



Behavioral Health Services – Monthly Communications Report

A Message from Our New BHS and Mental Health SF Director Dr. Hillary Kunins

Dear Behavioral Health Services Colleagues,

I'm so excited to be joining you as the new Director of Behavioral Health Services and Mental Health SF.

I am writing on day #4 here at SF DPH, and, as you might imagine, busy getting acclimated and learning about the wonderful services and work you all do for San Franciscans with behavioral health and other challenges.



I am also writing as a new San Franciscan! I hail from New York City, where I worked at the New York City Health Department for the last 8 years and before that in the Bronx for 16 years as a primary care and addiction medicine physician, researcher, and program director for a primary care/internal medicine training program. While I love my native city, on my many visits, San Francisco's beauty, geography, food, climate, culture - and, of course - people - inspired my transcontinental move. I am excited to make San Francisco my new home. All advice about favorite activities and sites welcome!

So far, I have had the chance to meet with the Behavioral Health Services Executive team, the Deputy Medical Directors, and a number of you here at 1380 Howard. Thanks to the facilities and IT folks, I have a wonderful office and freshly organized (if still empty!) shelves. Nina Dasilva has graciously stepped in to help keep my schedule and problem solve my (many) questions. I also want to acknowledge and offer tremendous thanks and kudos to Marlo Simmons, who as Acting Director, has worked tirelessly to strengthen BHS and DPH's ability to serve San Franciscans. I know that DPH has been very lucky that she was willing to serve in this role.

Like many of you, I have spent much of my last year deployed to work on the COVID pandemic response. If my experience in NYC is similar to yours, I am imagining that so many of you are juggling multiple roles to meet the needs of this moment and/or covering for staff members who are deployed and managing family and personal challenges. I also know that our country's longstanding racial and other inequities have been exacerbated and exposed by COVID - and the intersection between racism and behavioral health stigma profoundly affects us and the people we serve. I am eager to join all of you in building a more equitable and just service-system and workplace and city. I am also hopeful that as vaccination continues, we will soon be able to speak about the pandemic in the past tense.

I am planning to make site visits to each of our sites in the coming weeks, so will look forward to meeting you and learning more about our services during these visits. And I hope to be in regular communication - and meet all of you - whether virtually or in person - over the coming months.

All my best,
Hillary

For more information on Dr. Hillary Kunins' role please see: [Mayor London Breed Announces New Director of Behavioral Health Services and Mental Health SF](#)



TAY SOC Spotlight: TAY Navigation Center Launches February 2021!



[3rd Street Youth Center & Clinic](#), in partnership with [Success Centers – The Career Center](#), the San Francisco Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (HSH) and support from the Department of Public Health’s Behavioral Health Services Division – Transition Age Youth (TAY) System of Care, is launching the City’s newest initiative ([sponsored by Mayor Breed and Supervisor Peskin](#)), the Lower Polk TAY Navigation Center, for TAY experiencing homelessness.

Launched in February 2021, the new 75-bed Lower Polk TAY Navigation Center is a free one-stop multi-service safe space for TAY, ages 18 to 27, who have been referred through [HSH’s Coordinated Entry System for Youth](#) in San Francisco. Located at 700 Hyde Street on the corner of Post and Hyde, the Lower Polk TAY Nav Center is open 24-hours a day, seven days a week and provides:

- **Shelter:** Youth will have a safe, clean, and comfortable place to stay, hot showers and a secure locker for personal items. Youth’s service animals, companion animals, and personal pets are also welcome.
- **Meals:** Youth can enjoy three meals every day plus snacks.
- **Health & Wellness Services:** Supports for youth’s physical and mental wellbeing. An important partner with the Behavioral Health Services TAY System of Care, 3rd Street will provide low-threshold, culturally and developmentally responsive behavioral health services onsite to TAY.
- **One-on-One Supports:** Goal setting, free counseling and case management for youth.
- **Education:** Support youth with their high school or college goals.
- **Employment:** Career prep and help finding a job.



