

VENTURA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD  
**GENERAL MEETING**

MINUTES

**September 18, 2017**

**NEXT MEETING:**

Monday, October 16, 2017  
1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Ventura County Behavioral Health Administration  
1911 Williams Drive, Training Room ♦ Oxnard, CA 93036

Note: The Behavioral Health Advisory Board has not yet approved these minutes. There may be additions/deletions or corrections before the minutes are accepted in final form.

**BHAB Members Present**

Jerry Harris, Chair  
Ratan Bhavnani, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair  
Gane Brooking, Member at Large  
Janis Gardner, Member Emeritus  
Claudia Grimaldo  
Mary Haffner  
Cmdr. Ron Nelson  
Denise Nielsen  
Supervisor Linda Parks  
Irene Pinkard  
Kay Wilson-Bolton

**BHAB Members Absent**

Claudia Armann  
Karyn Bates, 1st Vice Chair  
Nancy Borchard, Secretary  
Monique Garcia  
Larry Hicks  
Patricia Mowlavi  
Marlen Torres  
Sidney White

**Others Present**

Marika Collins, Casa Pacifica  
Anthony Marron, Pacific Clinics  
Kelli Daher, Pacific Clinics  
Jerry Weaver  
David Deutsch, NAMI  
Sara Bavar, NAMI  
Sally Harrison, County CEO's Office  
Deanna S. Wilson  
Craig Wilson  
Jason Meek, Turning Point Foundation  
Kalie Matisek, Turning Point Foundation  
Mark Stadler, CIT  
Gabe Teran, VCOE  
Brian B.  
Ana Avendano Torres

**VCBH Managers/Staff Present**

Elaine Crandall, Director  
Greg Bergan, MHSA  
Hilary Carson, MHSA  
Leisa Donovan, Fiscal Manager  
Dan Hicks, Prevention Manager  
Sevet Johnson, Adult Division Manager  
Pete Pringle, Youth & Family Division Chief  
Kiran Sahota, MHSA Manager  
Naveen Sangwan, MHSA  
John Schipper, Adult Division Chief  
Maryza Seal, Contracts Manager  
Deborah Thurber, M.D., Youth & Family Medical Director  
Terri Yanez, Administrative Division Chief  
Patrick Zarate, COO and Alcohol & Drug Programs Manager  
Edith Pham, BHAB Assistant

	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE
I.	<b>Call to Order</b> Chair Harris called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.		
II.	<b>Approval of the Agenda</b> Mr. Harris asked the Board to review and approve today's agenda. Ratan Bhavnani moved to approve, Irene Pinkard seconded. Mr. Harris noted the need to move up action items XIV.E., Appointment of Member-At-Large, and XVI., Contracts, as several Board members will leave early, resulting in a loss of quorum. The motion passed unanimously as amended.	The agenda was approved as amended. <b>M/S/C</b>	
III.	<b>Approval of the Minutes</b> Mr. Harris asked the Board to review and approve the minutes of the August 21, 2017 meeting. Cmdr. Ron Nelson moved to approve, Janis Gardner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.	The minutes were approved as written. <b>M/S/C</b>	
IV.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Mr. Harris welcomed everyone, especially new member Claudia Grimaldo, and asked BHAB members to introduce themselves.		
V.	<b>Recognition: McKian Nielsen, Outgoing BHAB Member</b> Mr. Bhavnani, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, presented McKian Nielsen with a Certificate of Commendation for "[...] serving on the Mental Health Board from January 2012 until its sunset in 2013. He then served on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board from September 2013 until September 2017. Additionally, for three and a half years he took on the leadership role of Chair of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board's Transitional Age Youth Committee. [...] he modeled recovery for consumers." Mr. Bhavnani, Janis Gardner, Denise Nielsen, Supervisor Parks, Mary Haffner, David Deutsch, and Mr. Harris thanked Mr. Nielsen for his work as a dynamic presenter at NAMI's In Our Own Voice presentations, for helping families learn about available resources, for being an inspiration to people struggling with a mental illness, and for his service to the community. Mr. Nielsen thanked all mental health professionals, the BHAB Members, and his family for their help and support.		
VI.	<b>Public Comments</b> David Deutsch noted that at the recent NAMI California conference, Elaine Crandall was recognized as the organization's 2017 Outstanding Mental Health Director. Mr. Bhavnani was recognized for his work on the NAMI California Board. NAMI Ventura County will hold its 1 <sup>st</sup> Evening at the Theater Fundraising Gala on October 21 <sup>st</sup> at Newbury Park High School. At NAMI General Meeting on September 12 <sup>th</sup> Supervisor Parks presented on the nursery project; this was well received.  Gabriel Teran of the Ventura County Office of Education's Friday Night Live noted that 16 local middle- and high-school students attended a statewide youth ethanol summit in Anaheim. Many represented communities with low social economic status. Information can be found at fnlvc.com.		
VII.	<b>Chair's Report</b> A. Objectives/Goal Setting Management Theory Mr. Harris congratulated Ms. Crandall for her award and read the recognition that was presented to her at the NAMI California conference. Mr. Harris noted all that public comments can be made either during the general Public Comments segment or during specific agenda item discussions; note this on the Public Comments card. Comments can also be made at the end of the meetings. Mr. Harris wants to improve communication between the board and its committees, and the effectiveness of achieving the BHAB objectives. He spoke about moving from		

