



SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
Behavioral Wellness
A System of Care and Recovery

Pam Fisher, PsyD
Interim Director

June 23, 2021

PHF Governing Board:

Based on the recommendations of medical staff leadership and nursing leadership, it is recommended that Andra Dillard be formally appointed to serve as the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Infection Preventionist. Ms. Dillard has over ten years of experience in infection prevention and, previously acted as the Infection Prevention and Control as both a consultant for the PHF as an Independent Contractor and as an employee of the County of Santa Barbara Department of Behavioral Wellness. Andra has successfully set up Behavioral Wellness's infection prevention and control program.

In order to provide infection prevention and control services, one must be certified in the field of infection prevention and control. Ms. Dillard is board certified by the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology to provide infection prevention and control services. Andra again joined Behavioral Wellness in July 2020 and has continued to serve as the PHF's Infection Preventionist.

Ms. Dillard's responsibilities for the PHF include: developing and implementing infection surveillance, prevention, and control policies and procedures that adhere to nationally recognized guidelines; documenting the infection prevention and control program and its surveillance, prevention, and control activities; communicating and collaborating with the PHF's QAPI program on infection prevention and control issues; and providing competency-based training and education of PHF personnel, staff, including medical staff, and, as applicable, personnel providing contracted services at the PHF, on the practical applications of infection prevention and control guidelines, policies, and procedures. Ms. Dillard is also responsible for the prevention and control of Hospital-Acquired Infections, including auditing of adherence to infection prevention and control policies and procedures by PHF personnel and communication and collaboration with the antibiotic stewardship program.

PHF staff have reported on Ms. Dillard's performance in this role as an independent contractor and her return as a Behavioral Wellness employee at various PHF Governing Board meetings, but in an abundance of caution, we are requesting that the PHF Governing Board formally appoint Ms. Dillard as the PHF's Infection Preventionist and ratify her past acts in this role.

Thank you,

Ole Behrendtsen, MD
PHF Medical Director

Alesha Silva, RN
PHF Psychiatric Nurse Supervisor