MEETING MINUTES

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Date:	May 13, 2026
Time:	2:30 PM
Location:	Bishop COB Room 140, Lone Pine Wellness Center (satellite/virtual) and via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson, Michelle Saenz called the meeting to order at 2:37 pm. All attendees introduced themselves.

MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Supervisor William Wadelton, Michelle Saenz, Claude Peters
Virtual: none

COMMUNITY & STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Joshua Vega, Lori Bengochia, Lucy Vincent, Melissa Best-Baker,
Virtual: Hayley Carter, Manuel Fletes Medina, Mae Mora, Melody Allmond

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

none

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes from January 14, 2026 meeting.

Mr. Peters moved to approve minutes as written, Supervisor Wadelton seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Supervisor Wadelton - Aye. None opposed.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR NEW YEAR (ACTION ITEM)

Mr. Peters notified the group that he would be leaving BHAB Membership at the end of his term due to pending involvement in another agency in support of Veterans.

Ms. Saenz nominated Supervisor Wadelton for the position of BHAB Chairperson, Mr. Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Supervisor Wadelton – Aye. None opposed.

Supervisor Wadelton nominated Ms. Saenz for the position of BHAB Vice Chairperson, Mr. Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Supervisor Wadelton – Aye. None opposed.

5. BHAB MEMBERSHIP UPDATE (STANDING INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Mrs. Best-Baker explained that Hayley Carter applied for BHAB membership. It will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at next available meeting.

6. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Please refer to Item 8.

7. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (BHSA) (PUBLIC HEARING)

Public Comment on Behavioral Health Integrated Plan, Deputy Director to discuss State requested changes, BHAB to approve the Behavioral Health Integrated Plan, approve and authorize Anna Scott, BH Director, to make non-substantive revisions, if further revisions are requested by Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS)

The Public Hearing commences at 2:45 pm. Melissa Best-Baker reported on the public comment she received from the Managed Care Plans. DHCS has added 3 CARE Court questions. Revisions requested (due tomorrow) pertain to County performance workbook and how we will address disparities in data. Lori Bengochia explained the revisions requested are minimal, in comparison to other counties. Mrs. Best-Baker is working on the budget with the fiscal team.

Mrs. Best-Baker asked for comments on the plan and for approval of the plan that includes the DHCS revisions. Ms. Saenz acknowledged the complexity of the Plan. Mrs. Best-Baker explained that the expenses and revenue sections will be reflected in the final plan. A lively discussion ensued.

BHAB meeting members and attendees asked questions, especially about housing and budget sections. Mrs. Best-Baker shared information about staffing to increase outreach, housing, and continuing to fund the Family Strengthening Team. Supervisor Wadelton asked about CARE Act (Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act). Mrs. Best-Baker explained it as an in-depth wraparound set of services and case management. Mrs. Bengochia added that it is whole person care, wrapping around the client to keep the person whole, healthy and housed.

BHAB meeting members asked what assertive field-based SUD outreach entails. Mrs. Best-Baker shared some of the outreach SUD staff currently does at the schools and at the Wellness Center. She will be joining the Center of Excellence (COE) to learn more.

Public Hearing closed at 3:15 pm.

Mr. Peters moved to approve the Behavioral Health Integrated Plan, approve and authorize Anna Scott, BH Director, to make non-substantive revisions, if further revisions are requested by DHCS. Ms. Saenz seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Supervisor Wadelton - Aye. None opposed

8. DATA REPORTS (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Mrs. Best-Baker shared the Data Report Power Point (please see attached). Mrs. Bengochia told the group about Consumer Perception Surveys that would be taking place next week with clients who come in for services. This required survey helps us with quality improvement – It shows us where we are and whether we are meeting consumer needs.

The next regularly scheduled BHAB meeting will be moved to June 24, 2026.

9. OLD BUSINESS (INFORMATIONAL OR DISCUSSION ITEM)

10. AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

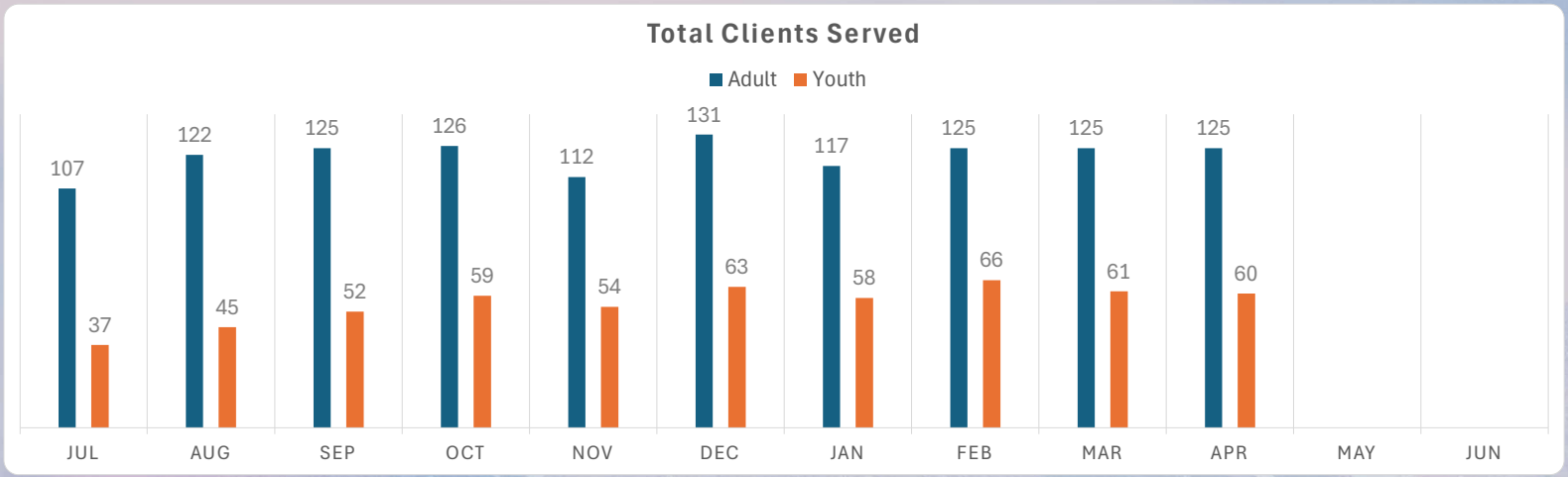
- Next fiscal year's BHAB meeting schedule (Action Item)
- Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) (standing informational item)