3rd Street’s Executive Director Joi Jackson-Morgan with Mayor London Breed and Success Centers’ Executive Director Liz Jackson-Simpson.

Since February’s launch, there are currently 28 guests living at this navigation center and receiving case management support; two TAY are awaiting placement into permanent supportive housing; and The Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. donated 28 gender neutral bags with tablets, person hygiene products, socks and more which TAY guests absolutely love! We look forward to hearing great things as this space continues to ramp up thoughtfully in serving TAY experiencing homelessness!

3rd Street, Success Centers, and all the operational and service partners at this navigation center, welcomes everyone, regardless of culture, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, race, sexual orientation or expression, or other characteristics and does not exclude anyone based on past behavior.

For more info about the Lower Polk TAY Navigation Center, contact, kristine@3rdstyouth.org.
For info about the Behavioral Health TAY System of Care, contact kali.cheung@sfdph.org.



**For Stakeholder Review:
San Francisco MHSA FY 2021-2022 Annual Update DRAFT**

The Behavioral Health Services (BHS) unit of the Department of Public Health is inviting all stakeholders to review and comment on the [San Francisco Mental Health Services Act \(MHSA\) Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Annual Update DRAFT](#) for a period of 30 days from **March 22, 2021 to April 21, 2021**. This 30-day stakeholder review and comment period is in fulfillment of the provisions of the Welfare and Institutions (W&I) Code Section 5848.



Family Life Mural at Leonard Flynn Elementary School by Susan Kelk Cervantes

Please email your comments to MHSA@sfdph.org or send by mail to:

Mental Health Services Act
San Francisco Department of Public Health
1380 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Thank you for your partnership!



CYF Welcomes New Director of Chinatown Development Center

The Children, Youth, and Families System of Care has a new member of our leadership team! **Linda Wu** has joined our team as the new Director of Chinatown Child Development Center (CCDC). She comes to us with fresh and vibrant energy and rich experience, and we are so excited to welcome her.

We want to express our deep appreciation to Kimmy and Ellen for their leadership of CCDC for the past 15 months. In addition, special thanks to Joe and Heather for taking on leadership and supervisor roles at the clinic to support the team during this interim time.



Linda H. Wu is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker who joined the San Francisco Department of Public Health (SF DPH) in April 2011. She received her B.A. in Psychology from U.C. Berkeley and her M.S.W. from San Diego State University. Prior to joining Chinatown Child Development Center (CCDC) as Director, Linda was the Program Manager for Drug Court Treatment Center (DCTC) and provide leadership for the ongoing development of Drug Court activities, including reorganization, transition, and the development and implementation of the administrative, operational, and clinical aspects of DCTC. Linda also served as Lead Behavioral

Health Clinician for Community Health Programs for Youth (CHPY) at Larkin Street Youth Clinic. In addition to clinical work with youth and young people, Linda provided individual and group clinical supervision to DPH staff under DPH CHPY Clinics as well as with community-based organizations such as Lavender Youth Recreational and Information Center (LYRIC). Linda's other professional background includes work with diverse populations and settings including outpatient and inpatient mental health clinics, primary care clinics, school-based services, youth residential treatment facilities, and home-based family services. Linda has published on several occasions and was a presenter at the Adolescent Health Working Group 13th Annual Teen and Young Adult Provider Gathering and Conference. Linda looks forward to collaborating with the strong team of youth advocates and providers at CCDC within the Children, Youth & Families System of Care and in particular to serve in the API community.

Welcome Linda!



Gender Health SF Welcomes New Behavioral Health Clinical Director

As the Clinical Director of Gender Health SF (GHSF), **Janet Moomaw, LCSW**, will be responsible for various behavioral health clinical tasks, including consulting with providers throughout the care system and ensuring program adherence to the WPATH Standards of Care. Janet will also provide clinical supervision and support to the program's behavioral health clinician and world-class peer patient access navigators.



