



SHERIFF

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NEWS RELEASE

News from the Office of Sheriff Christina Corpus

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EXPANDED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT

REDWOOD CITY- Today, Sheriff Christina Corpus announced the launch of the expanded Behavioral Health Unit (BHU) at the Maguire Correctional Facility.

"This is a significant step forward in reducing recidivism in San Mateo County," Sheriff Corpus said. "BHU is a collaboration between the Sheriff's Office and Correctional Health Services designed to enhance and expand mental health treatment for incarcerated persons. BHU will improve the mental health treatment programs in the jails and connect incarcerated persons with mental health service providers in the community for post-release support."

Correctional Health Services (CHS) and Sheriff's personnel work in tandem to engage each incarcerated person and to help residents acclimate to the BHU. The Unit will provide educational programming, increased recreational and out-of-cell time, and clinical, evidence-based programming to address serious mental illness. Residents who were previously unable to function successfully in a group setting will have more opportunities to socialize, integrate, and receive clinical and programmatic support. CHS and the Sheriff's Office are also working closely with San Mateo County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services and community partners to design comprehensive release plans for every BHU participant. BHU currently serves 40 incarcerated persons, but the program is designed to expand.

"Correctional Health Services is excited to partner with the Sheriff's Office in offering a more therapeutic environment for those with serious mental illness," said Director of Correctional Health Services Mike del Rosario. "This collaboration will make a significant impact on the lives of our population and will benefit the entire community."

Written by: Lieutenant Bill Fogarty

