



Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency Behavioral Health

We Are Serious About Mental Health & Recovery!



August 3, 2017

Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health 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.

What's my name?

We are changing our name to Behavioral Health to reflect the move to integrate our mental health and substance use disorder programs. Our new Chief of Substance Use Disorder Services, Shaina Zura will be working with our different Divisions to move this initiative forward, which will also support our work in implementing the expanded services under the State Drug Medi-Cal expansion program. In the upcoming months, we will be converting our public facing materials to reflect this change.

Spot light: The Little Blue Pantry

The greatest resource we have at our agency is the caring, compassionate staff! A fine example of this is Chris McCauley and his family. They have created a Little Blue Pantry in front of their home that they (and their neighbors) stock with food. They posted a sign that states "Take what you need, share what you can." People stop by and pick up food and toiletries. This is the McCauley's contribution to help people that are in need.

See the Santa Cruz Sentinel July 2, 2017 feature article on the McCauley's for more information:

<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/health/20170702/live-oak-family-creates-a-little-free-pantry-for-neighborhood>

Welcome Carlos Palacios!

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors conducted a nationwide search to find a replacement for Susan Mauriello as County Administrative Officer (CAO) for Santa Cruz County. Ms. Mauriello retired in July after 27 years on the job. The Board selected Carlos Palacios! He was the County's assistant county administrative officer since 2015, after being the Watsonville City Manager for 19 years.

The CAO is the highest ranking staff of the County, and is responsible for the preparation and supervision of the County's budget, legislative analysis, contract and grant administration, intergovernmental relations, supervision of non-elected department heads, and oversight of all departmental functions. The County Administrative Officer is responsible for management, review, and recommendations related to the Board of Supervisor's weekly meeting agendas.

Mr. Palacios is a native of New Mexico, but has lived in Santa Cruz County for 25 years. He holds degrees from the University of Albuquerque and Princeton University. He is the first Latino to hold the title of CAO in Santa Cruz County.

Save the Date!

We will be having a Town Hall meeting to review our Mental Health Services Act programs. The meeting will be on **Tuesday, September 12th, at 6:00 p.m. at Aptos Village Park, 100 Aptos Creek Road, Aptos, CA 95003.** Everyone is welcome!

Have a comment you wish to share?

E-mail us at: mhsa@co.santa-cruz.ca.us



WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE

