Behavioral Health Services January 2025 Highlights/Events

Ian Kemmer

Email: ikemmer@ochca.com



Community Events

January 2025 Events

- Jan 7 BHS Children and Youth Services (CYS) Fentanyl and Naloxone Training D2
- Jan 7 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Angels Night D2
- Jan 8 Dialogue Across Differences D2
- Jan 9 Recharge Your Mind and Body for Mental Wellness- Terrarium Workshop D2
- Jan 9 Gratitude as a Virtue Hosted by LHA D2
- Jan 10 APAIT Soulful Skills Mocktail Party D2
- Jan 11 SAUSD's Neurodiversity Month Observance & Resource Fair D2
- Jan 14 Ink Your Thoughts D4
- Jan 14 Senior Center MH Series-HB D1
- Jan 14 Social Services Agency: Fentanyl/Naloxone Training D2
- Jan 14 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- Jan 15 Community Suicide Prevention Coalition Meeting D4
- Jan 15 Hope Card Project with Wellness Center South D5
- Jan 15 Wellness Wednesday D2
- Jan 16 AJ Kirkwood and associates Fentanyl and Naloxone Training D4
- Jan 16 Mindful Aromatherapy D1
- Jan 16 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- Jan 17 Costa Mesa Women's Club: fentanyl/Naloxone training D5
- Jan 18 Vision Board Event D1
- Jan 20 Shanti OC Empowerment in Every Jar D5
- Jan 21 Children and Youth Services (CYS) Costa Mesa Fentanyl and Naloxone training D3
- Jan 21 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- Jan 21 Radiant Health Centers New Year, New Style: Embrace Your Inner Confidence D3
- Jan 21 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Bobble Head Night D2
- Jan 23 Hope Card Project at the Boys and Girls Club of Irvine D5
- Jan 25 SCCCC Winter, Warmth, and Impressions of Life D3
- Jan 25 SCCCC Year of the Snake Lunar New Year Celebration D3
- Jan 25 Community Health & Wellness Event D1
- Jan 25 Santa Ana Tet Lunar New Year Festival 2025
- Jan 25 Building Resilience Community Wellness Gathering & Mental Health Fair D2
- Jan 26 SCCCC Winter, Warmth, and Impressions of Life D3
- Jan 26 SCCCC Year of the Snake Lunar New Year Celebration D3
- Jan 26 Setting Healthy Boundaries D4
- Jan 27 Cypress College Naloxone Training and Distribution D1
- Jan 28 OCAPICA Show Out & Shine D2
- Jan 29 Deaf and Hard of Hearing-Naloxone Training and Distribution D5
- Jan 30 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- Jan 30 AJ Kirkwood and associates Fentanyl and Naloxone Training D4
- Jan 30 Estrella Springs Veteran Housing Fentanyl/ Naloxone Training D2
- Jan 31 UVSA Tet Festival D1

February 2025 Upcoming Events

- Feb 1 Orange County Black History Parade & Unity Festival D2
- Feb 1 Chinese Lunar New Year Festival D3
- Feb 4 Santa Ana College- Staff Naloxone Training/distribution D2
- Feb 4 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Lunar New Year Celebration D2
- Feb 5 Addressing the Opioid Crisis in OC Forum D4
- Feb 6 Orange Coast College Lunar New Year Celebration D5
- Feb 6 Community Emergency Response Team Opioid prevention and Naloxone training D5
- Feb 6 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D2
- Feb 11 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- Feb 13 Western Youth Services- School Based Outreach Fentanyl/Naloxone Training D2
- Feb 14 APAIT Petals & Pigments D2
- Feb 15 Expressions of Hope: A Mental Health Awareness Art Exhibit D1
- Feb 20 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- Feb 21 Mental Health Community Art Show Event "Setting Intentions" :Recovery and Growth Through Art D2
- Feb 21 SAUSD's We Care Wellness and Education Fair D2
- Feb 21 Hope Card Project at Veteran Art & Resource Expo D5
- Feb 22 City of Mission Viejo's Oso Fit Community Health Fair & 5K Run
- Feb 24 Fentanyl and Naloxone Training Dental Hygiene Students D2
- Feb 25 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- Feb 26 UC Irvine Mental Health Fair D5
- Feb 26 Santa Ana College Resource Fair D2
- Feb 27 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4

