

VENTURA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

GENERAL MEETING

MINUTES

June 20, 2022

NEXT MEETING:

Monday, July 18, 2022

1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

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

Claudia Armann
Nancy Borchard, Member-At-Large
Genevieve Flores-Haro
Cmdr. James Fryhoff
Janis Gardner, Secretary
Jerry Harris, Member (Chair) Emeritus
Cheryl Heitmann
Carol J. Keavney
Supv. Matt LaVere
Jennifer Morrison
Michael Rodriguez, Chair
Elizabeth R. Stone
Chris Tejada, 2nd Vice Chair
Carol Thomas
Marlen Torres
Liz Warren

BHAB Members Absent

Soledad Barragán
Gane Brooking
Kevin Clerici
Stephanie Escoto
Patricia Mowlavi

Others Present

Sherri Block, VCMC/Inpatient Psychiatric Unit
David Deutsch, Cal State University-Northridge
Roberta Griego, NAMI Ventura County
Priscila Hazrun, Homeland Language Services
Sue Hughes, County Executive Office
Erin Olivera, VCMC/Inpatient Psychiatric Unit
Gina Petrus, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission
Lourdes Solorzano, Supv. Matt LaVere's Office
Lorena Suarez, Homeland Language Services
Mridini Vijay, California Association of Local Behavioral Health
Boards & Commissions
Scott Walker, Crisis Intervention Team

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Managers and Staff Present

Dr. Loretta Denering, Assistant Director
Ophra Ashur, Compliance Sr. Behavioral Health Manager
Hilary Carson, MHSA Sr. Program Administrator
Cheryl Fox, Youth & Family Services Division Chief
Dan Hicks, Prevention Behavioral Health Manager
Kathy Mulford, Substance Use Services Interim Division Chief
Estela Ortega, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity
Administrative Assistant
Joanna Peterson, Management Assistant/Zoom Engineer
Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky, MHSA Senior Behavioral Health Manager
Cynthia Salas, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity Equity
Services Manager
Sara Sanchez, Access & Outreach Services Division Chief
Dr. John Schipper, Adult Services Division Chief
Vickie Poliquin, BHAB Assistant

| | DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS | RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS | RESPONSIBLE |
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| I. | Call to Order Chair Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm. Joanna Peterson provided instructions on how to access interpretation services. | | |
| II. | Board Member Roll Call Ms. Gardner conducted the calling of the roll and confirmed that a quorum of the Board members exists. | | |
| III. | Welcome and Introductions Mr. Rodriguez welcomed all attendees, congratulated Cmdr. James Fryhoff on being elected as Ventura County Sheriff who will be sworn-into office in January 2023 and thanked Mr. Tejada for filling in as Chair during the latter part of last month's meeting while he was absent. Mr. Rodriguez advised that he would be leaving today's meeting early and thanked Mr. Tejada, in advance, for filling in as Chair. Mr. Rodriguez responded to a statement made at last month's meeting that he was potentially in possession of a confidential report issued by the County and noted that he was not in possession of a confidential report but had quoted language from a document that was distributed to members of the BHAB. All BHAB members introduced themselves. | | |
| IV. | Approval of the Agenda Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Gardner moved to approve; Ms. Thomas seconded. Mr. Rodriguez asked that agenda items XIII. A, B and C be moved to follow agenda item V. – Approval of the Minutes. Ms. Stone asked that the New Business items be moved to follow agenda item VI – Public Comments. Ms. Gardner asked that agenda item XIII. B be moved to precede agenda item XIII. A. Ms. Gardner restated the motion to include the requested amendments; Ms. Thomas seconded. The motion to approve the amended agenda carried unanimously through roll call. | Agenda approved as amended. M/S/C | |
| V. | Approval of the Minutes Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the May 16, 2022 meeting. Mr. Harris moved to approve; Ms. Gardner seconded. The motion to approve the minutes as written carried by majority vote through roll call with three abstentions. | General Meeting minutes approved as written. M/S/C | |
| VI. | Public Comments Mr. Harris commented on the BHAB's desire to empower people within its membership noting that the BHAB has never elected a consumer as its Chair. Ms. Borchard noted that Karen Bates was the BHAB Chair many years ago and was a consumer. Mr. Rodriguez asked that the slate of officers be presented followed by an opportunity for BHAB members to make comments. | | |
| VII. | Chair Comments Mr. Rodriguez advised that he needed to leave the meeting, tabled this agenda item and advised that Mr. Tejada would Chair the remainder of the meeting. | | |
| VIII. | Assistant Director's Report Dr. Denering congratulated Cmdr. Fryhoff on his election to Ventura County Sheriff and highlighted several items from her update (attached to the minutes for reference). Dr. Denering provided additional information regarding VCBH's Peer Program and specialty mental health delivery systems effective July 1 as well as updated information on the scholarship application process and applications for grandparenting into the Peer Support Specialist Program. Ms. Heitmann inquired about supervision for Peer Support Specialists. Dr. Denering and Dr. John Schipper responded with specific information noting that Clinic Administrators will provide dual-role administrative supervision. Dr. John Schipper responded to an additional inquiry from Ms. Heitman regarding the specific work being done by the Peer Support Specialists. Ms. Stone and Ms. Warren provided additional details related to the role requirements and specific support that will be provided by Peer Support Specialists. | | |
| IX. | Board Members Comments and Announcements Ms. Warren shared that the Client Network hosted a Fiesta on May 5 coinciding with Cinco de Mayo at Sunrise Board & Care consisting of a buffet lunch, games, raffles, gift card giveaways, bus passes and T-shirts for everyone, including staff. The Client Network co-hosted with | | |

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| | <p>Turning Point Foundation to provide a Memorial Day BBQ at Thompson Place and Oak View Board & Care in Camarillo and provided similar gift items. The two events served a total of 166 clients and the Client Network is pleased to resume these activities that are being brought to the clients within the community.</p> <p>Ms. Stone shared that last week she attended the California Mental Health Peer Run Organization’s Lead Program Conference in Sacramento where she provided two workshops on Shared Decision-Making. Additionally, Ms. Stone provided an update under the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) grant where she provides support for people either directly or in advocacy roles for mental health, substance use, periods of homelessness or in the justice system that they have moved into new offices which will allow for expansion of some of the direct services and to train additional people.</p> <p>Ms. Torres shared that Gold Coast Health Plan will launch a CalAIM Advisory Committee in the coming months and are currently accepting member applications. If interested, visit their website at https://www.goldcoasthealthplan.org/.</p> <p>Ms. Morrison shared that Dr. Jason Cooper was invited to a very productive meeting with District 4 on June 15. One discussion item was the lack of acknowledging receipt of emails sent to the Hillmont Psychiatric Center (HPC) from family members requesting conservatorships. According to Ms. Morrison, Dr. Cooper has agreed to personally acknowledge receipt of family member requests to provide families with assurance that their records will be reviewed, and consideration be given to their request. Ms. Morrison has asked Dr. Cooper to provide a presentation to the BHAB at a future date to provide an update and discuss other issues. It was clarified that Dr. Jason Cooper is the Medical Director for both the Inpatient Psychiatric Unit (IPU) and VCBH Outpatient Clinics.</p> | | |
| <p>X.</p> | <p>Secretary’s Report / Announcements</p> <p>Ms. Gardner reported good attendance with no extended absences and expressed appreciation to BHAB members for emailing the Chair, BHAB Assistant and herself when not available for meetings. There is one vacancy in District 4 and an opening for a practicing psychiatrist. Ms. Gardner advised that the BHAB members and the public are being asked for referrals to psychiatrists who may be interested in joining the BHAB.</p> <p>Ms. Gardner made the following announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supervisor Ramirez presented a Resolution proclaiming June as National Gun Violence Awareness Month. ▪ June is National Pride Month celebrating LGBTQ+. ▪ Oxnard City Council approved an agreement with the County to fund a portion of a five-story, 110-bed shelter and permanent supportive housing complex in downtown Oxnard called the Homeless Solutions Center. Construction will begin on July 27, 2022, for completion in February 2024. ▪ On June 21, the Board of Supervisors approved modifications to the 2018 Ventura County Administrative Policy Manual. Chapters 11 through 21 are entitled, The Code of Conduct for Members of Boards & Commissions and County Volunteers. Dr. Denering will provide additional information once the modified Administrative Policy Manual is available. | | |
| <p>XII.</p> | <p>BHAB Committee Reports</p> <p>A. Youth & Family Services Committee (June 8 meeting) – Janis Gardner for Kevin Clerici, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee meeting met for its regular agenda and was also utilized as a “trial run” for holding hybrid BHAB meetings (in-person and virtually via Zoom). Reported that everything went very well, and kudos were provided to staff on handling the logistics and to all participants who made it work. • An excellent presentation was provided on the High School Wellness Centers. There are currently Wellness Centers on eight campuses countywide within five school districts (Oxnard, Ventura, Fillmore, Moorpark and Santa Paula) that work to prevent and destigmatize mental illness in youth from becoming severe and disabling and provide safe and supportive environments where high school students can discuss concerns and needs in a confidential, nonjudgmental space. There are trained professional clinicians involved at each center, however the most powerful resource are student peers supporting other students. Each center was designed by students and is unique at each campus. The Wellness Centers are very impressive, and it would be great to see additional clinicians/resources and centers on more high school campuses. | | |

