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighborhood Pop-Up Event - D2
 Apr 10 - La Quinta High School's Resource Fair 2025 - D1
 Apr 16 - Community Suicide Prevention Coalition Meeting - D2
 Apr 17 - North Orange Community Education- Opioid, and Naloxone training - D2
 Apr 18 - Friendship Bracelets for Youth - D1
 Apr 22 - 6th WE CAN Annual Conference on Child Abuse and Maltreatment - Naloxone Training and Distribution - D2
 Apr 22 - CSU Fullerton Mental Health Resource Fair - D4
 Apr 22 - Friendship Bracelets for Adults - D1
 Apr 26 - Orange County Superhero 5K Run/Walk & Health + Safety Expo - D5
 Apr 27 - 2025 COR Community Health Expo - D5

Program Highlights

Adult & Older Adult Services (AOA):

- Intensive Outpatient Full Service Partnership & PACT: Three clients from TAO Central FSP successfully graduated from mental health diversion and had their charges dropped.
- Housing & Supportive Services:
 - Pelican Harbor, a Huntington Beach Senior Housing facility, and Wise Place apartments started move ins for MHSA units.
 - The Groundbreaking Ceremony for Lincoln Avenue Apartments took place on February 18, 2025. This project will include 55 units of affordable housing, 13 of which are funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA).
- OC4Vets: The contracts with US Vets, Working Wardrobes, and Child Guidance Center are ending June 30, 2025.

BHS Navigation

- Jail to Community Reentry Program (JCRP) took the initiative in coordinating the connection of the Long Term Care and Correction Health Services Medical Director to ensure they could discuss the required documents that would be needed for Public Guardian's office conserves in gathering and completing referrals for clients.
- OC Outreach & Engagement (OC O&E) North & Central SPA had the first biweekly collaborative meeting with Healthcare in Action, CalOptima's street medicine provider in Anaheim and Garden Grove, setting the tone for what a collaborative working relationship between Healthcare in Action and OC O&E would look like.
- Prop 36 became effective in December 2024. JCRP and BHS Substance Use Disorder created a workflow to assist with conducting American Society of Addiction Medicine evaluations for individuals to be assessed while incarcerated in Orange County jails. As of February 21, 2025, JCRP began receiving these PROP 36 ASAM requests and has begun completing the assessments.
- OC O&E's South SPA submitted three Care Court petitions in the month of February.

BHS/MHSA Program Planning and Administration Program

- Innovation:
 - **PIVOT INN Project:** The INN Staff have begun internal planning meetings to set up the structure of the project, including component staffing patterns and roles, identifying project managers and champions, and finalizing negotiations with an evaluation vendor. Staff was also invited to present project status updates at the Behavioral Health Advisory Board Older Adult Committee and will begin attending regularly to support PIVOT component activities.
 - **Psychiatric Advance Directives:** INN Staff launched the initial pilot of the PADs digital platform on February 24, 2025. The INN Staff hosted a successful kickoff meeting for Peer Support Specialists and Service Chiefs from the PACT, AOT and CARE program to announce the launch and address any questions. INN Staff will host ongoing monthly implementation meetings to gather staff feedback, address challenges and resolve potential barriers to successful implementation.

- Office of Wellness and Suicide Prevention:
 - The Office of Wellness and Suicide Prevention (OWSP) had another active month, participating in a variety of events throughout the County, engaging more than 300 individuals and families in activities that promoted and supported discussion around mental health issues, suicide prevention and mental health resources available in Orange County. Additionally, OWSP team member, Jennifer Que, facilitated the Hope Card Project with The Boys and Girls Club of Irvine and the Wellness Center South.



- On January 15, 2025, the Office of Suicide Prevention welcomed over 40 community members at this quarter's CSPC meeting, held in partnership with Access California Services. HCA's Behavioral Health Services Training Services Administrator Teresa Renteria presented on workplaces wellness, its crucial role in suicide prevention, and our BHS Workplace Wellness Advocate program. Attendees participated in an interactive goal-setting activity in support of our suicide prevention plan for OC. These goals include increasing awareness about suicide prevention, increasing connectedness between communities, increasing detection, providing crisis care, connecting suicide loss survivors to support, and reducing access to lethal means. Organizations and members also shared updates about program services and upcoming community events.



Children & Youth Services (CYS)

- Western Youth Services Anaheim clinic began conducting Incredible Years Parenting Groups in Spanish with childcare offered to families.
- Waymakers Guidance Center launched a new group therapy program in January called Skills for Life, which uses the five core Dialectical Behavioral Therapy modules of mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotion regulation, interpersonal effectiveness, and dialectics. Participants will learn simple and effective techniques to help them feel more in control of their emotions and in turn improve their overall mental well-being.

Crisis and Acute Care (CAC):

- On February 5, 2025, the new Mobile Crisis Unit note went live in the Electronic Health Records. The buildout of the new Mobile Crisis Unit progress notes took extensive collaboration between the Crisis Assessment Team (CAT) leadership, IRIS Liaison Team and IT to develop.
- On February 7, 2025, CAT began piloting providing transportation for adult clients experiencing a mental health crisis to Crisis Stabilization receiving facilities using retrofitted County vehicles.