	<p>needs to satisfaction of the needs through work and the importance of managing work in order to achieve desired outcomes.</p> <p>B. Events and Announcements – Janis Gardner</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Opioid Solutions Summit on August 29<sup>th</sup> was well attended.</li> <li>2. Suicide Prevention Council meetings are held the first Friday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at VCBH, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor. All are welcome.</li> <li>3. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Suicide Prevention Conference will be on September 20<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>4. Driving, Rx Drugs and Aging Community discussion will be presented by David Tovar of VCBH Prevention on September 28<sup>th</sup> in Ventura.</li> <li>5. Pacific Clinics TAY Tunnel 10 Years Open House will be on September 29<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>6. Proposal for leasing housing for homeless: the Board of Supervisors will be asked to authorize staff to develop a master leasing program and to seek out landlords.</li> <li>7. Straight Up Reality Parties for parents on October 21<sup>st</sup> in Thousand Oaks.</li> </ol>		
VIII.	<p><b>Board Members Comments and Announcements</b></p> <p>Gane Brooking noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• she recently attended a training at The Arc of Ventura County. Presenters were with the National Center on Criminal Justice and Disability; many law enforcement agencies were represented.</li> <li>• The Continuum of Care has submitted to the Board of Supervisors a request to declare a housing crisis in the county.</li> <li>• On September 14<sup>th</sup> the Culture and Equity Advisory Committee met; of the many ideas that were discussed, four were chosen for focus of implementation: support of the families of those who have been deported, services to the older adult population, signage in the clinics, and child care for parents coming to the clinics for services.</li> <li>• At the Opioid Solutions Summit held on August 29<sup>th</sup>, one of the presenters, Sam Quinonez, noted that many people are in emotional pain.</li> </ul> <p>Mr. Bhavnani noted that the recent two-day NAMI California conference was preceded by a multicultural symposium, which Elaine Crandall attended; Arcenio Lopez, MICOP Executive Director, presented on the Mixteco.</p>		
IX.	<p><b>Presentation: Nursery Project – Supervisor Parks</b></p> <p>Supervisor Parks gave information about a proposal to duplicate a program in San Luis Obispo that assists people with mental illness through horticultural therapy and vocational training. The site being considered is in Camarillo, on County-owned land between Casa Pacifica and Villa Calleguas.</p> <p>Supervisor Parks introduced Craig Wilson, who has been working with the Growing Grounds nursery in San Luis Obispo for 13 years, and Jason Meeks, Executive Director of Turning Point Foundation, a prospective associate. She encouraged all to submit name suggestions for the local program.</p> <p>See attached for details.</p> <p>Mary Haffner thanked Supervisor Parks for her vision.</p> <p>Kay Wilson-Bolton voiced her support for this innovative project. She would like to see VCBH apply for MHSA Innovations funding to start the project.</p> <p>Cmdr. Nelson suggested “The Seeds You Plant” as a name for the project. He noted that the county jail has a vocational training program for horticulture which may be able to provide some labor in the weed-clearing stage.</p> <p>Mr. Bhavnani hopes that Supervisor Parks will continue to support the project for many years.</p>	Information	
X.	<p><b>Director’s Report - Terri Yanez, Kiran Sahota, Dr. John Schipper for Elaine Crandall</b></p> <p>Terri Yanez noted that VCBH was approached by the Department of Rehabilitation to collaborate on an employment program for Transitional Age Youth (TAY).</p> <p>Kiran Sahota reviewed the flow chart describing the process that Innovations ideas go through. In late July she held three forums in the community, which generated ideas for innovations. Ideas can also come from VCBH staff.</p>	Information	

	<p>Dr. John Schipper reported on the Rapid Integrated Support and Engagement (RISE) program, which is funded by the Triage SB82 grant funds due to expire in 2018. Staff from the State’s Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) spent two days locally earlier in the month to review the program. They went out in the field with RISE staff to meet some of the clients who are served by RISE. Data shows a reduction in the number of hospitalizations, crisis team contacts, screenings for hospitalizations, and incarceration.</p> <p>Kay Wilson-Bolton asked how to serve those who are not interested in services. She also feels that there is a shortage of services in the Santa Clara Valley. Dr. Schipper noted that staff build rapport over many contacts.</p> <p>Mary Haffner feels there is a lack of resources to meet the needs. She asked about the training of staff who outreach to the homeless. Dr. Schipper noted that RISE is a multi-disciplinary team.</p>		
XI.	<p><b>Chief Operations Officer’s Update – Patrick Zarate</b> The Office of Traffic Safety is impressed with the work of VCBH, including the brief VCBH Public Service Announcements on drunk driving that were shown.</p> <p>Data from the Medical Examiner’s office show a drop in overdose deaths in Ventura County, although opioid use remains high. See attached “Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths Ventura County 2008-2016” and an article published in the Ventura County Star: “Ventura County opioid overdose deaths fell 23 percent last year, new data says.”</p> <p>Dan Hicks reviewed the data on overdose death. He noted that the Rx Drug and Heroin Workgroup was founded in 2012 and the concerted efforts to distribute naloxone kits and engage medical providers began in earnest in 2014. Results are encouraging, but much effort is still needed.</p>	Information	
XII.	<p><b>Secretary’s Report – Nancy Borchard</b> In Ms. Borchard’s absence, Mr. Harris noted that Monique Garcia’s term will expire on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, and Larry Hicks’ term will expire on December 1<sup>st</sup>; it is not known whether they are interested in continuing on the board. Supervisor Foy is working to find a replacement for McKian Nielsen.</p>		
XIII.	<p><b>BHAB Committees Reports</b></p> <p>A. Adult Services Committee – Karyn Bates, Nancy Borchard, Co-Chairs Both are absent. This report will be carried over to the October meeting.</p> <p>B. Prevention Committee – Janis Gardner, Chair This report will be carried over to the October meeting.</p> <p>C. Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Committee – Cmdr. Ron Nelson, Chair The Committee went dark in August. All are invited to the next meeting on September 28<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>D. Youth &amp; Family Committee – Denise Nielsen, Chair Ms. Nielsen thanked Mr. Harris and Ms. Brooking for attending the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, during which the Committee reviewed its Annual Report. The main concerns are related to the dissemination of information presented during the meetings and on finding ways to engage parents. The Committee would like to hold one or two meetings a year in the community.</p>	Information	
XIV.	<p><b>New Business</b></p> <p>A. 2017 Data Notebook – Behavioral Health Services for Older Adults</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Appoint BHAB Lead: Karyn Bates has accepted to lead this project, as she has in previous years. Ms. Gardner agreed to serve as her back-up.</li> <li>2. Request Members to Serve on Workgroup: Nancy Borchard and Gane Brooking agreed to serve. Other BHAB members are invited to participate.</li> </ol>	<p>Data Notebook Leads</p> <p>Serve on work-group</p>	<p>K. Bates, J. Gardner</p> <p>N. Borchard G. Brooking</p>