March 2025 Upcoming Events

- March 1 Garden Grove USD's Resource Fair D2
- March 4 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- March 6 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- March 7 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Pride Night D2
- March 9 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: UC Irvine Night D2
- March 11 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D2
- March 13 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Fan Appreciation Night D2
- March 14 OC Veterans Community Network & Resource Fair D1
- March 14 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Educators Appreciation Night D2
- March 18 Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center (FRC) Neighorhood Pop-Up Event D4
- March 27 2025 Veterans Resource/ Health Fair
- March 28 Anaheim Ducks Tabling Event: Healthcare Appreciation Night D2
- March 29 Rio Vista PTA Annual Health Fest D4
- March 29 Supervisor Chaffee's Kids Fishing Derby D4
- March 30 City of Fullerton's Health & Wellness Fair D4

Program Highlights

Adult & Older Adult Services (AOA):

- Housing & Supportive Services: Villa St. Joseph property in the city of Orange has moved in all MHSA residents.
- OC4Vets: The contracts with US Vets, Working Wardrobes, and Child Guidance Center are ending June 30, 2025.

BHS Navigation

- The Re-Entry service area has hired a new Service Chief II, two behavioral health clinicians, and two mental health specialists. Filling these vacancies allows the programs to provide support and service linkage for clients reintegrating back into the community. These new staff will also be able to assist the clients in stabilizing their mental health pre and post release, in addition to working collaboratively with correctional staff to implement multiple new initiatives.
- In January, OC Outreach & Engagement (OC O&E) began collecting consent for the Care Plus Program's SOCDIS platform. All employees were trained on the system the previous month and will begin to enter information into the system. Also, OC O&E met with the Street Medicine Teams from Garden Grove, Costa Mesa and Anaheim, as well as with CalOptima to cement the relationship between the two teams and to discuss the new grant terms.
- On January 23, 2025, OC O&E hosted the semi-annual all-SPA Street Outreach Meeting
 with over 70 people in attendance. The street outreach teams networked and created vision
 boards for 2025. A presentation was provided on BHSA by the MHSA Office to educate
 outreach staff on the anticipated changes in housing and the BH system transformation, as
 well as extend the opportunity to participate in the community engagement process.
- A South SPA client was connected to Pacific Clinics' peer support training program and is now studying to take the State Exam to become certified in Peer Support.
- Ten participants working with OC O&E South SPA were matched to the new Salida Del Sol property in San Juan Capistrano. The team is actively working on housing applications and supporting participants and collaborative partners in achieving this permanent supportive housing opportunity.

Children & Youth Services (CYS)

- Children and Youth Services (CYS) expanded the DHCS Youth Screening Tool Pilot (YST) to the rest of the CYS County-operated outpatient programs on January 1, 2025. CYS plans to review referral outcomes across the five sites over the next few months to determine whether to implement and/or expand use of the YST in CYS outpatient.
- Orange County Parent Wellness Program (OCPWP) has paused acceptance of new referrals due to current program staffing. Clients should be referred to OC Links for support with linkage to behavioral health services.
- On December 5, 2024, Social Services Agency, Children and Youth Services, and Probation Department Wraparound teams joined the three contracted Wraparound providers in the Annual End of the Year Wraparound Celebration. This was the first in-person convening of all the providers post-COVID so this event was especially meaningful. The teams shared year-end outcomes and success stories, as well as challenges, and were able to build camaraderie and support for the difficult and important work they do daily.