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| | <p>B. Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Committee (June 15 meeting) – Elizabeth R. Stone, Chair</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee provided an exciting opportunity to break down communication barriers that can exist between departments and entities. • The Director of the Continuum of Care spoke about housing along with a representative from the Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) and from VCBH creating an opportunity to openly share what each area is doing which will lead to further connections outside of the meeting setting to gain traction for housing opportunities. • Jennifer Harkey, Director of the Continuum of Care, spoke about her attendance at the groundbreaking for Veterans’ Housing on Telephone Road in Ventura that will house individuals as well as some families. • Dr. John Schipper provided information and was open to input on ideas and suggestions from stakeholders to facilitate a community discussion for use of the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Plan (BHCIP) Round 4 funding focused on children and youth, if awarded. • Expressed disappointment that there was minimal meeting participation from transitional age youth who receive services and from TAY Tunnel, particularly with providing continual encouragement to participate and welcomes any suggestions for increase participation at the meetings. • A member expressed the need to increase services in the East County area, there was recognition of the scarcity and a discussion was held around different ways to alleviate the problem along with the fact that resources are scarce. | | |
| <p>XII.</p> | <p>Old Business</p> <p>A. Needs Assessment Update</p> <p>Mr. Tejeda deferred this agenda item to the next meeting for a more detailed update from Chair Rodriguez and provided a brief update noting that the submissions from vendors are currently being graded and once the grading is completed will collaboratively meet for an opportunity to follow-up, ask any additional questions and obtain any clarifications.</p> | | |
| <p>XIII.</p> | <p>New Business</p> <p><i>(This agenda item was heard following agenda item VI and XIII.B.)</i></p> <p>A. Confirm New Member-At-Large to Six-Month Term</p> <p>Mr. Rodriguez nominated Elizabeth R. Stone for the office of Member-At-Large and asked for a motion to confirm the appointment. Ms. Keavney moved to approve; Ms. Armann seconded. Ms. Heitmann inquired about the term and structure of the Member-At-Large position. Mr. Rodriguez clarified the responsibilities of the position that rotates on a 6-month basis, serves as a voting member on the Executive Committee and noted that Ms. Borchard served for twelve months due to an oversight to confirm a new Member-At-Large in January 2022. Ms. Thomas, Ms. Armann and Ms. Gardner commented to express appreciation to Ms. Stone’s work on the BHAB and for her willingness to serve in this capacity on the Executive Committee. Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to confirm Ms. Stone as the new Member-At-Large for a six-month term. The motion to confirm the appointment carried unanimously through roll call.</p> <p><i>(This agenda item was heard following agenda item VI.)</i></p> <p>B. Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2022-23 – Nominating Committee</p> <p>Mr. Rodriguez announced the following Slate of Officers prior to turning the agenda item over to the Nominating Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chair: Michael Rodriguez, Chris Tejeda ▪ 1st Vice Chair: Chris Tejeda, Jennifer Morrison ▪ 2nd Vice Chair: Nancy Borchard ▪ Secretary: Janis Gardner <p>Ms. Keavney announced that the Nominating Committee would conduct the vote for the election of its officers for Fiscal Year 2022-23 and announced each candidate for the four officer positions. Mr. Rodriguez suggested that candidates have an opportunity to address the BHAB prior to the vote.</p> <p>Mr. Tejeda announced that, while he appreciated the nomination and consideration, wished to withdraw from candidacy for the Chair position.</p> <p>Mr. Rodriguez proposed that comments be heard for the contested 1st Vice Chair position.</p> | <p>Motion to confirm the appointment of Elizabeth R. Stone as Member-At-Large approved. M/S/C</p> | |

