

The CEO Report

Darcie Antle
June 23, 2026

Government

Departments

Residents

Business

June is Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services (BHRS) recognizes:
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) Awareness Month: All of June

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) recognizes this month to raise awareness, reduce stigma, promote education, and offer support for individuals and families impacted by Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). PTSD can affect people of all ages and backgrounds following traumatic experiences such as violence, abuse, accidents, natural disasters, military service, or other life-threatening events.

This month serves as a reminder of the importance of early intervention, peer support, and access to behavioral health services. BHRS continues to collaborate with community partners, health care providers, schools, and local organizations to ensure individuals experiencing trauma-related symptoms have access to support and treatment services.

This month, BHRS encourages open conversations around mental health, strengthening resilience, and reminds individuals that recovery is possible with care and support. BHRS remains committed to supporting mental wellness through outreach, prevention, treatment, and recovery-focused services.

You are not alone. Help is here. Recovery is real.

24/7 Crisis Line: [855-838-0404](tel:855-838-0404)

Warm Line for Non-Crisis Emotional Support: [\(707\) 472-2311](tel:707-472-2311) or Toll-Free: [833-955-2510](tel:833-955-2510)

988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline: Call, Text, or Chat online at chat.988lifeline.org

For Veterans 24/7, Confidential Crisis Support: Call 988 then PRESS 1, Text 838255, or Chat online at www.veteranscrisisline.net/get-help-now/chat/



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

Agriculture

As we move into summer, Mendocino County's agricultural sector continues to demonstrate strong resilience, adaptability, and commitment to stewardship of our working landscapes. This month's report highlights key statewide and local developments in pest prevention, agricultural policy, and emergency preparedness that directly impact our producers and regional economy. From the release of the Comprehensive Pest Prevention Program Analysis (C3PA) to active responses addressing invasive pest threats and ongoing participation in state-level policy discussions, these efforts reflect the continued importance of coordination, investment, and innovation in protecting California's \$59 billion agricultural industry.

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Animal Care Services

Second Animal Balance Clinic: May 1-3

Our Second Animal Balance high-volume spay and neuter clinic, held May 1-3, was another strong success for Mendocino County Animal Care Services. Over the three-day event, 201 animals were spayed or neutered, continuing the momentum established during our March clinic and keeping us on track toward our annual goal of expanding access to essential veterinary care for county residents.

This clinic was supported by an exceptional turnout of volunteers. We were fortunate to have dedicated assistance from Inland Humane, the California Conservation Corps, and of course our own wonderful and committed volunteers who continue to show up with professionalism, compassion, and deep commitment to community service. Their teamwork ensured smooth operations from intake through recovery and allowed us to serve a high volume of animals safely and efficiently.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated in making this clinic possible, and to all the pet owners who entrusted us with the care of their animals and chose to spay or neuter. Their partnership is essential to reducing unwanted litters, lowering shelter intake, and improving long-term animal welfare across Mendocino County.

With two successful clinics completed, we now look ahead to our third and final Animal Balance clinic of the year, scheduled for July 31-August 2. We anticipate another impactful event and remain grateful for the continued collaboration that makes this work possible.

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

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) remains committed to supporting the mental health and well-being of Mendocino County residents through prevention, treatment, recovery, and community outreach services. During June, BHRS recognized PTSD Awareness Month, expanded community engagement efforts, continued substance use disorder treatment initiatives, and provided ongoing support for individuals experiencing mental health challenges. The department also maintained critical conservatorship and placement services while working collaboratively with community partners to ensure access to care and resources throughout the County.

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Board of Supervisors

Click [HERE](#) to view the Board of Supervisors Priorities for 2026.

District Attorney

Click [HERE](#) to view the District Attorney's Office filing statistics.

Executive Office - Budget/Fiscal

Click [HERE](#) to view the Year-To-Date Budget Report.

Executive Office - Contracts

The Contract Unit works directly with departments Countywide to execute contracts and amendments to ensure alignment with County Policy. Since January of 2025, the Contract Unit has administered review processes for over 1,800 contract items, including over 900 items with effective dates on or after July 1, 2025. Since January 1 of 2026, the Contract Unit has administered review processes for over 450 contract items, including over 150 items with effective dates on or after July 1, 2026. Some additional tasks undertaken by the Contract Unit include:

- Continuing to work with departments to train staff and answer questions related to the County's newly revised Leasing and Contracting Policy (Policy No. 1) approved by the Board of Supervisors in December 2025.
- Beginning the process of updating lease tracking systems.
- Drafting and routing contracts for Q2 of Fiscal Year 2025-26 for all fire districts/agencies that receive funding from Proposition 172, Measure D, and Measure P.