	<p><b>B. Follow-up to RISE Stakeholder Meeting held on September 7 with Representatives from the MHSOAC</b> As discussed during the Director’s Report (see above), the state was impressed by the program, the field visit, the attendance at the stakeholder meeting (law enforcement, Crisis Intervention Team, emergency room nurse, BHAB members), and the level of collaboration between the agencies.</p> <p><b>C. End of Year Meeting Schedule</b> The board agreed to go dark in December as in the past. It agreed to have a potluck lunch from noon to 1:00 p.m. just prior to the November 20<sup>th</sup> General Meeting.</p> <p><b>D. January and February 2018 Meeting Schedule</b> Due to the Martin Luther King, Jr. and Presidents’ Day holidays, the General meetings will be held on the fourth Monday of January and February 2018.</p> <p><b>E. Appointment of a Member-At-Large</b> Mr. Harris noted that Ms. Brooking’s term as Member-At-Large is ending. He is impressed with her work and involvement and proposed reappointing her for a second six-month term. Cmdr. Nelson made a motion to approve, Mary Haffner seconded. The motion passed unanimously.</p>	<p>Dark in December. Potluck lunch in November</p> <p>January, February meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday</p> <p>Reappoint Gane Brooking as Member-At-Large <b>M/S/C</b></p>	
<b>XV.</b>	<p><b>Old Business</b></p> <p><b>A. Annual Report Update</b> The Committees are finalizing their Annual Reports, which will be included in the BHAB Annual Report.</p> <p><b>B. Assessment of 2016-17 Objectives Follow-up</b> Mr. Harris requested that all BHAB members complete the assessment form. He noted that BHAB objectives are not assigned to anyone in particular; this is a weakness.</p> <p><b>C. Recommendation for Recognition Awards</b> Mr. Harris asked that BHAB members contact BHAB Assistant Edith Pham when they have a recommendation for recognition awards.</p> <p><b>D. Recommendations for Board Presentations</b> Mr. Bhavnani requested a presentation on No Place Like Home. Kiran Sahota noted that this will be included in the October presentation on the Continuum of Care.</p>	<p>Complete Objective Assessment form</p>	<p>All BHAB members</p>
<b>XVI.</b>	<p><b>Contracts</b> Mr. Zarate submitted the following contracts, to be voted on by the Board of Supervisors (see attached Executive Summary for details):</p> <p><b>A. Board of Supervisors Agenda – September 19, 2017</b> 1. Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Lourdes Campbell &amp; Associates (Lourdes Campbell) Amendment</p> <p><b>B. Board of Supervisors Agenda - September 26, 2017</b> 1. FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18 Aurora Vista Del Mar (Vista Del Mar) Amendment and Contract</p> <p>Mary Haffner moved to approve sending the contracts to the Board of Supervisors, Ms. Gardner seconded. The motion passes unanimously.</p>	<p>The Board approved sending the contracts to the BOS as submitted. <b>M/S/C</b></p>	
<b>XVII.</b>	<p><b>Public Comments</b> None.</p>		
<b>XVIII.</b>	<p><b>Adjourn</b> The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.</p>		

## Behavioral Health Advisory Board GENERAL Meeting Attendance

2017-18	Terms	Members	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
District 1	9/13/16 – 3/10/18	Claudia Arman	X	X	X									
District 1	10/6/15 – 10/6/18	Karyn Bates	X	X										
District 2	2/23/16 – 2/23/19	Ratan Bhavnani	X	X	X									
District 3	1/27/15 – 1/26/18	Nancy Borchard	X	X										
District 3	1/12/16 – 1/12/19	Gane Brooking	X		X									
District 5	9/24/14 – 9/23/17	Monique Garcia	X											
District 2	4/7/15 – 4/7/18	Janis Gardner	X	X	X									
District 2	9/12/17 – 1/7/19	Claudia Grimaldo			X									
District 1	4/7/15 – 4/7/18	Mary Haffner	X	X	X									
District 4	9/17/13 – 9/17/16	Jerry Harris	X	X	X									
District 3	12/2/14 – 12/1/17	Larry Hicks	X											
District 2	3/14/17 – 3/14/20	Patricia Mowlavi	X											
District 2	1/1/17 – 12/31/18	Supervisor Linda Parks	X	X	X									
District 4	10/13/15 – 10/13/18	Cmdr. Ron Nelson	X	X	X									
District 4	9/17/15 – 9/17/18	Denise Nielsen	X	X	X									
District 5	1/24/17 – 1/24/20	Dr. Irene Pinkard		X	X									
District 5	1/10/17 – 1/10/20	Marlen Torres	X											
District 1	3/10/15 – 3/10/18	Sidney White, AICP	X											
District 3	4/14/15 – 4/14/18	Kay Wilson-Bolton	X	X	X									
District 5	1/11/15 – 1/10/18	Sandra Wolfe	X	x	X									

District 4		vacant												
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Present = X

- District 1     Supervisor Bennett
- District 2     Supervisor Parks
- District 3     Supervisor Long
- District 4     Supervisor Foy
- District 5     Supervisor Zaragoza

# PREVENTING SUICIDE HELP & HOPE

2ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE • WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2017  
8:00 AM – 12:30 PM • OXNARD COLLEGE • FREE

With suicide on the rise nationwide, how can we make a difference in our community?

Workshops in English and Spanish including “Minority Stress and Student Risk: What we know and what we need to learn” and “Suicide in the Latino Population with emphasis on Latinas”

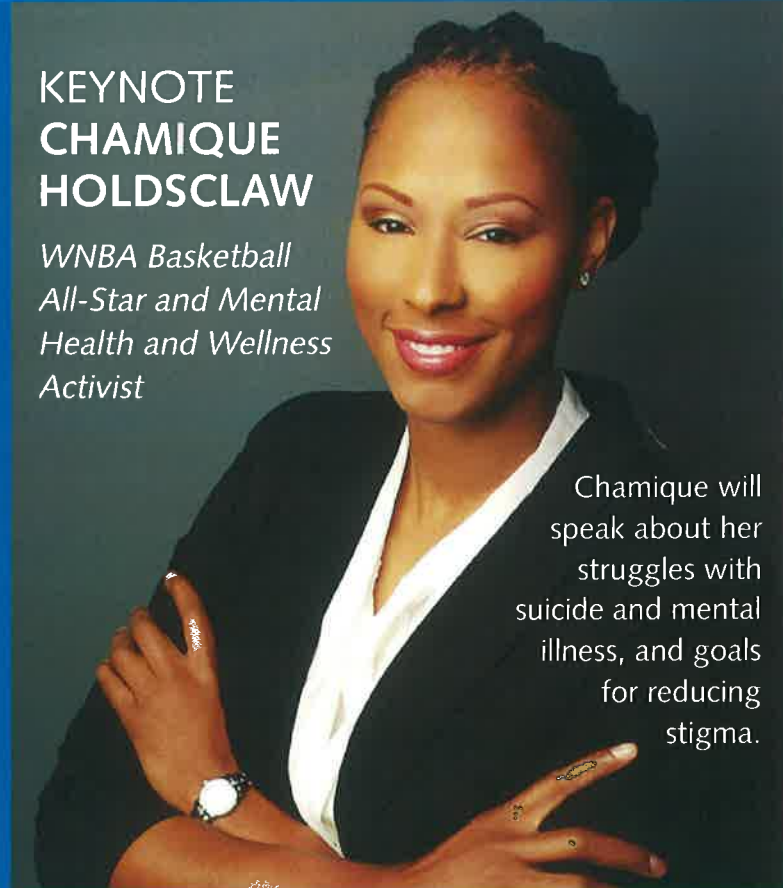
Community Resource Tables

Free On-Site Parking

Must Preregister by Sept. 15, 2017.

