

Behavioral Health Director's Report  
January 2023

**Cal Aim:** As part of Cal Aim the Behavioral Health plan has many requirements (including payment reform) that go into effect on July 1, 2023. Placer County quality management has been working hard to educate our providers and staff to prepare. Some changes include: new rates that are no longer cost based and now encounter based, new data exchange requirements between Managed Care Plans and County Behavioral Health, outcomes based management, and much more! We are also preparing to transition to a new Electronic Health System (Streamline) and look forward to partnering with CalMHSA to help navigate this unprecedented time.

**Housing/Homelessness:** Placer County is establishing a mobile temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness in the Auburn area. The low-barrier shelter will consist of approximately 50 tents with cots and basic bedding. The creation of the shelter is part of a settlement agreement. The goal of the low-barrier shelter is to provide unhoused individuals with temporary shelter with the hope of securing permanent housing in the future. While drug testing is not required, alcohol and drugs will not be allowed on the premises and weapons will be prohibited. Those who do not abide by health and safety rules will be required to leave.

As part of the settlement agreement, the shelter will also provide showers, toilets, trash service, and access to drinking water. The shelter adjoins a county building, which will act as a warming and cooling center during extreme weather. The individuals represented in the settlement will be offered tents first, and any remaining tents will be offered on a first-come first-served basis to unhoused individuals in the community. If all goes as planned, the shelter will open in February.

The Board of Supervisors will vote tomorrow on whether to authorize an approximate \$1.1 million contract with First Step Communities to manage the shelter over a six-month period. First Step Communities is a nonprofit organization based in Sacramento with extensive experience operating similar shelters. The contract would require 24/7 on-site shelter supervision and basic case management services. That contract will be held by the Probation Department of Placer County.

**Homekey 3:** The county is planning to put out an Request for Qualifications this week to find qualified providers of permanent supportive housing, developers, etc. We are hoping to bring more providers to our eligible list in order to move forward another homekey project in addition to other projects with other funding sources. The homeless strategic planning group, comprised of county and city officials, gave input into citing criteria and other general guidance to a potential future project.

**BHCIP round 3 and 5:** Placer County is moving forward with contracting for services with previously awarded round 3 projects. The first being an urgent care on the bottom of the Homekey 2 project that will focus on Substance Use needs and connecting to services and the 2<sup>nd</sup> was another urgent care center at the Placer County Government Center, that we are now proposing a change of use to a 2<sup>nd</sup> Psychiatric Health Facility. In round 5 we are moving forward with an application to create a Substance Use Residential facility that will have 8 beds of crisis, urgent access detox beds. The SUD facility will have a side for women and another

side for men and serve approximately 40-50 users. Our application is due next month and we will know by summer if we are awarded this project. If awarded, it would expand our behavioral health services continuum in a meaningful way and greatly help our residents.

**Mobile Crisis:** By the end of the year counties are required to lift up several new requirements related to MCT, including 24/7 access. Along with the new requirements will be some new state/federal funding for the benefit but more to come on if the funding receives covers the new requirements.