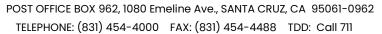


County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY





Press Release

For Immediate Release Contact: Sandra Hughes
Date: November 19, 2024 Sandra.hughes@santacruzcountyca.gov

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ANNOUNCES PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT PLAN UPDATE

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY –The Health Services Agency's Behavioral Health Division invites Santa Cruz County residents to attend the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Public Hearing to learn about the updated plan and upcoming program changes. Community members are encouraged to share their feedback on existing MHSA-funded mental health and substance use programs as well as their experience accessing these services in Santa Cruz County.

PARTICIPATE AT THE PUBLIC HEARING:

- Date: Thursday, November 21, 2024
- Time: 3:00-5:00 p.m.
- Location:
 - In-person at Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health
 1400 Emeline Avenue, Building K (Conference Room 206-207)
 Santa Cruz, CA 95060
 - Virtually on the Teams web-based meeting platform.
 Visit <u>santacruzhealth.org/MHSA</u> for meeting login information.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD:

The official Public Comment Period for providing feedback on the MHSA Plan Update is from November 21 to December 23, 2024 at 5:00 p.m. PST. The MHSA Plan Update will be available online for review between these dates at santacruzhealth.org/MHSA and in-person at the public waiting areas of our Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health offices (Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

- o 1400 Emeline Avenue, Building K, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
- o 1430 Freedom Blvd. Ste. F, Watsonville, CA 95076

Santa Cruz County residents are encouraged to review the plan and provide written comments during this period in the following ways:

- In-person or virtually at the Public Hearing on 11/21/2024
- Online at <u>santacruzhealth.org/MHSA</u>
- Via email to: MentalHealth.ServicesAct@santacruzcountyca.gov
- Via USPS mail to:

Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health Attention: MHSA Coordinator 1400 Emeline Avenue, Building K Santa Cruz, CA 95060

"The MHSA Annual Update is an opportunity for Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health to assess our progress on key initiatives and look ahead to future targets with our recent community needs assessment in mind." said Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Behavioral Health Director. "We encourage our community members to be part of the community program planning process and share their unique insights during the public comment period."

If you or someone you love is struggling with thoughts of suicide, please reach out for help. You're not alone. Call or text 988 to connect with the Suicide & Crisis Lifeline. Trained counselors are available 24/7 to provide free and confidential support.

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