## KEYNOTE CHAMIQUE HOLDSCLAW

*WNBA Basketball  
All-Star and Mental  
Health and Wellness  
Activist*



Chamique will speak about her struggles with suicide and mental illness, and goals for reducing stigma.

## REGISTER NOW!

[www.helpandhope2017.eventbrite.com](http://www.helpandhope2017.eventbrite.com)



For more information, email [mhsa@ventura.org](mailto:mhsa@ventura.org).

Made possible through funding from Ventura County Behavioral Health through the Mental Health Services Act, in partnership with Oxnard College.

# PREVENCIÓN DEL SUICIDIO AYUDA Y ESPERANZA

2DA. CONFERENCIA ANUAL • MIÉRCOLES 20 DE SEPTIEMBRE DE 2017  
8:00 AM – 12:30 PM • EN OXNARD COLLEGE • GRATIS

CONFERENCISTA  
PRINCIPAL  
**CHAMIQUE  
HOLDSCLAW**

*Estrella del Baloncesto  
"WNBA All-Star" y  
activista de la salud  
mental y el  
bienestar físico*

Chamique  
hablará de su  
batalla personal  
contra el suicidio y la  
enfermedad mental  
y de las metas para  
reducir este estigma.

Con el suicidio en aumento en todo el país, ¿cómo podemos hacer una diferencia en nuestra comunidad?

Talleres en inglés y español:

- El estrés de las minorías y el riesgo en los estudiantes
- Riesgo de suicidio en generaciones
- En busca de ayuda contra el suicidio: Romper con la cultura del silencio en los hogares hispanos
- El suicidio en la población latina

Mesas para Recursos Comunitarios

Estacionamiento gratis.

Deberá inscribirse antes del 15 de sept. de 2017.

## ¡REGÍSTRESE AHORA!

[www.ayudayesperanza2017.eventbrite.com](http://www.ayudayesperanza2017.eventbrite.com)



Para obtener más información escriba a correo electrónico [mhsa@ventura.org](mailto:mhsa@ventura.org).

Posible gracias al financiamiento de Ventura County Behavioral Health mediante la Ley de Servicios para la Salud Mental, en colaboración con Oxnard College.

# DRIVING

# RX DRUGS

# &

# AGING

VENTURA COUNCIL FOR SENIORS  
5200 VALENTINE ROAD  
VENTURA, CALIFORNIA  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017

## V.A.C.E.

## @ 9:30AM

LUNCH PROVIDED BY DOWNTOWN VENTURA ROTARY

JOIN US FOR AN  
EXPERT PANEL AND  
**COMMUNITY  
CONVERSATION**  
**BRING ANY  
UNUSED OR EXPIRED  
MEDICATION**  
TO DISPOSE OF PROPERLY

## RSVP @

[805] 973-5376 OR

DAVID.TOVAR@VENTURA.ORG



VENTURA COUNTY  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
ALCOHOL & DRUG PROGRAMS



# Pacific Clinics

ADVANCING BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE

## *Celebrating Pacific Clinics TAY Tunnel 10 years Open House*

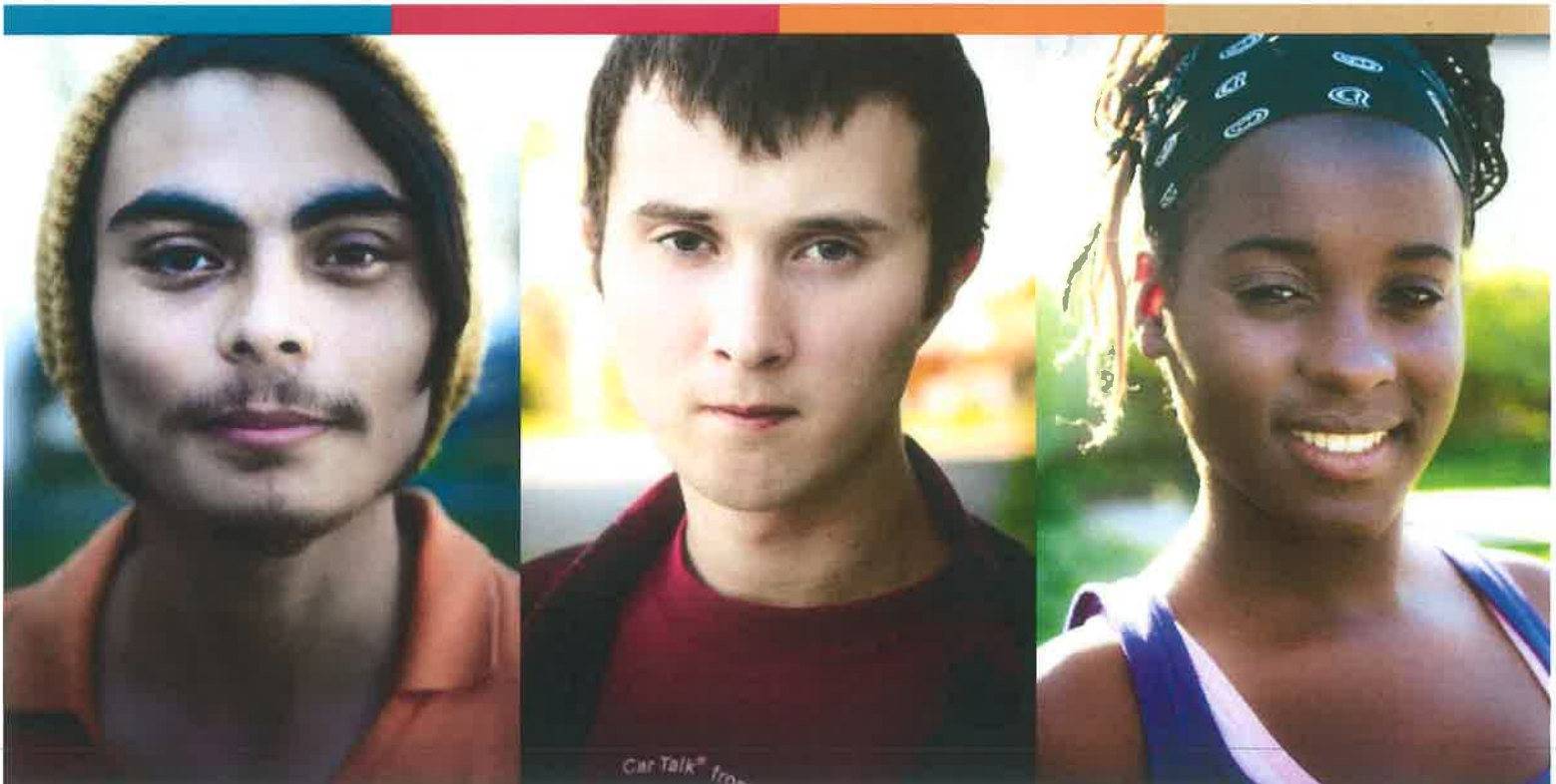
Come join Pacific Clinics TAY Tunnel in celebrating  
10 years of proudly serving our community.

