

The County of Santa Cruz Integrated Community Health Center Commission

Minute Taker: Mary Olivares

Minutes of the meeting held March 4, 2026

TELECOMMUNICATION MEETING: Microsoft Teams Meeting - or call-in number +1 916-318-9542 – PIN# 500021499#

Attendance	
Len Finocchio	Executive Board – Co-Chair
Rahn Garcia	Member
Dinah Phillips	Member
Marco Martinez-Galarce	Member
Michelle Morton	Member
Amy Peeler	County of Santa Cruz, Chief of Clinics
Raquel Ruiz	County of Santa Cruz, Senior Health Services Manager
Julian Wren	County of Santa Cruz, Admin Services Manager
Jennifer Phan	County of Santa Cruz, Health Services Manager
Mary Olivares	County of Santa Cruz, Admin Aide
Meeting Commenced at 1:00 pm and concluded at 1:45 pm	
Excused/Absent:	
Excused: Christina Berberich Excused: Maximus Grisso Absent: Nicole Pfeil	
1. Welcome/Introductions	
2. Oral Communications:	
3. February 4, 2026, Meeting Minutes – Action Required	
The minutes from February 4, 2026, meeting were reviewed and recommended for approval. Rahn motioned to accept the minutes as presented. Marco seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor. Dinah abstained, as she was not present at the previous meeting.	
4. Referral Process – Report Back	
This item was tabled and will be revisited at the next meeting.	
5. Commission Meeting Schedule	
There was discussion about changing the Commission meeting date from the first Wednesday of the month to the second Wednesday of the month. All commissioners present were in consensus regarding the change. However, Amy will need to confirm with Christina Berberich and Nicole Pfeil. If they are also in agreement, the April meeting will be held on April 8, 2026, from 1:00–2:00 PM.	
6. 2025 Service Area Review – Action Required	
Jennifer presented the service area review, identifying underserved areas. She reviewed the service area with the commissioners, including the zip codes affected by the proposed changes that will be brought forward for a vote. Jennifer explained the reporting process to the commissioners, including Form 5B, the UDS report, and how zip codes are incorporated. She also presented a breakdown of the zip codes reported in the UDS report. The total number of patients served in 2024 was 16,091, representing an increase of 858 patients. Jennifer recommended removing zip code 95065 to ensure accurate reporting to HRSA. Rahn motioned to accept the recommendation as presented. Dinah seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.	
7. Legislative Mandates Policy Updates – Action Required	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 640.01 – Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Legislative Mandated Limiting the Use of Funds on HRSA Grants – Action Required b. 640.02 – Salary Limitations – Action Required c. 640.03 – Gun Control – Action Required d. 640.04 – Anti-Lobbying – Action Required e. 640.05 – Acknowledgment of Federal Funding – Action Required f. 640.06 – Restrictions on Abortion – Action Required g. 640.07 – Exceptions to Restrictions on Abortions – Action Required h. 640.08 – Ban on Funding of Human Embryo Research – Action Required 	

- i. 640.09 – Limitation on Use of Funds for Promotion of Legalization of Controlled Substances - Action Required
- j. 640.10 – Restrictions on Distribution of Sterile Needles – Action Required
- k. 640.11 – Restriction on Pornography on Computer Networks – Action Required
- l. 640.13 – Confidentiality Agreements – Action Required

It was discussed that Raquel would review policy changes with the commissioners, followed by a single motion for approval. Raquel reviewed the updates and changes to the policies with the commissioners. Rahn motioned to approve all policies as recommended by staff. Marco seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor.

8. Quality Management Update

Raquel provided a Quality Management update. She reported on the Breast Cancer Screening Project at Santa Cruz Health Center (Emeline site). The aim statement is to increase screening rates from 46.29% in Q4 2024 to 53% by December 2025, aligned with the Alliance benchmark of 52.68%. As of Quarter 3, the rate reached 51.51%, reflecting an 11% improvement. Raquel also noted that March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Clinic teams are promoting screening through additional messaging and visual displays throughout the clinics. In addition, Raquel reported on peer review activities. The committee reviewed five individual charts, and no action was required. Raquel further reported on Risk Management activities, including a review of grievances and compliance. She shared this information with the commissioners. Lastly, she reported that completed episodic chart reviews resulted in no findings.

8. Financial Update

Amy reported on behalf of Julian. She shared positive financial updates, noting that the organization is performing significantly better than at the same time last year, with an improvement of \$3 million. She added that increased productivity efforts have been effective, and expenses have decreased by 2%. Amy also reported on billable visits, patient comparisons, and uninsured charges, noting that these figures may change as additional data becomes available. Additionally, Amy shared that the organization is likely to trigger a state rate review to reassess the PPS rate. This process was initiated following the addition of LMFT services to the organization’s scope, which are now billable. The team is aiming to complete this review within the current fiscal year and is in the process of hiring LMFT staff. She noted that significant work has been completed with consultants. The current PPS rate is \$438, and if the rate review is approved this year, it is expected to increase to \$535, resulting in an estimated annual revenue increase of \$5.6 million.

9. CEO Update

Next meeting will be the second Wednesday of the month.

Next meeting: April 8, 2026, 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Meeting Location: In- Person- 150 Westridge Drive, Suite 101, Watsonville, Ca 95076 and 1080 Emeline Ave., Bldg. Clinic. Cruz, CA 95060. Commission will connect through Microsoft Teams Meeting or call in (audio only) [+1 831-454-2222,191727602#](tel:+18314542222191727602) United States, Salinas Phone Conference ID: **191 727 602#**

Minutes approved _____ / / _____
 (Signature of Board Chair or Co-Chair) (Date)