



HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES NEWSLETTER



Tell us what you think!

In HSS, we want to strive to be an excellent workplace- to do this, we want to improve communication and share information that you find valuable and engaging. This can include creating spaces to highlight achievements, building a positive workplace culture, acknowledging you and your amazing work!

[CLICK HERE](#)

H&SS Newsletter Feedback



hss leadership

- EMERY COWAN - DIRECTOR
- ROGER ROBINSON - ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
- GIRLIE JARUMAY - CHIEF DEPUTY ADMINISTRATION
- JENNIFER MULLANE - DEPUTY DIRECTOR, BH
- NEELY MCELROY - DEPUTY DIRECTOR, CWS
- KELLEY CURTIS - DEPUTY DIRECTOR, EES
- BELA MATYAS - CHIEF DEPUTY DIRECTOR-HEALTH OFFICER
- TERRY MCMANUS - CHIEF INVESTIGATOR, SIB

Solano HEALs HEALing Paint Night – Public Health



Solano HEALs is a collaborative effort of community members, public health employees, and medical providers to promote equity in healthy births for Black babies and their families in Solano County. In December 2024, Solano HEALs hosted HEALing Paint Night with The Rae Gallery at the Fairfield Cordelia Library. During this paint night, offered for free to the community, attendees were provided with supplies and step-by-step guidance to create their own masterpieces.

To learn more about Solano HEALs and the resources available to the community, visit www.solanoheals.org.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH: 2024 CSAC CHALLENGE AWARD

Behavioral Health’s innovative internship program has received the 2024 CSAC Challenge Award competing against over 400 programs! this achievement reflects the dedication of our entire team. We extend our deepest gratitude to Dr. Christina Urrea for her exceptional leadership and to Internship Supervisor Dr. Richard Hanzy, clinician Tiffany Royal, and office assistant Sydney Mauritz for their invaluable contributions.

This program was created to address workforce shortages in behavioral health, exacerbated by the pandemic, by providing hands-on training and creating pathways for future professionals. By developing local talent and equipping them with essential skills, we are investing in the future of our workforce and the well-being of our community. This success showcases the power of collaboration, with special thanks to our CAO’s office and the Board of Supervisors for their unwavering support.



In 2024, the Employment & Eligibility (E&E) Division served over 170,000 unique residents, processed 59,000 assistance applications, welcomed 158,000 lobby visitors, completed 175,000 tasks, handled 52,000 calls, and supported 98,000 households. Collaborative efforts improved application processing timeliness and addressed the Medi-Cal Continuous Coverage unwinding mandate. Welfare-to-Work engagement rates improved, 96 homeless families were housed, and 17 SSI applications were approved.

E&E support teams issued over 100 policy memos, processed 4,000 EBT theft claims, conducted 80+ trainings, resolved 3,000 technical requests, created reports and dashboards, and facilitated 52 new hires and 29 promotions. Congratulations to the E&E team for their outstanding achievements in 2024!

Employment & Eligibility Year in Review



ASB BULLETIN

Hopefully, your Holidays were Joyful, but sometimes, during the holidays, we may have a few guests staying with us that are not so Joyful. Here at H&SS we have also had a few guests staying with us that are not so Joyful. Let’s help keep the rodent population from making a permanent home in H&SS. Please store all food items in plastic containers or refrigerators. Rodents like to share your food, even if you do not.

Here are a few Security reminders for the New Year:

- Please do not leave any County Devices unattended.
- Please collect ALL County Devices from individuals on any type of leave.
- ASB will need to vet all software purchases by DoIT before purchasing, so please plan accordingly.

Thank you for working together to make Health & Social Services a Success!

HUMAN TRAFFICKING PREVENTION MONTH: A CALL TO ACTION FROM CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

In 2010, President Barack Obama designated January as National Human Trafficking Prevention Month to raise awareness about this heinous crime. Human trafficking, a form of modern slavery, includes forced labor, coerced marriages, sexual exploitation, and servitude. Traffickers exploit victims from any demographic using coercion, fraud, and violence, often by those they know and trust.

Human trafficking is a global issue, with California among the top four U.S. states affected due to its borders, immigrant communities, and economic opportunities. In Solano County, agencies, nonprofits, and law enforcement collaborate to combat trafficking and protect adults and children.