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| <p>Mr. Morrison announced her withdrawal from candidacy for the 1st Vice Chair position.</p> <p>Mr. Rodriguez announced the Slate of Officers that will be voted upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Chair: Michael Rodriguez ▪ 1st Vice Chair: Chris Tejada ▪ 2nd Vice Chair: Nancy Borchard ▪ Secretary: Janis Gardner <p>Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to approve the Slate of Officers. Ms. Stone moved to approve; Ms. Warren seconded. The motion to approve the Slate of Officers carried unanimously through roll call.</p> <p>Ms. Stone thanked the Nominating Committee for its work and Ms. Thomas thanked Chair Rodriguez and complimented him on his competency, grace, poise and stability in taking the BHAB through very challenging times due to the pandemic.</p> <p><i>(This agenda item was heard following agenda item VI and XIII.A.)</i></p> <p>C. Brown Act Public Emergency Allowances / Teleconferences – Requirements for Local Boards and Commissions - Continue to Meet Remotely or Via a Hybrid Remote/In-Person Model</p> <p>Mr. Rodriguez advised that the Youth & Family Committee met successfully in-person in the large Training Room at VCBH and virtually via Zoom at its June 8 meeting noting that the technology and hardware worked well. Mr. Rodriguez proposed that all BHAB meetings be held in-person and virtually via Zoom effective July 1, 2022. To assist Administration staff with Training Room set-up, an email will be sent to all BHAB members one week in advance of the General meetings to request RSVP’s whether they plan to join the meeting in person. Mr. Tejada inquired about the availability for interpretation services for in-person meetings. Dr. Loretta Denering will follow-up with Cynthia Salas on the logistics for interpretation services for the in-person meetings. Mr. Rodriguez advised that the RSVP would serve as an estimate for Administration staff and will be flexible if members, at the last minute, change their mind to attend or not attend in-person. Ms. Stone suggested sending a “Save the Date” notice well in advance to members of the BHAB and public outlining COVID-19 protocols for people who may choose to attend meetings in-person. Mr. Rodriguez concurred with Ms. Stone’s suggestion and an informational notice will be sent.</p> <p>Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to hold all BHAB meetings via a hybrid remote/in-person model. Ms. Stone moved to approve holding all BHAB meetings in hybrid fashion effective July 1, 2022; Ms. Gardner seconded. The motion carried unanimously through roll call.</p> <p>D. Presentation Requests</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gold Coast Health Plan Presentation on Expanded Services under CalAIM – Ms. Torres or colleague representative. (requested by Ms. Stone) Agenda placement TBD. 2. Shared Decision-Making Workshops Overview from June Conference Presentation in Sacramento – Ms. Stone (requested by Ms. Keanvey). Agenda placement TBD. 3. Inpatient Psychiatric Unit (IPU) & VCBH Outpatient Clinics – Update from the Medical Director, Dr. Jason Cooper (requested by Ms. Morrison) Agenda placement TBD. <p><u>CARRY OVER ITEMS – FOR REFERENCE & TRACKING</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mental Health Diversion – Effects of Law Changes as of January 1 – Public Guardian’s Office or Multi-Agency (requested by Mr. Bhavnani) Mr. Rodriguez will provide additional information and Agenda placement TBD. 2. Homeless Court and Mental Health Diversion – Public Defender’s Office (requested by Mr. Tejada) Agenda placement TBD. 3. Writ Process for People on LPS Conservatorships / Overview of Training Sessions Held to Improve Adherence to WIC Guidelines – Public Guardian’s Office (requested by Ms. Morrison who will contact Public Guardian’s Office) Agenda placement TBD. 4. Mental Health Diversion Overview and Process – Public Defender’s Office (requested by Mr. Rodriguez) Agenda placement TBD. 5. Stepping Up Initiative – Cmdr. Fryhoff advised tentatively scheduled for July 18 but may be provided in August or September depending upon staff schedules. 6. MICOP’s Living with Love Program – Findings from Five-Year Evaluation (requested by Ms. Flores-Haro who noted that this may initially be presented at the Disparities Reduction Committee). | <p>Motion to approve the Slate of Officers approved. M/S/C</p> <p>Motion to hold all BHAB meetings in-person and virtually (hybrid) approved. M/S/C</p> | |
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| | <p>7. Rosenberg’s Rules of Order - Review and Discussion (requested by Ms. Heitman) Tentatively scheduled for August 15.</p> <p>8. Wellness Centers Presentation (requested by Ms. Gardner) Agenda placement upon completion of additional Wellness Centers and when updated presentation is available.</p> <p>E. Recognition Award Recommendations No new recommendations were received.</p> <p><u>CARRY OVER ITEMS – FOR REFERENCE & TRACKING</u></p> <p>1. Ratan Bhavnani – previous BHAB member (requested by BHAB members) (Agenda placement – July 18).</p> | | |
| XIV. | <p>Contracts</p> <p>Ms. Stone inquired about the purpose of the multiple contract amendments as presented as well as how VCBH measures outcomes and efficacy. Dr. Denering provided information about the annual contract renewal process and noted under CalAIM’s move to performance-based contracting, the State is standardizing many of its metrics and it will become easier to provide the BHAB with measured outcomes for both VCBH clinics as well as its contracted providers. The State’s goal is to align the outcomes across various health delivery systems so that each system is measuring outcomes in the same way. Mr. Tejeda inquired about the process followed when a contract needs to be amended that has already been approved by the Board of Supervisors and Dr. Denering provided a detailed response.</p> | | |
| XV. | <p>Public Comments</p> <p>Ms. Stone inquired about the timeline and announcement details for hiring a new Behavioral Health Director. Dr. Denering advised that information is not available at this time and that the announcement will be sent from the County’s Public Information Officer once the Board of Supervisors appoints a candidate.</p> | | |
| XVI. | <p>Adjourn</p> <p>Mr. Tejeda thanked everyone for participating in the meeting and encouraged members to also participate in the Executive Committee meetings where the General meeting agenda is discussed and formulated.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 2:40 PM</p> | | |

Behavioral Health Advisory Board GENERAL Meeting Attendance

| 2021-22 | Terms | Members | July | Aug | Sept | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar | Apr | May | June |
|---|---------------------|------------------------|------|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|
| District 1 | 03/11/21 – 03/10/24 | Claudia Armann | e | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| District 5 | 09/15/20 – 09/15/23 | Soledad Barragán | e | X | X | X | | | e | X | X | | e | |
| District 2 | 02/24/19 – 02/23/22 | Ratan Bhavnani | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | | | | | |
| District 3 | 01/26/21 – 01/26/24 | Nancy Borchard | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| District 3 | 01/13/22 – 01/12/25 | Gane Brooking | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | | X | X | |
| District 1 | 10/07/21 – 10/06/24 | Kevin Clerici | X | X | X | X | X | X | | X | X | X | X | |
| District 3 | 03/22/22 – 12/01/23 | Stephanie Escoto | | | | | | | | | | X | X | e |
| District 5 | 03/23/21 – 03/22/24 | Jose Estrada | X | X | | | | | | | | | | |
| District 4 | 10/14/21 - 10/13/24 | Jesse Finkbeiner | X | X | X | X | | | | | | | | |
| District 1 | 04/27/21 – 04/26/24 | Genevieve Flores-Haro | X | X | X | e | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| LE | 09/10/19 – 09/10/22 | Cmdr. James Fryhoff | e | X | X | e | X | X | e | e | X | e | e | X |
| District 3 | 04/15/21 – 04/14/24 | Janis Gardner | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | e | X | X | X | X |
| District 4 | 09/17/19 – 09/17/22 | Jerry Harris | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | e | X | X | X |
| District 1 | 05/11/21 – 05/10/24 | Cheryl Heitmann | X | X | X | X | X | X | e | X | X | X | X | X |
| District 2 | 01/08/22 – 01/07/25 | Carol J. Keavney | X | X | X | | X | e | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| BOS | 01/01/22 – 12/31/24 | Supervisor Matt LaVere | X | e | X | X | X | X | X | X | e | X | X | X |
| District 4 | 02/09/21 – 02/09/24 | Jennifer Morrison | X | X | e | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| District 2 | 03/15/20 – 03/15/23 | Patricia Mowlavi | X | X | X | X | X | X | e | X | X | X | X | |
| District 3 | 12/01/20 – 12/01/23 | Joe S. Ramirez | X | X | X | e | X | | | | | | | |
| District 5 | 01/25/20 – 01/24/23 | Michael Rodriguez | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| District 2 | 03/01/22 – 02/28/25 | Elizabeth R. Stone | | | | | | | | | X | X | X | X |
| District 4 | 09/18/21 – 09/17/24 | Christopher Tejada | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X | X |
| District 2 | 09/17/19 – 09/16/22 | Carol Thomas | X | X | X | X | e | | X | X | X | X | | X |
| District 5 | 01/11/20 – 01/24/23 | Marlen Torres | e | X | | X | X | e | | e | X | e | e | X |
| District 5 | 04/21/22 – 03/22/24 | Liz Warren | | | | | | | | | | | X | X |
| Optional: Practicing Psychiatrist | | VACANT | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Present = X

District 1: Supervisor LaVere

District 2: Supervisor Parks

District 3: Supervisor Long

District 4: Supervisor Huber

District 5: Supervisor Ramirez

Assistant Director's Update

BHAB General Meeting 6.20.22

June has the following days of significance to highlight:

LGBTQ+ Pride Month
National PTSD Awareness Month
June 14-20, National Men' Health Week
June 19, Juneteenth
June 19, Father's Day
June 27, National PTSD Awareness Day

California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal:

CalAIM is a multi-year initiative by DHCS to improve the quality of life and health outcomes of our population by implementing broad delivery system, program and payment reform across the Medi-Cal program. The major components of CalAIM build upon the successful outcomes of various pilots (including but not limited to the Whole Person Care Pilots (WPC), Health Homes Program (HHP), and the Coordinated Care Initiative) from the previous federal waivers and will result in a better quality of life for Medi-Cal members as well as long-term cost savings/avoidance.

