

# NEWS

## *From the County of San Bernardino* **Josie Gonzales Fifth District**

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**JGFDS-PR-267 BOARD APPROVES “CO-LOCATION” FACILITY  
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### ***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

## **BOARD APPROVES PLAN FOR “CO-LOCATION” HEALTH CARE FACILITY**

***Area residents will be able to access dozens of primary care, behavioral health and public health services under one roof***

SAN BERNARDINO -- The Board of Supervisors this week approved a plan that marks a new approach to health care for local residents who use the county’s Public Health, Behavioral Health and/or Arrowhead Regional Medical Center (ARMC) services.

For the first time, residents in Colton, Fontana, Rialto, San Bernardino and surrounding communities will have access to dozens of services under one roof as part of a plan to “co-locate” these departments in one facility, located at the corner of Foothill Boulevard and Pepper Avenue in Rialto.

“This one-stop health care approach will offer the county and community multiple benefits,” said Fifth District Supervisor and Board Chair Josie Gonzales, in whose district this facility sits.

“Families with children, the disabled, and employees who need to get back to work will be able to schedule several appointments for the same day, eliminating individual trips to and from different offices and clinics, as a result saving them precious time and money,” she said. “In turn, the co-location site enables our three county departments to create greater efficiencies in the way they provide care, while reducing the cost of delivery.”

The Board-approved plan includes funding for necessary tenant improvements at the Rialto facility, which currently serves as the Behavioral Health Department’s Resource Center, as well as an extension of the current building lease to 2024. The construction phase is scheduled to begin October 3 and expected to last about five months, with new staff expecting to move in March 2012.

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**LARGER FOOTPRINT TO PROVIDE INCREASED ACCESS TO CARE**

ARMC will move its Westside Family Health Center, currently located in San Bernardino, to the co-location site. The new space allocated for the Health Center will more than double the size of the former clinic, from approximately 7,000 square feet and 12 exam rooms to nearly 15,000 square feet and 22 exam rooms.

Physicians expect more than 20,000 patient visits at the new site during its first 12 months of operation.

Public Health will move its Women, Infants and Children (WIC) north Rialto office into the facility, also increasing its former square footage to accommodate three additional client cubicles and room for future expansion.

Behavioral Health's Crisis Walk-In Center, adult and children's outpatient services, alcohol and drug services, and Consumer Clubhouse are already housed in the building. Its current footprint, covering about 85,000 square feet, will remain about the same, but some additional space will enable Behavioral Health to add three offices and cubicles for its Community Crisis Response Team.

Also, among the tenant improvements, a dedicated entry and lobby will be added for Behavioral Health's Crisis Walk-In Center.

"This is an exciting, long-awaited project," said Gonzales. "If proven successful I think this concept could be expanded to provide similar co-location health sites in other parts of the county."

The attachment details services that will be provide at the Rialto co-location clinic.

*The Fifth District includes the unincorporated areas of Bloomington, Muscoy, North Norton, El Rancho Verde, and Arrowhead Farms, the City of Rialto, major portions of the cities of Colton and San Bernardino, and the eastern portion of the City of Fontana.*

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## **SERVICES PROVIDED AT THE RIALTO CO-LOCATION HEALTH CARE FACILITY**

### **Arrowhead Regional Medical Center**

#### **Primary Care**

- Adult care (acute and chronic)
- Family planning
- Obstetrical and gynecological care
- Geriatrics
- Health maintenance
- Preventive care
- Patient and family health education
- Referrals to specialty clinics/services
- Pediatrics, including well-child physicals and immunizations

#### **Public Health WIC**

WIC is a federally funded nutrition education and supplemental food program for lower income pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to five years old.

#### **Services will include:**

- Monthly supplemental food checks, which are targeted to participants' dietary needs
- Nutrition education
- Breastfeeding education and support
- Referrals to other needed health and social services

WIC also provides information on how babies communicate via a new campaign called "Baby Behavior" that is intended to help all parents and caretakers with infants from birth to six months old answer questions and concerns including how babies communicate their needs and how to understand their cues.

### **Behavioral Health**

**Mesa Counseling Center** provides crisis intervention, assessment/referral, individual/group therapy, medication support and case management for adults, children and families.

#### **Crisis Walk-In Center (CWIC)**

provides psychiatric assessment and crisis stabilization for clients who are a danger to themselves or others, or are gravely disabled.

#### **Pathways to Recovery Clubhouse**

includes programs operated by consumers or members 18 years and older with minimal staff support. Programs offered are job training, social activities and education.

**Access Unit** is a call center comprised of mental health professionals who provide widespread linkages ranging from referrals to Behavioral Health Clinics and/or fee for service providers to authorizations for outpatient services. It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

**Alcohol and Drug Services** provides a full range of preventive and outpatient services to adults. Individual, group and family counseling are offered on an outpatient basis; information concerning alcohol detoxification, treatment for chemical dependency and related services may also be obtained through this service.