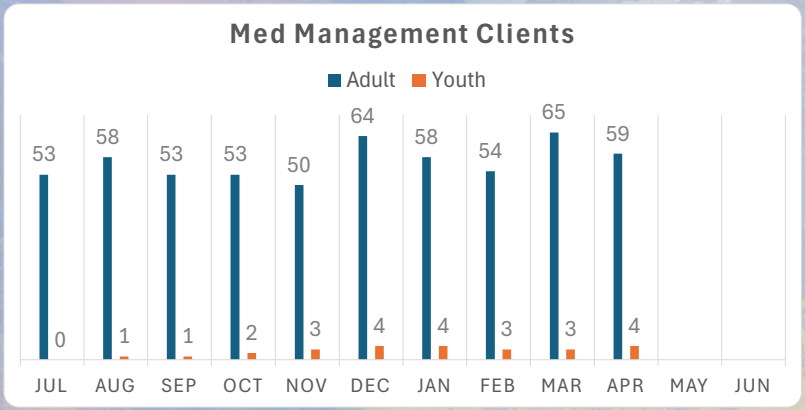
Meeting adjourned at 3:34 pm.

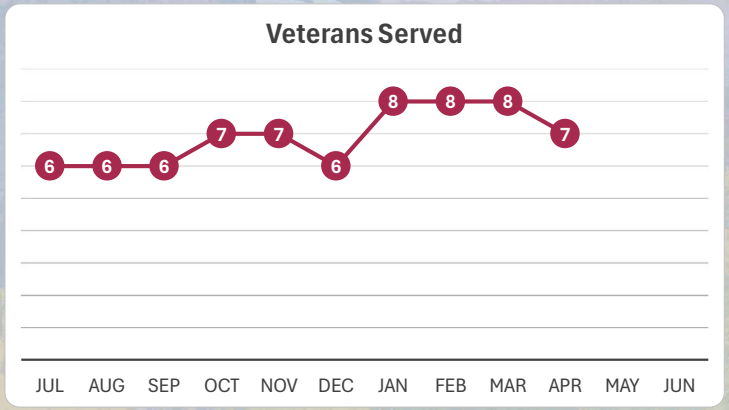
FY2025 - 2026

Inyo County Behavioral Health

Behavioral Health FY 25-26 At-A-Glance







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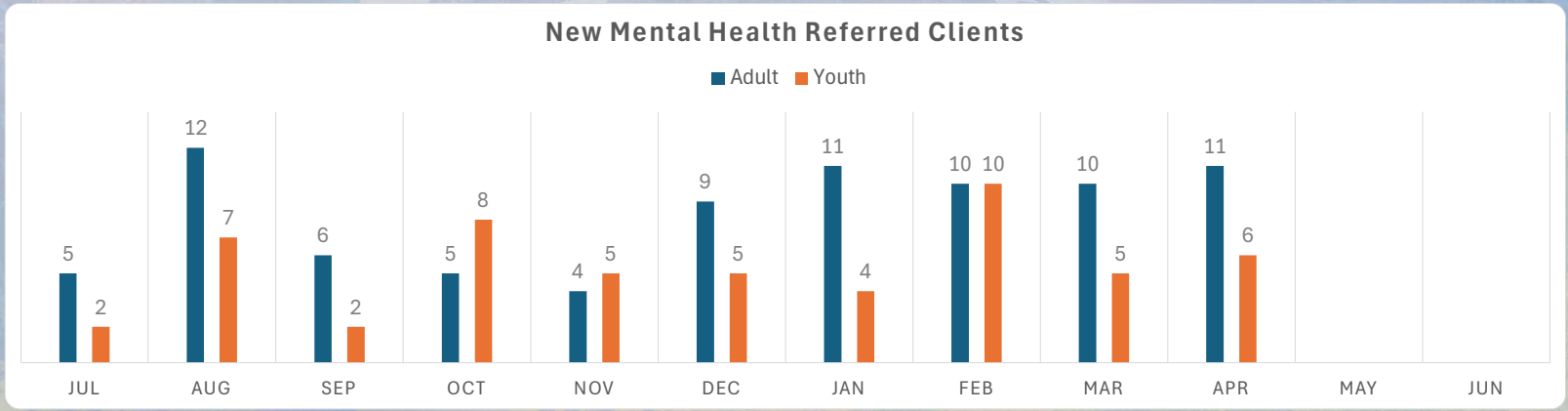