CalAIM has three primary goals:

1. Identify and manage member risk and need through whole person care approaches and addressing Social Determinants of Health.
2. Move Medi-Cal to a more consistent and seamless system by reducing complexity and increasing flexibility; and
3. Improve quality outcomes, reduce health disparities, and drive delivery system transformation and innovation through value-based initiatives, modernization of systems, and payment reform.

Regarding County Mental Health Plans, the primary focus areas are:

- Behavioral health payment reform
- Revisions to behavioral health inpatient and outpatient medical necessity criteria for children and adults
- Administrative behavioral health integration statewide
- Regional contracting
- Substance use disorder managed care program renewal and policy improvements

DHCS formally released the CalAIM proposal on October 29, 2019, at the [Stakeholder Advisory Committee \(SAC\)](#) and [Behavioral Health Stakeholder Advisory Committee \(BH-SAC\)](#) meetings. Between November 2019 and February 2020, DHCS conducted extensive stakeholder engagement for both CalAIM and the renewal of the federal authorities under which Medi-Cal operates (i.e., 1115 and 1915b waivers).

DHCS postponed the planned implementation of the CalAIM initiative, originally scheduled for January 1, 2021, so that both DHCS and all of our partners could focus their limited resources on the needs arising from the public health emergency due to COVID-19.

DHCS released a revised CalAIM proposal on January 8, 2021. [Revised CalAIM Proposal](#).

General Updates:

- The Administration introduced a CARE Courts Proposal in early March. Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court is a new framework to get people with mental health and substance use disorders the support and care they need. CARE Court is aimed at helping the thousands of Californians who are suffering from untreated mental health disorders leading to homelessness, incarceration or worse. California is taking a new approach to act early and get people the support they need and address underlying needs. To learn more about this proposal, please visit: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/care-court/>
- The Quality Management Action Committee (QMAC) meeting schedule and format has been updated to allow for more in-depth data review and discussions. Now, in addition to large group meetings, smaller work groups will take place bi-monthly. The first smaller, QMAC Work Group will be towards the end of March. A Doodle poll to request participation and gather date preferences from QMAC members will be sent soon. The next all member QMAC meeting will be in September, TBD. If anyone is interested in joining or would like to recommend someone, please email vcbh.quality@ventura.org.
- We would like to provide the link to the webpage where the most recent VCBH EQRO reports can be viewed: <https://vcbh.org/en/about-us/reports-performance>

Adult Services Division:

- The workgroup considering the development of VCBH's peer program convened the first of what is expected to be three meetings with a discussion of the with a nature/structure of the support and oversight of peers. Topics for future discussion include the specific work of peers, boundaries and ethical considerations, and how to ensure representation of the clinics and broader community.
- Round 4 of DHCS's Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Plan (BHCIP) with its \$480.5M in grant funding Children and Youth has opened. Work began last week in the TAY Services Committee to consider viable and meaningful infrastructure projects. The deadline for submission is 8/31/22.
- Awards for Round 3 of BHCIP funding (forecast for June) have yet to be announced. VCBH joined Oasis Healthcare LLC and Many Mansions as a joint applicant seeking \$46M towards the \$61M total projected cost to build a locked mental health rehabilitation center. The proposed 120-beds facility intends to address the needs of both conserved and court-ordered clients.

Youth and Family (Y&F) Services Division:

Division Highlights

- The Y&F Division is pleased to share the following additions to the leadership team: As of 6/13/22 Ana Magbitang, LMFT is now the BH Manager overseeing Operational Duties for the

Ventura Region including Ventura Y&F Clinic, Santa Paula and Ventura Clinic, and the Juvenile Facility Mental Health Services. Additionally, Savannah Eden, LMFT joined the Y&F Division as a newly hired Clinic Administrator for the Child Welfare Subsystem.

- The Y&F Division Chief presented as part of the Inter-Agency Leadership team and AB2083 to the Board of Supervisors on May 24th. The ongoing support of the BoS is appreciated as we continue to look for even more ways to collaborate including data sharing, consultation and early intervention on behalf of the youth and their families in our community.

Initiatives and Progress

- Our Department has acquired and will soon be launching a data sharing platform – Opeeka. Opeeka’s platform will facilitate, streamline, and guide care coordination, care collaboration, treatment and level of care for youth served by various agencies as required by AB2083 Continuum of Care Reform and per the established memorandum of understanding (MOU) between Ventura County Behavioral Health, Human Services Agency, Probation, Public Health, Ventura County Office of Education, and Regional Center.

Substance Use Services (SUS) Division and Mental Health Services Act (MHSA):

- SUS Prevention attended more than 25 community events in May, sharing our prevention information. Keep in touch by reading our newsletters!
<https://www.venturacountylimits.org/community-connections>

Overdose Prevention and Response:

- The *Fentanyl is Forever* campaign continues to roll out across the county in publications, on transit systems and online, with 12,906 website visits so far!
- The SUS Division has streamlined the logistics of the OD Prevention program, now serving 54 sites and many law enforcement agencies – most recently working closely with Oxnard Police to expand kit distribution.
- The latest *Prescribers Care* Discussion event was held June 8, reaching dozens of MDs with best practices in safe prescribing. Next event for prescribers is on August 31.
<https://www.venturacountyresponds.org/safe-prescribing/training-events>

Community Health Promotion

- The latest “Just Not Worth It” prevention campaign is targeted toward teens and young adults who may be at risk for trying and continuing to use drugs illegally. This encompasses both illicit drugs (like heroin and meth) legal drugs taken illegally—typically cannabis and prescription medications. <https://www.justnotworthitvc.org/>

MHSA:

- On June 4th- VCBH, BRITE and VCOE hosted a FREE event empower up! Your Mental Wellness. The “Empower Up” event held at the Oxnard Performing Arts Center was a novel idea executed with success and also presented some areas for further exploration. A total of 130 attended, including community members, providers, performers, speakers, staff, and volunteers. Themes addressed included impact of bullying, resilience, hope, prejudice, authenticity. A varied range

of ages came to the event ranging from 4 to 91 years old. Real-time translations into Spanish and ASL went smoothly. The event was live-streamed and recorded, and will be edited for playback in Spanish, ASL, and English. Video, including interviews, and pictures will be posted on our VCBH website.

- Our outreach team participating in the County Wide- Food Share Drive, as well as various fairs throughout Ventura County. One thousand lunch bags with information about VCBH and other community resources including wellness activities were distributed.

Access and Outreach:

- We welcome to our leadership team, Ruby Avila-Herrera – LMFT, Clinic Administrator II for our Enhanced Care Management program (ECM).
- We also welcome Wendy Hipple – LMFT who will be stepping in as Clinic Administrator II for our Logrando Bienestar program.
- We are actively recruiting for Logrando Bienestar Community Service Coordinators – given the approval of LB expansion and for our ECM program that continues to evolve.
- We had the honor to be present at the unveiling of the Mental Health Awareness Mural on Saturday, June 11, 2022, in Oxnard by La Colonia Youth Mural Project and Future Leaders of America. Logrando Bienestar was present at the Resource Fair connecting with the community.

Administration:

Personnel

- Hiring Fair- On Saturday June 4, Y&F, Adult, and SUS Division management supported our HR Liaison team to interview over 40 applicants on the spot and made offers to 28 staff, ranging from Psychiatric Nurses, Crisis Team Clinicians, Mental Health Associates and Behavioral Health Clinicians. A special thanks to Lisa Tryk and her supporting team for superb organization and coordination!

