

The CEO Report

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May 21, 2024

Government

Departments

Residents

Business

May is Mental Health Awareness Month



Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) recognizes May as Mental Health Awareness Month. BHRS is raising awareness for all women, men, and children this month with May 1 World Maternal Mental Health Day, May 5-11 Children's Mental Health Week, and throughout the month about services provided and how to reach out for support.

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.

Departments and Divisions



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...

Animal Care Services will host a Community Meeting on Thursday, May 30th, from 4-5 pm at the Mendocino County Board Chambers and on Zoom. This meeting aims to provide insights into departmental operations, including animal rescue and shelter management, and to gather feedback and suggestions to enhance our service to the community.

[Community Meeting Flyer](#)

Auditor-Controller

The Auditor-Controller's Office exercises general supervision over the accounting of all organizations under the control of the Board of Supervisors and 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 Auditor Controller's office employees are dedicated to honoring the public's trust and are committed to serving the Mendocino County community with integrity and honesty.

Below are the statistics for the Auditor Controller's Office since January 1, 2024

- Recorded **888** deposit receipts into Munis totaling over **\$183,505,000**.
- Processed **165** contracts
- Audited and posted over **1,460** journal entries
- Audited over **1,090** accounts payable batches
- Printed over **7,000** checks and processed over **330** e-payable transactions

The Auditor's Office would also like to remind all departments and entities who have transactions processed through the Auditor's Office, that the fiscal year-end close is right around the corner and instructions for year-end processing will be sent out at the end of May.

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

BHRS also recognizes May 7 as National Fentanyl Awareness Day, a day to raise awareness about the dangers of the drug and how it impacts the community, friends, and family.



BHRS also recognizes May as Drug Court Month. Drug courts provide the focus and leadership for community-wide drug prevention systems, bringing together criminal justice, treatment, child welfare, education, tribal and other community partners in the fight against drug abuse, child abuse, and criminality. The drug court programs combine intensive judicial supervision, mandatory substance abuse treatment, drug testing, escalating sanctions, and incentives to break the cycle of drug addiction that causes tremendous negative effects within our local communities.

BHRS also recognizes May as Borderline Personality Disorder Awareness Month to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and educate the public. Borderline Personality Disorder is a mental illness characterized by difficulty managing self-image, moods, and behavior. 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...



Employee Wellness

SPRING NOURISH CHALLENGE: The six-week Nourish challenge concluded on April 14th, with an impressive **89%** of participants successfully meeting the goal to receive the wellness incentive reward.

NEW 2024 BENEFIT FOR SPOUSES/DOMESTIC PARTNERS: Spouses and Domestic Partners of employees enrolled in the County health plan now have access to the Virgin Pulse wellbeing platform!

MCWOW BIOMETRIC SCREENINGS: Beginning in June of each year, MCWOW offers free onsite biometric screenings to County employees at various County sites.

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

Environmental Health

Our administrative team served **95** customers at our front counter, in addition to responding to them by phone and email. They continued to process hundreds of payments for our annual billing for permits to operate. 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. Since July 1, 2023, the Contract Unit has administered review processes for over **1,300** contract items, including over **100** items for contracts to begin July 1, 2024.



Additionally, the Contract Unit has begun the process of updating data for amendment records to improve tracking. When complete, all amendment information will be accessible on one screen as opposed to the current setup where amendment information is spread over multiple records within Cobblestone. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

Executive Office - Grants Division

In April, Mendocino County was awarded a grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)/California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) for **\$345,200.29**. The grant was given to support the update of the Mendocino County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. Additionally, the Grants Unit prepared two applications totaling **\$452,582.33** and organized a seminar in collaboration with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The seminar aimed to assist communities in assessing their water requirements, identifying potential solutions, and applying for federal funding to address water-related challenges. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

Grants Unit Activity Summary



General Services Agency

The General Services Agency maintains vital infrastructure and related services that enable County employees to serve the citizens of Mendocino County. In their support role, the General Services Agency focuses on Mendocino County's Facilities Management, Fleet Management, Capital Project Management, Real Property Administration, purchasing of goods and services, energy management, and sustainability practices.