Contract Review Times

For items routed since July 1, 2025, the average review time as processed through Cobblestone was approximately eleven (11) working days (not counting weekends or holidays). This timeframe is from the day the Department Head electronically approves execution of a contract to the day it's released from Cobblestone with County Counsel, Risk, and Executive Office signatures. It does not include any additional time required for departmental processes either before or after routing through Cobblestone (e.g., RFP administration, contract negotiation, vendor pre-approval and signing, or the time required to submit a contract to the Board of Supervisors for approval).

Public Resources

Mendocino County maintains a publicly accessible portal where fully executed contracts can be viewed. The initial search screen of the portal allows users to search all County contracts by Department, Contract Number, Approving Authority, Contractor, and/or Keyword. The list generated by the initial search request can be further refined if needed.

<https://contracts.mendocinocounty.org>

Executive Office - Economic Development

Staff continued to advance economic development projects. This report presents April 2026 Employment Estimates, CDBG project highlights, CALED's accelerated permitting effort, and Restaurants Care Grants Opportunity.

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

Executive Office - Employee Health Benefits

Preventive care can play an important role in identifying potential health concerns early. Learn more about preventive care resources, recommended screenings, and virtual care options available through your County benefits.

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

Executive Office - Office of Emergency Services

The Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services (OES) serves as the lead agency for coordinating preparedness, response, recovery, and mitigation efforts across the Mendocino County Operational Area (OA). The OA includes the County, its cities and towns, special districts, and works in partnership with Tribal governments, state and federal agencies, and community-based organizations.

OES's primary role is coordination, ensuring that agencies across the OA are aligned, informed, and ready to act together during emergencies. This includes developing comprehensive plans, facilitating communication, integrating partner capabilities, and maintaining situational awareness across jurisdictions. OES works to ensure that the County is prepared to respond efficiently and effectively to all hazards, from wildfires and earthquakes to winter storms and floods.

In the last month, OES focused on strengthening coordination through collaborative planning and regional information sharing. These efforts directly support Mendocino County's strategic goal of building a prepared and resilient county by improving readiness for wildfire, enhancing response capabilities for complex incidents, incorporating long term environmental risks into emergency planning, and strengthening reliable emergency communications systems.

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Executive Office - Prevention, Recovery, Resiliency, and Mitigation

The Prevention, Recovery, Resiliency, and Mitigation (PRRM) Division continues to advance wildfire mitigation, evacuation planning, and disaster preparedness initiatives across Mendocino County. Current efforts focus on moving major grant-funded projects into implementation phases, completing environmental and engineering work, and coordinating with state and federal partners to ensure continued funding for resilience projects.

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Facilities and Fleet

Facilities and Fleet Mission: To provide an accessible, efficient, safe, clean and comfortable working environment for all employees and the 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.

Facilities continues to make strides on key projects to include the Child Support Services office move preparations, remote site emergency generator replacement to strengthen communications during severe weather, and preparations for the testing and acceptance of two new buildings. Major capital efforts are nearing completion, including the SB 844 Jail Project, progress on the Psychiatric Health Facility, and improvements at Bower Park.

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Human Resources

The Human Resources Department provides an update regarding recently adopted County policies and policy amendments approved by the Board of Supervisors, as well as employee notification practices related to policy updates and Human Resources communications.

New Policy

The Board of Supervisors adopted the Outside Employment and Conflict of Interest Activity Policy on May 19, 2026, strengthening organizational expectations regarding transparency, accountability, and ethical conduct. Additionally, on June 2, 2026, the Board approved amendments to the Telework Policy and Guidelines. Consistent with County practice, employees are notified of newly adopted or revised policies through countywide email communications. Employees are encouraged to regularly monitor their County email accounts for important updates, policy changes, and other communications from Human Resources.

The County Policy Manual may be found here:

<https://www.mendocinocounty.gov/government/executive-office/policy-manual>

Human Resources - Wellness

Mendocino County Working on Wellness (MCWOW) is currently in the midst of biometric screening season, offering **free health screenings** to employees and covered spouses or domestic partners on the County health plan. These

Screenings provide a convenient opportunity to check in on heart and diabetic health without scheduling a doctor's appointment. The confidential screening takes approximately 20 minutes and includes a simple fingerstick with immediate results. Screenings are offered in Fort Bragg, Willits, and Ukiah, with additional events scheduled in various County buildings throughout July and August, followed by special events for the Department of Transportation, Sheriff's Office, and Probation Department in late September.

MCWOW has also reviewed 2025 wellness program data, along with reports from Personify Health and eHealth Screenings. Summary documents are available on the [MCWOW Data Dashboard](#) page and highlight several positive outcomes from the year, including:

- **76.2%** of County employees participated in at least one MCWOW program offering
- **59%** of County employees on the County health plan completed a biometric screening
- **67%** of employees participating in Personify Health with high-risk blood pressure showed improvement
- **56%** of employees participating in Personify Health with a BMI over 30 lost weight

In addition to screenings and wellness data, MCWOW continues to promote monthly [wellness webinars](#), including offerings through Magellan Healthcare, the County's [Employee Assistance Program](#) provider. Employees who register for Magellan, [LifeCare](#), or [MSA Financial](#) webinars receive access to a recording if they are unable to attend live, making these resources easier to use as schedules allow.

