

SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER COMMISSION MINUTES

5:30 p.m., January 9, 2023

Meeting being held virtually only

Call: +1 (831) 454-4222 and enter conference ID 290 957 413#

OR

Join via video conference (no registration required): Email arianna.lomeli@santacruzcounty.us for the meeting link

SUDC MEMBERS PRESENT: Colleen McMahon-Sepulveda, Jozee Roberto, Jackie Heath, Robert

Pursley, Chris Gunst, Susan O'Hara

SUDC MEMBERS EXCUSED:

COUNTY STAFF: Casey Swank, Arianna Lomeli

AGENCY REPS: Stephanie MacWhorter-Janus, Clinton Sandoval-Janus, Veronica Campos-Janus, Maisy Morrison- Janus

1.0 CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS*
5:32 P.M.

2.0 CORRECTIONS TO AGENDA
n/a

3.0 PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS
n/a

4.0 APPROVAL OF MINUTES
4.1 **Approved** 2022-11-14

5.0 PROVIDER REPORTS

5.1 Janus Perinatal

Janus of Santa Cruz Perinatal treatment is CARF accredited short term (Based on ASAM criteria assessments done as needed basis) residential treatment program for pregnant, post-partum, and parenting women. It is state licensed to house up to 10 women and 14 children (0-5 years old). Janus Perinatal utilizes combination of individualized treatment plans which include nutrition classes, fitness classes, transportation for care, pediatric care, obstetric care, family education, and individual counseling. Interventions utilized in the program are individual counseling, discharge planning, Behavioral Health Therapy, care coordination, and group counseling. Covid-19 challenges include withdrawal management and higher fentanyl use in patients. There has been an increase in the numbers of clients that have mental health needs. When clients have mental health needs, Janus works hand in hand with Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health in connecting them to the proper resources. Janus uses the ASAM system of continuum of care to ensure clients are appropriately placed in treatment based on its scoring. Janus tracks outcomes monthly and quarterly audits/reporting, point in time survey, feedback informed loop from clients, and county health partners to create corrective action plan when appropriate. The census for Janus Perinatal is low possibly due to impact on the pandemic and less babies being delivered within the last few years. Jessica Nichols is the new Clinical Director of Inpatient Services while Veronica Campos is the new Program Manager.

5.2 Janus Residential & Withdrawal Management

Withdrawal Management or Special Care Unit is CARF accredited program for individuals experiencing withdrawal from alcohol or other substances for 24-hour intensive supervision. Janus Residential Treatment is CARF accredited 24-hour, 7 day a week intensive combination of individualized treatment. An integral part of this program is to connect patients to community support systems during their treatment. Multitude of services are offered in this program such as evidence-based treatment therapy individually and with groups, life-skills support, in-house therapy referrals featuring Lighthouse Therapy services, nutrition education, and walks/outings to the beach. In response to Covid-19 to keep staff and residents healthy they do daily evaluations for health safety. Janus Residential has 40 beds in their residential facility as of 1/9/2023 they had 35 current clients. Sabrina Brunner is the new Counselor Supervisor which oversees Residential Treatment Technicians and Withdrawal Management.

5.3 Janus Community Clinics

Methadone is a medication that requires daily dosing by a licensed vocational nurse of RN with take-home privileges. Every patient is assigned to an individual counselor or who schedules a minimum monthly appointment by phone or in person. MAT allows for patients to take home their methadone medication. MAT clinics are located in Watsonville and Santa Cruz. Methadone is the primary medication used in MAT but can also provide Vivitrol (naltrexone) and Suboxone (buprenorphine). Treatment goals for MAT are to attain stabilization on their optimal medication dose, reduce or eliminate use of substances, foster development of problem solving and coping skills, improve overall quality of life.

Janus MAT is suited well for 40% of its patients having 90 days or more of abstinence. Nearly a third of MAT patients have recovery for a year or more.

6.0 REPORTS

- 6.1** Report of Chairperson
Colleen McMahon-Sepulveda's last SUDC meeting. She has submitted resignation letter to 3rd District Supervisor Justin Cummings.
- 6.2** Commissioner Reports
Chris – Nothing to report.
Jackie – Nothing to report
Jozee- Emailed 2022 Recovery Event videos to Casey Swank for SUDC website posting
Robert- Nothing to report
Susie- Nothing to report
- 6.3** HSA Substance Use Disorder Updates
Vacancies are in high levels and HSA is in a rebuilding phase. Continuation of offering a lot of individual services and group services.

7.0 New Business

- 7.1** Peer to peer counseling has expanded and is a huge benefit to aid clients in a successful recovery. Thanks to peer mentors sharing a mutual understanding it helps reduce the likelihood of relapse. In turn the peer who mentors is able to recertify their own commitment to sobriety.
- 7.2** SUD's budget for fiscal year 22-23 is \$25 million. A focus that is present is to improve and expand youth services.
- 7.3** Mental Health Board/SUDS Board Merger must happen out of guidance from Behavioral Health Director Tiffany Cantrell-Warren and Senior Behavioral Health Manager Karen Kern.
- 7.4** SUD Commission voted to have virtual meetings. However due to AB 361 ending, meetings will be held in person permanently for commission members. The public, agency providers, and guests may join virtually by meeting link or phone conference call.

8.0 NEW AGENDA ITEMS AND DATE, TIME AND LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

March 13, 2023 at 5:30 p.m. location, 1400 Emeline Avenue Santa Cruz CA, 95060 in rooms 207 and 206
The PUBLIC may join via phone or video conference by Microsoft Teams Link to be announced on meeting Agenda

9.0 ADJOURNMENT

7:07 P.M.

If you need interpreter services for the hearing impaired, please contact Arianna Lomeli at least three working days in advance of the meeting at 454-4984 (voice) or use the California Relay System at 1-800-735-2929 (TDD).
Spanish language translation is available on an as needed basis. Please make advance arrangements by calling 454-4050.

Traducciones de ingles al espanol y del espanol al ingles estan disponibles. Por favor hagan arreglos por anticipo por telefono al numero (831) 454-4050.

* A quorum must be present in order for any matters requiring a vote to be acted on. A quorum shall be one person more than one-half of the appointed members of the Commission.