CalAIM

- The CalAIM unit (California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal) continues to coordinate CalAIM efforts across the department. A CalAIM Implementation lead team, which includes managers from various functional areas, meets weekly to analyze guidance issued by the Department of Health Care Services and to further plan how to successfully implement upcoming policy changes. VCBH leadership is working with internal and external stakeholders to ensure timely implementation of policy changes that are effective 07/1/22. Specifically, management staff is working to update policies and procedures, revise documentation forms (paper and EHR based), and create training and communication plans for VCBH clinical staff and contracted providers. On-going communication and collaboration with contracted county partners and the local managed care health plan continue to help facilitate a smooth implementation experience.
- In addition to BHQIP, Ventura County Behavioral Health will implement the Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialist program within the DMC-ODS and SMHS delivery systems to go into effect July 1, 2022. The California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) will act as the certification entity for VCBH's Peers Program, and any contracted provider interested in participating in this program

will need to meet their certification requirements. The CalAIM team has started communicating information to internal and external stakeholders.

Safety and Facilities

- Continued compliance with CDPH order that requires all healthcare staff to be vaccinated, have a booster shot or have an approved exemption and be tested weekly. Conducting reviews of facility space and vehicle needs to address upcoming program changes. Updated new Cal/OSHA and CDPH COVID-19 workplace health requirements and implementing throughout the department. Continued oversight of staff COVID-19 contact tracing and associated notifications and documentation. Conducted annual health and safety reviews of all BH locations.

Contracts Team

- The Contracts Team is completing the last of the FY 2021-22 Contractor site review audits and continuing to draft contracts and amendments to process the FY 2022-23 renewals through the appropriate channels.

Quality Assurance

- The QA team is actively collaborating with the VCBH CalAIM and Admin/Operational Department teams in interpreting, integrating and implementing the CalAIM initiative changes for VCBH/CBO providers. Specific focus is on system reformation, staff training, and updated Policies & Procedures.
- Utilization Review conducts quarterly reviews and administrative exit reviews, which identify common themes to inform training and improved clinical documentation. In alignment with CalAIM changes, the focus is on identifying and remediating occurrences of Fraud, Waste and Abuse.
- QA has implemented staff onboarding protocols to standardize training and support operations. The initial new employee orientation policy and procedure training was provided in May.
- QA facilitates quarterly VCBH/CBO provider meetings, to provide ongoing training and updates on topics including CalAIM implementation, compliance requirements, policies and procedures, QI and EHR.

Quality Improvement:

- To support VCBH Strategic Plan efforts, QI has analyzed and prepared baseline data that will be used to monitor and report progress. For key outcomes that do not yet have baseline data, QI will be working with department leads to develop methods for future reporting.
- The FY 2021-22 DMC-ODS External Quality Reviews (EQRO) report is now available on CalEQRO's website and VCBH's; the Mental Health report is being finalized and will be posted once received.
- In FY 2022-23, the Mental Health and DMC-ODS external quality reviews will take place at the same time November 8th-10th. This is the first joint, or side-by-side review, and plans are underway.
- QI continues to implement 4 performance improvement projects (PIPs) that address areas for improvement such as no-show rates, initial and ongoing client engagement in services, and

post-hospitalization follow-up, and recently received positive feedback on all PIPs from the state reviewers. New topics for a clinical Mental Health PIP are being explored as the current one will end soon.

- QI is building out ongoing tracking and reporting of key performance metrics and are working with VC-Information Technology Services to design a public-facing data dashboard.
- The Quality Management Action Committee (QMAC) meeting schedule and format has been updated to allow for more in-depth data review and discussions. Now, in addition to large group meetings, smaller work groups will be regularly convened. QI continues to recruit consumer/family/peer and community stakeholders for the QMAC. Names can be sent to vcbh.quality@ventura.org
- QI is coordinating the submission of the network adequacy certification tool (NACT) required by DHCS annually to demonstrate compliance with the state's standards for access to services. This process will involve data collection from VCBH and CBO programs regarding provider capacity and services, as well as timeliness data. The NACT is expected to be due in late summer/early fall.

Electronic Health Record

- *CalMHSA* - The CalMHSA organization serves California Counties and Cities in the dynamic delivery of mental health and supportive services. Recently, CalMHSA proposed a common Electronic Health Record (EHR) for usage among California Counties. Participation agreements are under review.
- *CalAIM* - The Electronic Health Record (EHR) Team is aggressively involved in research and planning operations in preparation for upcoming CalAIM mandated changes to clinical health record tracking. CalAIM is the State initiative to re-make Medi-Cal services for qualified Californian's. Current focus is on required changes to clinical assessments, treatment plans, problem lists, and progress notes, which constitute the backbone of client clinical treatment records. These modifications must be in completed and in place by 7/1/2022. Future planned changes involve the establishment of a common screening evaluation method to be used throughout the Behavioral Health environment. The entire CalAIM initiative is expected to be implemented over the coming 5-years.
- *Avatar* - Several Avatar enhancements have been recently completed. Specific new features recently completed by the EHR Team include support for:
 1. TAY Client Homeless Housing Assistance & Prevention Program
 2. TAY Crisis Team Tracking System
- Current development efforts include finalizing the testing of a new Avatar Form designed to support our Assist (AOT) Referral Administration Operations

VENTURA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Clients Served

Open episodes in May 2022 with billing activity in prior 12 months

As of 6/3/2022

| | |
|--|--|
| All VCBH | VCBH Treatment Programs |
| SUS - County & Contractor MH Adult - County & Contractor MH Y&F - County & Contractor VCBH STAR Adult Crisis | County & Contractor Includes outpatient and residential |

**VCBH enrolled clients only

| | VCBH Program Group | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| | All VCBH | SUS | MH Adult | MH Youth and Family | VCBH STAR | VCBH Crisis | CSU** | IPU** |
| Total Clients With Open Episode | 11,807 | 1,142 | 5,775 | 4,400 | 853 | 518 | 29 | 47 |

**VCBH enrolled clients only

| Total Clients With Open Episode Age Group * | VCBH Program Group | | | | | | | |
|--|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| | All VCBH | SUS | MH Adult | MH Youth and Family | VCBH STAR | VCBH Crisis | CSU** | IPU** |
| 0-15 | 3,115 | 22 | | 2,903 | 259 | 60 | | |
| 16-25 | 2,375 | 192 | 769 | 1,322 | 214 | 123 | 3 | 7 |
| 26-59 | 5,048 | 879 | 3,861 | 175 | 331 | 260 | 24 | 34 |
| 60+ | 1,269 | 49 | 1,145 | | 49 | 75 | 2 | 6 |
| Grand Total | 11,807 | 1,142 | 5,775 | 4,400 | 853 | 518 | 29 | 47 |

**VCBH enrolled clients only

| Total Clients With Open Episode Preferred Language | VCBH Program Group | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| | All VCBH | SUS | MH Adult | MH Youth and Family | VCBH STAR | VCBH Crisis | CSU** | IPU** |
| English | 9,980 | 1,061 | 4,988 | 3,564 | 627 | 447 | 28 | 45 |
| Spanish | 1,274 | 59 | 547 | 619 | 88 | 26 | | 2 |
| Mixteco | 14 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 2 | 1 | | |
| Non-Threshold Language | 88 | 3 | 64 | 16 | 4 | 3 | | |
| Not Reported | 451 | 18 | 174 | 192 | 132 | 41 | 1 | |
| Grand Total | 11,807 | 1,142 | 5,775 | 4,400 | 853 | 518 | 29 | 47 |