- All Short Term Residential Therapeutic Programs (STRTP) were able to create special
 memories for the youth in their respective homes this holiday season. Through the generous
 donations of the community, each youth received numerous items from their holiday wish
 list, enjoyed festivities put together by the STRTP staff and community partners including
 gingerbread house decorating contest with the OC Sheriffs, and holiday meals prepared by
 the STRTP residential staff. Many youth were able to celebrate the holidays with their
 families through overnight visits as a result of intensive clinical preparation with the STRTP
 mental health teams.
- Waymakers Guidance Center hosted a Winter Wonderland event for Collaborative Courts Full-Service Partnership and Youthful Offender Wraparound Full-Service Partnership participants and their families to celebrate the holiday season. Festivities included a bountiful meal, games, giveaways, and pictures with Santa. Families expressed great appreciation for this yearly holiday event and mentioned the positive impact this has in their community.
- Central Youth Reporting Center (YRC) relocated to 1700 E Saint Andrew PI, Santa Ana, CA 92705 on December 6, 2024. This probation program offers a community-based alternative to incarceration for justice involved youth with behavioral health services staff from Children and Youth Services providing behavioral health services to the youth on-site.
- Clarvida STAY Process, a Full-Service Partnership for Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) recently launched an initiative to encourage more program participants to contribute to their housing plans, thereby increasing participants' efforts towards self-sufficiency and independent living from a rate of 38% of participants contributing in November of 2024 to a rate of 82% contributing in December of 2024.

Crisis & Acute Care (CAC)

- On January 5, 2025, the Orange County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program was awarded a Gold level Regional CIT Program Certification the only CIT in the state to receive such a designation. A Gold level denotes an outstanding program that has met most of the best practice criteria of CIT programming. A CIT regional program is responsible for crisis response system development and reform for its geographical region and conducts CIT 40-hour trainings available to all law enforcement agencies within the region. CIT International will be working with us for the next three years to help us incorporate more best practices of CIT so that Orange County can eventually move to Platinum level and serve as a learning center for programs internationally.
- CAC continues to partner with the city of Fullerton to implement the Memorandum of Understanding for Behavioral Health Clinician Program. It will assist Fullerton Police Department in providing immediate assessment, referral, linkage and/or transport to individuals presenting in behavioral health crises in the City of Fullerton community. The two clinicians have completed employee orientation for the city of Fullerton and the LPS Designation training.

Forensics:

Clinical Stepdown Committee: The clinical stepdown committee will meet monthly to discuss
cases that are ready to stepdown from LPS 60 days prior to their annual re-hearing. These
will be cases that Public Guardian's office identifies as not suitable for recertification of LPS.
The committee will be made up of representatives from Public Guardian, LPS Forensic
Psychology, AOT, CARE, FSP's. The purpose is to create a nexus and close the gap when
stepping down from LPS; and to increase appropriate referrals to the appropriate programs.
Case conferences will begin January 1, 2025

- CARE FSP Dismissed Client Outreach: CARE FSP to provide outreach, engagement and support to dismissed CARE clients. To effectively outreach dismissed clients from the Care Act program, CARE FSP will focus on different client categories and collecting relevant data. By following this workflow and collecting comprehensive data, CARE FSP can effectively manage outreach efforts for dismissed clients, enhancing engagement and program success.
- Mental Health Collaborative Courts:
 - Assisted Outpatient Treatment Voluntary Treatment Linkage: 3
 - CARE Petitions Received: 11
 - o LPS Forensic Psychology:
 - LPS Conservatorship Hearings: 56
 - Murphy Conservatorship Reports: 4
 - Jury Trials in Process: 3

Substance Use Disorder (SUD):

- Prop 36 rolled out as of December 18, 2024. SUD staff are currently covering evaluations each Friday, Court Staffing and Court Calendar Calls. SUD DUI.DC staff are currently covering progress reviews for those that enroll in treatment via Prop 36. To date, we have evaluated approximately 60 individuals and 6 have plead in to Prop 36 and accepted treatment. Out of these 6, 1 has thus far successfully enrolled.
- Residential Treatment Services is onboarding Behavioral Healthcare Services, dba Lighthouse who will begin providing residential treatment and withdrawal treatment within the next month.
- Additional Harm Reduction Supplies, including Xylazine Test Strips, Deterra Drug Deactivation System Pouches, and Overdose Prevention Kits are now being distributed to County and Contracted Programs.

