



**Association of
MENTAL HEALTH CONTRACT AGENCIES
of Santa Clara**

OUR VISION

AMHCA will proactively support the continued development of a mental health system that meets the needs of Santa Clara County residents through client centered services that are focused on wellness, prevention and recovery. Services should be accessible, culturally and linguistically competent, cost effective, and able to help people affected by mental illness have the same opportunities to fully participate in life as others in our community.

OUR VALUES

- ✚ Clients and their family members shall partner with the AMHCA providers in evaluating, developing, and delivering recovery oriented, cutting edge continuum of care mental health services.
- ✚ AMHCA providers will be professional, competent, and advocate for changes needed to implement our vision.
- ✚ New providers should be welcomed, embraced, and assisted to develop the necessary skills and resources to provide effective high quality services.
- ✚ We advocate for service system changes based on the development of promising or evidence based approaches that are data informed and improve client outcomes. Planning and allocation of resources should be based on a combination of cost effectiveness, desired functional client outcomes, and measured provider performance towards achieving stability, safety, a place to live, something to do, and a social support network.
- ✚ Service evaluation and improvements should be driven by measurable age specific outcomes mutually agreed upon between AMHCA and SCC MHD.
- ✚ We support expansion of community based services to the unserved and underserved populations through efficient and effective resource allocations that maintain or increase both client service capacity and the array of services available in outpatient and other non institutional programs in the community.

AMHCA 2011-2014 GOALS

- ✚ We will develop and maintain program resources where our staff are well-trained and reflect the diversity in our community so that we are prepared for the increase in MediCal beneficiaries in 2014.
- ✚ We will advocate for using a least restrictive environment approach in service delivery. The cost & efficacy of service provision shall be a key factor in service planning, allocation of resources, and any future allocations and/or reductions.
- ✚ In order to implement the Olmstead decision, AMHCA will demonstrate cost effective service delivery in the least restrictive service setting to support clients to, thrive in the community and live in safe and affordable homes versus institutional care.
- ✚ We will advocate for expansion of capacity in contractor community programs in order to effectively, efficiently, and adequately serve people newly eligible for services due to parity implementation and new MediCal eligibility standards in 2014.
- ✚ We will propose to the SCC Mental Health Department that the agency collaborate with the AMHCA providers to develop a three year plan to redesign and reduce by 50% the proportion of current funds by that are spent on EPS, hospital, jail, and IMD programs. These “savings” shall be invested into community based programs that can reduce the need for institutional care.
- ✚ We will collaborate with the SCC Mental Health Department in the integration of behavioral and physical health care in order to demonstrate the effectiveness of this goal in reducing costs for health care in the system.

AMHCA Budget Reduction Principles

- 1) Maintain the maximum level of direct services as possible for children, adults and older adults based on the available funding.
- 2) Avoid unnecessary disruption in any services that are planned to be maintained.
- 3) Maximize leveraging of County General Fund (CGF) and MHSA funds in order to provide the most services possible in the community by investing 50 cents to deliver \$1 dollar in MediCal services for our community.
- 4) Assure any proposed budget reduction does not lower the current proportion of services to ethnic minority and other underserved communities of Santa Clara County.