

## The CEO Report

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February 25, 2025

Government

Departments

Residents

Business

### February is American Heart Month

February is American Heart Month, and Mendocino County Public Health is raising awareness about cardiovascular health. Heart disease is the leading cause of death in the U.S., affecting people of all backgrounds.

Heart disease, or cardiovascular disease (CVD), includes various conditions affecting the heart and blood vessels. Some individuals are born with heart disease, while others develop it over time due to factors like high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes, smoking, obesity, and physical inactivity.

While certain risk factors—such as age, family history, and gender—cannot be changed, maintaining a healthy lifestyle and monitoring blood pressure can help reduce the risk of heart disease. Learn more at [CDC's website](#).

### Mendocino County Strategic Plan

In May 2022, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors approved the first five-year strategic plan that will help guide the critical decisions the Board of Supervisors will face over the next five years with the ultimate goal of improving the quality of life for County residents. Departmental reporting will align with the strategic plan.

Click [HERE](#) to download the Strategic Plan.

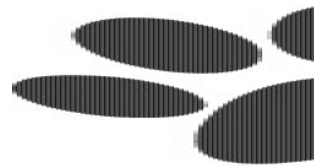
## Agriculture

The Mendocino County Department of Weights and Measures is pleased to announce the commencement of testing and registration for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations across the county. This initiative aims to ensure that all EV charging stations operate accurately and efficiently, providing consumers with reliable services as the demand for electric vehicles grows. Our state partners, the California Division of Measurement Standards, have facilitated testing by loaning expensive testing standards. Our team will continue to conduct inspections and tests on EV charging stations to verify their calibration and functionality as part of our ongoing commitment to consumer protection and fair-trade practices. These tests help establish confidence in the charging infrastructure while ensuring compliance with state regulations. We encourage all Electric Vehicle owners to report any discrepancies they may encounter while using charging stations to help us maintain the integrity of our charging network.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Animal Care Services

The Animal Care Services program areas include: Shelter, Clinic & Animal Protection Services; these programs provide animal education outreach, adoption, volunteer opportunities, fostering, lost & found services, feral cat trap-neuter-return programs, dog licensing, low cost spay & neuter, veterinary care, animal health education, rabies vaccinations, micro-chipping, impounding lost & stray animals, responding to injured-ill and suspected cruelty complaints and promoting responsible pet ownership.



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## Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector

The Auditor-Controller's Office exercises general supervision over the accounting of all organizations under the control of the Board of Supervisors as well as those special districts and school districts whose funds are maintained by the County Treasury. In addition to maintaining all basic financial information, the Auditor-Controller analyzes accounting reports, and supplies fiscal information. An integral function of the Auditor-Controller's Office is the administration of the property tax rolls.

The Treasurer is responsible for the collection, custody, investment, and disbursements of the funds of the County, School Districts, Special Districts, and Trust Funds. All monies collected by the aforementioned entities are deposited in the County Treasury and pooled for investment purposes, while segregating the individual account transactions for interest apportionment purposes. The guiding principles of the investment policy are always in this order: (1) Safety, (2) Liquidity, and (3) Yield.

The Tax Collector administers the billing, collection, and reporting of property tax revenues levied annually; this includes secured, unsecured, and supplemental tax assessments. The Tax Collector also administers the collection of transient occupancy taxes, Business Improvement District assessments, and business licenses.

The employees within the Auditor-Controller/Treasurer-Tax Collector's office are dedicated to honoring the public's trust and are committed to serving the Mendocino County community with integrity and honesty.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Behavioral Health & Recovery Services



### February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

In the United States 1 in 3 teens experience physical, sexual, or emotional abuse from someone they are in a relationship with before becoming adults. Among College women, 45% report experiencing violent or abusive behaviors from dating partners. During February, BHRS & PH and other providers will raise awareness and advocacy around risk factors and prevention. Reducing dating violence in teens includes education around the importance of respect in a relationship, having and holding boundaries, communication around feelings and boundaries, respect for differences, and identifying disrespectful and other harmful behaviors.

**February 24 to March 2, 2025**, is also **Eating Disorder Awareness Week** to raise awareness, educate about the importance of early intervention and seeking help about eating disorders.

Eating disorders can be considered serious mental disorders that may involve extreme mental fixation on specific thoughts, emotions, and behaviors involving weight and food.

