

## The CEO Report

Darcie Antle  
March 25, 2025

Government

Departments

Residents

Business

## March is Nutrition Month

This month we raise awareness to help everyone to learn about making informed food choices as well as development of healthful eating and physical activity habits. Mendocino County Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program provides nutrition and health information, monthly food benefits to get healthy foods, breastfeeding information & support, and referrals.

### Who qualifies:

- Low to Medium income families
- Receive Medi-Cal, CalWORKs or CalFresh benefits
- Women who are pregnant, breastfeeding, a postpartum less than 6 months or pregnancy loss
- Children up to the age of 5 years, cared for by mother, father or foster parent

For more information, contact the WIC Program at: [855-843-2949](tel:855-843-2949) or stop by an office in Ukiah, Willits, or Fort Bragg at:

- 1120 South Dora Street, Ukiah, CA 95482
- 120 West Fir Street, Fort Bragg, CA 95437
- 125 E. Commercial Street, Willits, CA 95490

Additionally, **March 12** is recognized as **Registered Dietician Nutritionist Day** and **March 13** as **Nutrition and Dietetics Technician, Registered Day**.

We celebrate and appreciate the work they do to help people live healthier lives through nutrition.

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.

## Departments and Divisions

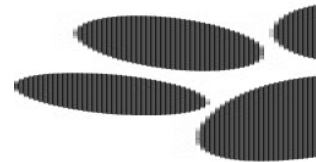
### Agriculture

Here in Mendocino County, during March, we recognize National Weights and Measures Week every year, commemorating the signing of the first U.S. weights and measures law by President John Adams on March 2, 1799. Celebrating Weights and Measures Week informs the public of the value consumers receive from weights and measures inspection programs. When consumers purchase fuel, take a trip to the grocery store, accept delivery of fuel at their home, submeter utilities such as electricity, gas, and water, or buy anything by weight or measure, remember the dedicated staff of three (3) Agricultural/Measurement Standards Specialists and support staff from the weights and measures program in our county who work tirelessly to make sure the county consumers get what they pay for, ensuring "That Equity May Prevail."

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.



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

### Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

March is Self-Injury Awareness Month and March 1 is Self-Injury Awareness Day.

This month is to raise awareness, increase understanding, reduce stigma, and offer support to those affected by self-harm.

Approximately 4% of the US population uses self injury as a way of coping. Self

injury is distinguished from other forms of self harm, in that there is no intent to die or suicidal intent.

The National Crisis Line **988** is a resource to begin to seek support and resources. To seek treatment talk to your primary care provider or contact the Mental Health Access line at **800-555-5906**. If needed call **911** for medical emergency or the Crisis Line at **855-838-0404** if self harm becomes overwhelming or does have a suicidal element.

Learn more at [March is Self-Injury Awareness Month | Psychology Today](#).

This month is a reminder that it's okay to talk about emotional pain.

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.

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

## County Counsel

Under Government Code section 53235, specified local agency officials must complete at least 2 hours of training in general ethics principles and ethics laws every two years. Generally, this includes elected officials and members of boards and commissions. In addition, any newly elected or appointed local agency official must receive two years of ethics training within one year of taking the oath of office and once every two years thereafter. A compliant ethics training course must provide you with proof of participation certificate.

The FPPC in consultation with the Attorney General provides a course online for free, which is linked to the County Counsel's page. In addition, County Counsel also provides ethics trainings, typically combined with the Brown Act at least once per year.

County Counsel's Resources/Training tab also provides a link which will direct you to a recording of a recent Brown Act training hosted by the Institute of Local Government [ILG] along with supporting materials, and a link to a comprehensive guide to the Brown Act published by the League of California Cities updated most recently in 2024.

Click [HERE](#) to visit County Counsel's Resources/Training tab to view available online materials and resources regarding Ethics and the Brown Act.

## Employee Health Benefits

The Employee Health Benefits team is dedicated to encouraging employees to make full use of the available resources to effectively manage and access their benefits. The



[Employee Benefits Website](#) offers a multitude of resources including a Benefits Bookshelf which features the most current documents, such as the 2025 Employee Benefits Guide and Anthem Plan Summaries.

Also located on the public site, BeneBits Videos provide concise, educational content that simplifies complex concepts related to health benefits. These videos provide a quick and engaging way to understand topics such as qualifying life events, flexible spending, and balance billing.