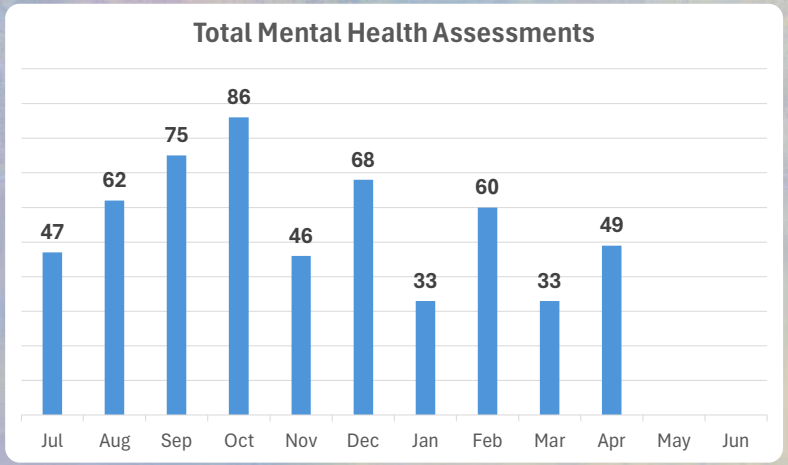

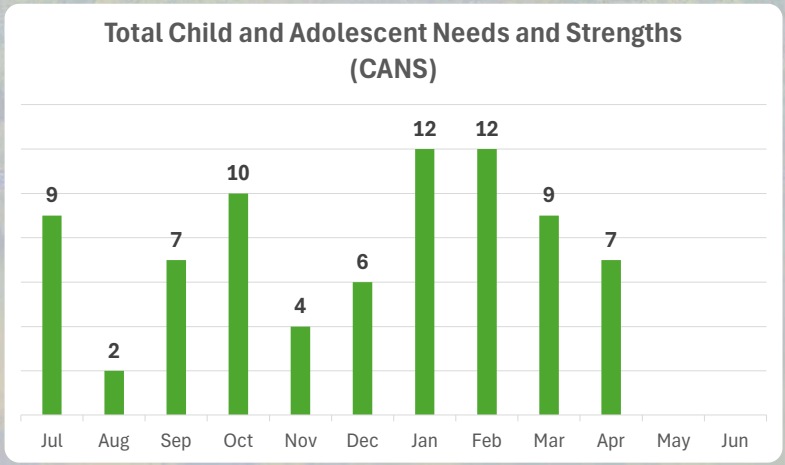

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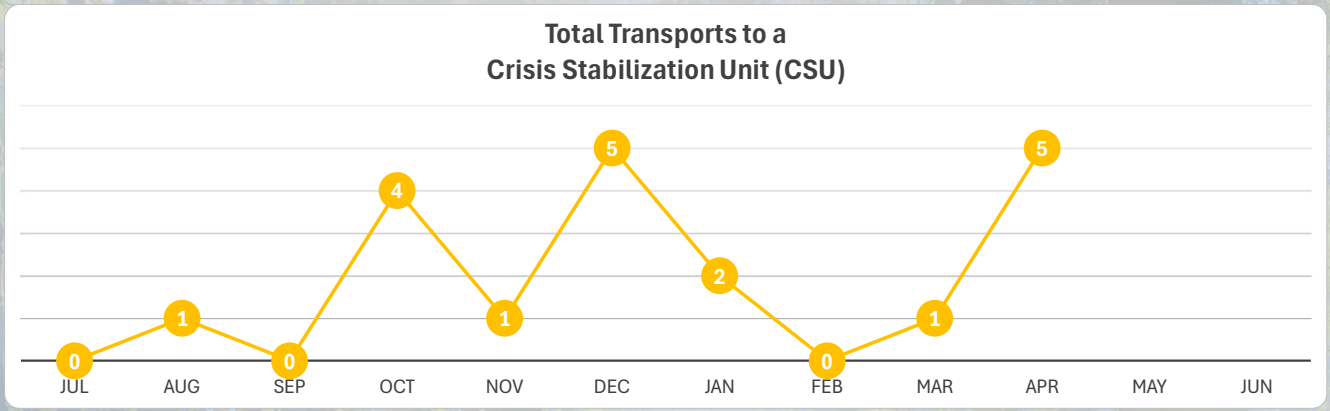
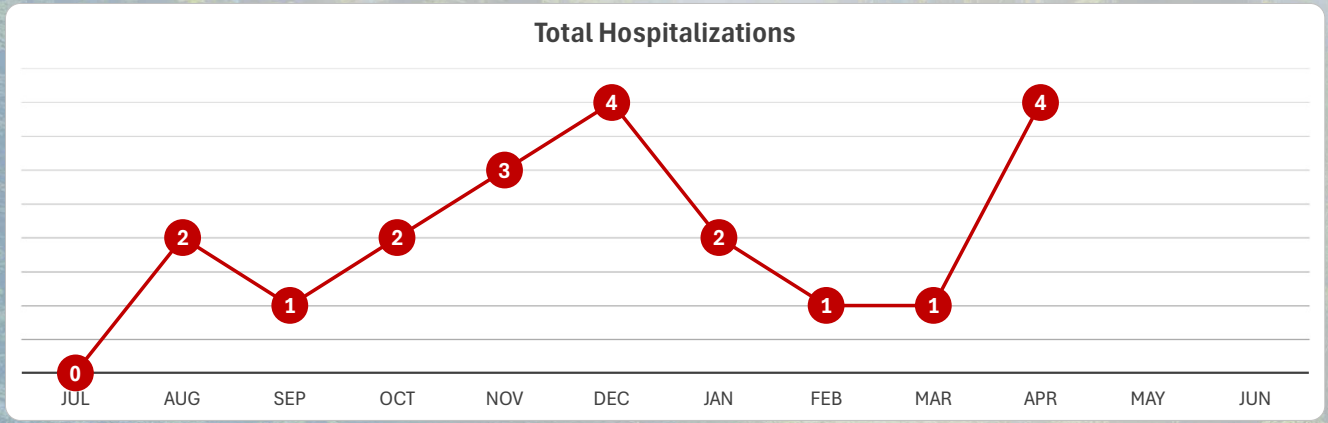
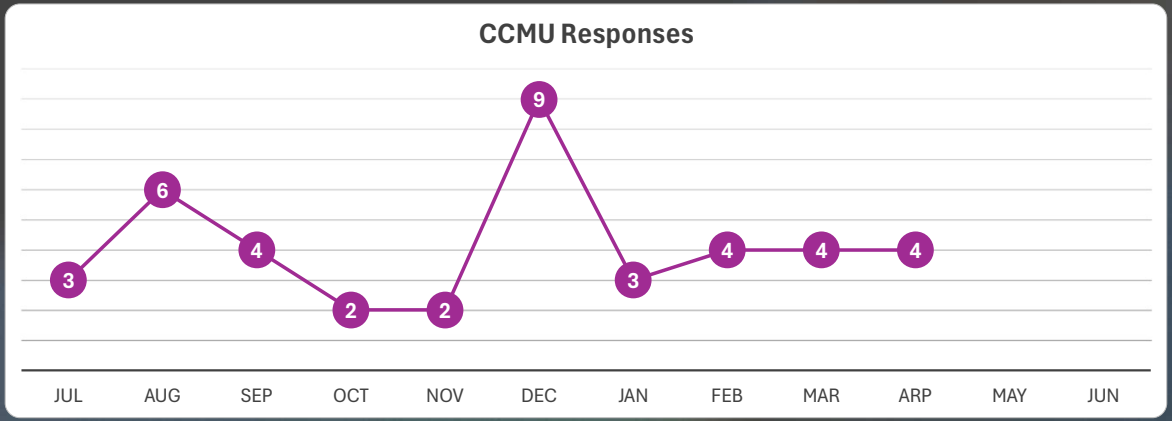
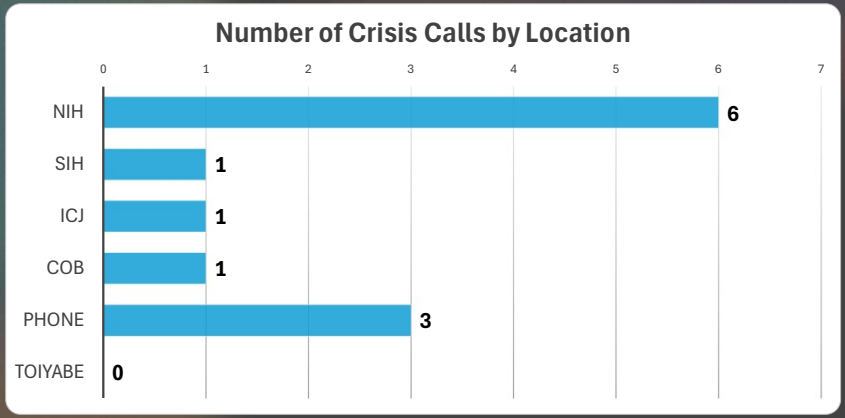




