



April is

**ALCOHOL**

**AWARENESS MONTH**



**Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS) recognizes:  
Alcohol Awareness Month: All of April**

April is recognized as Alcohol Awareness Month, established in 1987 by the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence to raise awareness about alcohol use and its impact on individuals, families, and communities.

BHRS is raising awareness about the dangers of alcohol use, misuse, and abuse. Alcohol misuse contributes to a variety of health and social concerns and remains the leading preventable cause of illness and death in the United States. Alcohol contributes to over 95,000 deaths annually including deaths related to heart disease, liver disease and several cancers. Alcohol use can increase the risk of esophagus, colon, rectum, liver, breast, and throat cancer. Cancer is a leading cause of death in Mendocino County. Mendocino County experiences a chronic liver disease mortality rate of 24.8 deaths per 100,000 residents, almost double the California average.

**If you or someone you know is struggling with alcohol misuse, help is available.**

**Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT) Services: 1-800-765-9703**  
or TTY: 1-800-735-2929 or 711

*Learn more at [www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/behavioral-health-and-recovery-services/substance-use](http://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/behavioral-health-and-recovery-services/substance-use)*



# Safe & Healthy Community

April 2026



## Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT)

SUDT and Prevention have NARCAN, Fentanyl test strips, and Xylazine test strips in our lobby for easy access to the populations in treatment. These supplies are also available in the main lobby for public access

**For access to SUDT services within Mendocino County: 1-855-765-9703  
or TTY: 1-800-735-2929 or 711.**

Health Services' Substance Misuse Taskforce in partnership with Mendocino County Office of Education hosted a screening of the film Fentanyl High on Wednesday, March 25th at Regal Ukiah Theater. The film was created by high school students and families in Santa Clara County. The event was well attended by over 100 individuals, who were moved by the film and asked the panel meaningful questions.

An additional showing in Fort Bragg at Coast Cinemas was held on Thursday, April 2nd from 5:30-8:30 pm. The viewings included the 90 minute documentary exploring the teen experience of the fentanyl epidemic followed by a panel of local community members discussing prevention, wellness, and community health resources locally.



These events were encouraged for teens aged 12 and up along with their families, guardians, and allies. The presentation included a training in how to administer naloxone, an opioid overdose reversal medication. Free naloxone was available at the events.

## Mental Health

BHRS' partnership with MCSO and DSS, Community Outreach Response, and Engagement (CORE) has been actively reaching out to unhoused individuals in the community to attempt to connect those in need of behavioral health, housing, and other support services and resources. During March, there were several outreach partnerships with Fish and Wildlife teams to respond to areas impacting local waterways.



# An Effective County Government Organization

## April 2026



### Substance Use Disorder Treatment (SUDT)

SUDT continues to actively seek new grant opportunities. SUDT is also actively seeking Prop 36 funding to assist in funding staff that have been completing screenings and assessments for individuals incarcerated or recently released from incarceration and are Prop 36 referred individuals from the Public Defender's office and or courts.

### Mental Health

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services facilitated the joint Mental Health Services Act Forum and Quality Improvement Committee on April 2, 2026, from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm. The forum was hosted at Nuestra Alianza de Willits, 291 School Way, Willits and was also available via Teams.

The next joint Forum will be held on Wednesday, June 3, 2026, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in Fort Bragg at the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center, 101 N. Franklin St. and via Teams. These forums provide an opportunity for the community and service recipients to learn updates about behavioral health services, hear program data and service utilization trends, and provide feedback and share experiences with behavioral health services.

During the month of March, BHRS underwent several state monitoring reviews, including annual reviews by the Department of Health Care Services and their delegated External Quality Review Organization, Health Services Advisory Group (HSAG). HSAG is a standard process by which BHRS reports out on various program activities and state selected processes and quality metrics. These reviews provide external feedback on meeting state standards, compliance with regulations, and feedback performance quality.

### Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS) also recognizes: Stress Awareness Month: All of April



BHRS is raising awareness about stress and the importance of emotional well-being. Taking care of mental and emotional health is important, and support is available for those who need it.

**Warm Line for Non-Crisis Emotional Support:**  
*(707) 472-2311 or Toll-Free: 1-833-955-2510*

# Other/Additional Information

April 2026



## Public Conservator Office

The number of LPS conserved individuals in February 2026 was consistent with the previous months. The Public Conservator office and the placement team is always reviewing individuals in higher level of placements to work towards achieving their goals to be eligible for lower levels of placement, including independent housing. In February 2026, there were more clients placed out of county than in county due to the need for a higher level of care.

Number of Clients Placed In and Out of County			
FY 25/26	Out of County	In County	Total Number of Clients
Feb 2026	49	23	72

LPS Conservatorship (Mental Health) Placement Costs FY 25/26			
FY 25/26	Total Costs	General Funds	Realignment Funds
Feb 2026	\$396,337.56	\$0	\$396,337.56
<b>Total (YTD)</b>	<b>\$2,962,841.19</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$2,962,841.19</b>

### LPS Conservatorship

A conservatorship established under the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act to provide for individualized treatment, supervision, and placement of individuals who are gravely disabled as a result of a mental health disorder or impairment by chronic alcoholism (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5350).

### Grave Disability:

A condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, or impairment by chronic alcoholism, is unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for food, clothing, or shelter. WIC Section 5008(h)(1) (A) and (2). This term also applies when an individual has been charged with a crime, has been found mentally incompetent under Section 1370 of the Penal Code, and meets the other criteria set forth in WIC Section 5008(h)(1).(B).