September 29, 2017  
11:00 AM to 2:00 PM

Pacific Clinics TAY Tunnel  
141 W. Fifth St. Ste. D  
Oxnard CA 93030

For more information contact Vanessa Cortez  
at [vcortez@pacificclinics.org](mailto:vcortez@pacificclinics.org) or at 805-240-2538

Please Submit RSVP by September 8, 2017  
[www.tinyurl.com/taytenyears](http://www.tinyurl.com/taytenyears)



Straight Up – in collaboration with community partners – invites you to a...

# Reality Party for Parents

Exposing today's  
teen party culture



## Facing reality

Many adults feel drinking and partying are a rite of passage and think teen parties are the same as when they were young. Straight Up youth want parents to face the current realities and learn why and how we need adults to help change these dangerous social norms.

## What you will see

Reality Parties are open to the public (adults only) and are FREE. Participants will tour a home set up to portray a teen party with youth actors voicing concerns expressed by local teens and young adults.

**DATE.....** Saturday, October 21, 2017

**TIME .....** 2:00-6:30pm (*Reservations required*)  
One-hour tours start every half hour

**PLACE ....** A home in Thousand Oaks  
*Address given when you register for a tour*

## REGISTER ONLINE:

[www.straightupvc.org/register](http://www.straightupvc.org/register)

## MORE INFO:

[info@StraightUpVC.org](mailto:info@StraightUpVC.org)  
805-647-4622

**STRAIGHT UP**  
*reality impro*



**Get Involved! Make a Difference!  
Get Community Service Hours!**

  
**STRAIGHT UP**  
*reality improv*



Engaging youth and young adults in creating social change

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

**Straight Up is currently seeking young people for a “Reality Party for Parents!”**

**Saturday, October 21st in Thousand Oaks!**

*\*High school and older. All-day commitment (9am – 8pm). Food provided.*



Learn more about  
Reality Parties for Parents  
[straightupvc.org/realityparties](http://straightupvc.org/realityparties)



To volunteer, apply on  
our website today!  
[straightupvc.org/volunteer](http://straightupvc.org/volunteer)

*Straight Up is made possible through funding from Ventura County Behavioral Health Department, Alcohol and Drug Programs*



**@straightupvc**

**805-338-8646** (texts preferred)  
[info@straightupvc.org](mailto:info@straightupvc.org)



**What is  
Growing  
Grounds?**

Growing Grounds Ventura County is a proposal to assist people with mental illness on a path to wellness with job-training, employment, and horticultural therapy at a non-profit plant nursery.

## Why a plant nursery?

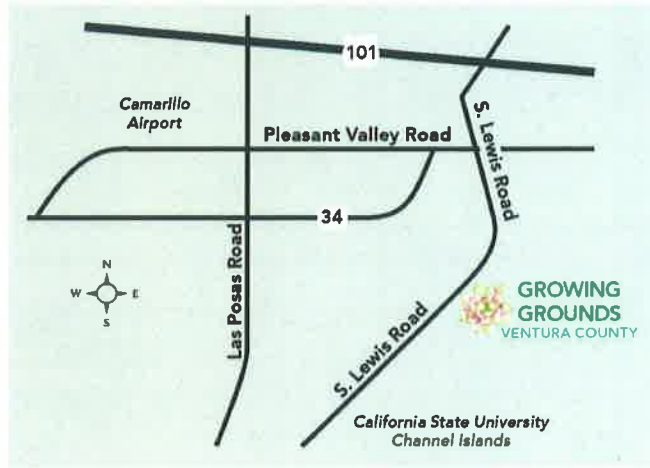
Using a combination of horticultural therapy and vocational training, Growing Grounds provides employment and a supportive environment for personal growth. Employees work in a supervised setting that rewards responsibility and initiative, and strengthens their social skills among peers. Working outdoors significantly contributes to recovery from mental illness and supports physical health too.



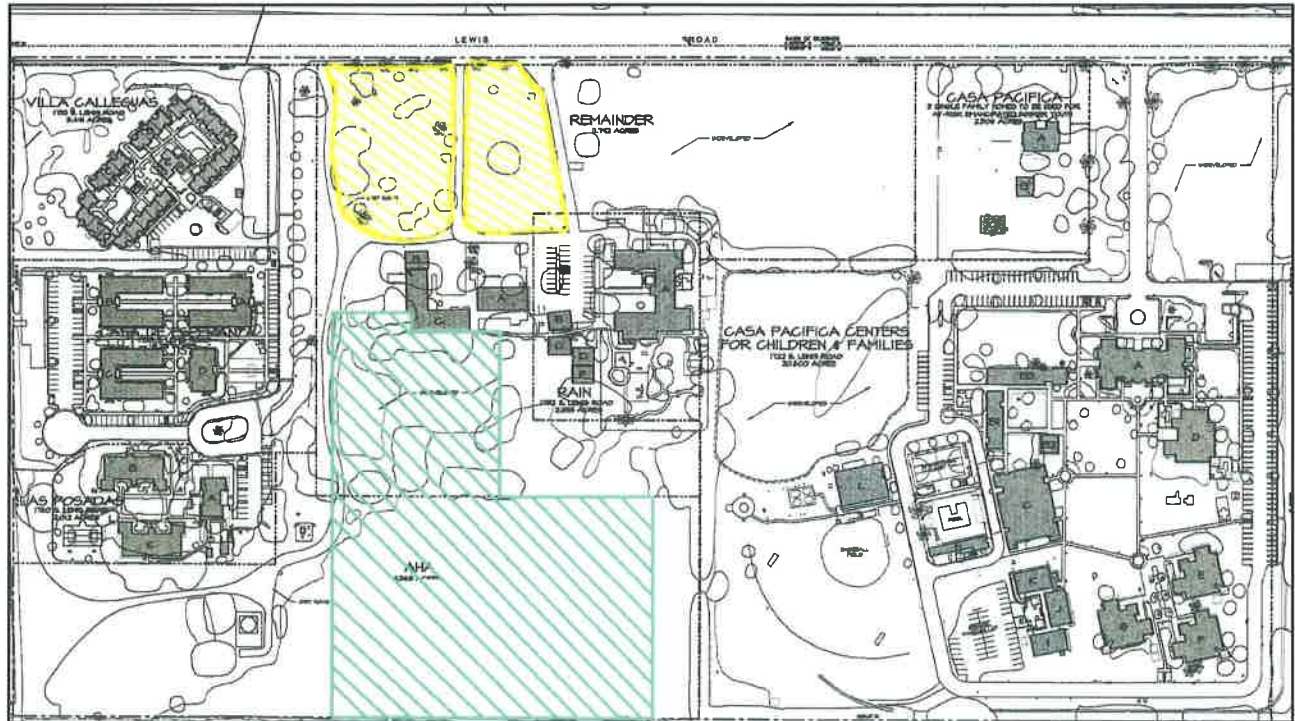
## How is Growing Grounds funded?