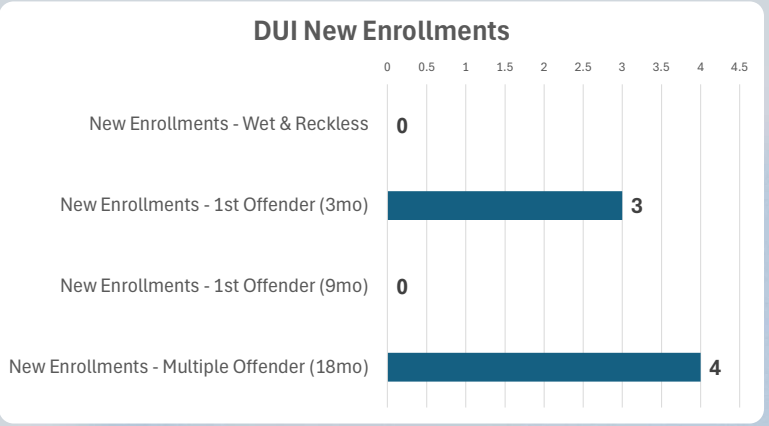
Crisis Care Mobile Unit (CCMU) & Crisis Calls





Current Month Totals

DUI & SUD



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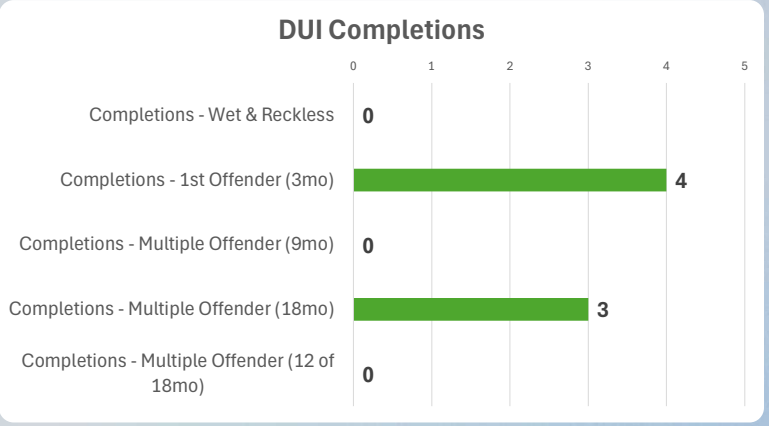

