



# SAN JUAN COUNTY Public Hospital District No. 1

SPRING 2022 NEWSLETTER



**Heart of the Harbor**

VILLAGE AT THE HARBOR NEWS ~ PAGES 2-7

**Lights & Sirens**

SAN JUAN ISLAND EMS NEWS ~ PAGES 8-12



## Heart of the Harbor

SPRING 2022

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# Introducing Village at the

English

We are excited to welcome the Village at the Harbor into the Hospital District. This project was funded during the Fall 2021 election cycle and puts public money into long-term care. The Village at the Harbor is the only assisted living facility on the island, and we intend to use that as an umbrella service to build and expand long-term care services.

We are also grateful that the public approved the renewal of our San Juan Island EMS levy with an overwhelming majority in February 2022. Our EMS service continues to take care of the public with compassion and competence.

Taken together, our continued subsidy and support for PeaceHealth Peace Island Medical Center, subsidy for Mount Baker Planned Parenthood and the Prevention Coalition, as well as our direct operation of the Village at the Harbor and San Juan Island EMS, we have taken on responsibility for many critical healthcare services for San Juan, Brown, Pearl, Spieden, Henry, Johns, and Stuart Islands.

As a Board that is responsible for about \$4.5 million in tax revenues, as well as service fees, we renew our pledge to provide strict financial oversight. We are proud of yet another exceptional audit by the State of Washington, but we aim to always exceed the minimum requirements. Our financial committee meets regularly with management to review all finances and ensure compliance with best practices.

We continue to meet monthly on the 4th Wednesday as a Board and strive to be accountable to the public. Transparency is a major value shared by each of our commissioners. Members of the public can join all of our meetings by dialing in or via MS Teams. Information about joining is posted on our website at [www.sjcphd.org](http://www.sjcphd.org) in advance of every meeting. The public may also comment in our meetings or email our commissioners. We recently completed a substantial website update to make it easier for the public to access information about the Hospital District.

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# Harbor *from the Board of Commissioners*

Español

## **Declaración de la Junta del Distrito Hospitalario**

Estamos muy contentos de dar la bienvenida al Village at the Harbor en el Distrito Hospitalario. Este proyecto fue financiado durante el ciclo electoral de otoño de 2021 y destina dinero público a cuidados a largo plazo. El Village at the Harbor es el único centro de vida asistida en la isla, y tenemos la intención de utilizarlo como un servicio paraguas para construir y ampliar los servicios de atención a largo plazo.

También estamos agradecidos de que el público haya aprobado la renovación de nuestro gravamen de EMS de la isla de San Juan con una mayoría abrumadora en febrero de 2022. Nuestro servicio EMS sigue atendiendo al público con compasión y competencia.

En conjunto, nuestro continuo subsidio y apoyo al PeaceHealth Peace Island Medical Center, el subsidio a Mount Baker Planned Parenthood y a la Prevention Coalition, así como nuestra operación directa del Village at the Harbor y San Juan Island EMS, hemos asumido la responsabilidad de

muchos servicios críticos de atención médica para las islas San Juan, Brown, Pearl, Spieden, Henry, Johns y Stuart.

Como una Junta que es responsable de unos \$4,5 millones en ingresos fiscales, así como de las cuotas de servicio, renovamos nuestro compromiso de proporcionar una estricta supervisión financiera. Estamos orgullosos de otra auditoría excepcional del Estado de Washington, pero nuestro objetivo es superar siempre los requisitos mínimos. Nuestro comité financiero se reúne regularmente con la dirección para revisar todas las finanzas y garantizar el cumplimiento de las mejores prácticas.

Seguimos reuniéndonos mensualmente el cuarto miércoles como Junta y nos esforzamos por rendir cuentas al público. La transparencia es un valor importante que comparten todos nuestros comisarios. Los miembros del público pueden participar en todas nuestras reuniones por teléfono o a través de MS Teams. La información sobre cómo participar se publica en nuestro sitio web

*continúa en la página 4*



### *introducing the village ~ continued from page 2*

Our organization has thrived despite the pressures and difficulties of COVID-19. We have clear vision about where we are going and what we want to accomplish. We are adapting deliberately and strategically to meet the next decade of challenges and healthcare needs for our community.