## Employee Wellness

Mendocino County Working on Wellness (MCWOW) has added two new ways for employees to earn Wellness Incentive points toward their annual reward of up to \$500 off their County health plan premium: Volunteering/Community Service and Supporting Local, Healthy Eating. We are also hosting a Spring Wellness Challenge designed to promote healthier lifestyles among our employees. These initiatives not only foster a culture of well-being but also reflect our commitment to supporting the holistic health of our employees, reinforcing our organization's values of community and proactive employee support.

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



## Environmental Health

In February, despite an average 39% vacancy rate, our administrative team efficiently served 50 customers in person, responded to phone and email inquiries, and processed a high volume of permits, public records requests, and

payments. The Land Use Program handled numerous site evaluations, well applications, and building permits, with inspections continuing despite staffing challenges. Consumer Protection inspectors conducted 43 facility inspections while managing various permit applications, and the Hazmat Program completed 40 inspections. The LEA program exceeded its monthly inspection target. Meanwhile, the department remains committed to improving efficiency by coordinating the Fort Bragg office relocation and progressing toward the digitization of Land Use and Consumer Protection files, enhancing accessibility and service delivery.

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

## Executive Office - Contract 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...

## Executive Office - Grants Unit

The newly established Grants Unit, located within the Executive Office and staffed by 1 full-time employee, is committed to advancing County objectives by optimizing the impact of grant funding. This is accomplished through the identification of optimal funding opportunities and the implementation of efficient grant administration, as well as the development of long-term capacity. The unit is tasked with securing and overseeing external funding to support various county initiatives and is currently managing 11 active grants with a total value of \$15,756,566.64. Furthermore, the unit offers technical assistance to County departments to enhance their grant-related efforts.

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.

## 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...

## Office of Emergency Services

Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services (OES) is the primary local coordination agency for emergencies and disasters affecting residents, public infrastructure, and government operations in the Mendocino County Operational Area (OA). The Mendocino County OA includes the county and its cities, towns, and special districts, in coordination with tribes.



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

## 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.

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

Prevention, Recovery,  
Resiliency, & Mitigation



The Prevention, Recovery, Resiliency, and Mitigation Division was created to work directly with state, federal, and local partners in the physical and financial

recovery of the County. The Division works across public and private sectors to ensure unmet needs are being addressed within the community.

For more information on Emergency Preparedness, Recovery and Resources visit us online at: <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/community/fire-recovery>

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

## Public Health

March is Nutrition Month, a time to focus on informed food choices and healthy habits. In Mendocino County, the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program supports low to medium-income families with nutrition information, food benefits, and breastfeeding support. We also celebrate the vital work of Registered Dietitian Nutritionists and Nutrition and Dietetics Technicians in promoting healthier lifestyles. Join us in empowering families to make positive dietary choices for a healthier future.

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

## Social Services

The Mendocino County Department of Social Services is pleased to welcome two new department leaders: Assistant Director Stephen



White and Deputy Director of Family & Children's Services, Renee Alger. Both bring extensive experience and expertise, further strengthening the department's commitment to serving the community.

This report highlights key updates, including findings from the Front Door for Families program's recent client survey. Notably, 100% of participants indicated that without assistance, they would have either become or remained homeless—reinforcing the program's vital role. Full details can be found in the report.

Additionally, CalFresh mass replacements for recipients in the 95585 (Leggett) zip code are set to begin on March 7, 2025, in response to winter storm impacts. For more information, please refer to the contact details provided in the full report.

Finally, as March marks Social Work Appreciation Month, the department proudly recognizes the invaluable contributions of social workers in protecting vulnerable populations. Family & Children's Services also encourages those interested in becoming a Resource Family to explore fostering opportunities by reaching out to the department.

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

## UC Extension

In October 2024, the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE) initiated the new Beneficial Burning and Tribal Land Stewardship program for Mendocino and Lake counties. UCCE will be partnering with Tribes, Tribally-led organizations, agencies, and private landowners to support capacity building within Tribal communities for planning and conducting land stewardship activities. UCCE also aims to help facilitate networking and outreach events focused on fire ecology, cultural resource management, climate change adaptation, and community wildfire resilience.

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



### COME & VISIT

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

### GET IN TOUCH

County Directory  
Contact By Email



### STAY INFORMED

Get News, Views,  
Insights, and Events

ENOTIFICATION  
SIGN UP







Try email marketing for free today!