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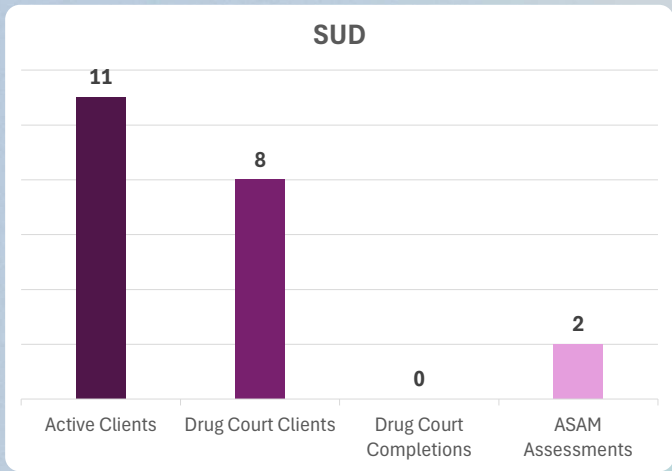
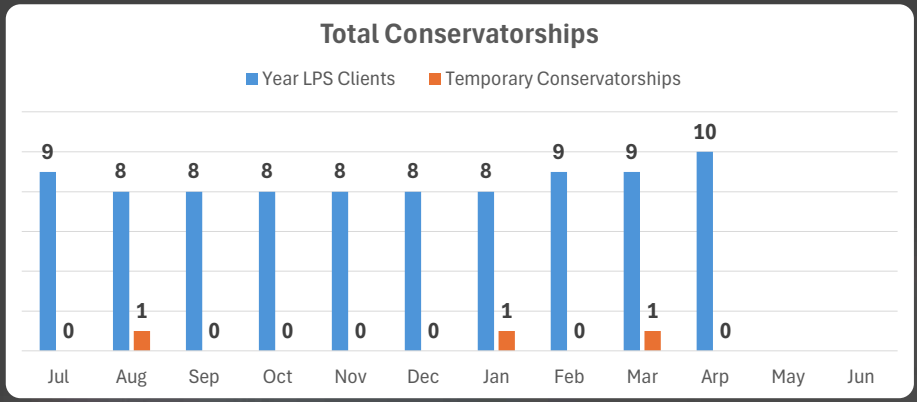
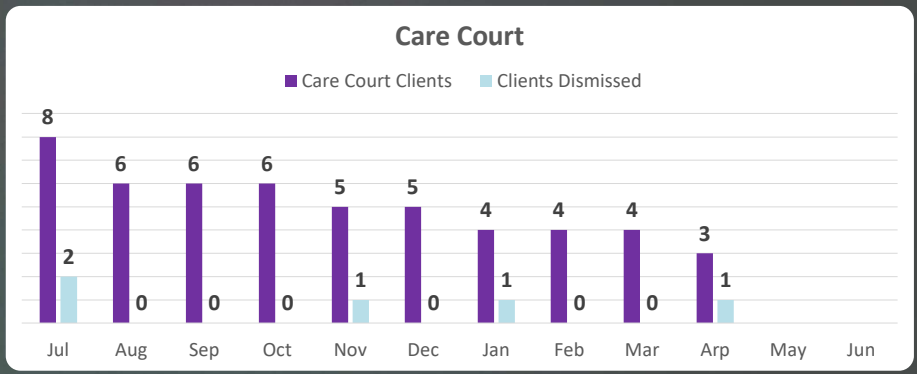


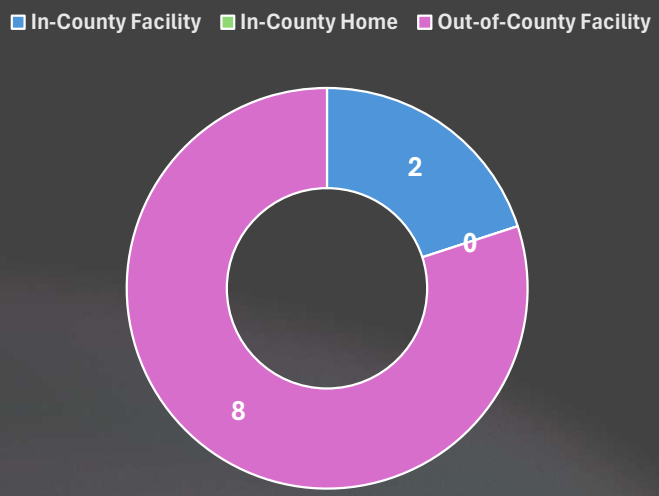
Current Month Totals

LPS Conservatorship & Care Court





Client Residence by Location



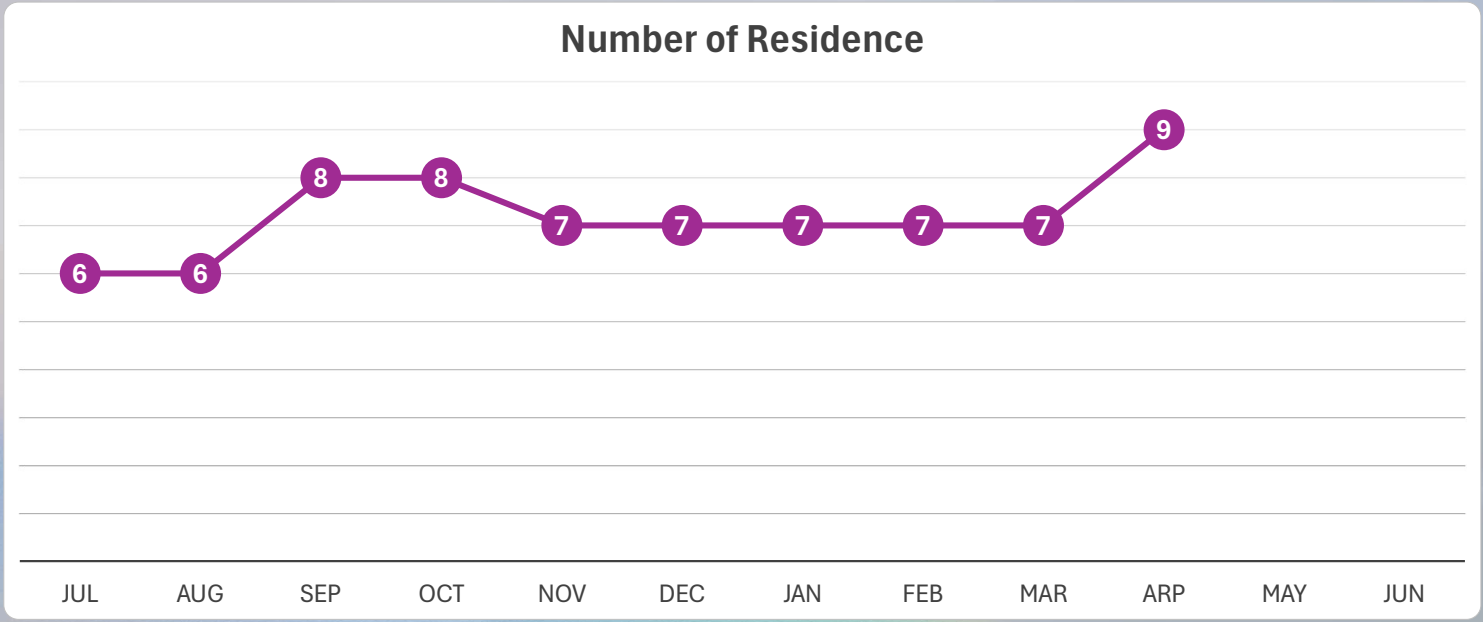
Current Month Totals

In-County Facility:
Clients placed in a licensed residential or treatment facility located within the county.