If you or someone you know is affected, contact the SANE-SART 24-hour crisis line or the National Human Trafficking Hotline at 1-888-373-7888.

#EndTrafficking

WHAT DOES THE SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU'S BADGE TEAM DO?

As an essential component of our safety program, the badge team is a valuable member of Solano County's H&SS department, providing all department employees with county identification and access to county buildings. While badging is not all we do, it is a vital part of our job:

- Processing requests for new hire badges
- Processing and replacing lost/broken badges
- Changing access as needed for county employees

As job duties evolve, employees often require adjusted access, while visitors and contractors need temporary or non-employee badges. The SIB badge team now has a dedicated email to streamline requests, ensuring prompt assistance from available team members. The new email is SIBbadgeteam@solanocounty.com. H&SS's badging policy can be found [here](#).



OLDER DISABLED AND ADULT SERVICES: A CIRCLE OF TRANSITIONS

This quarter brought significant transitions for the Older and Disabled Adult Services (ODAS) Division, fostering optimism, partnership, and communication. We celebrated the retirements of Shelly Anderson (32 years), Nancy Cheung (26 years), and Ellen Sullivan (15 years). A new training program for seven In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Social Workers launched successfully, supported by leadership and peer mentors Grace Smith, Millie Nazario Canton, Paolo Diangson, and Sara Herbert. Robyn Lacy-Sanders and Dajhana Ramirez were promoted to IHSS Social Workers.

We are restructuring IHSS and Adult Protective Services (APS) to allow SWIIs to focus on APS clients, while SWIIs and SWIs will serve IHSS clients. Leadership transitions included welcoming Supervisors Jacque Russell-Bibb, Jaquetta Jefferson, and Kim Stowers, as well as Manager Jamal Watters in December 2024. These changes position ODAS to better serve our clients, with APS focusing on vulnerable clients facing abuse and IHSS improving service timeliness. These are ODAS wins!

COMPLIANCE AND QUALITY ASSURANCE: WORKPLACE CULTURE- INTEGRITY AND OUR CODE OF CONDUCT

At HSS, integrity and adherence to the Code of Conduct are central to our workplace culture and compliance program. This commitment ensures ethical, high-quality services and fosters trust among staff, clients, and partners. Integrity is everyone's responsibility. Leaders set the tone by modeling honesty, transparency, and ethical decision-making, while all staff are expected to uphold these standards in every task and interaction.

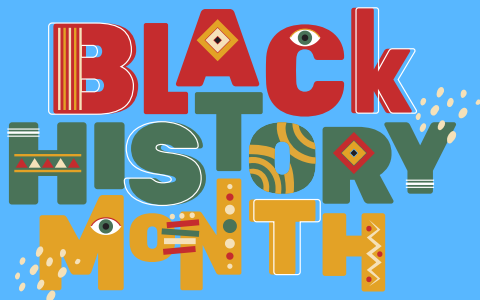
Taking Action Against Violations: It is essential for staff must act if they observe or suspect violations of the Code of Conduct or Oath of Confidentiality. Discuss the issue with your supervisor or manager immediately and submit an online incident report to the Compliance & QA Unit to ensure that the matter is appropriately documented and addressed.

- Online: <https://solanocounty.cqs.symplr.com/Portal>
- Email: hss-compliance@solanocounty.com
- Phone: 707-784-3198

HSS CARE TEAM: AWARENESS CORNER

As we honor **Black History Month**, we celebrate Black Americans' contributions while acknowledging the ongoing fight for equity. Progress has been made, but more work remains. In 2025, let's commit to action:

- Learn Black History and explore Black Americans' rich culture.
- Support policies that advance racial equity.
- Reflect and Act: Identify biases and challenge discrimination constructively.
- Support platforms that elevate Black voices.
- Support Black Businesses: Patronize Black-owned businesses to foster empowerment.



The **Lunar New Year** began on January 29—the year of the Snake! This marks the start of celebrations in various cultures, including the Chinese New Year (春节 - Chūnjié), Seollal (설날) the Korean Lunar New Year, Tết Nguyên Đán (Tết, Vietnamese New Year), and Losar (Tibetan New Year).

The Year of the Snake symbolizes letting go of negativity and embracing renewal. This Lunar New Year, the snake is set to inspire transformation and fresh starts.