**VCBH enrolled clients only

| Total Clients With Open Episode | VCBH Program Group | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| | All VCBH | SUS | MH Adult | MH Youth and Family | VCBH STAR | VCBH Crisis | CSU** | IPU** |
| Ethnicity | | | | | | | | |
| Latinx | 6,240 | 600 | 2,615 | 2,864 | 460 | 182 | 12 | 23 |
| Non-Latinx | 4,092 | 460 | 2,666 | 880 | 206 | 165 | 17 | 21 |
| Not Reported | 1,470 | 82 | 491 | 656 | 187 | 169 | | 3 |
| Declined to State | 5 | | 3 | | | 2 | | |
| Grand Total | 11,807 | 1,142 | 5,775 | 4,400 | 853 | 518 | 29 | 47 |

**VCBH enrolled clients only

| Total Clients Served At Each Location *** | VCBH Program Group | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| | All VCBH | SUS | MH Adult | MH Youth and Family | VCBH STAR | VCBH Crisis | CSU** | IPU** |
| Program Service Location | | | | | | | | |
| CAMARILLO | 490 | | 95 | 395 | | | | |
| FILLMORE | 153 | 28 | | 129 | | | | |
| MOORPARK | 12 | | | 12 | | | | |
| OXNARD | 6,457 | 856 | 2,622 | 2,147 | 853 | 518 | | |
| SANTA PAULA | 859 | | 562 | 297 | | | | |
| SIMI VALLEY | 1,293 | 85 | 738 | 497 | | | | |
| THOUSAND OAKS | 1,241 | 48 | 877 | 334 | | | | |
| VENTURA | 2,135 | 65 | 1,111 | 982 | | | 29 | 47 |
| Outside Ventura County (Contractor) | 223 | 200 | 23 | | | | | |
| Grand Total | 12,863 | 1,282 | 6,028 | 4,793 | 853 | 518 | 29 | 47 |

*** Clients may be counted under multiple locations

**VCBH enrolled clients only

| Total Clients With Open Episode | VCBH Program Group | | | | | | | CSU** | IPU** |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|---------------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| | All VCBH | SUS | MH Adult | MH Youth and Family | VCBH STAR | VCBH Crisis | | | |
| Residence Region - City | | | | | | | | | |
| Conejo Valley | 957 | 92 | 526 | 265 | 75 | 57 | | | |
| Conejo Valley-Newbury Park | 231 | 19 | 123 | 58 | 23 | 18 | | | |
| Conejo Valley-Oak Park | 36 | 3 | 8 | 23 | 6 | 2 | | | |
| Conejo Valley-Thousand Oaks | 637 | 67 | 366 | 168 | 42 | 33 | | | |
| Conejo Valley-Westlake Village | 53 | 3 | 29 | 16 | 4 | 4 | | | |
| Moorpark | 367 | 22 | 137 | 200 | 24 | 15 | | | |
| Moorpark | 367 | 22 | 137 | 200 | 24 | 15 | | | |
| Ojai | 235 | 28 | 106 | 71 | 25 | 20 | 1 | | |
| Ojai | 185 | 26 | 84 | 50 | 20 | 17 | 1 | | |
| Ojai-Oak View | 50 | 2 | 22 | 21 | 5 | 3 | | | |
| Oxnard Plains | 5,308 | 495 | 2,571 | 2,073 | 382 | 199 | 11 | 23 | |
| Oxnard Plains-Camarillo | 817 | 65 | 446 | 273 | 39 | 37 | 2 | 6 | |
| Oxnard Plains-Oxnard | 4,110 | 382 | 1,952 | 1,649 | 313 | 144 | 8 | 16 | |
| Oxnard Plains-Port Hueneme | 363 | 45 | 163 | 145 | 29 | 18 | 1 | 1 | |
| Oxnard Plains-Somis | 18 | 3 | 10 | 6 | 1 | | | | |
| Santa Clara Valley | 1,195 | 73 | 482 | 604 | 72 | 22 | | | 4 |
| Santa Clara Valley-Fillmore | 350 | 25 | 133 | 178 | 27 | 10 | | | |
| Santa Clara Valley-Piru | 39 | 5 | 14 | 23 | 3 | | | | |
| Santa Clara Valley-Santa Paula | 806 | 43 | 335 | 403 | 42 | 12 | | | 4 |
| Simi Valley | 1,313 | 137 | 655 | 480 | 78 | 73 | | | 3 |
| Simi Valley | 1,313 | 137 | 655 | 480 | 78 | 73 | | | 3 |
| Ventura | 2,091 | 250 | 1,140 | 600 | 177 | 114 | 17 | 14 | |
| Ventura | 2,091 | 250 | 1,140 | 600 | 177 | 114 | 17 | 14 | |
| Not Reported | 341 | 45 | 158 | 107 | 20 | 18 | | | 3 |
| Not Reported | 341 | 45 | 158 | 107 | 20 | 18 | | | 3 |
| Grand Total | 11,807 | 1,142 | 5,775 | 4,400 | 853 | 518 | 29 | 47 | |

Residence cities do not reflect client service location.

