



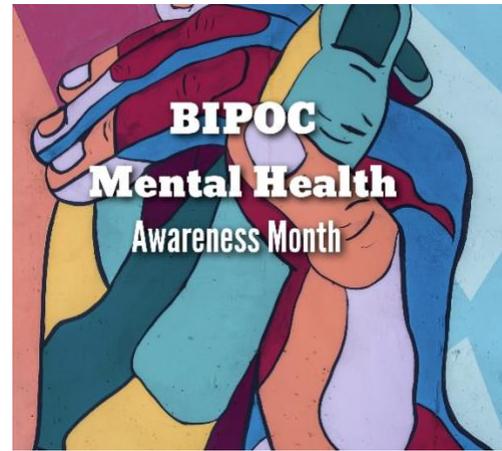
Behavioral Health Services – *Monthly Communications Report*

Reflections from an Equity Summit

July is **BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) Mental Health Awareness Month**. As we continue to strengthen our behavioral health services provided to BIPOC clients, we might integrate some learnings and reflections from the 2021 California Health Equity Summit that was held virtually from June 10 to 11, 2021. This summit was attended by some of our BHS providers and staff.

The theme of this year’s summit was “Healing Communities Beyond 2020: Our Health, Our Culture, Our Climate.” The summit offered an opportunity to engage and deliver a range of cultural healing practices through innovative workshops and presentations to promote learning and to advance cultural humility, social justice, and equity throughout organizations and systems to effectively meet the diverse needs of consumers, individuals, families, and communities.

The different presentations and resources can be accessed here: <https://www.cibhs.org/2021-california-health-equity-summit>. One of the presentations was from Ritchie Rubio, CYF Director of Practice Improvement and Analytics. The workshop highlighted the use of trauma-informed and culturally-adapted tools in responding to the behavioral health needs of clients who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) as they access and engage in services provided through telehealth during this time of the COVID-19, racism, and economic syndemics. The presentation handout can be accessed [here](#). For questions and/or consult, reach out to ritchie.rubio@sfdph.org.



Some inspiring words highlighted at the summit:

“To be antiracist is a radical choice ...requiring a radical reorientation of our consciousness.” (Kendi, 2019)

“The goal must be beyond closing the gap; we must establish appropriate benchmarks that lift up all populations while paying close attention to those often excluded.” (Alliance for Race and Equity)

“We are the memories we don’t remember, which live in us, which we feel, which make us sing and dance and pray... feelings from memories that flare and bloom in our lives. (Orange, 2018)

“We are critical to the racial justice moment because our identity itself – always influx and unstable – ripe for imagination to be made and remade.” (AAPI Racial Justice Tool Kit)

“You are the result of the love of thousands.” (Hogan, Chickasaw, 1996)





“Ask Us Anything” BHS Racial Equity Civil Service All Staff Meeting

On June 25, 2021, seventy-two employees helped kick off a series of ongoing BHS Racial Equity Civil All Staff meetings hosted by the BHS Office of Equity and Workforce Development (OEWD). The OEWD provided background on the SF Human Rights Commission [Office of Racial Equity Ordinance](#), the [SF Mayoral Directive Ensuring a Diverse, Fair, and Inclusive City Workplace](#), and SF City Department [Racial Equity Action Plans](#), along with the [DPH Racial Equity Action Plan](#) and [BHS Racial Equity A3](#) priorities which include:



Staff were surveyed prior to the meeting to generate questions and discussion topics covered live at the meeting. And all staff were invited to participate in ongoing convenings to sustain and advance racial equity work throughout the city, across DPH, and within BHS.

*Pre-Meeting Online Survey Question and Responses



Save the Date!

SF Health Commission Racial Equity Meeting

With Racial Equity Action Plan Report Outs by DPH OHE and Equity Leads

Tuesday July 20 at 2pm via [SFGovTV](#)