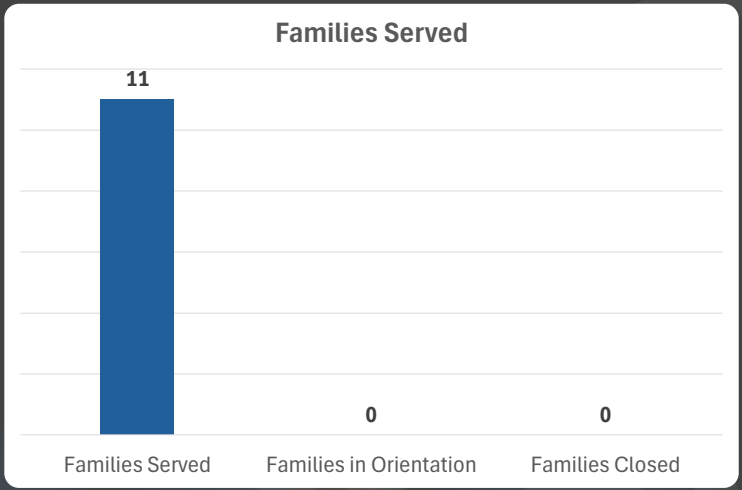
In-County Home:
Clients residing in a private home setting within the county, receiving services and support in the community.

Out-of-County Facility:
Clients placed in a licensed residential or treatment facility located outside the county.

Progress House



Family Strengthening Team



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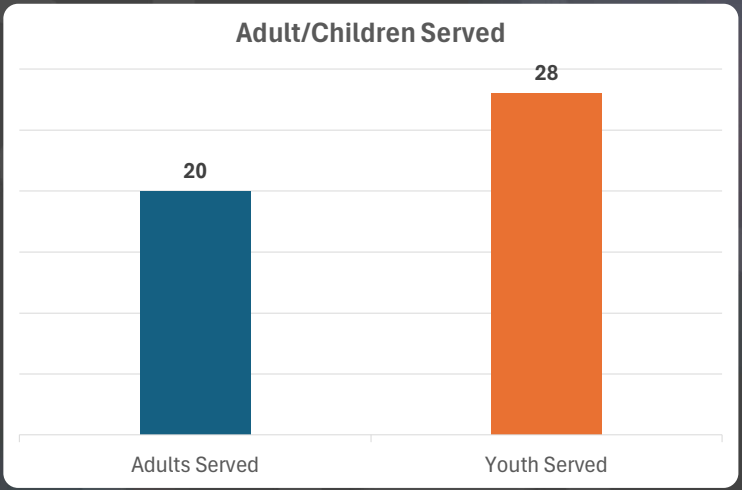
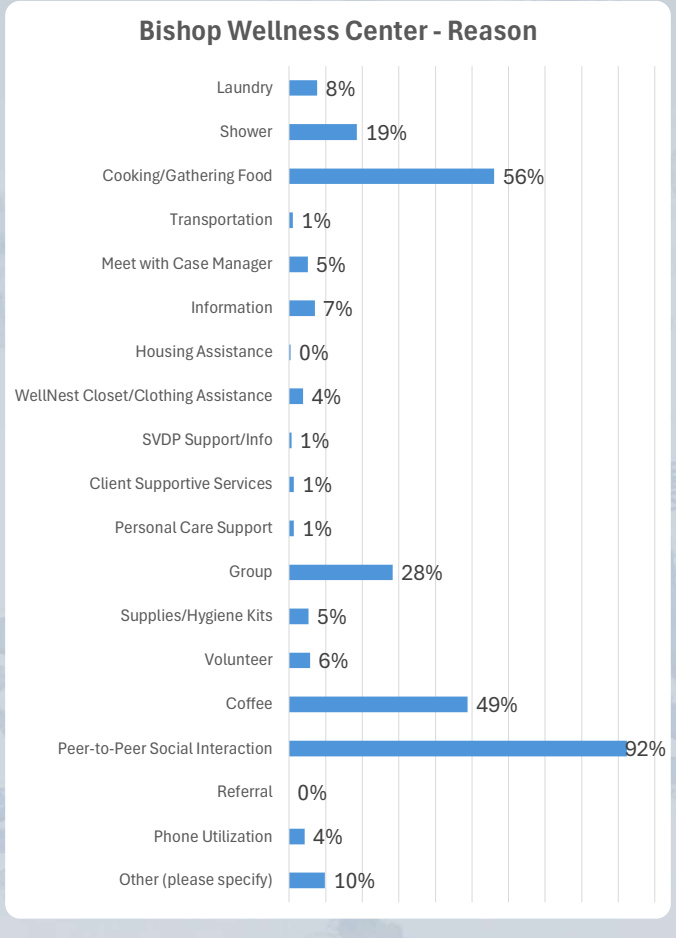
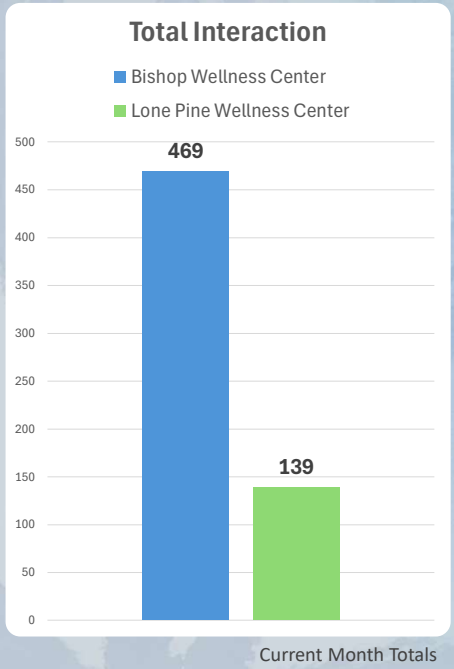
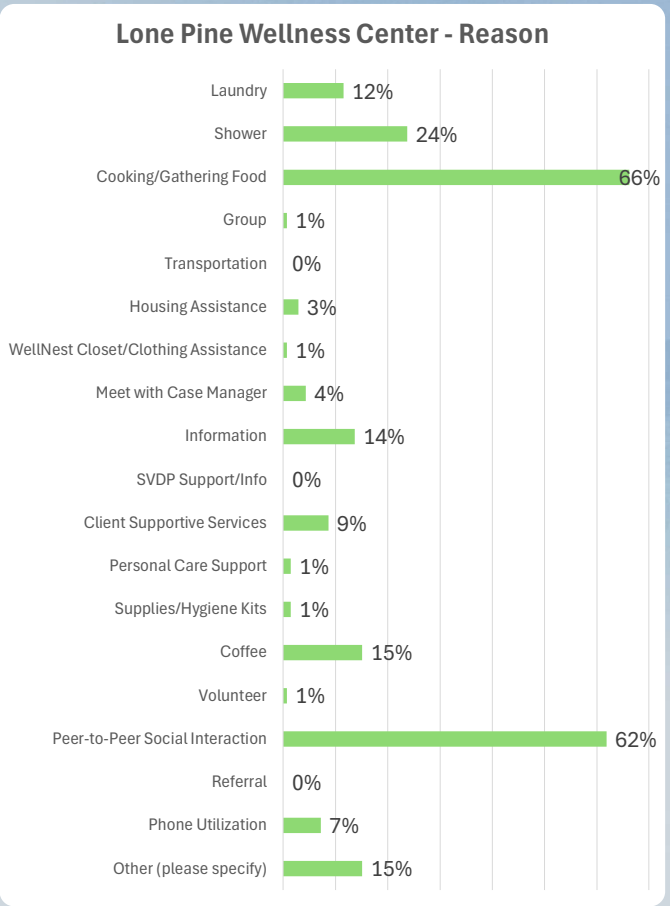