Growing Grounds grows and sells high quality, drought tolerant plants including California natives, Mediterranean perennials, and succulents. Plant sales, job training services, and financial contributions help to sustain the operation.

# Where would Growing Grounds be located?



The proposed site of the nursery is on Lewis Road in Camarillo. The County-owned property has several acres of vacant land and a building with office and classroom space, and restrooms. It is also adjacent to housing for people with mental illness and near CSUCI.









## Prospective Associates

- California Institute for Social Business (CISB) at California State University Channel Islands
- Ventura County Community Foundation
- Ventura County Behavioral Health Department
- Turning Point Foundation
- Transitions-Mental Health Association



## Prospective Customers

- County of Ventura
- California State University Channel Islands
- Naval Base Ventura County
- Local Restoration Projects
- Retail Nurseries
- Local Landscapers



## Prospective Employees

- Ventura County Behavioral Health clients
- CA Department of Rehabilitation clients
- Residents of Supportive Housing - Villa Calleguas, Casa de Esperanza



## Prospective Volunteers

- Master Gardeners
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- The Client Network
- CSUCI Center for Community Engagement Service Learning
- Surfrider Foundation
- Community Volunteers



## Prospective Start-Up Helpers

- SeaBees
- Agromin
- Resources Legacy Fund
- California Conservation Corps
- Gold Coast Health Plan



## The Start-Up Organization

- Linda Parks, Start-Up Coordinator
- Dennis Perry, Nursery Manager
- Craig Wilson, Employee Manager
- Merrill Berge, Nursery Sales
- Ken Bauer, Fundraising Coordinator



*Judge each day not by the  
harvest you reap, but by  
the seeds you plant.*

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON

## *Growing Grounds Ventura County*

### **What is Growing Grounds Ventura County?**

Growing Grounds Ventura County is a proposal to bring to Ventura County a successful job training program for people with mental illness. Originated in Central California in 1984, Growing Grounds provides a safe environment where people with mental illness receive employment and job training at a non-profit plant nursery that sells native and drought tolerant plants.



### **Why a plant nursery?**

Using a combination of horticultural therapy and vocational training, Growing Grounds provides employment opportunities and a supportive environment for personal growth. Employees work in a supervised setting that rewards responsibility and initiative, where employees strengthen their social skills among peers. While physical and at times demanding, working outdoors significantly contributes to recovery from mental illness and supports physical health too.

### **How is Growing Grounds funded?**

Growing Grounds grows and sells high quality, drought tolerant plants including California natives, Mediterranean perennials, and succulents. Plant sales, job training services, and contributions help to sustain the operation.

### **Where would Growing Grounds be located?**

The proposed site of the nursery is on Lewis Road in Camarillo on land owned by the County of Ventura. The location has several acres of vacant land and a building with office and classroom space, and restrooms. The site is immediately adjacent to housing for people with mental illness, and near a prospective partner, California State University Channel Islands.



*"Judge each day not by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds you plant."*

*- Robert Louis Stevenson*

*Growing  
Grounds  
Ventura County*

**PROSPECTIVE  
PARTNERS**

Supervisor Linda Parks  
(805) 214-2510  
Linda.Parks@ventura.org

# Growing Grounds

Ventura County

## PROSPECTIVE PARTNERS



- California Institute for Social Business at California State University Channel Islands
- VC Community Foundation
- VC Behavioral Health Department
- Turning Point Foundation
- Transitions-Mental Health Association
- PathPoint

### The Associates

#### The Customers

- County of Ventura
- Ventura County Watershed Protection District
- Cal State University Channel Islands
- Naval Base Ventura County
- Local Restoration Projects
- Local Landscapers

#### The Employees

- VC Behavioral Health clients
- CA Dept of Rehab clients
- Residents of Supportive Housing-Villa Calleguas, Casa de Esperanza

### The Start-Up Organization

- Linda Parks, Start-Up Coordinator
- Dennis Perry, Nursery Manager
- Craig Wilson, Employee Manager
- Merrill Berge, Nursery Sales
- Ken Bauer, Fundraising Coordinator

### The Start-Up Helpers

- SeaBees
- Agromin
- Resources Legacy Fund
- California Conservation Corps
- Gold Coast Health Plan

### The Volunteers

- UC Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- The Client Network
- CSUCI Center for Community Engagement Service Learning
- Surfriider Foundation
- Community Volunteers



# Director's Report

## State News

1. AB 1250 (Jones-Sawyer) County Contracting Authority – Held in Senate Rules Committee, Becomes a Two Year Bill
  - AB 1250, the de facto ban on county contracting, was held in Senate Rules Committee with no further action taken by the Senate. The final week of session was spent debunking rumors and the false narrative spread by the proponents in an effort to peel back the strong coalition in opposition in the Senate. Over 500 diverse coalition members, including 55 counties, worked to stop AB 1250 and the erosion of boards of supervisors' authority to provide services in the most effective, efficient way possible to their counties' residents and visitors.