GHSF SF is a dynamic and unique program and the first of its kind in the United States. Our mission is to provide access to gender-affirming surgeries and quality care for underserved transgender and gender non-binary people in San Francisco, contributing to improved quality of life and returning consumers to medical and mental health care. We are genuinely excited that Janet decided to join our team. She brings in a wealth of experience and knowledge working with transgender and gender non-binary people as a clinical social worker at SFDPH's Tom Waddell clinic, providing clinical supports and interventions for transgender women of color living with HIV. Most recently, Janet worked as a clinician at the SFDPH's, Behavioral Health Access Center, providing phone mental health assessments for low-income and marginalized San Francisco residents. Janet's clinical knowledge, experience, and lens will be of great asset to the program.



Janet Moomaw, LCSW, GHSF Clinical Director, started her new role on Monday, February 22. She earned her social work degree from San Francisco State University. In her free time, Janet enjoys everything related to the beach especially walking her dog and collecting beach glass, heart stones, or other amazing beach treasures.

Welcome Janet!



April 2021 Trainings

	Time	Training	Location	Trainer	CE's Offered
Thu 4/1	2:00 pm – 3:30 pm	Black and AAPI Solidarity Town Hall	https://zoom.us/j/99099528426	Hosted by Japantown For Justice and Fillmore Merchants & Neighborhood Collaborative	N/A
Fri 4/2 4/9	8:45 am – 12:00 pm	Review and Update: Law and Ethics for Mental Health Professionals (Part 1 & Part 2)	https://sfdph.webex.com/sfdph/onstage/g.php?MTID=e2735367df1b1c9e72ca72ae270d2b59d You must attend both parts to receive credit	Daniel O. Taube, JD, PhD	6 CME/CE (MD/DO, RN, Pharm, PhD. PsyD, LMFT, LCSW, LPCC, CCAPP)
Tue 4/6	9:00 am – 10:30 am	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: What white people can do to move race conversations forward Caprice Hollins	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYoc-qvqTotEtEzYzSsRE-UgxTMWHpYVg8	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Wed 4/7	5:00 pm – 5:50 pm	Owning Your Strengths: An AAPI Storytelling Panel	Zoom ID: 958 5236 8709 Passcode: 400073	Nellie Tran, PhD Yin Li, MA, LMFT	N/A
Thu 4/8	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Asian American Resilience— Therapist Efficacy in a Time of Crisis	https://www.camft.org/lunchandlearn?utm_source=camftevent&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=asianamerican&utm_term=workshop&utm_content=email-1	Dr. Helen H. Hsu, Psy.D.	1.5 CE available for LMFTs, LCSWs, LPCCs, and drug counselors
Mon 4/12	9:00 am – 10:00 am	Racism and Violence Impacting the Asian-American Community	https://harvard.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_f7CLx0F8Rr-Tg-F0ShZglw	Adrian Jacques Ambrose, MD, MPH Aswita Tan-McGrory, MBA, MSPH Nhi-Ha Trinh, MD, MPH Alden Landry, MD, MPH	N/A
Tue 4/13	9:00 am – 10:30 am	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: Henrietta Lacks: The Immortal Woman	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZApf-usrToiHdEypYpChfasKuGC3HGgBVL2	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Wed 4/14	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Unpacking Overdose	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/unpacking-overdose-hrti-sfdph-online-training-tickets-147634353325	Kristen Marshall & Frances Fu, NHRC	N/A
Thu 4/15 - 4/17	7:00 am – 9:00 pm	8th Annual National Pacific Island Violence Prevention Conference	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8th-annual-national-pacific-island-violence-prevention-conference-tickets-138125143021	For additional information or questions email susi@pik2ar.org	N/A
Fri 4/16	1:00 pm – 2:30 pm	A Practical Guide to Low-Barrier Buprenorphine Treatment	https://sfdph.webex.com/sfdph/onstage/g.php?MTID=e858cf8c13c8c22bbd2c84e889aca224f	Kara Cohen, NP Cheryl Ho, MD Joanna Eveland, MD Barry Zevin, MD Judith Martin, MD	1.5 CME/CE (MD/DO, RN, Pharm, PhD. PsyD, LMFT, LCSW, LPCC, CCAPP)
Tue 4/20	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: How Structural Racism Works — Racist Policies as a Root Cause of U.S. Racial Health Inequities	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZlpce-orzluHtEyrRtyPinX_KR4Y156MoN0	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A