Forensics:

- Clinical Stepdown Committee: The clinical stepdown committee will meet monthly to discuss cases that are ready to stepdown from LPS 60 days prior to their annual re-hearing. These will be cases that Public Guardian's office identifies as not suitable for recertification of LPS. The committee will be made up of representatives from Public Guardian, LPS Forensic Psychology, AOT, CARE, FSP's. The purpose is to create a nexus and close the gap when stepping down from LPS; and to increase appropriate referrals to the appropriate programs. Case conferences will begin January 1, 2025
- CARE FSP Dismissed Client Outreach: CARE FSP to provide outreach, engagement and support to dismissed CARE clients. To effectively outreach dismissed clients from the Care Act program, CARE FSP will focus on different client categories and collecting relevant data. By following this workflow and collecting comprehensive data, CARE FSP can effectively manage outreach efforts for dismissed clients, enhancing engagement and program success.
- Mental Health Collaborative Courts:
 - Assisted Outpatient Treatment Voluntary Treatment Linkage: 3
 - CARE Petitions Received: 11
 - LPS Forensic Psychology:
 - LPS Conservatorship Hearings: 56
 - Murphy Conservatorship Reports: 4
 - Jury Trials in Process: 3

Substance Use Disorder (SUD):

- Prop 36 now has 12 individuals who have plead into the program as of February 21, 2025. Most of the individuals being evaluated continue to be unhoused Medi-Cal beneficiaries, who are being referred to residential treatment. The Prop 36 program continues to refine processes to facilitate the evaluation process.

Community Education Presentations

- SUD will be addressing the opioid crisis and providing Naloxone training and distribution at the upcoming events:
 - 2/4/25 - Santa Ana College Naloxone Training - Santa Ana
 - 2/5/25 - Cal State Fullerton Opioid Forum - Fullerton
 - 2/6/25 - Mobile FRC Naloxone Distribution - Anaheim
 - 2/6/25 - Community Emergency Response Team - Fentanyl and Naloxone training - San Juan Capistrano
 - 2/11/25 - Mobile FRC Naloxone Distribution - Anaheim
 - 2/13/25 - Western Youth Services - Naloxone training - Santa Ana
 - 2/20/25 - Mobile FRC Naloxone Distribution - Anaheim
 - 2/24/25 - West Coast University Dental Hygiene Students Fentanyl and Naloxone training - Anaheim
 - 2/20/25 - Mobile FRC Naloxone Distribution - Anaheim
 - 2/26/25 - Santa Ana College Resource Fair Naloxone distribution - Santa Ana
 - 2/27/25 - Mobile FRC Naloxone Distribution - Anaheim
- CAC:
 - 2/6/25: As part of the North Orange County Public Safety Collaborative, Service Chief's presented on the Crisis Continuum with emphasis on OC Links, CAT and Outreach and Engagement programs.
 - 2/11/25: Service Chief's presented on the Crisis Continuum with emphasis on OC Links and CAT at Fullerton College.
 - 2/13/25: The Crisis Assessment Team HSM participated as a guest speaker on the CCMU & BHJIS New Cohort Panel, discussing Navigating Challenging Scenarios in Mobile Crisis Response.

Highlights of the Month

- AOA- Outpatient: Anaheim Outpatient Clinic received positive feedback from two clients about the clubhouse and the groups. Last month they had 286 visitors, with 42 new attendees.
 - Client 1: "I think that the clubhouse is a great place to visit. I also think that the groups are awesome. The staff are very courteous and willing to help"
 - Client 2: "I would like to share how wonderful it is to know the 'Clubhouse' is here because it changes my whole day. It's a safe place to talk, do crafts, or go to group. It is very homey."
- BHS Navigation: A client had identified his concern that due to his struggles of being homeless, he had barriers to reporting to probation officers and the mental health program upon his release. The client shared that he was trying to survive upon release and that reporting to probation did not become a priority as he could not get there. JCRP identified his extensive history of homelessness. A JCRP clinician and OC O&E staff collaborated on a plan to ensure the client's release would be successful by assisting the client in connecting with his probation officer and his treatment program. With extensive collaboration, JCRP provided a warm handoff of the client to OC O&E at the jail lobby on the day of release. OC O&E took the client to probation and a contracted FSP, where he was later housed.

- BHS Navigation: OC O&E team responded in collaboration with OC Sherriff Department for a male client who had experienced unsheltered homelessness for several years, was nearly blind, and was well-known by the Midway City Police Department and Huntington Beach Police Department. This participant expressed that he was ready to get help and didn't want to spend the rest of his life on the streets. In February 2025, he was matched to a housing opportunity and OC O&E assisted this participant in moving into his own apartment in Huntington Beach. He shared that he could see a car wash from his apartment balcony, where he used to sleep for years. He thanked our team for being part of his journey.
- CYS: Children and Youth Services West had their first Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) graduation. After many challenges this family faced in the beginning of treatment, they successfully completed PCIT with the support of two PCIT clinicians working tirelessly to make this happen. This family demonstrated courage, dedication, discipline and flexibility throughout the entire process. Both caregiver and child have developed and maintained skills that will make a positive impact for the rest of their life.
- MHSA: NAMI served a parent participant who enrolled in the FSS program in search of hope and help with moving forward after a traumatic instance with their daughter. Their daughter was diagnosed as paranoid schizophrenia and had stabbed her mother in a state of psychosis a few months prior. NAMI spent weeks talking on the phone with the family, listening and thoughtfully asking questions about their experience. Through this, NAMI was able to identify a support system and resources for the family. By NAMI's second month, the staff was able to create a detailed self-care plan, focusing on setting and maintaining boundaries as a part of self-care. Recently, the participant expressed their appreciation to NAMI staff. While they initially were unsure that they would be able to find hope again after experiencing a traumatic event with their daughter, having someone with a non-judgmental attitude to talk to regularly to help process their situation was a huge stepping stone for their healing journey.
- SUD: One of our county-operated SUD programs received a phone call from a grateful parent of a client who entered treatment in September. Client had been a victim of sex trafficking and was specifically placed in a treatment program with a focus on trauma. The client successfully completed the program and is currently residing in a recovery residence while attending a community college to pursue a trade to become an aesthetician.