## Local News

1. Ventura County wins the 2017 CSAC Merit Award for the "Safe Alprazolam Prescribing and Benzodiazepine Monitoring Program". Kudos to Dr Woods, Dr Taylor, and Patty Yoshida for their achievements!
2. Mental Health Co-Op Agreement with the State Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) – (Terri Yanez)
  - The Department is working with the State DOR for an employment program that focuses on transitional aged youth (TAY).
  - The Co-Op Agreement is with the County BHD, the State DOR and the Federal Government.
  - The agreement provides for a \$3.63 ROI from the Feds for every dollar invested, in addition to the return of the initial investment to the BHD budget.
  - The ROI is split with the Department of Rehabilitation, who will provide job placement, DOR related case management, and supported services funds to support employment.
  - Services to TAY will include, social, emotional services, job preparation, job placement, supported services, and case management.
  - While many of the details are being worked out, it is expected to finalize by Spring of 2018.
3. Status of Innovations - (Kiran Sahota)
  - Please see flow chart for process.
4. RISE outcomes and Triage Grant - (John Schipper)
  - The RISE Program is funded by the Triage SB82 grant funds. It is due to expire in 2018 and the State is considering what the scope of the RFP should be.
  - Please see PowerPoint.



September 18, 2017

# RAPID INTEGRATED SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT (RISE): AN OVERVIEW OF PRELIMINARY OUTCOME DATA

John Schipper, Ph.D.  
Adult Division Chief

## Demographics

Ethnicity	
Not Hispanic	44%
Mexican/Mexican American	31%
Hispanic/Latin	11%
Unknown	13%
Other	1%

Gender	
Males	48%
Female	52%

Homeless Referrals	
Outreach (pre-RISE)	28%
RISE Admissions	18%


### Previous Treatment

35% of those over age 18 had history of prior VCBH outpatient enrollment




## Enrollment by Age Group

	No. of clients FY14-15	No. of clients FY15-16	No. of clients FY16-17	No. of clients FY17-18	Total no. of clients	Percent of total clients	Avg age at last RISE contact
<b>Pre-RISE Outreach</b>							
Adults (26-60)	286	421	893	58	1,658	65.1%	42.4
Older Adults (60+)	34	65	88	4	191	7.5%	64.9
Transitional-Aged Youth (18-26)	45	123	251	12	431	16.9%	22.1
Youth & Family (0-18)	45	61	159	1	266	10.4%	13.7
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>1391</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>2,546</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>37.7</b>
<b>RISE Enrolled</b>							
Adults (26-60)	228	265	280	56	829	51.4%	42.1
Older Adults (60+)	18	28	27	9	82	5.1%	65.5
Transitional-Aged Youth (18-26)	62	80	95	22	259	16.1%	22
Youth & Family (0-18)	109	123	176	34	442	27.4%	13.8
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>417</b>	<b>496</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>1,612</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>35.8</b>


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## Utilization of All VCBH Services

<b>Pre-RISE Outreach</b>	
Hospitalizations	<b>19.3%</b>
Crisis Team Contacts	<b>17.5%</b>
Screens for Hospitalization	<b>39.3%</b>
All Other Services	23.9%
<b>RISE Enrolled</b>	
Hospitalizations	<b>17.9%</b>
Crisis Team Contacts	<b>16.2%</b>
Screens for Hospitalization	<b>31.5%</b>
All Other Services	34.4%


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### Comparison of Emergency Services Pre- and Post-RISE Admission (without Y&F)

	Frequency		
	24-months pre	24-months post	% change
Hospitalizations	391	287	-26.6%
Crisis Team Contacts	434	375	-13.5%
Screens for Hospitalization	761	609	-19.9%

**The total number of days spent in the hospital increased in the post-admission period and was associated with an average increase in length of stay from 5.1 days to 9.8 days per admission.**

	Frequency		
	24-months pre	24-months post	% change
Outpatient enrollments	156	716	359.0%
Locked placements	1	10	900.0%
Unlocked placements	7	19	171.4%

**Forty-one percent (41%) of those enrolled with VCBH via RISE since inception remain open with an average length of admission of 263 days.**


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### Comparison of Incarcerations Pre- and Post-RISE Admission (without Y&F)

Estimated Percentage with Jail History*	47.2%
Average Number of Total Incarcerations	8.0
Average Number Days in Jail	176.6

