



COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Elsa Jimenez, Director of Health Services

Administration Animal Services Behavioral Health Clinic Services
Emergency Medical Services Environmental Health Public Administrator/Public Guardian Public Health

January 28, 2025

Alex Martinez
Medi-Cal Behavioral Health Division
Department of Health Care Services
1500 Capitol Avenue, MS 2702
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Martinez,

With the recent retirement of Kathryn (Katy) Eckert, our County of Monterey Behavioral Health Director, effective 12/31/2024, we conducted an internal recruitment for an Acting Appointment. I am excited to let you know that I have appointed Melanie Rhodes as the Acting Bureau Chief/Behavioral Health Director effective on December 28, 2024.

Ms. Rhodes started her public service with the County of Monterey Health Department in April of 2005, as a Psychiatric Social Worker II in Behavioral Health's Alcohol and Drug Services Drug Treatment Court Program. Over the past 20 years, Ms. Rhodes promoted to supervisory/management roles with increasingly higher levels of responsibility and authority. As of June 2021, Ms. Rhodes has served in a Deputy Director role overseeing various programmatic areas including Access to Treatment, Substance Use Disorders, CalWORKs, South County Services, Community Crisis, and Justice Involved Services. She is dually licensed in California as a Marriage and Family Therapist and Professional Clinical Counselor.

I look forward to working closely with Melanie and having her lead our Behavioral Health Bureau. Please help me welcome Melanie to her new Acting Appointment!

Sincerely,

Elsa Mendoza Jimenez, MPH
Director of Health Services
County of Monterey