



San Mateo County: Data Notebook 2024

“Wellness and Recovery Centers in California’s
Public Behavioral Health System”

Behavioral Health Commission

November 5, 2025



What is the Data Notebook?

Local Behavioral Health Boards are required annually to review program data for local services and report their findings to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council (W&IC 5604.2).

The Data Notebook is the instrument by which the Planning Council collects the data from local commissions and is designed to:

- Assist local commissions with meeting the program review mandate
- To serve as an educational resource for local commissions
- To collect opinions and thoughts from local commissions
- To identify unmet needs and make recommendations

New Changes In 2025

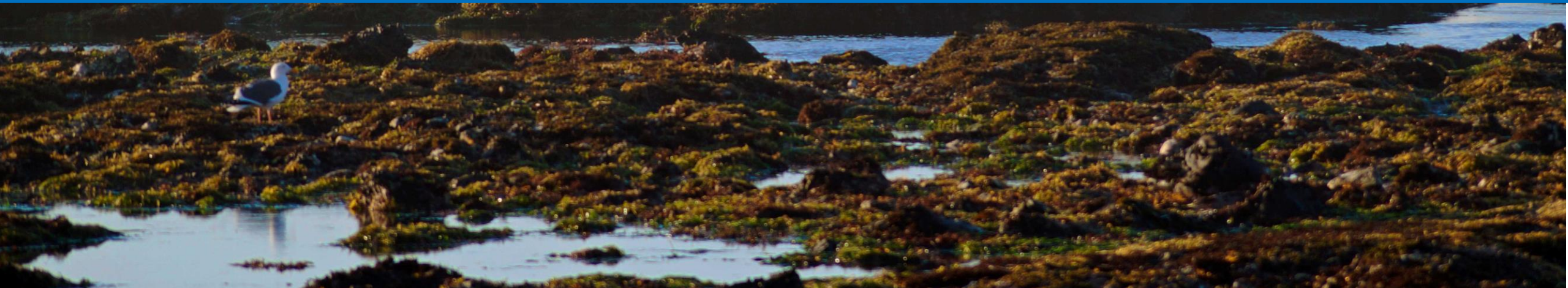
- The data notebook as traditionally had a Part 1: Standardized Questions and Part 2: Special Interest Topic.
- Moving forward, Part 1 has been dropped and the data notebook will focus on topics of special interest to the Planning Council and will be used to track a set of yet to be defined performance outcomes.
- The topic for 2025 is “Wellness and Recovery Centers



SAN MATEO COUNTY HEALTH
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
& RECOVERY SERVICES**



Wellness & Recovery Centers



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO

Wellness & Recovery Centers in San Mateo County

- The California Clubhouse (Aspire House)
- One EPA / The Barbara A. Mouton Center
- VORSMC / Recovery Connection
- SMC Pride Center (temporarily without facility)
- ALAS / The Cariño Project