Updates on telematics, County fleet and fuel consumption, County-wide utility consumption, County-wide printing, capital improvement projects, surplus sales, disaster/emergency preparedness activities, and facilities statistics. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

Human Resources

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

Quarterly Recruitment Information:

Mendocino County has maintained a hiring freeze since October 2023, limiting recruitment and hiring to public safety and mandated positions. In the second quarter of the fiscal year 2023/2024, the County welcomed **56** new employees (regular and extra-help) while recording **70** separations (regular and extra-help). Moving into the third quarter of the fiscal year, the County welcomed **43** new employees (regular and extra-help) while recording **62** separations (regular and extra-help).

Leadership Initiative

Mendocino County's Leadership Initiative project teams have finalized their 2024 Charters, focusing on improvements to internal communication, customer service, and policy review, continuing to drive impactful change across departmental lines. Click [HERE](#) to read more...



Library

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month. The Library is offering programming in person and online in recognition. Asian American Representation in Literature: An Author Talk with Rebecca F. Kuang will be offered on Tuesday, May 21 at 4 p.m. This virtual program is available through the Library's website, and the live discussion will focus on The New York Times bestselling novel, "Yellowface." The book grapples with questions of diversity, racism, cultural appropriation, and "the terrifying alienation of social media." If people cannot attend the live discussion, a recording will also be available through the Library website.

As another part of celebrating Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, the Ukiah Branch offered The Japanese Art of Hapa-Zome on May 17. Also known as "flower pounding," the practice uses fresh flowers and a hammer to create natural dyes. During Ukiah's program, attendees placed flowers and leaves on a cotton cloth and pounded them to create a colorful imprint. Everyone had a smashing good time. Click [HERE](#) to read more...



Office of Emergency Services

In preparation for wildfire season, the Office of Emergency Services (OES) has been working diligently to enhance preparedness and resilience in Mendocino County.

To that end, the OES team has launched a new evacuation mapping software, initiated a public outreach campaign directing residents to MendoReady.org for all their emergency needs, participated in several tabling events, and led or participated in several trainings for OES and other County staff. These efforts and increased collaboration with Operational Area partners enhance resilience across the County and improve the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) capabilities and readiness. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

Planning and Building

This month Planning and Building Services celebrates our Chief Building Official Richard Angley who has achieved the designation of Master Code Professional—a designation held by less than one percent of certified professionals. This achievement is a testament to his knowledge and expertise in the industry. The County is fortunate to have such a highly skilled person serving our community.

The Department continues to focus on process improvements and posts monthly metric reports on the Planning and Building Services Department webpage. The metrics are separated by division. Please go to <https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/planning-building-services/issued-building-permits> for the latest metrics. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

Public Health

Public Health recognizes May 6-12, 2024, as Public Health Nurses Week. We will be celebrating our nurses in Mendocino County and nation-wide to acknowledge the effort, dedication, and sacrifice they all make every day. Nurses are essential members of America's healthcare workforce who provide care through every stage of life, working with patients. These committed professionals play a crucial role in caring for others and improving patients' health across the nation at their most intimate and vulnerable moments. These committed professionals play a crucial role in caring for others and improving patients' health across the nation. Click [HERE](#) to read more...

Pictured below are Mendocino County Public Health Nurses Sharon Convery, Whitney Eads, Kathy O' Ferrall, Angle Slater, Jessica Toste Adena Blair, Pam Baland, Janette Vasquez and Katheryn Reihl.



Social Services

The Front Door For Families program has been extraordinarily successful helping participating families achieve housing stability. Through this program, the Mendocino County Department of Social Services Special Projects Team has provided housing guidance to **381** families representing well over **1,000** individuals since the program launched nearly a year ago.

The Heads Up Mendocino project is a pathway for law enforcement agencies in Mendocino County to alert the Behavioral Health and Social Services departments about individuals in our community whose needs are not in alignment with the structure of the criminal justice system.

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



Transportation

Senate Bill 1383 – Short-Lived Climate Pollutants

In a statewide effort to reduce emissions of short-lived climate pollutants, Senate Bill (SB) 1383 requires a statewide reduction in organic waste disposal of **75%** and rescue of at least **20%** of currently disposed edible food by 2025. In March 2023, along with **125** other jurisdictions, Mendocino County was placed on a corrective action plan (CAP) for SB 1383 implementation which included **83** unmet tasks. Department of Transportation (DOT) is pleased to report as of April 2024, CalRecycle has determined all **83** tasks to be complete and has closed out the CAP for Mendocino County. Most of the SB 1383 tasks will remain ongoing into the future, but CalRecycle now considers the County to be successfully complying with the regulations. Click [HERE](#) to read more...



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