

Butte County Mothers Strong

Meeting Notes

Friday, April 5, 2024

9:00am-10:30am

**Public Health Clinic in Chico Conference Room
695 Oleander Ave, Chico CA 95926**



Building Strong Families

Attendees: Brittany Adams- Butte Glenn 211, Cari Freeman- CAA Esplanade House, CC Pace- Nurse Family Partnership, Rachel Riker & Heather Duggins- Butte County Office of Education EEPS, Elizabeth Polivka- WIC, Jacob Read & Ashly Lowenhaupt- Butte County Behavioral Health: Stepping Stones, Ana Camacho- NVCSS Promotores, Rachel Miller & Evelyn Jones- Butte County Public Health MCAH, Michele Thorp- North Valley Community Foundation THRIVE/Care Team, Martha Leal DeMartinez- Northern Valley Indian Health & Perinatal Healing, Pahoua Yang- Hmong Cultural Center, Eric Flores-NVCSS Promotores, Carrie Powers NVCSS Butte Baby Steps & TAPP, Nancy Jorth- Youth for Change, Anna Bauer & Georgia St. Louis- First 5 Butte County.

I. Welcome, agenda review & meeting updates-

II. Presentation: [Stepping Stones Perinatal Program](#)

Jacob Read, Senior Program Manager, and Ashley Lowenhaupt, Supervisor, Butte County Behavioral Health, [provided a presentation](#) about Stepping Stones outpatient perinatal substance use disorder services.

The next [Stepping Stones graduation is scheduled for April 18 from 10 am to noon at the Elks Lodge in Chico](#). Community partners are welcome to attend to celebrate the success of caregivers who have successfully completed the program. Stepping Stones also welcomes support and participation in their weekly classes and groups from community partners. Please contact Ashley at ALowenhaupt@buttecounty.net for more information and to find out how to refer families to the program.

III. Presentation: [Butte County Maternal Child Adolescent Health](#)

Evelyn Jones and Rachel Miller [provided a presentation](#) about Butte County perinatal data. The presentation had a primary focus on rates of perinatal substance use. Rates of alcohol use during pregnancy have declined. Tobacco use during pregnancy is 3.5x higher than the state rate, and 7x higher for those with lower than a high school education and/or living in high poverty communities. Prenatal cannabis use is 3x higher than CA, and Butte has the 3rd highest rate in the state behind Humboldt and Shasta. Butte Neonatal Abstinence rates are 6.6x higher than CA and appear to be highest in the state overall. Butte is the 5th highest county in the state for postpartum depression.

IV. Partner Announcements and Updates

- a. First 5 Family Centers are now open and providing services throughout Butte County. To learn more about the First 5 Family Centers visit the [First 5 Family Center website](#).
- b. Michele Thorp - NVCF THRIVE/Care Team was awarded funding to sponsor licensed clinicians to receive training in trauma informed Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT). More information will be shared when it becomes available.
- c. Martha Leal DeMartinez, ASW - Perinatal Healing. Martha recently joined Perinatal Healing and will continue her work with Northern Valley Indian Health. Perinatal Healing accepts Partnership Health Plan Medi-Cal and various private insurances. For more information visit the [Mothers Strong website](#).
- d. Rachel Riker- BCOE is interested in learning more about home visiting-based resources for families with children over the age of 3 years old. It was explained that the Parents as Teachers program accepts children up to age 5. For information regarding evidence-based home visiting programs in Butte County visit [The Village website](#).
- e. Cecilia Pace- Nurse Family Partnership. She shared that the Nurse Family Partnership is accepting clients and has plenty of availability to enroll moms. NFP is also actively recruiting nurses for both Butte and Glenn Counties. To refer moms to this program visit [The Village website](#).
- f. Evelyn updated the group about the MediCal Doula benefit. For information and to learn more please contact Evelyn directly.

V. Meeting Schedule for 2024- meetings can be added as needed

No meeting in July
October 4

Follow up materials:

2024 MCAH Needs Assessment and link to provide feedback

Non Agendized:

Upcoming trainings & educational opportunities:

- **APRIL 3rd**- [Health Affairs Briefing: Perinatal Mental Health](#): Authors will present their work, engage in discussions, and answer questions on important issues. Panels include Overarching Societal Requisites for Perinatal Mental Health, The Burden of Poor Perinatal Mental Health, Improving Access & Care, and Tailoring Solutions.
- **April 18th** – [The Impact of Substance Use on Development and the Caregiver-Infant Dyad](#)

- [2024 Maternal Mental Health Conferences](#)

Articles:

- **NPR-** [New study raises questions about the CDC's data on the maternal mortality rate](#)
- **NBC News** [New syndrome in newborns exposed to fentanyl possibly found](#)