

CALIFORNIA AND SIERRA VISTA CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES OPEN NEW COMMUNITY WELLNESS FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER IN STANISLAUS COUNTY

Behavioral Health Services Expanding to 4,800 People Annually

SACRAMENTO — On January 23, 2025, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and Sierra Vista Child & Family Services (<https://svcfs.org/>) celebrated the opening of a new facility in Stanislaus County to close gaps in mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment. The Community Wellness and Youth Prevention Center will provide vital behavioral health services, including restorative justice practices for youth, mental health counseling, pregnant and postpartum services, family and parent support services, and other integrated services.



(L-R: Karina Franco, Sierra Vista Director of Family Resource Center; Adriana Sanchez, Sierra Vista Board Member; Andrew Timbie, Sierra Vista CEO; Channce Condit, Supervisor, Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors-District Five; and Ruben Imperial, Stanislaus County Assistant CEO, open new Community Wellness and Youth Prevention Center)

DHCS awarded Sierra Vista Child & Family Services more than \$4.6 million through the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (<https://www.infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/>). (BHCIP), which works to ensure comprehensive behavioral health care for California's most vulnerable individuals. The facility is expected to serve 4,800 individuals annually. With approved Proposition 1 bonds, in 2025 and 2026, even more behavioral health treatment facilities (<https://www.infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/grantees/bond-bhcup-rounds/>). will be funded and built.

"The Community Wellness and Youth Prevention Center is an important part of California's efforts to bring high-quality, holistic health care to rural and underserved communities," said **DHCS Director Michelle Baass**. "The opening of this center is a game-changer for people seeking dignified and holistic behavioral health services in Stanislaus County."

"It is our mission to strengthen families and communities," said **Andrew Timbie, Chief Executive Officer for Sierra Vista Child & Family Services**. "We believe our strategic initiatives to embody that mission are played out effectively in investment and further development of our Community Wellness and Youth Prevention Center in the heart of Stanislaus County, a vulnerable and struggling neighborhood."

SIERRA VISTA CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES: Sierra Vista Child & Family Services offers a diverse array of services, including Enhanced Care Management, mentoring, short-term

residential therapeutic programs for foster youth, and perinatal substance use disorder treatment programs.

The new Community Wellness and Youth Prevention Center was built using BHCIP funds to create lasting change in the lives of children, families, and the entire Stanislaus community. The center serves children and youth under age 25 from underserved, at-risk populations, including people who are involved in the juvenile justice system with low criminal offenses, as well as their family members. Services include strength-based assessments, comprehensive case management services, links to local community resources, family and caregiver education and well-being support, mental health screenings, and pregnant and postpartum services.

WHY BHCIP IS IMPORTANT: Through BHCIP, DHCS awards eligible entities funding to construct, acquire, and expand properties and invest in mobile crisis infrastructure to further expand the range of community-based behavioral health treatment options for people with mental health and substance use disorders. BHCIP is addressing historic gaps in the behavioral health care system to meet the growing demand for services and support throughout the lifespan of people in need. Sierra Vista Child & Family Services received BHCIP Round 4: Children and Youth (<https://www.infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/grantees/children-and-youth/>). grant funding.

DHCS has awarded \$1.7 billion in BHCIP competitive grants. In addition, DHCS will distribute up to \$4.4 billion in competitive Bond BHCIP funding, including \$3.3 billion for Round 1: Launch Ready grants as part of Behavioral Health Transformation (</BHT/Pages/home.aspx>), DHCS' work to implement Proposition 1 (<https://www.mentalhealth.ca.gov/>). DHCS holds regular public listening sessions on this effort. Updates and recordings of the sessions are available on the Behavioral Health Transformation webpage (</BHT/Pages/Stakeholder-Engagement.aspx>).

ABOUT BHCIP ROUND 4: CHILDREN AND YOUTH:BHCIP Round 4

(<https://www.infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/grantees/children-and-youth/>). focused on Californians ages 25 and younger, including pregnant and postpartum women and their children and transitional-age youth ages 18-25, along with their families. Through funding made possible by California's Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (<https://cybhi.chhs.ca.gov/>), the 52 awards totaling \$480.5 million allowed for new construction and expansion of multiple outpatient and residential facility types, including children's crisis residential programs, perinatal residential substance use disorder facilities, community wellness/youth prevention centers, and outpatient treatment for substance use disorders. Please see the BHCIP website (<https://www.infrastructure.buildingcalhhs.com/>) for more information about grant recipients and additional details about all BHCIP funding rounds.

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NUMBER: 25-06 | **DATE:** January 31, 2025

CONTACT: Office of Communications (<mailto:DHCSPress@dhcs.ca.gov>), (916) 440-7660

www.dhcs.ca.gov