

**From:** Marian McKenzie <malomck@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 18, 2021 4:21 PM  
**To:** sbcob  
**Subject:** Agenda #02



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Dear Santa Barbara Supervisors,

I would like you to know how important the co-response team has been to our family. My son aged out of the Transitional tAged Youth almost two years ago. He did not get a warm hand off as promised. Since then he has cycled in and out of hospital ERs, psych hospital in Pasadena and run-in's with police. He refuses to get help even though he so desperately needs it. He is terrified of the color red, cute puppies and tooth brushes among a million other things. He wasn't always this way. He had a psychotic break when he was a student at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. As a family we seek help whenever we are desperate like S.B. police officer Burleigh who rides with Behavior Wellness staff. Even though he is tall enough to drag my son out of the situation, he made friends with my son and had him sitting in the FRONT of his police car punching buttons. He completely turned my son's attitude around from all his previous interactions with police.

If you don't care that my son ever manages to climb his way out of this living nightmare of mental illness, that has nothing to do with lifestyle choices, then count dollars. Offer my son a way out with help from co-response teams and you will save thousands on hospital visits. Mental health issues don't occur just Monday through Friday 9:00-5:00. They happen 24/7. We need, not just want, coverage every day.

Thank you, Marian McKenzie

Sent from my iPhone