

**Human Services Coordinating Council**  
**Agency Director's Report**  
**January 2023**

**Department of Health Services (DHS)**

**DHS Leadership Recruitment**

- New Hire: Nicole Harper, Primary Health Division - Quality Improvement Director for Adult Correctional Health
- New Hire: Scarlett Ong, Primary Health Division – Interim Nursing Director for Adult Correctional Health

**Novel Coronavirus**

- Sacramento County has had a total of 366,258 reported cases of COVID-19 and 3,657 deaths due to COVID-19 since February 2020.
- The current case rate is 4.5 per 100,000.
- Sacramento County has moved to [CDC Community Level Low](#).
- The CA State of Emergency, local State of Emergency, and local Public Health Emergency are all scheduled to end on February 28, 2023.

**Flu/RSV:**

- Flu and RSV cases have continued to decrease from their peak in early December.
- Totals reported to SCPH this season to date:
  - o 42 flu ICU cases
  - o 34 flu deaths (one pediatric)
  - o 49 RSV ICU cases

**CalAIM Planning**

- As of January 1, 2023, Enhanced Care Management (ECM) has been expanded to Long-Term Care (LTC) Populations of Focus, specifically for adults living in the community and at risk for LTC institutionalization and adult nursing facility residents transitioning to the community. For more information, please visit the DHCS ECM and Community Supports webpage here: <https://www.dhcs.ca.gov/Pages/ECMandILOS.aspx>
- For current and prospective Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports providers, DHCS has released the PATH CITED funding opportunity to enable the transition, expansion and development of ECM and Community Supports capacity and infrastructure. More information is available here: <https://www.ca-path.com/cited>
- Please see the [Sacramento County CalAIM Roundtable](#) website for additional information and updates about CalAIM in Sacramento County: <https://sac.calaimroundtable.com>.

**Social Health Information Exchange**

- DHS is continuing its planning work for the SHIE, which is data infrastructure that aims to that link medical, behavioral health, social service and housing data from multiple sources countywide and strengthen care coordination between health and social service providers in Sacramento County.

- On 2/7/23, DHS is going to the Board for an RFP for an implementation consultant
- DHS is working on a SHIE vendor procurement and targeting late February for Board approval
- Adult Correctional Health (ACH) is working to develop an RFI/RFQ to identify Electronic Health Record system best suited for ACH, and can provide data and reporting to accommodate information requests and exchange

### **Health Authority Commission:**

- The Health Authority is currently in the process of developing the implementation plan for its new strategic plan, which includes its mission, vision, values, and strategic priorities.
- Everyone is welcome to provide public comment.
- The meeting schedule and minutes are available here: <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/PRI/Pages/Medi-Cal%20Managed%20Care%20Resources/GI-Sacramento-County-Health-Authority.aspx>

### **Behavioral Health Updates**

- Access to Services – Behavioral health prevention and treatment services are open and available for community members (attachments):
  - Mental Health Services: Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm (24/7 for Mental Health Crisis Calls)
    - All ages: (916) 875-1055 or toll free (888) 881-4881
    - Mental Health services may also be requested online at <https://mentalhealthservicerequest.saccounty.gov/>
  - Substance Use Prevention and Treatment (SUPT): Monday - Friday, 8 am - 5 pm
    - Adults: (916) 874-9754
    - Children and Youth: (916) 875-2050
- Behavioral Health Resources – BHS has updated their Resources webpage (<https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Resources.aspx>) to make it easier for community members to locate and access the services they need.
  - These resources are available in targeted and threshold languages in several formats: on the webpage itself, as a flyer, and as a foldable resource card (attachments).
- Adult Outpatient Specialty Mental Health Services have now been incorporated into the Community Outreach Recovery Empowerment (CORE) program. The CORE program combines elements of Wellness and Recovery, TCore, Guest House, and Regional Support Team programs, and adds new enhanced services (attachment).
  - Further information on the CORE program is available at: <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Adult-Outpatient-Services-Transformation.aspx>
- BHS continues to experience a workforce crisis, due to a shortage of workers in the field of behavioral health. Community members are encouraged to apply, as many BHS jobs are currently available: [https://personnel.saccounty.net/Pages/EmploymentServices\\_Jobs.aspx](https://personnel.saccounty.net/Pages/EmploymentServices_Jobs.aspx)
  - BHS is committed to hiring a workforce that reflects the diversity of our community. As such, BHS is seeking a wide-ranging pool of applicants

from diverse backgrounds and different levels of clinical, professional and/or lived behavioral health experience, with high energy, compassion and enthusiasm for public service. Please see

<https://www.saccounty.gov/news/latest-news/Pages/Join-the-Behavioral-Health-Crisis-Response-Team.aspx> for more information.

- BHS continues to make progress on its new and innovative 24/7 Behavioral Health Crisis Call Center and Response Team, which will change the lives of individuals experiencing a crisis due mental illness or substance abuse. The Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT, formerly known as WCCCRP) will receive calls from community members experiencing a mental health crisis. Clinicians will dispatch Mental Health Response Teams which include Clinicians and Peers assigned to locations throughout the County. Please see <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Wellness-Crisis-Call-Center-and-Response.aspx> for program updates.
- BHS's Homeless Encampment and Response Team (HEART) continues its collaboration with DHA and Office of Homeless Initiatives (OHI) on the Encampment Team (ET) project, a proactive approach to reduce the number of people living unsheltered in the unincorporated County. HEART consists of Peers with lived experience and mental health Counselors whose work is overseen by a Licensed Clinician. Services are closely coordinated across county departments and lead with intensive and persistent outreach and engagement to ensure people are supported in accessing behavioral health services and transitioning to shelter and housing.
  - More information about BHS services and supports for people experiencing homelessness can be found on our HEART webpage: <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/HEART.aspx>
- BHS continues its collaboration with County and City-run homeless shelters by providing Mental Health Clinicians with designated office hours within the homeless shelters. These Clinicians provide engagement, outreach, screenings, and linkage to both our BHS mental health and substance use resources.
- Counterfeit prescription pills containing deadly fentanyl continue to circulate in the Sacramento County region. BHS continues to support awareness through its public service campaign to address fentanyl in the community. The intended outcome is to stop the dramatic increase in fentanyl poisoning deaths in Sacramento County.
- The Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Member Handbook is now available in the County's seven threshold languages (Arabic, Chinese, Farsi, Hmong, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese). The translated versions of the DMC-ODS Member Handbook are available on our website at: <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/SUPT/DMC-ODS/DMC-ODS-Member-Handbook.aspx>
- The SUPT Service Brochure (English version attached) is now available in the County's threshold languages. These can be found on our website at: <https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/GI-Provider-Resources-Forms.aspx>
- Planning efforts continue regarding the launch of a County-wide Naloxone (NARCAN®) Distribution Program. Naloxone/NARCAN® is a medication that rapidly reverses an opioid overdose (Fentanyl and other opioids).