Community Education Presentations

- SUD will be addressing the opioid crisis and providing Naloxone training and distribution at the upcoming events:
 - o 1/07: BHS, Children and Youth Services, Orange
 - o 1/14: Social Services Administration, Orange
 - o 1/14: Anaheim Mobile Family Resource Center, Anaheim
 - 1/16: AJ Kirkwood & Associates (Electrical Engineering and Construction), Fullerton
 - o 1/16: Anaheim Mobile FRC, Anaheim
 - o 1/17: Costa Mesa Women's Club), Costa Mesa
 - 1/21: Children and Youth Services. Costa Mesa
 - o 1/21: Anaheim Mobile FRC, Anaheim
 - 1/27: Cypress College, Cypress
 - o 1/28: Anaheim Mobile FRC, Anaheim
 - 1/29: University High School, Parents of Deaf & Hard of Hearing students, Irvine
 - o 1/30: AJ Kirkwood & Associates, Fullerton
 - 1/30: Anaheim Mobile FRC, Anaheim
- 2/5: Opioid Crisis Forum will be held at Cal State Fullerton

Highlights of the Month

- AOA- Housing and Supportive Services: A client with Telecare Home First North had been suffering from a leg condition that prevented her from being able to engage in activities, her community, her personal interests, and as a result, struggled with making connections with peers. She spent very little time outside and stayed isolated in her unit. After a year and a half, she has been thriving in her recovery. She began working with her case managers and mental health rehab specialists to widen her coping skills and distress tolerance. She has significantly improved her ability to communicate with community partners. Despite the pain she endured, she began attending Home First's DBT Coping Skills Group, Recovery Group, and Coffee Talk Group. She has participated in Karaoke Group and increased positive interactions with neighbors. Since working with the Nurse Practitioner, her pain and depression has improved. Her ADLs have improved, her apartment is organized and decluttered, and she is hopeful and strong in her sobriety. She will be 6 years sober in May.
- BHS Navigation: Jail to Community Re-Entry Program (JCRP) had a mutual client with Fullerton PACT. This client had a private conservator who had tried multiple times to get the client hospitalized for danger to self and was unsuccessful, which resulted in the client's incarceration. JCRP was able to collaborate with Fullerton PACT and connect the client to the CSU. This allowed for the client to be referred to a higher level of care. The conservator and Fullerton PACT were grateful and appreciated the collaboration to further assist the client in her recovery.
- BHS Navigation: OC O&E North SPA has been working with a senior veteran for the past year and a half. The client was experiencing chronic homelessness in Fullerton and surrounding cities. Together with Volunteers of America Los Angeles (VOALA) and the local Veterans Affairs office, OC O&E worked to address the client's immediate needs. Through this collaboration, the client was matched to a HUD-VASH housing opportunity and is expected to move into an apartment in Placentia by January 31, 2025.
- CAC: A Mobile Crisis DYAD team (CAT) responded promptly to a call in Orange on January 20, 2025, where the 5150 hold was not enforced by local law enforcement. The next morning, one clinician took the initiative to coordinate a follow-up, learning that the client had been sent to a relative's home in Anaheim and was continuing to decompensate. Through collaboration with our Co-Responder the Psych Emergency Response Team (PERT), the PERT clinician determined the client met criteria for further care and successfully facilitated a safe transport to the hospital for evaluation and crisis stabilization. This outcome highlights the success of internal crisis system of care coordination and strong partnerships with community resources in ensuring the safety and well-being of the client.
- SUD: When Client A first entered one of the SUD Residential Facilities, she was coping with numerous challenges, including being a survivor of human trafficking, unhoused, pregnant, actively using IV methamphetamine, and had contracted COVID-19. As a result of these challenges, she had gone without consistent prenatal care. Despite all this, she was able remarkable progress in her recovery. Now six months sober, the client gave birth to a healthy son in December. She has reconnected with her family who been providing strong support for her and her baby. She is now preparing for the next chapter of her life, transitioning to independent living with her boyfriend, the father of her child, as they move into their own apartment.