

San Joaquin Be Well Campus (SJ Be Well)

Board Strategic Priority:

Fiscal Optimization, Organizational Capacity, and Public Safety/Criminal Justice

Issue:

San Joaquin County does not have a comprehensive substance use disorder treatment continuum, despite an increase in demand.

Legislative Platform:

Seek, advocate, and support legislation and/or budgetary appropriations to provide funding assistance for a second behavioral health campus.

Background:

San Joaquin County has identified a significant need for a campus that focuses on substance abuse care. Local data shows that more than 60% of those brought to emergency departments (EDs) by law enforcement or BLS Ambulance was due to an acute substance use disorder. Diverting individuals from the EDs to a campus that includes a variety of services (Point of Entry, Crisis Stabilization Unit, Sobering Center, detox, residential facility, and follow-up care) will allow for prevention, client centered care, and a decrease on the impact to EDs.

This project will add needed additional locked psychiatric health facility beds, additional behavioral health crisis stabilization beds and mental health urgent care as an alternative destination, establish a sobering center, and expand substance use disorder treatment into a medically managed detoxification model. This campus will also establish the first youth substance abuse residential program in the San Joaquin Valley region. Additionally, this campus will provide step-down residential/aftercare beds for both substance use and mental health clients. Based upon phase one of the Be Well OC model we are seeking to emulate approximately \$80 million in construction costs for approximately 60,000 square feet of space and 80 to 95 treatment beds of various types. \$10 million is being requested to complete offsite work including water, sewer, power, street and sidewalk improvements as well as traffic signals and other potential required infrastructure improvements.

Services will be reimbursable by Medi-Cal, including Drug-Medical, and as many of the clients will be in the Affordable Care Act expansion population, 90% of their treatment costs will be covered by Federal Financial Participation. Mental Health Services Act Community Services and Support funds and CalAIM reimbursement may also be leveraged for ongoing operation costs. The estimated cost to construct, operate, and staff SJ Be Well is \$50 million and includes initial infrastructure capital outlays. This project aligns with the Governor's push to create campus-type mental health settings to address the complex issues of the unsheltered homeless population.

Appropriation Request: \$10 million

Total Project Cost: \$80 million

(Project Literature Available)