

Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services: Adult Forensic Behavioral Health Update

**Alameda County Board of Supervisors' (BOS) Presentation
Public Protection Committee – November 16, 2023**

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Adult Forensic Behavioral Health (AFBH)

- AFBH is a program of Alameda County Behavioral Health and provides mental health services at Santa Rita Jail.
- AFBH services include:
 - Mental health assessments for all individuals booked into Santa Rita Jail.
 - Individual mental health (therapy/counseling and psychiatry) services to AFBH clients.
 - Care coordination for clients with significant mental health needs.
 - Staffing specialized units with clinical teams to increase client support.
 - Crisis intervention and support.
 - Overnight on-call crises consultation (county staff) and support (Crisis Support Services).
 - Re-entry planning and coordination.



Adult Forensic Behavioral Health (AFBH)

- In fiscal year 2022-2023, AFBH served 6,995 individuals, 80% of whom were males.

Age Group	Percentage
TAY* (16-24)	14%
Adults (25-64)	85%
Older Adults (65+)	1%

Race & Ethnicity	Percentage
African American/Black	44%
American Indian &/or Alaskan Native	1%
Asian	11%
Hispanic/Latino	14%
Native Hawaiian &/or Other Pacific Islander	1%
White/Caucasian	21%
Other, specify: bi-racial/multi-racial	8%



AFBH Updates

- AFBH has made significant progress in enhancing its therapeutic model in alignment with the mandates of the Santa Rita Jail consent decree.
- AFBH continues to work closely with the federally appointed mental health expert to improve clinical services based on national best practices.
- AFBH has been aggressively recruiting to increase staff and continue to expand our mental health coverage at Santa Rita.
- AFBH continues to work closely with our contracted partner, Telecare to ensure 24/7 clinical coverage.



AFBH Highlights

- AFBH clinical staff have increased from 52 FTE to 57 FTE clinical managers, supervisors, psychiatric providers, clinicians, and mental health support staff.
 - New Assistant Director to support AFBH
 - New AFBH Medical Director of Quality Assurance
 - Nearly all Clinical Manager and Supervisor positions have been filled
 - Significant improvement in staff retention
- AFBH has expanded clinical team coverage to multiple housing units at Santa Rita Jail, with a priority of fully staffing our new Therapeutic Housing Units.
- AFBH has expanded our Re-entry team and dedicated a Clinical Supervisor to support this work.

