

## Memo

**Date:** June 25, 2025

**To:** All Employees and Community Partners

**Subject:** Safe Harbor Peer Respite Announcement

Dear ACBHD Staff and Community Partners,

Alameda County Behavioral Health Department (ACBHD) is proud to announce the opening of Safe Harbor Peer Respite, a new forensic peer respite site located in San Leandro. This marks an exciting expansion of our peer-led crisis alternatives and community-based support services.

Safe Harbor Peer Respite offers a home-like setting for adults with current or past justice involvement who would benefit from a brief pause to reflect on their recovery, reentry journey, or current life challenges. Guests may stay up to 14 days.

Eligibility criteria include:

- Being 18 years of age or older
- Ability to provide a local address (temporary, permanent, or emergency contact) for discharge
- Current or past justice system involvement


This program is a voluntary, peer-run alternative to hospitalization and crisis services. It is staffed 24/7 by trained peer support specialists—individuals with lived experience of mental health and/or substance use recovery—who provide compassionate, strengths-based support centered on hope, recovery, and community reintegration. While clinical psychiatric services are not required, linkages to these services can be arranged based on each guest's interest and needs.

Referrals may be made by individuals, family members, ACBH, justice partners, residential facilities, and community-based organizations.

La Familia Counseling Services is contracted with Alameda County to provide peer respite services at Safe Harbor. For more information or to make a referral, please contact:

Charmaine Ramos, Program Supervisor

 [cramos@livelafamilia.org](mailto:cramos@livelafamilia.org)

 510-944-4666

Thank you for your continued partnership and support in advancing innovative, peer-centered crisis supports in our community.

