

Inyo County Behavioral Health Program Updates

August 2025

Family Strengthening Team Updates – Jody Veenker

Services Provided

The Family Strengthening Team is currently serving 9 families and has 1 other in the orientation phase. One family closed out of services this month due to not being able to meet consistently to work on goals.

Key Data / Statistics

- Clients Served: 17 adults, 24 kids
- Referrals & Orientations: 1 family currently learning about program

Staffing Update

Jody has been supporting BH division with 3-4 PC CARE sessions weekly. Ethan and Stormie have been utilizing summer schedules to introduce children to outdoor sports and job application routines. They helped several children catch their first fish this month, get their first work permit, turn in resumes, and prep for interviews! They also helped a set of parents complete Triple P Standard so they are better able to maintain relationships and manage misbehaviors with positive parenting strategies.

Program Highlights

We are gearing up for our next Inyo Mono Wraparound social August 2. This will be a pool party and BBQ at Keoughs and we are anticipating between 50 to 75 participants again.

Challenges / Barriers

Our big interdivisional/interdepartmental challenge we are working to address is making sure that CANS assessments are being completed and shared through Child & Family Team meetings so that this universal assessment tool is used for all the case planning every agency serving the family uses. Every child receiving a behavioral health service already receives a CANS assessment, but the CFT review is an important step toward integrated service delivery.

DUI Program Update – Carri Coudek

Key Data / Statistics

July DUI:

NEW ENROLLMENTS:

Wet & Reckless (W & R)) = 0

First Offender-3 months = 3

Multiple Offender-18 months = 2

Inyo County Behavioral Health Program Updates

August 2025

July DUI:

COMPLETIONS:

(W & R) = 0

First Offender-3 months = 1

Multiple Offender-9 months = 1

Multiple Offender-18 months = 0

Multiple Offender-12 of 18 months
(eligible restricted license) = 2

Staffing Update

Recruitment ongoing for Addiction Counselor and Addiction Counselor Supervisor.

Challenges / Barriers

Having staff to cover all the different classes that have to be offered on a regular schedule if staff are out for vacation or illness and ensuring coverage for the classes after hours (after 5:00 PM).

SUD Program Update – Carri Coudek

Key Data / Statistics

Active SUD clients: 9

Drug Court clients: 6

ASAM Assessments in July 2025: 7

Staffing Update

Recruitment ongoing for Addiction Counselor and Addiction Counselor Supervisor.

Program Highlights:

Began enrollment into a new young adult program in collaboration with Probation to provide two weekly groups for individuals aged: 18-25.

Planning for outreach for participation in several outreaches:

2nd Annual Sun Fun and Sobriety August 23, 2025

Overdose Awareness Event August 25, 2025

September is Recovery Month-working with Crossroads to coordinate events

Challenges / Barriers

Having staff to cover all the different classes that have to be offered on a regular schedule if staff are out for vacation or illness and ensuring coverage for the classes after hours (after 5:00 PM).

Inyo County Behavioral Health Program Updates

August 2025

Wellness Center Updates – Vivian DeLaRiva

Services Provided

- Bishop Wellness Center: Groups, showers, laundry, clothing & food pantry, Case Management, Supportive Services and Crisis/CCMU Response.
- Lone Pine Wellness Center: Showers, laundry, food pantry, Case Management & Supportive services.

Key Data / Statistics

- Bishop Wellness Center: 285 clients,
- Lone Pine Wellness Center: 20 clients

Staffing Update

- Interim Supervisor: Vivian DeLaRiva (coverage for Vanessa Ruggio)
- Part time positions available, Interviews 8/14/25

Program Highlights

- Wellness Center Staff Engagement at c5 Studio
- 4th of July BBQ @ Bishop Wellness Center
- Pizza lunch by Olga & Pete, donation of supplies
- Government phones are available, orders being place & received for individuals
- IMAH Partnership (client clothing needs)
- Weekly fresh baked bread delivered & donated by CRUMB Club, Chris & Sydney
- Food donations from Starbucks & Great Basin
- IMACA bi-weekly food pick up and delivery to Bishop & LP Wellness Centers
- Bishop Wellness Center Groups are increasing in attendance
- On-Call Crisis Response- NIH-7, SIH-2, ICJ-1

Challenges / Barriers

- Staffing- Recruitment for open part time positions

Crisis Care Mobile Unit – Vivian DeLaRiva

Services Provided

Mobile crisis services are a community-based intervention designed to provide de-escalation and relief to individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis wherever they are, including at home, work, school, or in the community. Mobile crisis services are provided by a multidisciplinary team of trained behavioral health professionals. Mobile crisis services provide rapid response, individual assessment and community-based stabilization to Medi-Cal members who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis. Mobile crisis services are designed to provide relief to members experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including through de-escalation and stabilization techniques; reduce the immediate

Inyo County Behavioral Health Program Updates

August 2025

risk of danger and subsequent harm; and avoid unnecessary emergency department care, psychiatric inpatient hospitalizations and law enforcement involvement.

Key Data / Statistics

27 responses in the last year

- On-Call CCMU Response (July)- In field- 3

Staffing Update

- Acting Supervisor: Vivian DeLaRiva (coverage for Vanessa Ruggio)
- Part time position available

Program Highlights

Our CCMU Response team has proven to be successful thus far by providing a form of crisis response that is both unique and relatable. We strive to be progressive and intentional in our approach; ensuring the safety of our environment and gaining trust with crisis individuals. Providing de-escalation, assessment, intervention, stabilization and immediate access to BH resources and programs, as needed and/or available locally.

A Crisis Met with Compassion

Imagine finding yourself in an unfamiliar town, knowing no one, gripped by fear and paranoia—convinced someone is out to harm you. This was the reality for one individual in crisis, a situation that called for immediate and compassionate intervention.

The Bishop Police Department reached out to the CCMU team for BH response. Upon arrival, CCMU skillfully de-escalated the situation and transported the individual to the Bishop Wellness Center. There, we provided a safe, welcoming space—offering a shower, clean clothing generously donated by IMAH, and other essential items to restore dignity and comfort.

Through collaboration with St. Vincent De Paul we secured a bus pass and a room for the night, ensuring the individual had both shelter and a path forward. The next day, CCMU transported them to Mojave, where they boarded a Greyhound bus to Baker and ultimately returned home to Las Vegas.

This episode is a powerful example of CCMU's mission in action—demonstrating the protocols, partnerships, and compassion that make our team an indispensable asset to the community.

Challenges / Barriers

- Staffing- Recruitment for open part time position
Supervisor out on extended leave

Inyo County Behavioral Health Program Updates

August 2025

Progress House Updates – Kelly Nugent

Key Data / Statistics

- 6 residents currently
- Most recent resident arrived in July

Staffing Updates

- Position for the FT Residential Caregiver position recently filled; New staff member to start soon. PT Residential Caregiver position currently pending.

Program Highlights

- Our program emphasizes continuous client support for resident activities of daily living and overall well-being. Providing support and encouragement to those facing challenges as well as those working towards their independence. Engagement in Wellness Center Groups 4 days a week. Scenic Summer drives and daily outings.

Challenges Barriers

- Ongoing recruitment