Director’s Update
Mental Health Advisory Board

Erik G. Riera
June 20, 2019
County Behavioral Health Budget

- On Tuesday, the County Board of Supervisors passed the Health Services Agency Budget
- We are appreciative of all the hard work that went into constructing our budget for the next 2-years
- Included is also an operations plan which will be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors next Tuesday and voted on.
  - These organizational objectives will be tied into each Department’s Budget, and the outcomes they will be reporting on.
Watsonville Behavioral Health Office Building

- Yes, we are getting close!
  - Fire alarm system nearing completion
    - Fire Marshal will be scheduled to do the inspection
  - Landscaping work has started
  - Power, Heating and Air Conditioning all operational
  - Water connected
  - All furniture installed in all offices and cubicles

- Next Steps Needed:
  - Fire Marshall clearance
  - Department of Health Care Services Certification
  - Open house planning
New Grant Award - Probation

- Probation Department awarded a $6M grant for a new program called, “Coordinated Access for Empowering Success”

- Santa Cruz County Probation Department
  Project Title: Coordinated Access for Empowering Success (CAFES)
  Grant Funds Requested: $5,998,164

The CAFES project, guided by core values of dignity, integrity and trust, proposes a trauma-informed, evidenced-based, multi-agency continuum of care model to expand and enhance services for underserved populations, focusing on first-time offenders, those who have been ruled out of mental health treatment services and those who do not receive funding through AB109. The CAFES project will target a significant gap in Santa Cruz County's services, providing diversion opportunities and/or access to mental health and substance use treatment, case management, and housing support to justice-involved individuals. Integral to this project is the collaboration of multiple community-based organizations, probation, court partners, and county mental health.
Suicide Prevention Plan

- Submitted and approved by the Board of Supervisors
- Upon Cassandra’s return from maternity leave, a new workgroup will be convened to develop an implementation plan
- Cassandra will also be doing a formal presentation to the Board of Supervisors in the fall.
Sneak Peek...New Behavioral Health Logo
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