



Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services

We Are Serious About Mental Health & Recovery!



March 2, 2017

Santa Cruz County Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services offers a variety of services to the community by County employees, as well as through our contracts with numerous community-based agencies. Our services treat persons across the lifespan, from prevention and early intervention services to being a safety net to persons with serious emotional disturbance and serious mental illness and/or substance use disorders. In an effort to shed light on the variety of services and programs we provide, we endeavor to provide a monthly newsletter about what we do.

Congratulations Alan Lamb!

Alan Lamb is the supervisor of the South County Adult Mental Health Team. He is responsible for the clinical services for persons with serious mental illness, often with co-morbid issues of substance abuse, physical illness, and other psychosocial stressors, such as homelessness.

Alan is passionate and dedicated in delivering quality services to the community. He works closely with community based agencies, including residential settings and hospitals, in efforts to offer consumers the best coordinated service delivery.

He supervises mental health case managers, two therapists, and offers them tremendous support. He oversees the administrative aspects of their work, but he is also acutely aware of all of the clients his staff serve, and offers insights and suggestions for care. He is supportive of his staff, is helpful to the medical staff, to the clinic staff, and often is called upon to address site/facility issues. Additionally, he is "hands on", helping his staff's clinical case load by providing some direct services.

He is a tremendous advocate for staff in getting their needs met to do the job. One of his strengths is the ability to name system issues that interfere with quality care and staff productivity. He brings these issues to the attention of management staff, including his supervisor, in efforts to seek solutions.

Alan is the hardest working clinical supervisor in the agency. He is constantly busy! He keeps close watch of clinical care of clients, tracks clinical documentation, and faces work site challenges head on, in efforts to find either solutions or "work arounds". (An example of this are his efforts of understanding and using the new electronic medical record system, a system that everyone in the agency is struggling with.)

His dedication to the clients, the community, and his outstanding support of his team of clinicians has earned

him the Board of Supervisors Employee Recognition Silver Award. Well deserved!

Congratulations to the AVATAR Implementation Team & Mobile Emergency Response Team!

These two teams tied for the Board of Supervisors Employee Recognition Gold Award. Congratulations & keep up the good work!!

Kudos to the Forensic Team!

The External Quality Review auditors came to Santa Cruz in late February. They reviewed our policies, held various focus groups with staff, clients and family members. They had high praise for our Forensic Team.

Rest in Peace Bill Manov

We are so sorry that our previous Director of Substance Use Disorder Services, Bill Manov passed away on February 21st in Kings County following a car accident. Bill had worked at Santa Cruz County Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services Health & Substance Abuse Services for over 27 years. In that time he worked tirelessly on treatment for co-occurring disorders, including helping implementing Tyler House, Casa Pacific, Project Home Base, implementation of the Drug Grid and CAGE-AID. Bill Manov retired from the County in September 2016. This is a devastating loss, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