### Mental Health

BHRS Partnered with Court Appointed Special Advocates and several other partner agencies such as Adventist Health, Cahto Tribe, Childhood Trauma Action Team, and Redwood Community Services. to sponsor a Trafficking Summit to raise awareness and identify risk factors for prevention, reduction, and elimination of human trafficking and sexual exploitation.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Cannabis

At the conclusion of December 2024, Mendocino Cannabis Department ("MCD") reviewed and granted local authorization for over 600 active local Cannabis Cultivation Business License ("CCBL") applications. In addition to this review, MCD standardized review procedures and implemented targeted process

improvements to efficiently align with County objectives. Through combined efforts to streamline processes, such as the revision of the Mendocino Cannabis Cultivation Ordinance (“MCCO”) in March of 2024, and by implementing procedural refinements, MCD has achieved application processing rates that successfully concluded all assigned responsibilities by the targeted December 2024 completion date. Below are several key accomplishments of MCD in 2024:

- Administered over \$3.9M in direct assistance via fee relief and direct grants to local CCBL holders
- Issued approximately 6 million square feet of Commercial Cannabis Cultivation in Mendocino County
- The Environmental Impact Report (“EIR”) for Commercial Cannabis Cultivation in Mendocino County was certified on October 17, 2024, transitioning over 154 Provisional State Licenses to Annual Licenses
- Completed more than 141 inspections of proposed or existing CCBL sites

Click [HERE](#) to find MCD Monthly Activity Reports.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Child Support Services

The Mendocino County Department of Child Support Services strives to “Help Parents Invest in their Children”. Our mission is to serve children and their families by establishing parentage and enforcing support orders in a fair and equitable manner.



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## Employee Health Benefits

In January, Employee Health Benefits introduced a new mail-order pharmacy program. Rx’n Go offers an estimated 1,300 generic medications and some diabetic supplies for free to employees who are enrolled in one of the County health plans. Learn more by visiting the [flyer](#) on the [Benefits Bookshelf](#).

On March 6, the Mendocino County Employees Retirement Association will be holding their Spring Pre-Retirement Webinar. Employee Health Benefits will be attending and presenting a brief information session on the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA), a program which gives some employees the ability to continue health insurance coverage after leaving employment. For registration details, please refer to the Pre-Retirement Webinar flyer [here](#).



## Employee Wellness

The American Heart Association has awarded the County of Mendocino national Gold Award level recognition for its commitment to employee health and wellbeing. As part of

this commitment, the County is pleased to offer comprehensive benefits, including an Employee Assistance Program that provides valuable Financial Wellbeing Services, which are especially useful during tax season.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Environmental Health

In 2024, the Environmental Health Division continued its commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of Mendocino County residents by delivering essential services across various programs. Despite facing challenges such as an average 35% vacancy rate, our dedicated team successfully managed significant workloads and contributed to community resilience. From permitting events and inspecting facilities to supporting post-pandemic recovery, the Division has been instrumental in maintaining public health and protecting the environment. This report highlights our key accomplishments and the ongoing efforts to enhance our services for a healthier, more resilient community.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Executive Office - Contracts Unit

The Contract Unit works directly with departments Countywide to execute contracts and amendments to ensure alignment with County Policy. All review/approval processes are administered through Cobblestone, an electronic contract review software platform. Specific reviewers/approvers are determined by the Mendocino County Purchasing, Leasing and Contracting Policy (Policy No. 1).



Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Executive Office - Economic Development

The Economic Development Division's role and responsibility is to implement the priorities of the Board of Supervisors' strategic plan for a thriving economy. We are dedicated to growing a healthy, resilient, sustainable, and inclusive economy, creating equitable wealth within our communities. The primary methods through which we do this are long-term strategic planning, connecting people to resources and removing barriers. The Economic Development Division is staffed by one full-time employee. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

### Behavioral Health Sector Meeting

The Economic Development Division is hosting a series of economic development meetings by sector; the first is a collaborative workshop around the current and future labor market demands for the Behavioral Health sector in Mendocino County. This will focus on current and projected employer needs, licensing programs offered by local and regional educational institutions, identifying gaps in the licensed workforce, and providing an opportunity for



community input.

**Details:**

Date: Monday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2-4 pm

Location: Behavioral Health Training Center, 8207 East Rd., Redwood Valley CA 95470

[Behavioral Health Meeting Flyer](#)



## Executive Office - Grants Division

The newly established Grants Unit, staffed with 1 FTE (full time employee), within the Executive Office has introduced innovative services to enhance grant management, strategic planning, and collaboration.

Over the past year, the Grants Unit has advanced the County's strategy by developing and submitting 10 grant applications totaling \$5,161,850.57. Additionally, it is currently managing 11 active grants valued at \$15,756,566.64.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Facilities and Fleet

Facilities and Fleet Mission: To provide an accessible, efficient, safe, clean and comfortable working environment for all employees and general public who use our buildings and properties.

Facilities and Fleet maintains vital infrastructure and related services that enable County employees to serve the citizens of Mendocino County.

Click [HERE](#) for updates on telematics, County fleet and fuel consumption, County wide utility consumption, capital improvement projects, disaster/emergency preparedness activities, and facilities statistics.

## Golden State Finance Authority

The Golden State Finance Authority (GSFA) offers a home loan program with down payment assistance exclusively for employees of GSFA Member Counties in California. Eligible employees can explore program options and connect with an approved lender from GSFA's Participating Lender List, available on the GSFA website: [www.gsfahome.org](http://www.gsfahome.org).



For direct access to the approved lender list, visit: [GSFA Approved Lenders](#). Employees of GSFA Member Counties can select a lender or loan officer in their area to receive guidance on program details and next steps.

[GSFA Member Assist Flyer](#)

## Human Resources

The function of Human Resources involves managing the recruitment, development, well-being, and performance of local government employees, while also ensuring compliance with regulations and promoting the efficient delivery of public services.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...



## Leadership

### LEADERSHIP ACADEMY RETURNS IN APRIL 2025

At the County of Mendocino, we are committed to developing leadership at all levels, regardless of title. The Leadership Academy (formerly known as Supervisor/Management Academy) is designed to equip our employees with the tools and knowledge to grow into effective leaders, both now and in the future. While the Academy is a mandatory program for Supervisors and Managers, we also encourage emerging leaders to participate and earn an Emerging Leaders Certification.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Library

February is the perfect month to start thinking about the various ways you love your library, be it programs focused on cyber security, Blind Date with a Book displays, county departments working together, learning early literacy tips at Storytime, or being visited by the Bookmobile.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Museum

The Mendocino County Museum looks forward to a busy spring. In addition to offering a variety of programs and a new exhibit, the Musuem is pleased to report that the new partnership with the Friends of the Mendocino County Museum is off to a great start! The FOTMCM greet the public at the Admissions Desk and are busy stocking the Gift Shop with a variety of goods that enhance the Museum visitor experience and help make tourists visitation to our county memorable.



Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Office of Emergency Services

## Emergency Medical Services (EMS)

The County has contracted with Coastal Valleys, which is organized under Sonoma County Department of Health Services, since 1993 to be the local emergency medical services agency (LEMSA). The LEMSA's primary function is to provide administrative and regulatory oversight of the local EMS system.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

[Mendocino County Year End Report](#)



## Planning and Building

The Planning and Building Services Department continues to work on the County's Strategic Plan objectives while focusing on four primary internal goals: establishing tools to measure success, documenting and improving Department procedures, enhancing the customer experience, and cultivating a structured and productive workplace culture.

The Department's tool for measuring basic performance criteria, and thereby measuring success, is monthly metric reports, which are posted monthly to the Planning and Building Services Department webpage. These reports quantify revenue vs. expense, applications received, workload inventory, and lead time for completion. The metrics are separated by division.

Please go to <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/departments/planning-building-services/metrics-and-permits> for the latest metrics.

This edition of the Department's CEO Report is focused on the 2024 year in review.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Public Health

### February is American Heart Month

Mendocino County Public Health is raising awareness about cardiovascular health. It is important individuals familiarize themselves with the types of heart disease, symptoms, causes, prevention, diagnosis, and treatment. Heart disease is very common. In the United States, heart disease is the leading cause of death for men, women, and people of most racial and ethnic groups.

### Public Health - Maternal, Child, Adolescent Health (MCAH)

The Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health (MCAH) program recently applied for a KidsPlate grant to expand our car seat safety program. If awarded, the grant will enable us to purchase additional car seats to meet the growing demand for this critical resource in our community.



## Public Health Administration Communications

Public Health will air PSAs in English and Spanish all month-long in February to raise awareness on Respiratory Virus Vaccines and Children's Dental Health Awareness month.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...

## Request for Proposals

Executive Office Staff accomplishments January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024 include:

- Completing Policy No. 1 compliance and quality control review on 35 RFP; of the 35 RFP's reviewed 33 were issued.
- Development of the Teams Channel "Competitive Bidding" in the County Central Services Team, to provide County staff current forms, templates, and guidance. Establishment of this channel allows County staff to have an interactive space to ask questions and access resources on the RFP Process.
- Technical assistance to County departments around RFP development, including having one-on-one discussions on RFP timelines, scope of work development, preparation, and issuance of addendum.



Executive Office Staff is updating the RFP process to ensure compliance and increase efficiency. This process will include evaluating electronic programs to utilize in the RFP process for issuing, reviewing, and awarding RFP's. Executive Office Staff will be offering training on the updated process.

## Social Services

Mendocino County Department of Social Services is pleased to share with you accomplishments from 2024 and news going into 2025!

Click [HERE](#) to read more...



## Strategic Plan Tracking

Board's priorities.

The Strategic Plan Tracker was introduced at the January 2025 BOS Workshop. Based on Board feedback, percentage-based progress indicators have been removed to simplify reporting. This update provides a clearer view of strategic initiatives while keeping progress aligned with the

Click [HERE](#) to view the revised Strategic Plan Tracking Log

## UC Extension

The 4-H program has experienced a steady and positive start this year. Since the enrollment period opened in July, we currently have 356 active youth members and 98 adult volunteers participating as of February 11th, with additional individuals pending enrollment.

Click [HERE](#) to read more...



### COME & VISIT

Main Ukiah Campus:  
501 Low Gap Road  
Ukiah, CA 95482

### GET IN TOUCH

County Directory  
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### STAY INFORMED

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