



Dear Providers,

Please be advised of the following information regarding **The Emergency Screening Unit (ESU) located at 730 Medical Center Court in Chula Vista:**

This information is being sent to you on behalf of Yael Koenig, LCSW, Deputy Director Children, Youth and Families BHS:

The Emergency Screening Unit (ESU) located at 730 Medical Center Court in Chula Vista that offers Crisis Stabilization services to children and youth will fully transition from County operations to New Alternatives, Inc. effective 7-1-16. There will be no disruption of services to San Diego County residents. The program will continue to provide 24-hour services 365 days-a-year in the current location in Chula Vista.

The County will retain administrative oversight of these critical mental health services and current county staff assigned to the program will be deployed to other county programs.

This is the first in a series of steps that the County of San Diego is taking to increase and improve emergency screening services. The ESU functions as a critical component of the continuum of care in San Diego County, and in recent years pressures on acute inpatient and emergency room availability for children and adolescents has increased. BHS is in the process of evaluating options to expand from four (4) crisis stabilization beds to twelve (12) crisis stabilization beds in a more centrally located facility. BHS will provide updates and timelines as we make progress.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Yael Koenig, Deputy Director for Children, Youth and Families within Behavioral Health Services at yael.koenig@sdcounty.ca.gov or (619) 563-2773.

Thank you

Judy A. Duncan-Sanford, LMFT / Optum
Manager, Provider Services, San Diego Public Sector

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