



County of Santa Cruz



HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY Public Health Division Emergency Medical Services

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santacruzhealth.org

EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE COMMISSION AGENDA

DATE & TIME	Monday, February 9, 2026, 9:00am – 10:30am
LOCATION-In-Person	County of Santa Cruz, 1400 Emeline Ave., Rooms 206/207
LOCATION-Online	Join the meeting now Meeting ID: 274 363 050 848 85 Passcode: Pa77Zy2f Dial in by phone +1-831-454-2222, 441-423-866# United States, Santa Cruz Find a local number Phone conference ID: 441 423 866#

COMMISSIONERS:

Ron Prince, EMCC Chair Person, District 1, M. Koenig,	Chief Sarah Ryan, Law Enforcement
Jerry Souza, District 2, K. De Serpa	Chief Rob Oatey, Fire Chief's Assoc.
Celia Barry, District 3, J. Cummings	Tammy Green, Dominican Hospital Rep.
Michael Baulch, District 4, F. Hernandez	<i>Open Position, Watsonville Hospital Rep.</i>
Dan Quinto, District 5, M. Martinez	Jeremy Boston, AMR
Dr. Marc Yellin, Medical Society	Chris Jones, Consumer Representative
Samantha Moeller, Field Representative	

COUNTY STAFF:

Greg Benson, EMS Director	Dr. Eli Carrillo, EMS Medical Director
Dr. Lisa Hernandez, Public Health Officer	Shelley Huxtable, EMS Office Assistant
Claudia Garza, Sr. Dept. Admin. Analyst	

ITEM:

1. Call to Order/Establish Quorum.

2. Review/Correct Agenda & Approve Minutes from December 15, 2025 meeting.

3. Written Correspondence Listing:

The Written Correspondence Listing is established to act as a report of materials received by the Commission as a whole but, may also include items requested for inclusion by individual Commissioners. Upon completion of any actions deemed necessary (i.e., acknowledgment, referral, etc.), these items are included in the Written Correspondence Listing. While these items are not part of the official record of meetings of the Emergency Medical Care Commission, they will be maintained by the Santa Cruz County Emergency Medical Services Agency for a period of two years.

4. Oral Communications:

Oral Communications for items not on the agenda will be presented for discussion purposes only and may be brought to the Commission by Commissioners or members of the public. Comments are limited to 3 minutes per person.

5. Fire Chief's Update (Chief Rob Oatey)

The EMCC will hear an update on the fire agencies in the County.

6. Acknowledge & Recognition Program for First Responders/Good Calls by the Board of Supervisors (Samantha Moeller)

Overview of the program and open first round of discussions with the EMCC.

7. Behavioral Health Update (Dr. Lisa Gutierrez Wang)

The EMCC will receive an update on the pediatric crisis center and behavioral health issues throughout the County.

8. Ad-Hoc Committee Update (Ron Prince)

Update on the progress of the 12 Month Action Plan and the Ad-Hoc Committee's activities.

9. Commissioner Updates (Ron Prince)

Status updates from Commissioners only. Updates are limited to 2 minutes per Commissioner.

10. Program Updates:

A. Communicable Disease/Prehospital Advisory Committee Update (Dr. Eli Carrillo)

The Commission will receive updates on communicable diseases and an update of actions taken by the Prehospital Advisory Committee.
Impact to the hospitals Information link:

<https://www.santacruzhealth.org/HSAHome/HSADivisions/PublicHealth/CommunicableDiseaseControl/CoronavirusHome.aspx>

B. EMS Administrator Report (Greg Benson)

The Administrator will report on issues of interest, challenges, progress and concerns for the Commission to consider for action, if necessary.

C. Innovator Report (Jake Thorsen/Jeremy Boston)

The Commission will receive an update from AMR about the EMS Innovator programs.

11. Proposed Agenda Items for next EMCC meeting on April 20, 2026.

12. Adjournment.

Item 5

Commissioner Oatey will provide an update on the County's fire agencies.

Item 6

Commissioner Moeller will present an overview of the program and open the first round of discussions with the EMCC.

Item 7

The EMCC will receive an update on the pediatric crisis center and behavioral health issues across the County.

**Health Services Agency
Behavioral Health Division**



Salud Mental y
Tratamiento del Uso
de Sustancias

Children's Behavioral Health (CBH)

Lisa Gutierrez Wang, PhD
Director of Children's Behavioral Health

February 9, 2026

Children's Behavioral Health (CBH)



Mission

To provide strength-based, family-centered, integrated, accessible, culturally and linguistically appropriate behavioral health services to Santa Cruz County children/youth and their families/caregivers in order to promote health and resilience.



Vision

Santa Cruz County children, youth and families are healthy and thriving.



- ❖ Family-focused Care
- ❖ Integrated Care
- ❖ Staff Wellness



Behavioral Health Spectrum

CCAH/Kaiser & County Integrated BH

County BHP

Current “Entryway” to Services

CCAH Access Team process PCP referrals and direct requests for service

Non-Specialty **Mental Health Services**

for “mild to moderate” mental health needs

CCAH (and Kaiser) provides:

- Assessment
- Non-Specialty Mental Health services if “mild to moderate” needs
- Refer to County Behavioral Health for Specialty Mental Health Services

County Access Team or Contracted Partners* screen and link to appropriate services

Specialty Mental Health Services & Drug Medi-Cal

for intensive mental health care and substance use services

Contracted Providers

- Encompass*
- PVPSA*
- Parents Center*
- Volunteer Center
- Haven of Hope
- Pacific Clinics
- The Lotus Collaborative
- Coastal Turning Points

SMHS Staff provide

- Assessment
- Specialty Mental Health Services if “moderate to severe” needs
- Refer to CCAH (and Kaiser) for Non-Specialty Mental Health Services

The Referral Process

- Children's Access: Call: 1-800-952-2335 or Walk-In to either clinic (8am-12pm, 1-4pm)
- Bilingual telephone navigation and linkage
- Mental health assessments to verify eligibility
- If not eligible for CBH services but determined to be eligible for mild/moderate services, then referred to CCAH

The Hope Forward | Esperanza Adelante

Youth Crisis Center

Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) – An 8-chair unit providing assessment and short-term stabilization, helping reduce ER visits, shorten wait times, and connect youth to the right level of care.

- Average stay: under 24 hours.
- Start-up: 4 chairs

Crisis Residential Program (CRP) – A 16-bed program offering therapeutic support, care coordination, and recovery-focused treatment for youth and their families.

- A typical stay ranges from 2-10 days.
- Start-up: 8 beds



santacruzhealth.org/youthcrisis

Resources

- ❖ **Access Team:** 1-800-952-2335
- ❖ **Walk-in Services** for crisis eval or request services:
 - ❖ Monday to Friday, 8am – 4pm (closed 12-1pm) at:
 - 1400 Emeline Ave. Bldg. K, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
 - 1430 Freedom Blvd. Ste. F, Watsonville, CA 95076
- ❖ **Mobile Crisis Response:** 1-800-952-2335

Questions?

Thank You



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