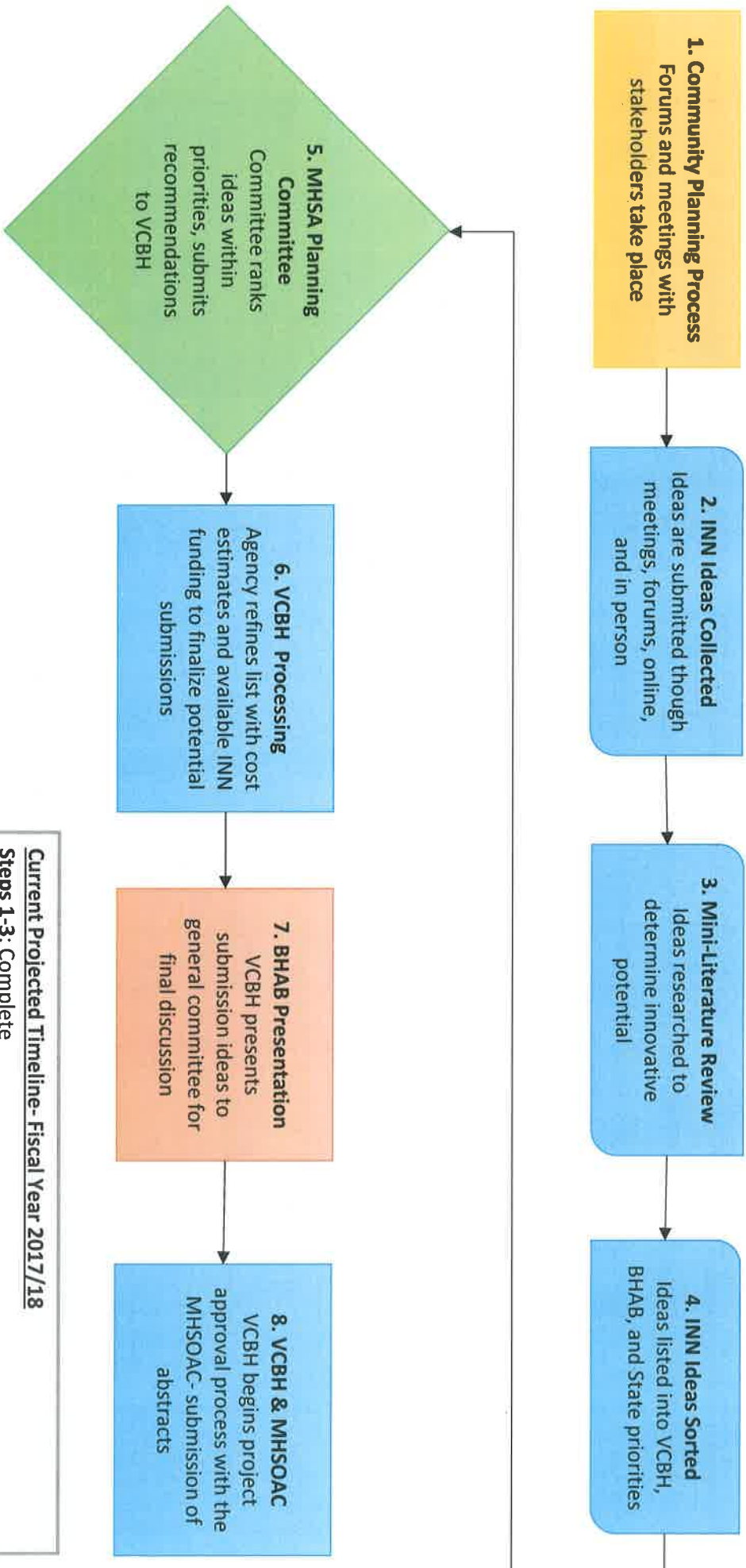
  

	24-months pre	24-months post	% change
Jail Days	967	225	-76.7%

\*Estimated from a random sample (n=100)


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# Innovations Funding Idea Submission Process



**Current Projected Timeline- Fiscal Year 2017/18**  
**Steps 1-3: Complete**  
**Step 4:** Projected completion end of September  
**Step 5:** Projected completion mid-October  
**Step 6:** Projected completion by November  
**Step 7:** Projected date December 18 BHAB general meeting  
**Step 8:** Proposal abstracts submitted to the State beginning in January.

## MEMORANDUM

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DATE: September 14, 2017

TO: Behavioral Health Advisory Board

FROM: Contracts Administration

SUBJECT: Board of Supervisors Agenda

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### Executive Summary

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) will be requesting Board of Supervisors approval for the following:

#### Board Agenda – September 19, 2017

##### **1. Fiscal Year (FY) 2016-17 Lourdes Campbell & Associates (Lourdes Campbell) Amendment.**

Lourdes Campbell provides interpretation services for VCBH in clinics and community meetings. Interpreter services are critical to ensuring the client understands the treatment plan and knows how to safely administer medication. Lourdes Campbell also provides translation of documents from English to Spanish and interpretation at community meetings. In FY 2015-16, Lourdes Campbell provided 4,677 hours of service at an annual expense of \$352,703. In FY 2016-17, Lourdes Campbell provided 5,090 hours of service at an annual expense of \$432,625. The increase in the service hours was caused by additional numbers of non-English speaking clients including Spanish, American Sign Language (ASL), and Mixteco. The highest percentage of languages interpreted by the contractor are: Spanish (85%), ASL (4%), Mixteco (2%), Cambodian (2%), and Vietnamese (2%).

The FY 2016-17 Lourdes Campbell agreement provided \$381,000 to fund translation services. Lourdes Campbell exceeded the maximum contract amount by \$51,625. An increase to the contract is needed to remit payment to the contractor for services rendered in May and June of 2017. This contract is funded by Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and Short Doyle Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (SD/MC FFP) funding.

VCBH is proposing approval of and authorization for the Purchasing Agent or designee to increase the agreement with Lourdes Campbell for VCBH services from \$381,000 to \$432,625 (an increase of \$51,625), effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Board Agenda – September 26, 2017

**2. FY 2016-17 and FY 2017-18 Aurora Vista Del Mar (Vista Del Mar) Amendment and Contract.**

**This item was presented previously to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board, but it has since been revised and moved to this board date.**

***FY 2016-17 Vista Del Mar Amendment-*** Vista Del Mar is an acute psychiatric inpatient hospital located in Ventura, California. In FY 2016-17, VCBH contracted with Vista Del Mar to provide 100 treatment days of psychiatric inpatient hospital services for Ventura County indigent adolescents/adults and adolescent/adult Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The maximum contract amount for these services was \$75,000. The agreement was increased to \$99,250 (132 treatment days) to cover billing through June of 2017. A total of 21 patients (5 uninsured youth, 7 uninsured adults, and 9 adults with Medi-Cal (between the ages of 21 to 64) were admitted to Vista Del Mar in FY 2016-17. In July of 2017, VCBH received invoices for 5 patients who were admitted in the months of March, April, and June for a total of 110 days. Of the 110 days billed, 78 days were for a patient with both Medicare and Medi-Cal insurance. Vista Del Mar billed Medicare as the primary insurance and were informed that the patient had exhausted all Medicare inpatient hospital benefits. This caused a delay in invoice submission to VCBH.

Under VCBH's Managed Care Agreement (MCA) with the Department of Health Care Services, and 42 Code of Federal Regulations part 438.114 (2016), VCBH is obligated to pay for services for emergency and post-stabilization psychiatric services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries, whether or not the provider has a contract with VCBH or the County of Ventura. While VCBH did not authorize treatment for the 5 patients invoiced in July of 2017, VCBH is obligated under the MCA to pay for these services as the 5 patients were Medi-Cal beneficiaries receiving qualifying emergency or post-stabilization psychiatric treatment. The proposed amendment reflects an increase of \$68,000 to pay for all services rendered to qualifying patients admitted to Vista Del Mar in FY 2016-17, at a rate of \$750 per day. This contract is funded with Realignment funding.

VCBH is proposing approval of and authorization for the Purchasing Agent or designee to sign the amendment to the contract for psychiatric inpatient hospital services, in the amount of \$167,250, effective July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

***FY 2017-18 Vista Del Mar Contract -*** Under a new contract with VCBH, Vista Del Mar will continue to provide psychiatric inpatient hospital services to Ventura County adolescents/adults who are uninsured or are Medi-Cal beneficiaries. Under the new contract, the adolescent rate will increase from \$750 to \$800 per day (an increase of \$50) and the adult rate will remain unchanged at \$750 per day. VCBH is collaborating with Vista Del Mar, County Inpatient Psychiatric Unit, and hospital emergency rooms to closely monitor patient admissions. This contract is funded with Realignment and County General funds.

VCBH is proposing approval for the Purchasing Agent or designee to sign the contract for psychiatric inpatient hospital services with Vista Del Mar, in the amount of \$150,000, effective September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 (the FY 2016-17 contract was extended for two months, from July 1, 2017 through August 31, 2017, to allow for additional time to negotiate the FY 2017-18 contract).