



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Behavioral Wellness
Department No.: 043
Agenda Date: May 12, 2026
Placement: Departmental Agenda
Estimated Time: 25 Minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director(s): Antonette Navarro, LMFT, Director
Behavioral Wellness
Contact: Laura Zeitz, RN, Assistant Director, Inpatient/Crisis and
Access/Homeless and Housing/Justice
Behavioral Wellness

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AN

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara County Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Report FY 2024-25 and FY 2025-26, First and Second Quarter

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence:

As to form: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file a Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and FY 2025-2026 first and second quarter report on the Santa Barbara County Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF), providing an update from the PHF Governing Board regarding operations of the PHF including quality of care and other program activities; and
- b) Determine that the above recommended action is not a project that is subject to environmental review under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15378(b)(4) and (b)(5), finding that the action is governmental funding mechanisms and/or administrative or fiscal activities that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda under the County resolution 25-71 requiring the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Governing Board to present the annual report on the operations of the County's PHF. This presentation, as adopted by the PHF Governing Board at its regular meeting on April 22, 2026,

reviews County PHF operations and client data for the period of FY 2024-25, and the first and second quarter of FY 2025-26.

Background:

The PHF Governing Board is part of the PHF's governance structure that also includes the PHF Medical Practice Committee and the Quality Assessment and Performance Improvement team. The PHF Governing Board generally meets monthly. Regular agenda items include, but are not limited to:

- Report on quality indicators
- Policies and procedures
- Medical staff bylaws
- Medical staff credentialing and privileging
- Contract monitoring
- Licensing survey reviews
- Patient satisfaction survey results

The most recent Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) inspection was conducted in 2019 and entailed an analysis of the requirements of participation for hospitals pursuant to federal regulations at Code of Federal Regulations Title 42, Part 482. The County PHF is also subject to unannounced reviews of requirements for DHCS licensure as set forth in California regulations at California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 5, Chapters 9. DHCS completed an on-site review of the PHF, March 3-5, 2025. The DHCS survey report and cover letter were received by the PHF on September 17, 2025. A Plan of Corrections was submitted to DHCS on September 30, 2025, and PHF was informed of approval of the Plan of Corrections on October 9, 2025. These CMS and DHCS reviews provide important monitoring of County PHF services and facilities, identifying both areas of strength and improvement. Both state and federal regulations require an effective governing body that is legally responsible for the oversight of the facility.

Discussion:

The Santa Barbara County Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) is a 16-bed, locked inpatient psychiatric facility, for adults ages 18 and over, that provides 24-hour acute comprehensive care to individuals with severe mental illness who require, per Welfare and Instructions Code (WIC) Section 5150, psychiatric hospitalization at a Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) designated facility. The County PHF is known as a "Super PHF." It is required to meet California Department of Health Care (DHCS) criteria including the ability to bill for Medicaid and Medi-Cal reimbursement, and is subject to rigorous inspections and regulations to ensure it is operated at the same level as a hospital under Health and Safety Code section 1250.2(d), even though it is at a smaller capacity. To maintain its eligibility to participate in the Medicare program, the County PHF is subject to unannounced inspection by the Federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This report is brought annually to the Board of Supervisors to provide the program highlights and updates as needed and is prepared with input from the PHF Governing Board.

PHF Governing Board

The Santa Barbara County PHF Governing Board was created by action of the Board of Supervisors on August 30, 2016, amended on September 20, 2016, October 10, 2017, and April 8, 2025. The PHF Governing Board provides oversight to ensure the County PHF is compliant with State and Federal regulations. The PHF Governing Board consists of the following County officials: Assistant County Executive Officer of Health and Human Services and Public Safety, Director of the County Health

Department, Chief Deputy of Custody Operations for the Sheriff’s Office, a representative from the Public Guardian Office, a County Public Defender, a County Health Doctor, and one Supervisor from the Board of Supervisors (and alternate). Second District Supervisor Laura Capps serves on the PHF Governing Board, with First District Supervisor Roy Lee as the alternate.

Fiscal Analysis:

The PHF item is for information and administrative purposes only. There is no current budget analysis. The chart below provides the average daily rate and comparison of Acute v. Administrative days.

PHF Medi-Cal Revenue Comparison - Acute Day vs Administrative Day			
	Acute Day	Admin Day	<i>Diff.</i>
Bed Day (DHCS Rate)	\$2,245	\$844	\$1,401
Physician Svcs Average Daily (DHCS Rate)	\$708	\$334	\$374
Estimated Gross Medi-Cal Patient Revenue	\$2,953	\$1,178	\$1,775
Estimated Medi-Cal Patient Revenue - Local Match* 32.5%	\$960	\$383	
Net Medi-Cal Patient Revenue (FFP+SGF Only)	\$1,993	\$795	\$1,198
Estimated Additional Net Medi-Cal Patient Revenue from Acute		\$1,198	

** Local Match for Patient Revenue is based on each client's Medi-Cal Aid Code on date of service - 32.5% is system average*

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) minute order to Marilyn Simon-Gersuk at msimongersuk@sbcbswell.org and bwellcontractsstaff@sbcbswell.org.

Attachments:

Attachment A – FY 2024-2025 and FY 2025-2026, Quarters 1 and 2 PHF Report PowerPoint

Attachment B – 2026 PHF Annual Report - Narrative

Contact Information:

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 Housing & Grants Coordinator
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