Together, these efforts reflect MCWOW's ongoing focus on prevention, practical support, and helping employees take steps toward better health and wellbeing.

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Legislative Program

The attachment lists legislation status of the bills the Board supports or opposes.

Click [HERE](#) to view the report...

Library

The month of June heralds the beginning of the Summer Reading Program (SRP). Many adults might remember reading for enough points to get a gift certificate for a personal pizza, but SRP has become so much more. It is a way to continue literacy of all sorts through the summer months by offering programs in science, technology, engineering, art, and math (STEAM). The Library offers a bridge to learning through fun events as well as addressing the lack of access to services such as free school lunches. More on how Mendocino County Library bridges the gap during the summer is explored below.

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Planning and Building

The Department of Planning and Building Services (“PBS”) continues to advance its mission of delivering effective, transparent, and responsive service to the Mendocino County community. Over the past month, PBS has remained focused on strengthening core operations, improving service accessibility, and enhancing customer experience through sustained organizational improvements. The Department’s commitment to data-driven decision-making is reflected in the continued publication of monthly metrics, which track workloads, application volumes, revenue, expenditures, and processing timeframes for each division. These efforts reinforce the County’s broader goal of efficient and accountable government service.

PBS also made significant progress on several high-priority initiatives designed to improve long-term operational capacity and public safety. Key advancements include continued movement on major technology and contracting initiatives, such as Accela implementation negotiations and multiple RFP processes supporting towing operations, the Resource Management Element of the General Plan, and code enforcement. The Department further strengthened its front-counter and permitting support capacity by advancing Permit Technician recruitment and extending offers for two new full-time extra-help positions, both expected to begin in June. Additionally, PBS has continued countywide outreach and public education efforts, including repeated notification regarding a nationwide fraudulent-email scam targeting planning departments, a matter that remains a priority for customer safety and departmental integrity.

Looking ahead, PBS remains deeply engaged in planning efforts that support a resilient and thriving Mendocino County. The Department is advancing key milestones in the Local Coastal Program update, Sea Level Rise analysis and policy development, and regional coordination through the California Energy Grant Partnership, including work on geothermal potential studies and inter-county collaboration. At the same time, PBS continues to support the local cannabis industry through tax appeal processing, Local Equity Entrepreneurial Program (“LEEP”) grant-funded technical assistance, and targeted fee-relief initiatives. Combined with the Board’s approval of updated permit processing fees, taking effect June 22, 2026, these efforts reflect a forward-looking strategy that balances regulatory responsibility, economic development, environmental stewardship, and community resilience.

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Public Health

Public Health recognizes Men’s Health Month in June as an opportunity to highlight the importance of prevention, early detection, and access to care for men across the lifespan. Men continue to experience higher rates of many preventable health conditions and a shorter life expectancy compared to women, making education, routine screenings, and healthy lifestyle choices especially important. This month also emphasizes the value of mental health

support, strong social connections, and reducing stigma around seeking care, all of which contribute to healthier individuals, families, and communities.

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Social Services

The Mendocino County Department of Social Services is pleased to collaborate with the San Francisco Veterans Affairs Health Care System to launch an upcoming ATLAS telehealth site at the Fort Bragg Veterans Memorial Building. This partnership will expand access to healthcare services for veterans along the Mendocino Coast by providing a convenient location for virtual medical appointments and connections to VA providers.

The Department is also committed to increasing community outreach and awareness throughout June in recognition of Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month. We are grateful to the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors for recognizing the importance of this issue through the adoption of a proclamation.

As May marked Foster Care Awareness Month, we are pleased to highlight local foster and adoptive parent Jason Hanover and his commitment to supporting children and families in our community.

Finally, SUN Bucks will launch for Summer 2026, providing eligible families with \$120 per child in food benefits to help support children during the summer months when school meals are unavailable.

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Transportation

The Mendocino County Department of Transportation strives to enhance the quality of life in Mendocino County in partnership with other county agencies, by meeting the commercial, public, and personal mobility needs of county transportation system users in an efficient, safe, and environmentally sound manner. The Road Maintenance, Engineering, Land Improvement & Airports Divisions endeavor to support a prepared and resilient County by improving and maintaining transportation and road systems; Land Improvement Division also provides drainage and water quality protection; Solid Waste & Landfill Closure Division provides administration of the County's solid waste system and maintenance and regulatory compliance of three "closed" landfill sites; and the Water Agency supports the regional water interests of Mendocino County citizens through regulatory compliance, advocacy, and collaboration. Staff strive to support a safe and healthy County by implementing practices that support a sustainable environment and responsible stewardship of natural resources.

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