Ventura County Behavioral Health
Board Letter Summary of Contracts for May 2022

| Board Date | Contractor | Amount | Term | Description |
|------------|---|-------------|-------------------------------------|---|
| 5/24/2022 | Various Ventura County School Districts | \$0 | July 1, 2022 through March 31, 2024 | Memorandum of Agreement Template Between Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) and Various School Districts for Educational Support Services. Under each MOA, VCBH and School District staff work collaboratively to deliver a parent educational series on mental health issues twice per academic year. The primary goal is to reduce barriers to identification and treatment of mental illness. Additionally, the program seeks to provide more access to mental health services. The collaboration benefits and serves children and their families throughout the various school districts that VCBH will engage in an MOU. There are no additional costs or fiscal impacts to the County. |
| 5/24/2022 | Amada Enterprises Inc. (View Heights) | \$2,873,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 View Heights – 5th Amendment. View Heights provides 24-hour Institution for Mental Disease (IMD) services for seriously mentally ill clients who require a high level of care due to the severity of their illnesses. Clients receive the following services: (1) medication management, (2) care and supervision, (3) daily activities, and (4) food services. Throughout FY 2021-22, Amada Enterprises served 23 unduplicated clients and maintained an average of over 17 clients per month increasing from 14 clients to a current count of 20 clients. The FY 2022-23 fifth amendment to the agreement with Amada Enterprises is for a one-year term (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023) and represents an increase in the maximum contract amount due to a 3% increase in services rates (Tier 1 from \$220.00 to \$226.60/day, Tier 2 \$347.00 to \$357.41/day, Tier 3 \$380.00 to \$391.40/day, Tier 4 \$415.00 to \$427.45, 1:1 \$30.00 to \$30.90/hour, Ancillary \$203.77 to \$209.88/day, and Bed Hold \$198.24 to \$204.19/day), an increase in the number of clients that will be served, and necessary contract updates. Through the fifth amendment to the agreement with View Heights, an average of 22 clients can be supported throughout FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | Crestwood Behavioral Health, Inc. (Crestwood - Bridge) | \$300,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Crestwood - Bridge – 1st Amendment. Crestwood - Bridge provides 24-hour adult residential facility services for adults who have been diagnosed with a severe mental illness. Crestwood -Bridge provides clients discharged/diverted from various IMDs/facilities with a supervised supportive community-based living environment where they can learn the skills necessary to develop more independence and to function in the community, with the goal of being able to live in a less restrictive environment upon discharge from the program. Throughout FY 2021-22, Crestwood -Bridge served three (3) unduplicated clients and maintained an average of above (1) client per month. The FY 2022-23 first amendment to the agreement with Crestwood is for a one-year term and represents an increase in the day rate (from \$209 to \$230/day) and necessary contract updates. Through the first amendment to the agreement with Crestwood, an average of three (3.5) clients can be supported throughout FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | Vista Woods Health Associates, LLC. (Vista Woods) | 687,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Vista Woods – 5th Amendment. Vista Woods provides 24-hour Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) services for seriously mentally ill clients who require a high level of care due to the severity of their illnesses. In addition to the SNF services, clients receive the following services: (1) medication management; (2) care and supervision; (3) daily activities; and (4) food services. Throughout FY 2021-22, Vista Woods served seven (7) unduplicated clients and maintained an average of approximately seven (7) clients per month. The FY 2022-23 fifth amendment to the agreement with Vista Woods is for a one-year term and represents an increase in both the day rate (from \$157 to \$170) and the "bed hold" service rate (from \$300 to \$322.94), an increase in the number of clients served, and necessary contract updates. Through the fifth amendment to the agreement with Vista Woods, an average of 11 clients can be supported throughout FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | Aurora Vista Del Mar, LLC | \$1,890,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Aurora Vista Del Mar, LLC Agreement. Aurora Vista Del Mar, LLC provides acute psychiatric inpatient hospital services to Medi-Cal eligible adults and uninsured adults and adolescents. Throughout FY 2021-22, Vista Del Mar has serviced 2,631 inpatient hospital days. The FY 2022-23 agreement with Vista Del Mar is for a one-year term and represents an increase of \$100 to the rate of \$1,025 per day for uninsured/indigent adolescent beneficiaries (ages 12-17) and an increase of \$100 to the rate of \$1,000 per day for adult beneficiaries (ages 18+ for uninsured/indigent, ages 21-64 for Medi-Cal beneficiaries). The FY 2022-23 maximum contract amount of \$1,890,000 was based on FY 2021-22 utilization/projection at the time the FY 2022-23 budget was completed. Utilization increased shortly thereafter and VCBH increased the FY 2021-22 contract to \$2,000,000 to ensure sufficient funding through fiscal year end. VCBH will monitor FY 2022-23 utilization and will increase the maximum contract amount during the mid-year projection, as needed, based on service utilization. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | California Psychiatric Transitions, Inc. (CPT) | \$412,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 CPT – 1st Amendment. CPT is a locked Mental Health Rehabilitation Center that includes a Disruptive Behavioral Unit (DBU) that VCBH utilizes for court-ordered locked restoration of competence services as well as VCBH clients who require a high level of services in a controlled environment. For VCBH clients, the goal is to stabilize and improve behavior to transition clients to a lower and less restrictive level of care. CPT has successfully stabilized and transition several clients who have either moved to a lower level of care at CPT or with the County. Throughout FY 2021-22, CPT served one (1) unduplicated client and maintained an average of approximately one (1) client per month. The FY 2022-23 first amendment to the agreement with CPT is for a one-year term and represents an increase in rates (MHRC from \$435 to \$460/day, DBU from \$885 to \$910/day, Diversion from \$610 to \$660/day, and 1-1 from \$50 to \$52/hour), and necessary contract updates. Although there is an increase in rates, the contract max is reduced based on familiarity with rate usage. Through the first amendment to the agreement with CPT, an average of two (2) clients can be supported throughout FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | Crestwood Behavioral Health, Inc. (Crestwood - Bakersfield) | \$504,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Crestwood Bakersfield – 2nd Amendment. Crestwood - Bakersfield provides mental health rehabilitation center services to seriously mentally ill clients who require a high level of care due to the severity of their illnesses. Clients placed at Crestwood Bakersfield Mental Health and Rehabilitation Center receive the following services: (1) medication management, (2) training and support with skills related to daily living activities, (3) daily rehabilitation groups, (4) individual psychotherapy, and (5) various other non-clinical services that are designed to support recovery. Throughout FY 2021-22, Crestwood served three (3) unduplicated clients and maintained an average of approximately two (2) clients per month. The FY 2022-23 first amendment to the agreement with Crestwood is for a one-year term and represents an increase in rates (Level 3 from \$304 to \$319/day, Level 2 from \$337 to \$354/day, Level 1 from \$370 to \$389/day, 1:1 from \$696 to \$720/day, establishing a MIST rate of \$450/day), and making necessary contract updates. Through the first amendment to the agreement with Crestwood, an average of three (3) clients can be supported throughout FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |

| | | | | |
|-----------|--|-------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 5/24/2022 | Parkside Healthcare, Inc. (Parkside) | \$1,371,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Parkside – 2nd Amendment. Parkside provides 24-hour Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) and Mental Health Recovery Center services for seriously mentally ill clients who require a high level of care due to the severity of their illnesses. Clients placed at Parkside in El Cajon receive the following services: (1) medication management, (2) care and supervision, (3) daily activities, and (4) food services. Throughout FY 2022-23, Parkside served 23 unduplicated clients and maintained an average of approximately 15 clients per month and their estimated average client count increased from 14 to 22 and their maximum increased by \$234,330. The FY 2022-23 second amendment to the agreement with Parkside for SNF and Mental Health Recovery Center services is for a one-year term and represents an increase in rates (Medi-Cal from \$155 to \$170/day, non-Medi-Cal from \$390 to \$405/day, "Bed Hold" from \$380 to \$395/day), and making necessary contract updates. Through the second amendment to the agreement with Parkside, an average of 22 clients can be supported throughout FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | Sylmar Health & Rehabilitation Center, Inc. (SHRC) | \$1,794,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 SHRC – 2nd Amendment. SHRC is an IMD to facilitate recovery in a restricted environment. SHRC is VCBH's primary residential treatment provider for legal competence restoration services for alleged misdemeanants. SHRC also provides residential treatment for Murphy conservatees (defendants charged with a felony involving death, great bodily harm, or a serious threat to the physical well-being of another person, and for whom a conservatorship was pursued under Welfare and Institutions Code section 5008(h)(1)(B)). Throughout FY 2021-22, SHRC served 14 unduplicated clients and maintained an average of approximately 12.5 clients per month. The FY 2022-23 agreement with SHRC is for a one-year term and represents a 3% increase in rates (Base Rate from \$203.69 to \$209.80/day, Psychiatric Services \$4.00 to \$4.12/day, Level B Services \$99.00 to \$101.97/day, Specialty Care \$92.26 to \$95.03/day, 1:1 Client Supervision \$50.00 to \$51.50/day, Ancillary Services \$60.00 to \$61.80/day, and Bed Hold remains \$195.34). Through the second amendment to the agreement with SHRC, an average of 16 clients can be supported throughout FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | Telecare Corporation (Telecare) | \$600,000 | July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022; | FY 2022-23 Telecare La Paz – 1st Amendment. Telecare provides 24-hour SNF and IMD services for seriously mentally ill clients who require a high level of care due to the severity of their illnesses. Clients placed at Telecare's La Paz Geropsychiatric Center in Paramount receive the following services: (1) medication management, (2) care and supervision, (3) daily activities, and (4) food services. Throughout FY 2021-22, Telecare served six (6) unduplicated clients and maintained an average of approximately five (5) clients per month. The FY 2022-23 first amendment to the agreement with Telecare is for a one-year term and represents a 4% increase in rates (Medi-Cal Enhanced from \$154.40 to \$160.58/day, Non-Medi-Cal \$196.66 to \$204.53, 1:1 \$39.14 to \$40.71/hour, Bed Hold \$335.76 to \$365.11/day), and making necessary contract updates. Although there is an increase in rates, the contract max is reduced based on familiarity with rate usage. Through the first amendment to the agreement with Telecare, an average of nine (9) clients can be supported through FY 2022-23. This agreement is funded with Tobacco Settlement; 2011 Realignment (Trust N520-719C); 1991 Realignment (Trust N510-717C); and other County Resources. |
| 5/24/2022 | Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) | \$2,000,000 | April 1, 2022 through June 30, 2022 | Agreement for Wellness Centers Services with the VCOE. VCOE provides Wellness Center services for VCBH. The FY 2021-22 Agreement with VCOE, will allow VCOE to create a Wellness Centers program in partnership with various junior high schools throughout Ventura County. This expansion in service allows for the provision of an array of services to combat the mental health challenges that young children encounter in junior high schools. The \$2,000,000 in funding that will be provided to VCOE in FY 2021-22 will: (1) allow seven (7) new Wellness Centers to operate full-time hours within various schools within the area, (2) allow for additional staffing to support needs within the Wellness Centers, (3) allow VCOE to put additional funding behind community outreach via meeting and outreach activities, and (4) better equip the Wellness Centers with activities, furniture, and other needed materials to create a more accessible and comfortable environment for children to discuss their mental health needs. This contract is funded with Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding. |
| 5/24/2022 | Turning Point Foundation | \$291,612 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Turning Point Foundation – Fourth Amendment. Turning Point Foundation–Rapid Integration Support and Engagement (RISE) Program provides outreach and engagement services in order to address needs within the county to educate, support and mitigate the effect of mental illness for individuals who may be in crisis. Turning Point Foundation RISE staff are trained and encouraged to incorporate their lived experience in order to develop strategies and engage individuals in services who may be hesitant to engage in service activities. For Fiscal Year 2021-22, the RISE program provided 1,219 units of service to RISE clients. The FY 2022-23 fourth amendment to the agreement with Turning Point Foundation is for a one-year term and represents an increase in the maximum contract amount of \$51,676 due to the rising costs in living expenses and in order for the provider to offer competitive wages to keep staff on board. This Agreement is funded with MHSA funding. |
| 5/24/2022 | Turning Point Foundation | \$887,749 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Turning Point – Third Amendment. Turning Point Foundation operates Adult Wellness and Rehabilitation Centers (AWRC) in Oxnard, COVID-19 Vulnerable Persons Project locations, additional mutually agreed upon service provision locations within Ventura County, and through online service methods. The AWRC programs focus on outreach to and engagement with individuals with serious and persistent mental illness who have been unserved or underserved by the traditional mental health system. The AWRC's use group and 1:1 interaction, engage clients in various programs, and serve as portals to other mental health, medical, dental, housing, and employment services. As an extension of the on-site wellness centers, Turning Point also provides mobile wellness center services. The mobile wellness services provide Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) and recovery groups and socialization opportunities at board and cares, assisted living facilities, and VCBH clinics. The staff also serve as a bridge for participants who may need accompaniment support to step down from a higher level of treatment or who might not be comfortable participating in clinical treatment. For FY 2021-22, the Wellness Centers service 452 individuals, (2) assisted 51 individuals with Wellness and Recovery Action Plan (WRAP) to address their mental health needs, and (3) worked with 235 individuals from several local board and care facilities to access socialization and wellness activities. The FY 2022-23 Third Amendment to the Agreement with Turning Point Foundation is for a one-year term with an \$18,853 increase to the maximum contract amount from the prior fiscal year due to the rising costs in living expenses and in order for the provider to offer competitive wages to keep staff on board. This Agreement is fully funded with MHSA funding. |
| 5/24/2022 | Pacific Clinics | \$1,772,400 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. | FY 2022-25 Pacific Clinics – Agreement. Pacific Clinics provides "TAY-Tunnel" program services where they work to empower individuals to take an active role in creating a positive lifestyle change within a supporting, safe, and understanding environment. Bilingual staff, with lived experience, engage TAY in designing achievement plans and Wellness and Recovery Action Plans (WRAPs), they aid in employment services, health navigation, and linkages to community resources. In Fiscal Year 2021-22 the provider worked with 75 individuals, which resulted in several receiving housing opportunities and 14 acquiring active employment. The FY 2022-25 Agreement with Pacific Clinics is for a three-year term (July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025) though the year-to-year total (\$590,800) will not be increasing, the contract itself has an overall increase since it will now cover three (3) fiscal years and not one (1) on in previous contract cycles. The change to a 3-year contract cycle will allow the provider to more immediately acquire needed resources in order to support needs within the program, such as, renting space to conduct program activities. There is no increase in the contract amount when comparing the FY 2021-22 maximum contract amount to each FY maximum contract amount. This Agreement is fully funded with MHSA funding. |

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| 5/24/2022 | Clinicas Del Camino Real, Inc. (Clinicas) | \$340,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 Clinicas – Second Amendment. Clinicas provides primary care services through the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) component of the MHSA. Clinicas services will focus on the early intervention side of the continuum of mental health services. The target population for the primary care services is individuals ages 12 and over who are patients of Clinicas' primary health care clinics. These are individuals at risk of or with emerging mental health issues who may exhibit early signs of depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder or a history of trauma. In FY 2020-21, Clinicas provided early intervention mental health care services to approximately 446 unduplicated individuals. Upon discharge, clients surveyed showed, on average, a 9-point decrease in symptoms of depression and a 7 -point decrease in average participant anxiety severity. The FY 2022-23 Second Amendment to the Agreement with Clinicas is for a one-year term with an increase in the maximum contract amount in order to ensure adequate funding throughout the year. Typically, near the end of the Fiscal Year, the provider has had to turn patients away since they no longer have the funding to support the service. The additional funding will minimize/eliminate that issue. This Agreement is fully funded with MHSA funding. |
| 5/24/2022 | All Languages Interpreting and Translating, Inc. (ALIT) | \$165,000 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 | FY 2022-23 ALIT – Fourth Amendment. ALIT provides interpretation and translation services for VCBH in clinics, meetings, and community behavioral health forums. The use of interpreter services in clinics is critical to successful client outcomes because it helps to ensure that clients understand their treatment plan and how to safely administer medication. The use of interpreter services for meeting and community forums is critical for ensuring that the department can appropriately communicate to the public about the services that are available through VCBH and solicit public feedback on department initiatives. For FY 2021-22, services were primarily conducted via telephone due to the COVID 19 pandemic and ALIT provide 1,133 billable hours of service. In response to increased labor costs, and in order to continue to provide services as needed, the provider's rate for in-person Spanish interpreting services has increased from \$50 to \$60 dollars per hour. This Agreement is fully funded with MHSA funding. |
| 5/24/2022 | VCOE | \$6,102,981 | July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2025. | FY 2022-25 VCOE – Agreement. VCOE provides education and training for school personnel and students and family outreach and engagement to reduce stigma and discrimination about mental illness throughout Ventura County. Through VCOE's partnership with the Local Educational Agencies (LEA), mental health screenings, referrals, and mental health services for at-risk students are provided. VCOE contracted school districts also provide education and training for school personnel and students and family outreach and engagement to reduce stigma and discrimination about mental illness. In Fiscal Year 2021-22, approximately 306,610 individuals received core services, and approximately 22,558 individuals were referred to mental health care and/or social support services. The FY 2022-25 Agreement with VCOE is for a three-year term and represents an increase of \$4,087,782 to the maximum contract amount from the prior fiscal year due to increased in-person services being provided, additional funding being allocated for staff training and hiring, the creation of "wellness rooms", development of Student Assistance Program, development of intentional and targeted counseling programs in order to better tackle campus and district wide issues, and to address the rising costs in living expenses. This Agreement is fully funded with MHSA funding. |