All Staff Meetings

Racial Equity Action Plan Report Outs and Ask Us Anything Q&A and Discussion

DPH Office of Health Equity (OHE)
April and October

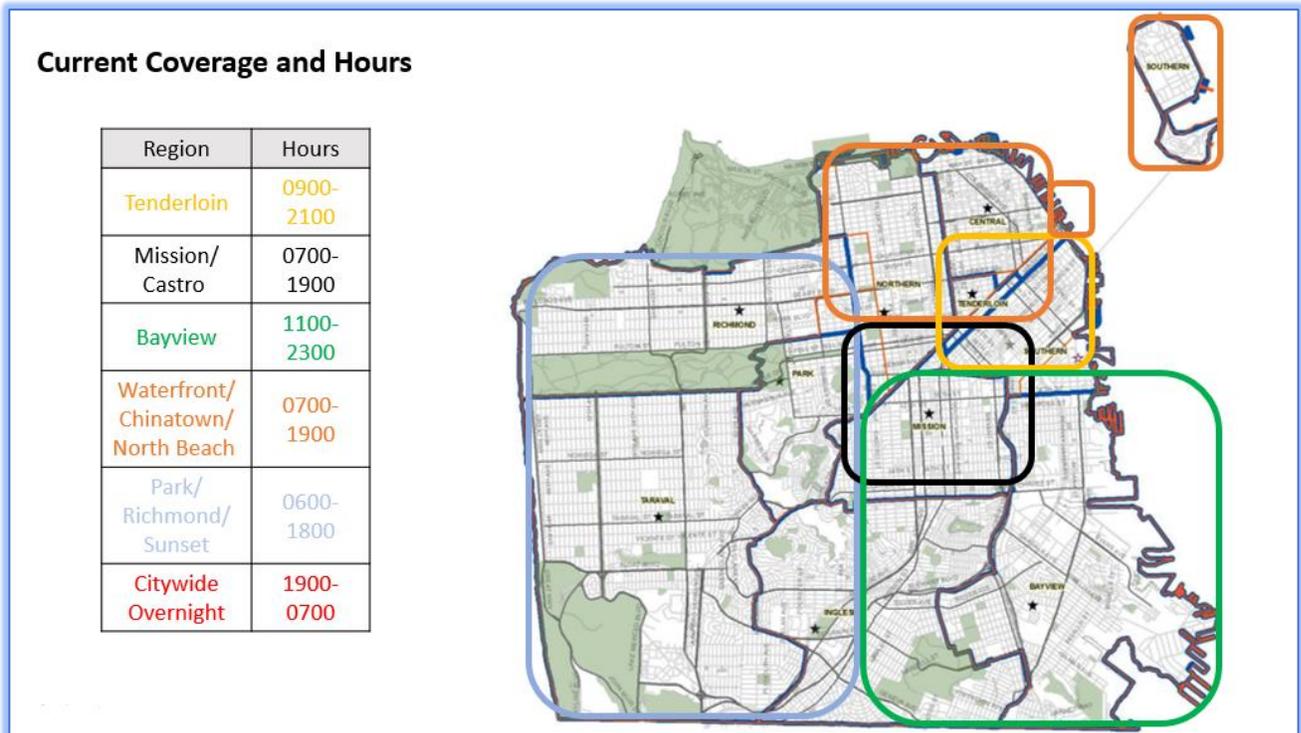
BHS Office of Equity and Workforce Development (OEWD)
June and December

Please reference and share the meeting [presentation](#) and [recording](#) and reach out to BHS-OEWD@sfdph.org for more information, with questions, to provide feedback, and to collaborate!



BHS Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT) Increases Coverage and Hours

The [Street Crisis Response Team](#) is a collaboration between the San Francisco Department of Public Health (DPH), the San Francisco Fire Department (SFFD), and the Department of Emergency Management (DEM) to provide the most appropriate clinical interventions and care coordination for people who experience behavioral health crises in public spaces in San Francisco. The team strives to serve the community with rapid, trauma-informed response to calls for service to people experiencing crisis to reduce law enforcement encounters and unnecessary emergency room use. Each team includes one community paramedic, one behavioral health clinician (DPH-contracted with [HealthRIGHT 360](#)) and one behavioral health peer specialist (DPH-contracted with [RAMS, Inc.](#)). While other jurisdictions have implemented similar programs, San Francisco’s response is unique in our approach and integration of individuals with lived experience.



As of mid-June, there are five active SCRT teams responding to calls in the community. As each team has a geographic focus to allow communities and teams to build collaborative relationships, we now have full geographic coverage of San Francisco. By the end of summer, we look forward to adding a 6th team which will provide overnight coverage allowing SCRT to meet its goal of 24/7 city-wide response. Congratulations to the SCRT Team! For questions on the SCRT please contact angelica.almeida@sfdph.org.



Gender Health SF Staff Wellness Retreat

Gender Health SF enjoyed a day of wellness and team building for their annual staff wellness retreat. Contact Rosa Serpas (rosa.serpas@sfdph.org) to begin planning your clinic's retreat!





New Housing Program Manager to join MHSA Team!



Please join us in welcoming in the warmest manner our newest Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Team member, Jeff Simbe. Jeff will oversee the MHSA-funded Housing units and will start on June 28.

Jeff Simbe is a native San Franciscan who has been working for the San Francisco Department of Public Health for 30 years. Jeff is currently the Program Manager for Whole Person Integrated Care: Urgent Care/Street Medicine/Shelter Health where he provides administrative and operations management for a program designed to outreach, engage, and improve the health of people experiencing homelessness. Jeff has been integral in coordinating the current Shelter Monitoring Committee where he worked with City departments, the Board of Supervisors, the Mayor's office, and various community partners to monitor and document the conditions of congregate shelters. This Committee works to improve the health, safety, and treatment of residents, clients, and staff within the shelter community. Jeff participates in the WPIC Race and Equity Committee as the management representative.