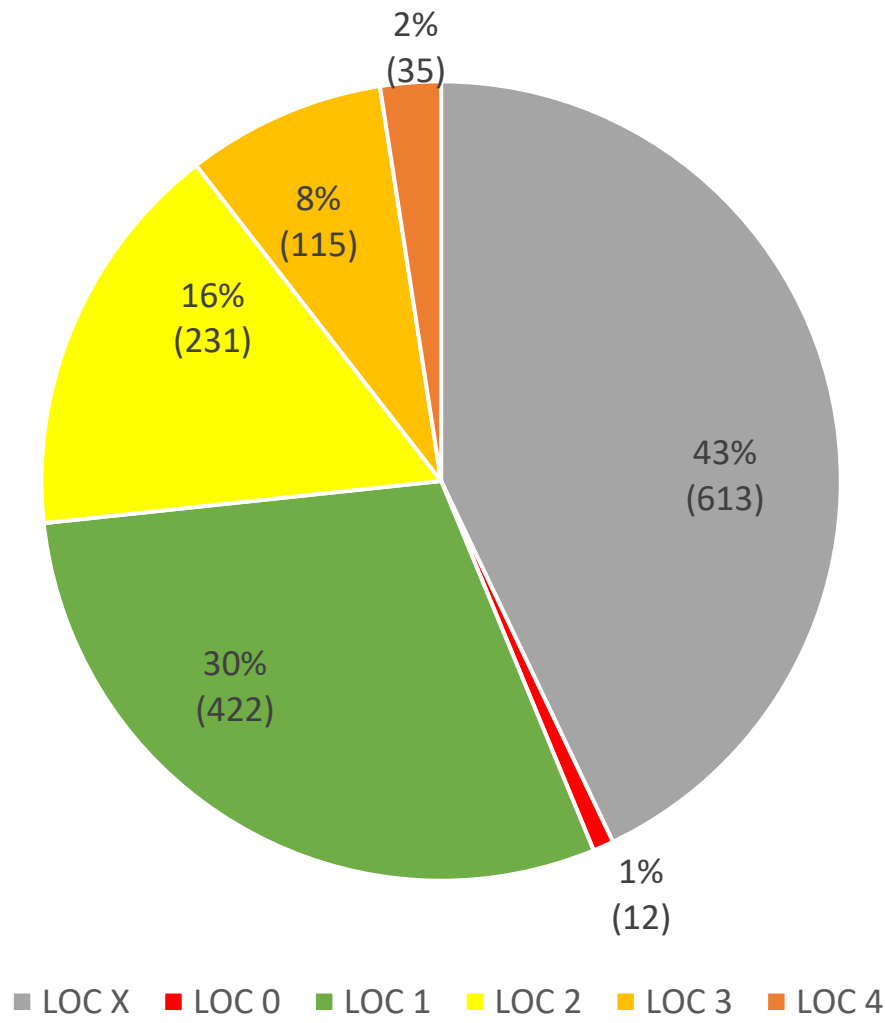


AFBH Highlights

- AFBH has implemented new clinical practices to improve client care, including:
 - Daily huddles in Therapeutic Housing Units.
 - Daily rounds for clients who need more intensive support.
 - Regular treatment team meetings to improve client engagement and support.
- AFBH has implemented a Level of Care (LOC) protocol that determines the level of mental health services required based on a client's mental health need.
 - LOC 4 = suicide precautions
 - LOC 3 = high functional impairment related to mental health
 - LOC 2 = moderate functional impairment related to mental health
 - LOC 1 = mild functional impairment related to mental health
 - LOC X = clinically determined to not need mental health services AND the individual is not requesting mental health services



Level of Care Data



Mental Health Contractors

- On behalf of AFBH, Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services (ACBH) currently contracts with several community-based organizations to provide additional support to our clients. These include:
 - Telecare Corporation:
 - Provides staffing at Santa Rita Jail intake for overnight hours (11:30pm-7am).
 - Recently increased coverage of Santa Rita Jail intake to support evening and weekend shifts.
 - Provides counseling groups 7-days a week and has increased the number of groups offered daily.
 - Roots Community Health:
 - Staffs the Safe Landing program to engage individuals being released and connect them to community mental health services.



Telecare Adult Forensic Behavioral Health

- **Mental Health Services**
- Includes mental health screening for anyone booked into the jail, crisis support to housing units, and psychiatric evaluations.
- **Group Counseling Services**
- Provided to behavioral health clients 7 days per week
- Seeking Safety and Co-Occurring Education Groups
- In 2022, Telecare facilitated 679 groups for 1,851 participants.
- In 2023, Telecare has facilitated 947 groups for 2,632 participants.

9,475 clients served

Immediate Release
Encounter

Food, water, snacks, hygiene kit, COVID-19 prevention supplies, clothing, project information, transportation

Engagement

Complete intake for follow-up, benefits screening (CalFresh, Medi-Cal, and Homeless Management Information System-HMIS), screening & linkage to other needs

Linkage to Services

Follow up and connection to services (clinical, behavioral, navigation, workforce, etc.)

Safe Landing Pilot Update

Successes

- Coordination with Roots Shuttle Service
- Connection to greater Roots services (primary care, Navigation, therapy)
- Connection to external resources and organizations (BACS, EOCP, BOSS, etc)

Challenges

- Facilities and physical structure (lack of privacy, restroom, reliable water, WiFi & electricity)
- No Behavioral Health Clinician or clinical staff on-site due to facility
- Limited hours of operation
- Lack of housing resources for individuals released
- Lack of access to release data impacts ability for discharge coordination

Next Steps

- Expanded facility and staffing
- Expanded hours of operation
- On-site behavioral health and clinical staff for immediate assessments
- Increased access to housing resources (ex. Designated shelter beds, emergency housing)

AFBH Next Steps

- With additional hiring, AFBH will continue to expand clinical coverage in our therapeutic housing units and re-entry team.
- AFBH is working closely with ACSO to plan for CalAIM implementation.
- AFBH is working in partnership with ACSO to launch three mental health pilot initiatives:
 - Increasing therapeutic group activities to support a therapeutic environment for clients.
 - Developing treatment plans with behavior change goals for hard to engage clients.
 - Increasing medication compliance for clients who have been found incompetent to stand trial.



AFBH Next Steps

- AFBH will continue to increase staffing to continue to provide quality care and operational improvements.
- AFBH will work with ACSO to fully develop Therapeutic Housing Units to increase services to incarcerated individuals and establish therapeutic environments.
- AFBH will continue to explore the expansion of contracted providers to increase coverage and services in alignment with our mandates.
- AFBH continues to work with our federally appointed joint expert to improve our policies, procedures, and clinical documentation.