Current Month Totals

Wellness Center







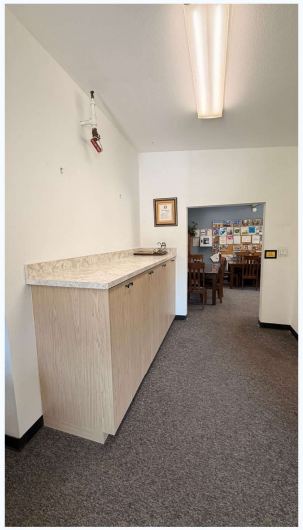
Progress House Kitchen Remodel

Thanks to Public Works and Cherish Hegi for bringing this project to completion

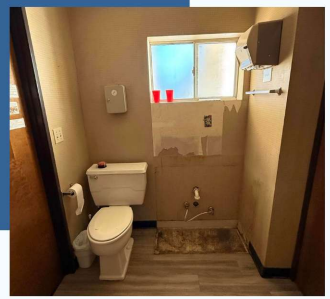
Buffet & Storage Area

Before

After

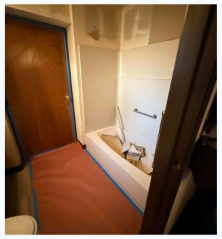


After



Laundry Room - Before

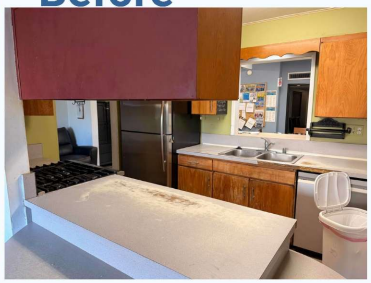
Original laundry room was a bathroom. Renovating this room allowed us to have a specific laundry room that residents can access at all hours of the day.



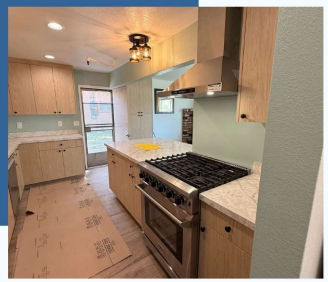
Laundry Room After

Modernized laundry room featuring fresh sage green walls, a clean white washer and dryer set, and streamlined storage with a white shelf. The renovated space offers an organized, bright, and welcoming atmosphere that reflects the quality craftsmanship of the Progress House remodel.

Kitchen Transformation - Before

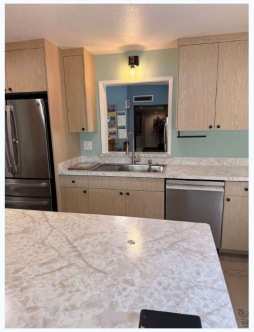


Original kitchen featuring dated cabinetry and fixtures. The space shows orange-toned wood cabinets, worn countertops, green walls, older appliances, and an overall dated appearance that was in need of modernization.