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Tue 4/20	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Coping with Grief: Overdose Death + COVID	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/coping-with-grief-overdose-death-covid-hrti-sfdph-online-training-tickets-147640210845	Kristen Marshall & Frances Fu, NHRC	N/A
Thu 4/22	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: Jim Crow of the North - Full- Length Documentary	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0ufu-rrj8iHNPYleRg50SS--S7in0kxZ3X	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Tue 4/27	9:00 am – 10:30 am	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: Equity Currents TBD	https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUedu-urjoiHNZqiNjMH3YEQQ5IJGuJJ1R	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Thu 4/29	10:00 am – 12:00 pm	Coping with Grief: Overdose Death + COVID	https://www.eventbrite.com/e/coping-with-grief-overdose-death-covid-hrti-sfdph-online-training-tickets-147644977101	Kristen Marshall & Frances Fu, NHRC	N/A
Fri 4/30	9:00 am – 10:30 am	April DOPE Training	https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_wwUcjlX2SmK8KfE8ra8L2g	Contact Frances Fu at fu@harmreduction.org for questions	N/A

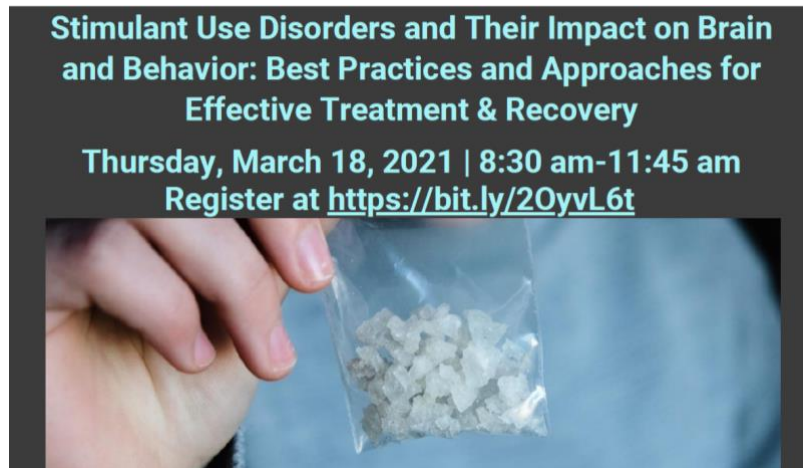
If you have feedback including future training suggestions, please contact Michelle Meier, LCSW, BHS Training and Internship Manager (Michelle.Meier@sfdph.org).



New BHS Webinar Recording Available Online

Stimulants and their Impact on Brain and Behavior – Best Practices and Approaches for Effective Treatment and Recovery

Recorded 3/18/21



Training Description:

This 3-hour live virtual training will provide participants with introductory level instruction on the treatment of methamphetamine and cocaine use disorders. The training will be divided into three sections. Part 1 will focus on stimulants – what are they and who uses them; Part 2 will focus on the impact of stimulant use on the brain and body; and Part 3 will focus on effective treatment approaches and recovery supports.

Learning objectives:

1. Apply an understanding of national patterns and trends in stimulant use.
2. Describe three key differences between cocaine and methamphetamine.
3. Recognize physical and cognitive impact associated with stimulant use.
4. Recommend two specific behavioral treatment interventions.

Trainers: Thomas E. Freese, PhD & Beth Rutkowski, MPH, UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs

All archived BHS Training Webinars are available on the [BHS Training Unit Google Drive](#).