

# Department of Behavioral Wellness

## Coordination of Care with Jail

Presented by:  
Dr. Ole Behrendtsen



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**Behavioral Wellness**  
A System of Care and Recovery

## ➤ What is the Department of Behavioral Wellness?

Founded in 1962, the Santa Barbara County Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWELL) promotes the prevention of, and recovery from, addiction and mental illness among individuals, families, and communities, by providing effective leadership and delivering state-of-the-art, culturally competent services.

- **Who does Behavioral Wellness provide care to?**
  - Behavioral Wellness provides mental health services to individuals who qualify, after evaluation by a mental health professional, by virtue of having serious and persistent mental illness, and have insurance coverage through Medi-Cal or Medicare.
  - Additionally, provide mental health services to any person in crisis, no matter the source of insurance coverage.
  - As resources permit, BWELL provides mental health services to those people with a serious, persistent mental illness who have no insurance coverage.

# Coordination of Care with the Jail: Key Components

## Crisis Team:

- Activities of the crisis team including triage calls, multi-disciplinary team efforts, case conferencing
  - The mobile crisis team responds to crisis calls from the community, including the jail. This includes visits to inmates to make determinations about the need for psychiatric hospitalization.
  - The team participates in a daily triage call with the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) and Jail Wellpath healthcare staff to get updates on the status of patients at jail, and also to field any new requests.



# Coordination of Care with the Jail: Key Components

- Overview of role of the Medical Director in activities with incarcerated individuals
  - Evaluate individuals who are charged with misdemeanors, and whom have been declared incompetent to stand trial. The purpose of the evaluation is to determine if the individual is a candidate for Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) conservatorship. These evaluations occur in person at the jail if the inmate refuses to participate by videoconference.
  - Consultation with the jail staff and mobile crisis teams regarding disposition planning for individuals who are the subject of a Welfare and Institutions Code section 5150 or a Penal Code section 4011.6 evaluation.
  - In many cases, meeting personally with inmates who have been transferred to the PHF.

# Coordination of Care with the Jail: Key Components

## Penal Code 4011.6:

- **What is it?** The 4011.6 process is a mechanism through the Penal Code to allow a detention facility or Judge to order that a person who may be mentally disordered may be taken to a facility for 72-hour treatment and evaluation pursuant to section 5150 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- Activities include visits from Medical Director to the PHF to meet with the team and individuals, interviewing them, and offer recommendations for planning.



## Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF):

- What is the PHF and what does treatment consist of?
  - The PHF is a stand-alone psychiatric inpatient hospital. Treatments consist of multi-disciplinary evaluation and recommendations that may result in psychiatric medications, talk-therapy, substance use disorder treatment, housing supports, competitive employment supports, nutritional changes, increased family involvement, and increased involvement of any community resources that are specifically indicated for that patient, including primary medical care.