**SAN MATEO
COUNTY HEALTH**
All together better.

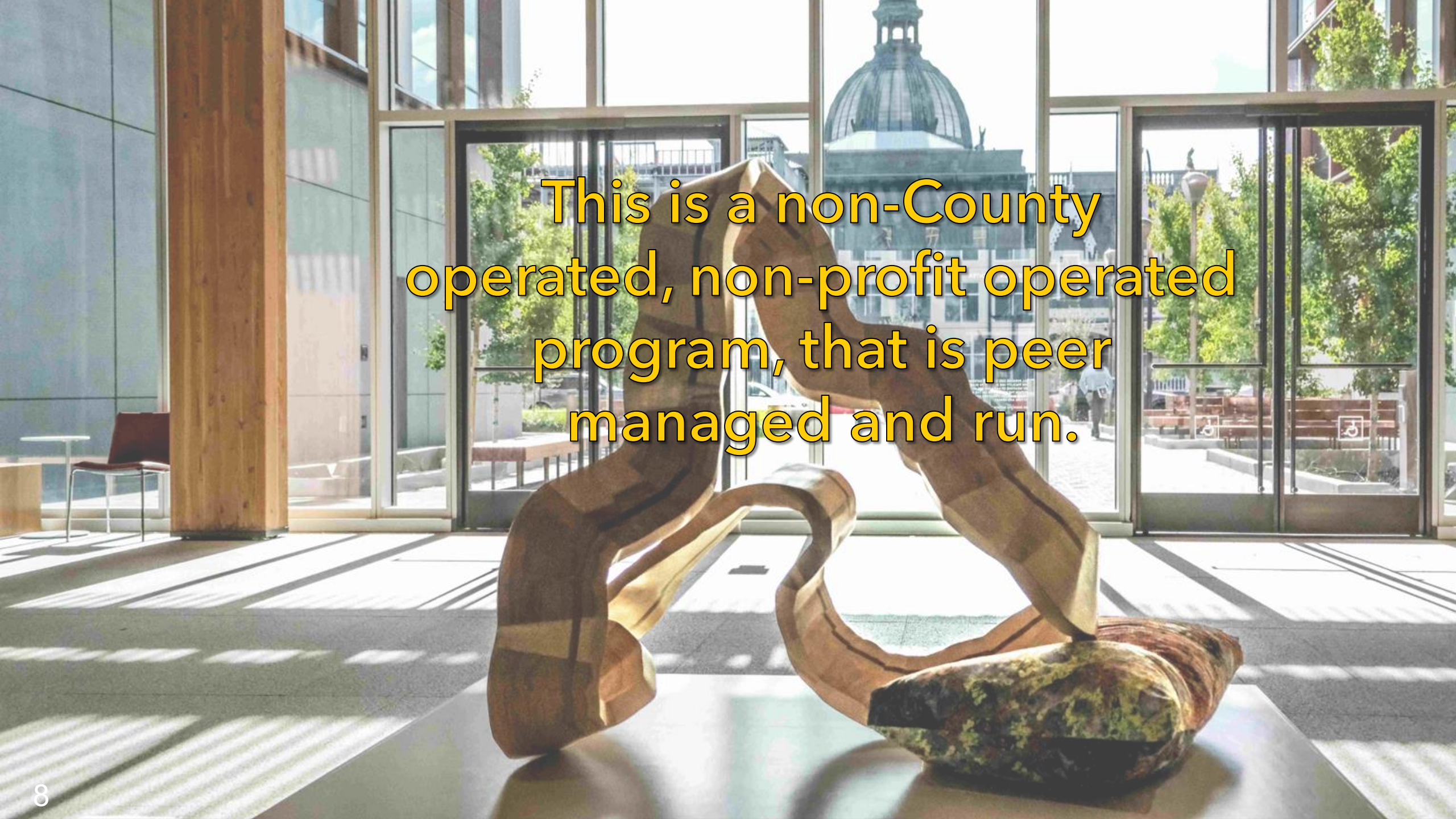


Recovery Connection – Voices of Recovery





The Recovery Connection
opened on
September 12, 2024
and is located at
650 Main Street
in Redwood City



This is a non-County
operated, non-profit operated
program, that is peer
managed and run.



COUNTY QUESTIONS

Program Management & Model

- Does the program have a Board of Directors? *Yes*
- Are the participants engaged in the management and design of the program? *Yes*
- Will the program assist participants' inclusion in community planning activities, such as the integrated plan for the behavioral health department? *Yes*
- Is the program based on the recovery model? *Yes*
- Is the program drop-in? *Yes*
- Please indicate who is welcome at your center (*check all that apply*):
 - Persons who identify mental health needs *Yes*
 - Persons who identify substance use disorders needs *Yes*
 - Persons who do not identify with either category *N/A*
 - Other (*text box*) *Co-Occurring, Criminal Justice*
- Does your program follow a specific model? If yes, what is the name of the model? (*Yes with text response / No*) *Yes, WRAP and Peer Support Model*

Program Finances & Staffing

- Which of the following funding sources are used for program operations? *Please check all that apply.*
 - County Yes
 - Medi-Cal No
 - BHSA Yes
 - Grants Yes
 - Other (text response) *MHSA*
- Does the program operate as part of a larger organization that is not the county behavioral health department? If yes, what organization? *Yes, Voices of Recovery of San Mateo County*
- Do the supervisors of the program have lived experience? *Yes*
- Does the program utilize volunteers with lived experience from your membership? *Yes*
- Does the program utilize other volunteers, such as family members of people with lived experience? *Yes*
- Does the program employ certified peer support specialists? *Yes*
- If you answered “Yes” to question 23, are the peer support specialists the program employs billing Medi-Cal for their services? (Yes/No/NA) *No*



Activities & Supports

- Does the program have guidelines or a code of conduct that participants must agree to? *(Yes/No) Yes*
- Does the center offer support or activity focused groups? If yes, what are some of the topics? *(Yes with text response / No) Yes, VOR offers in-person weekly support group every Monday*
- Does the center have a set schedule of groups and activities? *(Yes/No) Yes*
- Is there a list of activities provided to participants by staff? *(Yes/No) Yes*
- Does the center offer activities in different languages? If yes, what languages? *(Yes with text response / No) Yes (Spanish)*



Activities & Supports

- **What personal supports does the center offer to participants?** *Please check all that apply:*
 - Showers No
 - Meals Yes
 - Snacks Yes
 - Laundry services No
 - Clothing closet No
 - Personal grooming No
 - Personal products / toiletries Yes
 - Other (text response) Mentoring 1:1
- **Are transportation services or support provided to participants?** *(Yes/No) No transportation provided by VOR*
- **Is there a licensed clinician at the center?** *(Yes/No) No*
- **Do you provide medication management support? If yes, please describe the services.** *(Yes with text response / No) No*



Participant Referrals

- Does the program accept drop-in participants? (Yes/No) Yes
- Does the program receive referrals from the county? (Yes/No) Yes
- Does the program receive referrals from other organizations? If yes, please list some of those organizations. (Yes with text response / No) Yes
 - Navigation Center
 - WeHOPE Shelter
 - One East Palo Alto
 - Heart and Soul
 - Pathways/BHRS
 - DUI/Criminal Justice
- Does the program conduct satisfaction surveys for participants? (Yes/No) Yes



Client Success Story

A client recently returned to Voices of Recovery (VOR) to share a meaningful court experience. During a DUI hearing for a pending charge, the judge asked the client what he had been doing to improve his life. The client responded, *“I’ve been attending Voices of Recovery.”*



Client Success Story

The judge then asked how much money he had on him. The client said, *“Fifteen dollars.”* The judge replied, *“Then your fine is fifteen dollars and keep going to Voices of Recovery.”*

What made this moment even more powerful was that VOR’s Executive Director had never met the judge, but the judge clearly knew of Voices of Recovery and respected the program’s impact.

This story shows how VOR is gaining community recognition as a trusted, peer-led recovery resource.



Thank You

Questions?

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Picture Location Legend