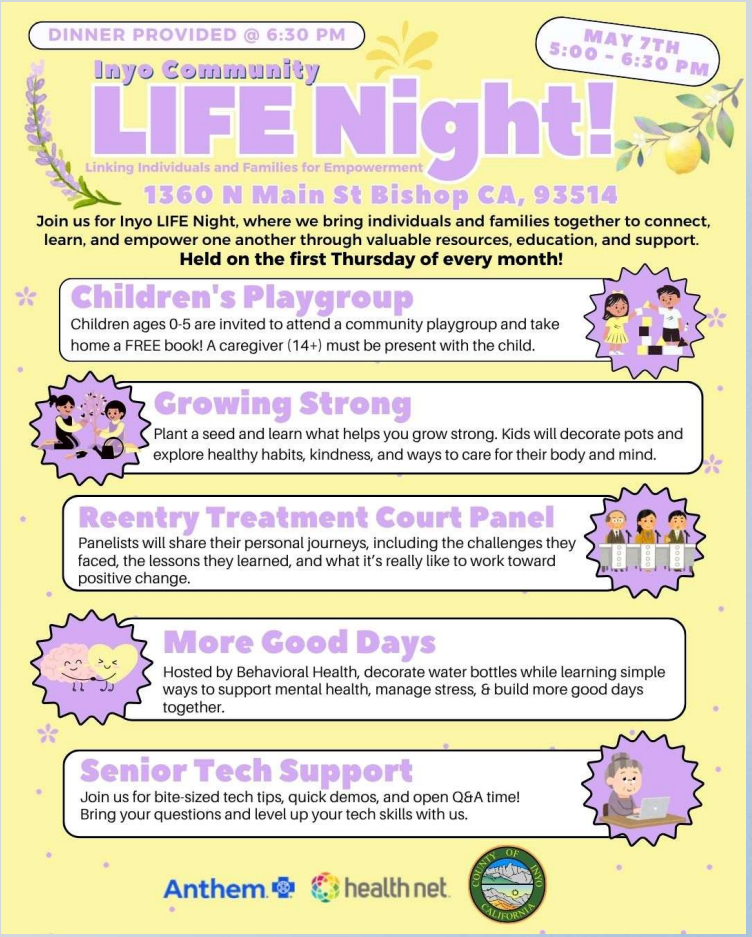


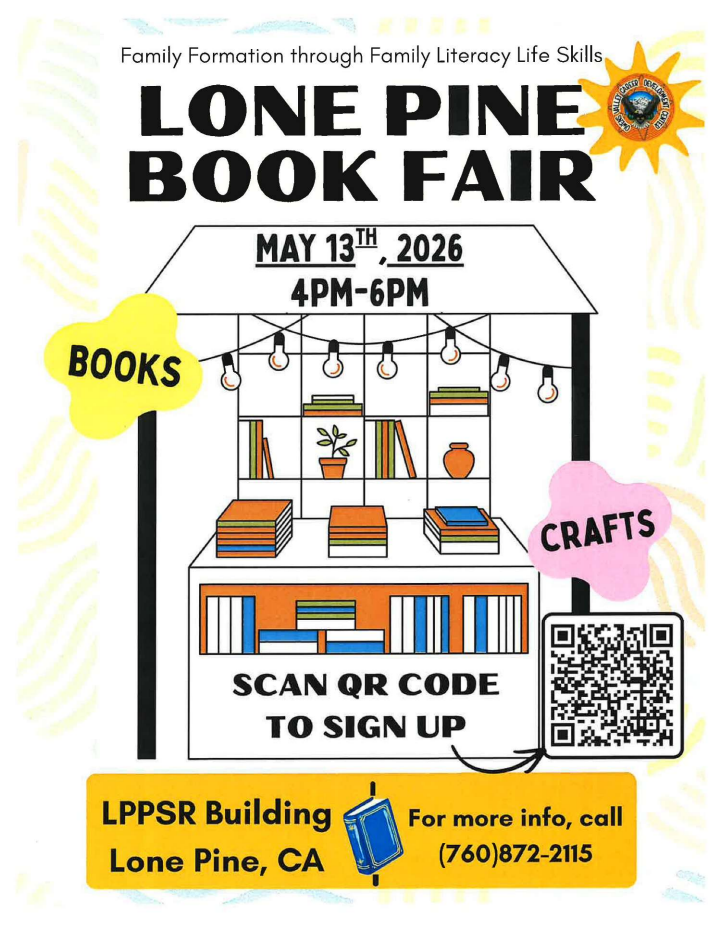
Kitchen Transformation - After

Contemporary kitchen design with bright cabinetry and modern finishes. The renovated space features light wood cabinets, white granite countertops, sage green accent walls, stainless steel appliances, a gas cooktop, modern lighting, and updated flooring throughout.



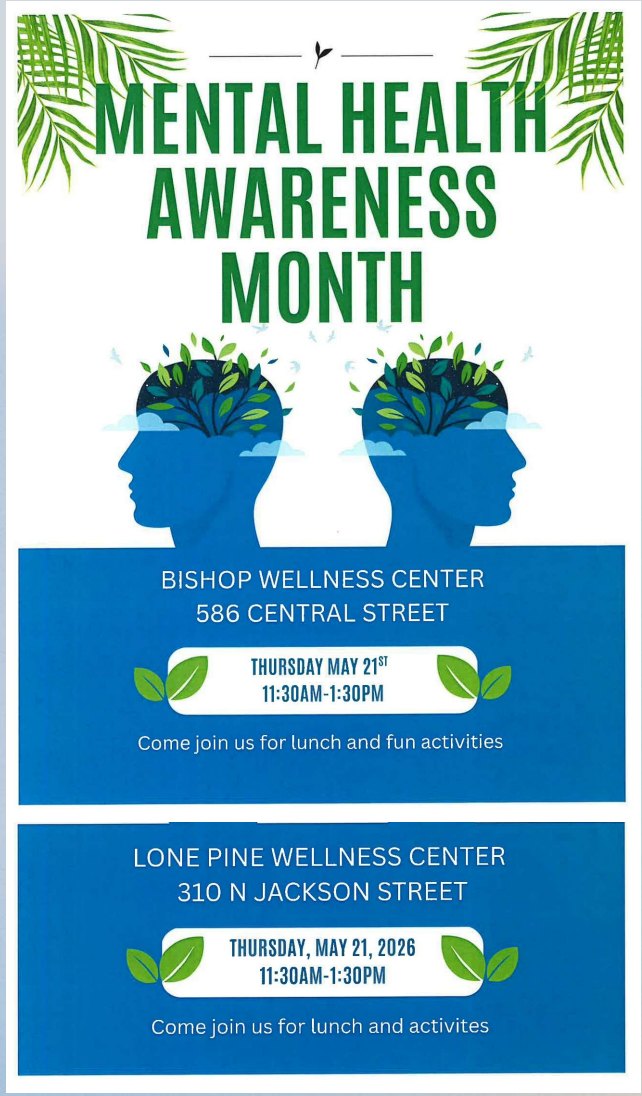
Recent / Upcoming Events





Mental Health Awareness Month

Scheduled Social Media Posts



Thank You