

Memo

Date: January 14, 2026
TO: Community Health Partners
From: Dr. Anna Phillips, PH. D, Director of Substance Use
Continuum of Care

SUBJECT: In-Home Outreach Team (IHOT) is officially launching in January 2026!

Dear Community Provider,

The Substance Use Continuum of Care (SUCC) is excited to share with you all that our new In-Home Outreach Team (IHOT) is officially launching in January 2026. The purpose of these IHOT teams will be to reach out to individuals in the community, that have been identified by loved ones, community members, and crisis teams, including law enforcement officers that would benefit from engagement from a service provider to connect them to substance use services. These services will include medication-assisted treatment, outpatient treatment, and residential treatment. These teams will seek to engage individuals at wherever they identify “home” is, whether they are couch surfing, staying in an encampment or stably housed, the goal is to support hard-to-reach and engage individuals into resources that will help them to function and thrive better in the community at large.

The SUCC IHOT teams were awarded to Bay Area Community Health (BACH) through a competitive bidding process. The primary contact for this program at BACH is SUD/MAT Manager, Veronika Rodriguez, erodriguez1@bach.health (510) 897-9713. Melissa Yamamoto, Program Specialist with the department of SUCC, can also be reached for questions and referrals, Melissa.Yamamoto@acgov.org or via phone at (510) 383-8532.

The teams will be comprised of Substance Use Counselors, Navigators, Peer and Family Specialists. We look forward to the work and community connections that will come from these two teams.

Referrals will come through our county ACCESS line, 800-491-9099, and routed to Ms. Yamamoto, who will work with the BACH team to assess and prioritize outreach and engagement to individuals.

Alameda County Behavioral Health is eager to see this project operating as we know this is a crucial part of the SUCC system of care and will help us in reaching individuals that are in need of services but have not been able to access them due to limitations including knowledge of what services are available to them. We look forward to the year ahead with this program in affect and tracking the success of the program and our system of care.