Jeff brings 20 years of direct service experience working with high risk, high vulnerability people experiencing homelessness, including clients with substance use disorders, mental health disorders, and chronic complicated medical conditions. His greatest motivator is his passion to help and improve the quality of life for the most vulnerable population of San Francisco. His personal and professional experience gives him a unique level of understanding, humility, and compassion that guides his daily work. In addressing social issues, he strongly believes that it requires a truly collaborative effort between city leaders and departments, the providers, the communities, and the clients to effectively address those problems.

Jeff, welcome to the MHSA team! BHS is lucky to have you.

In Community,
The MHSA Team



New BHS Webinar Recordings Available Online

Dealing with Anti-Asian Hate, Violence, and Racism during COVID-19: How to Talk to AAPI Clients

Recorded June 17, 2021

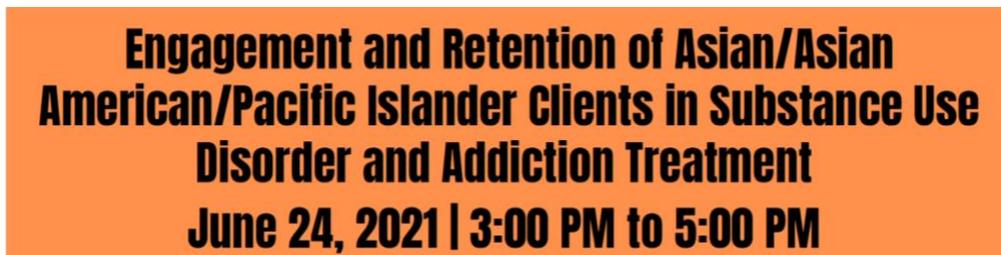


Training Description:

Racial trauma in the AAPI community needs to be addressed by mental health professionals given the rise in anti-AAPI violent attacks. In this three-hour session, attendees will learn practical strategies regarding how to assess for racial trauma in their patients and how to provide treatment for their AAPI patients. Didactics, case discussions, and role play will be utilized during the training.

Engagement and Retention of Asian/Asian American/Pacific Islander Clients in Substance Use Disorder and Addiction Treatment

Recorded June 24, 2021



Training Description:

Despite making up 37% of the population in San Francisco, Asian/Asian-American/Pacific Islanders (A/AA/PI) are a very small percentage of the clients in San Francisco’s substance use disorder treatment system. Furthermore, evidence shows that addictive disorders are significant in these communities. A one-size-fits-all approach rooted in Western therapeutic practices will not address this disparity. This webinar will bring together providers with decades of experience in treating substance use disorders and will increase provider skill in engagement and retention of A/AA/PI patients in treating substance use disorders and addiction.

All archived BHS Training Webinars are available on the [BHS Training Unit Google Drive](#).



July 2021 Trainings

	Time	Training	Location	Trainer	CE's Offered
Thu 7/1	1:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Coming Back Better: Building Healthy, Sustainable, and Resilient Cities post-COVID-19	https://bostonu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BiEXmHsETh2q6MubR_DEFw	Oxiris Barbot Sandra Brooks Henriquez Diana Hernandez Katrina Forrest Cheryl Devall (Moderator)	N/A
Mon Wed Fri 7/5	11:45 am – 12:00 pm	TIS Mindful Moment	https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87186407110	Lisa Reyes	N/A
Tue 7/6	9:00 am – 10:30 am	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: The 1619 Project	For additional information email: BAAHI@sfdph.org	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Tue 7/13	9:00 am – 10:30 am	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: Whitewashed: Allegories on Race and Racism Camera Jones	For additional information email: BAAHI@sfdph.org	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Tue 7/13	9:00 am – 12:30 pm	Transforming Stress & Trauma Training (TIS 101)	For more information contact Lisa Reyes at lisa.reyes@sfdph.org	Lisa Reyes	N/A
Thu 7/15	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: The Modern Racist Paradigm	For additional information email: BAAHI@sfdph.org	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Thu 7/22	12:00 pm – 1:30 pm	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: Black Mental Health Matters Campaign	For additional information email: BAAHI@sfdph.org	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A
Thu 7/29	9:00 am – 10:30 am	BAAHI Equity Learning Series: Equity Currents TBD	For additional information email: BAAHI@sfdph.org	Gavin Morrow-Hall	N/A

If you have feedback including future training suggestions, please contact Michelle Meier, LCSW, BHS Training and Internship Manager (Michelle.Meier@sfdph.org).