

# Hospital/City Opportunities for Behavioral Health Services Partnership

*Subcommittee of the City Council and  
Alameda Health Care District Board*

*11/13/2023*

# Concepts Identified

- Increasing need for acute mental health services (for those who don't meet 5150 requirements) and substance abuse services, particularly for people who are unhoused
- Alameda Hospital has vacant space plus requirement to complete seismic improvements and additional funding could be helpful
- Significant funding is available through the State to create behavioral health facilities

# Research and Due Diligence

- Multiple meetings with Alameda Health Systems staff to discuss needs and opportunities for collaboration
- Met with BACS (Bay Area Community Services), who provides behavioral health services for unhoused individuals in Oakland, Hayward
- Toured vacant spaces at Alameda Hospital and included BACS staff to provide specialized professional input
- Researched behavioral health service options in other areas
- Toured Amber House, operated by BACS, in Oakland (Crisis Stabilization Unit and Crisis Residential Treatment beds)

# Initial Conclusions

- **Alameda Hospital**
  - Old L&D on second floor considered for Crisis Residential Treatment and determined not appropriate due to access through main hospital
  - Old cafeteria space considered for Crisis Stabilization Unit and could be feasible but is not ideal
- **Existing CSU/CRT facilities are available to Alameda residents**
  - Amber House is a resource for acute mental health stabilization services for people who are unhoused in Alameda County
  - Alameda CARE team and HHS staff are now connected with BACS staff and able to refer clients
  - Additional CSU/CRT facility within Alameda is not needed at this time

# Next Steps and Collaboration Opportunities

- Substance abuse treatment remains a need, especially medical detox with supportive services and out-patient
- AHS has the Bridge Clinic at Wilma Chan Highland Hospital Campus and San Leandro Hospital
  - Successful model with community health workers who work with people in ED with substance abuse to connect them with community services
- Highland Hospital has out-patient substance abuse program that could be modeled on a smaller scale at Alameda Hospital
- Consider options for an in-patient substance abuse unit and geropsychiatric services for mental health in-patient care at Alameda Hospital