Thank you for trusting us with your healthcare needs. We hope you will feel that your money is well spent. ■

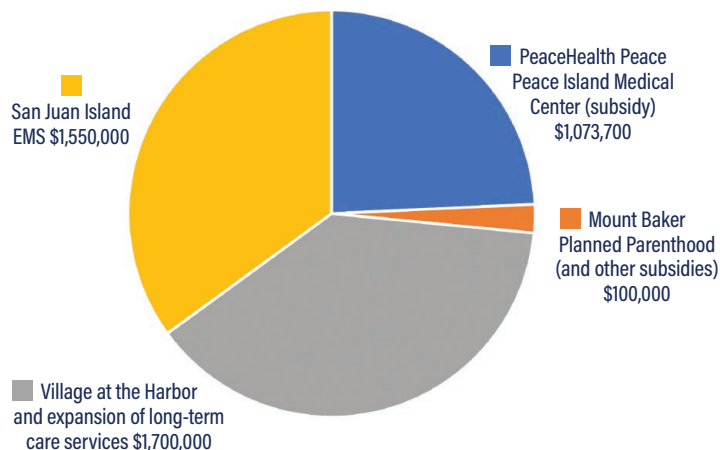
### *declaración de la junta del distrito hospitalario ~ continúa desde la página 3*

[www.sjcphd.org](http://www.sjcphd.org) antes de cada reunión. El público también puede hacer comentarios en nuestras reuniones o enviar correos electrónicos a nuestros comisarios. Recientemente hemos completado una importante actualización del sitio web para facilitar al público el acceso a la información sobre el Distrito Hospitalario.

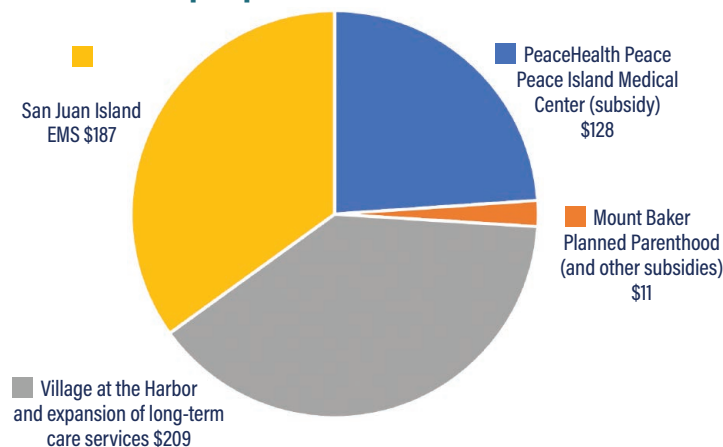
Nuestra organización ha prosperado a pesar de las presiones y dificultades del COVID-19. Tenemos una visión clara de hacia dónde vamos y de lo que queremos conseguir. Nos estamos adaptando deliberada y estratégicamente para hacer frente a la próxima década de retos y necesidades de atención sanitaria de nuestra comunidad.

Gracias por confiarnos sus necesidades sanitarias. Esperamos que sienta que su dinero está bien empleado. ■

### **Your Tax Dollars** (annual for 2022) **Sus impuestos** (anuales para 2022)



### **Annual Cost Breakdown for \$500,000 Property** (\$535) **Desglose del impuesto anual sobre una propiedad de \$500,000** (\$535)





## Introducing Village Admins Evan and Tina



### EVAN PERROLLAZ, ADMINISTRATOR

On March 1st, 2022 Village at the Harbor became part of the San Juan County Public Hospital District No. 1. This transition began in 2021 and came to be through the foresight of our community members that voted for the levy last November.

I for one, am delighted to be a part of the outstanding growth in services and programs for our vulnerable population. Being on the front lines for the past six years, I have witnessed the increasing and desperate need for our vulnerable population to have better access to care and services.

The Village was initially the vision of two Islanders who were supported by local investors as a way to serve the vulnerable population of the Islands and provide safety, security, and comfort to those in need. As a private business, we were often limited by budget and financial constraints. Our desire to serve a broader population that required financial support and healthcare needs was stretched thin and we often found ourselves losing key staff that went to other, higher paying jobs that also offered benefits.

This incredible transition with the Hospital District has allowed us to dramatically improve our operational base. We have already rolled out benefits and improved our wage scale allowing us to retain and attract the best care staff possible. In the coming months we will continue to develop and expand additional programs to enhance our community footprint to extend our reach to those in need.

We are more than a building, we are a collective of passionate people who work to serve, who work to provide a better way of life for our tribe. On our library wall hangs a quilt, one hand crafted for the Village by a local legend when it first opened. I view the Village like that quilt, a rich tapestry of stories and personalities that come together to create an incredible community experience.

### TINA SMITH, ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

I'm thrilled to be the new assistant administrator for the Village at the Harbor. This position encompasses many passions of mine, especially, organization, team building, and care for vulnerable populations. I'm looking forward to being part of the Hospital District team as we build up our home care training and community outreach programs to meet the growing need for senior care on San Juan Island.

