



Plans underway for Regional Assessment Center at SHG

Southeast Health Group's CEO Successor JC Carrica announced today that funding is in place to establish a Regional Assessment Center at 711 Barnes Avenue in La Junta, available 24/7/365 to persons referred from Baca, Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Otero, Prowers, Las Animas, and Huerfano counties in southeastern Colorado. Persons of all ages that arrive at the Regional Assessment Center will have access to short-term crisis inpatient services with wrap-around recovery supports, including mental health treatment, substance use disorder treatment, care management services, peer support services, and access to primary care medical services.

As important, the need for crisis inpatient treatment has always existed. "Over the past six months many community agencies have been working in partnership to bring inpatient services to our region," said Carrica. "We hope those suffering a severe mental health crisis and detoxing from substances will no longer need to be housed in a jail or emergency room awaiting the availability of appropriate placement along the Front Range."

A 12-bed inpatient facility, embedded in the Regional Assessment Center, will offer withdrawal management and acute treatment for adults experiencing substance use withdrawal and mental health

passed SB17-207, which is intended to relieve the burden on law enforcement and hospitals by diverting individuals experiencing behavioral health crises from jails and emergency rooms. The facility will accept walk-ins and



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crises. Until now, there was no other option. With funding from SB17-207, we will be able to meet this critical need and help relieve the burden on our community partners. "We are hoping for a December 1st grand opening of both the RAC and adult inpatient facility," said Carrica.

During the last legislative session, the Colorado State Legislature

coordinate emergency placements with law enforcement and medical personnel from across the eight-county region.

For more information about behavioral health services, or to apply for employment at the new facility, call Southeast Health Group at 1-800-511-5446, or visit www.southeasthealthgroup.org.