My grandmother, Jackie Ross, spent the last few years of her life at the Village at the Harbor. It was such a gift to have her close enough for us to visit regularly, while being taken care of by the committed, loving staff at the Village. Through my grandmother's care, we came to see the Village staff as a second family. It is truly a full circle moment for me to be working as the Assistant Administrator at the Village. ■





# Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

On April 11th, 2022, the Village at the Harbor hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate their sale to San Juan County Public Hospital District No.1. Many members of the public and the District attended. A special thanks to Mayor Ray Jackson, Becki Day and members of the Chamber of Commerce, the press, and all those who participated. Attendees were invited to take place in the celebrations by sharing food, drink, and witnessing the ribbon cutting.

Administrator Evan Perrollaz and hospital district Commissioners Trish Lehman and Gail Leschine-Seitz made statements regarding the acquisition of the Village

at the Harbor. Superintendent Nathan Butler welcomed the Village at the Harbor into the hospital district.

In all their speeches, they touched upon the six-year plan for the Village at the Harbor. The six-year plan includes proposals to add Medicaid beds, expand the Village facilities to add more beds, and eventually introduce home care options for Island residents.

San Juan County Public Hospital District #1 operates San Juan Island EMS and the Village at the Harbor. The Hospital District pays a large subsidy to Peace Health Peace Island Medical Center to support healthcare initiatives on San Juan Island. ■

# Village Operations

Many operational changes have occurred since merging the Village at the Harbor and the Hospital District.

Improving resources available to our care team has been a huge priority, as quality resident care is the hallmark of our assisted living community. The Village recently completed upgrades to our nurse call system, allowing for better staff accountability and communication while simultaneously providing caregivers with better access to information and strengthening our response time to resident needs. The care team at the Village is in the initial training phase for our new innovative electronic charting system. This new charting system will dramatically improve caregivers' charting capabilities while flexibly allowing growth for future expansion projects, such as adding Medicaid and home care services to the Village.

Lastly, administration at the Village is currently initiating the purchase of a new wheelchair-accessible van to transport residents to and from medical appointments and errands. The current transportation options available in Friday Harbor have made purchasing a van for residents crucial to maintaining the Village's promise of quality resident care. This new acquisition will be considerably beneficial to improving resident care and satisfaction. ■



Interested in  
Apartments at  
the Village?  
Schedule a  
tour today!

[villageattheharbor.org](http://villageattheharbor.org)

(360) 378-7144





## Lights & Sirens

SPRING 2022

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# Update from the Administrator San Juan Island EMS

We are so very grateful to the support we received from public approving another six years of service for San Juan Island EMS. Just over 65% of the public voted to approve the measure in the February 2022 election. Collection of the renewed EMS tax levy begins January 1, 2023, and will go to the end of 2028.

The Hospital District will continue to administer San Juan Island EMS. We are an organization that focuses on one thing: healthcare – specifically, your healthcare. The Hospital District supports primary and emergency care services, long-term care, reproductive health, and emergency medical services.

San Juan Island EMS has been very actively working to create greater depth, resiliency, and efficiency in its services. A few high notes:

**Community Paramedicine Expansion:** We added a second EMT to this very successful program which works in the community on

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## Noticias de la administración - EMS

Estamos muy agradecidos por el apoyo que recibimos del público aprobando otros seis años de servicio para el EMS de la Isla de San Juan. Un poco más de 65% del público votó para aprobar la medida en las elecciones de febrero de 2022. La recaudación del impuesto renovado de EMS comienza el 1 de enero de 2023 y llegará hasta el final de 2028.

El Distrito Hospitalario continuará administrando el EMS de la Isla de San Juan. Somos una organización que se centra en una cosa: la asistencia sanitaria - específicamente, su asistencia sanitaria. El Distrito Hospitalario apoya los servicios de atención primaria y de emergencia, la atención a largo plazo, la salud reproductiva y los servicios médicos de emergencia.

San Juan Island EMS ha estado trabajando muy activamente para crear una mayor profundidad, resiliencia y eficiencia en sus servicios. Algunas notas destacadas:

*continúa en la página 12*

# 2022 EMT Class

*San Juan Island EMS  
is excited to welcome  
thirteen new EMTs to  
the county!*

On May 7th our EMT students will complete a comprehensive written test and their final practical skills evaluations monitored by Washington State certified evaluators. They are well prepared to serve our community, having completed over 250 classroom hours and many, many hours of additional practice. Two of the students will serve on Orcas Island, the other eleven will be based on San Juan Island. One EMT lives on Waldron Island.

The new EMTs will carry an AED and a jump bag filled with oxygen and other lifesaving equipment. They will be ready to respond quickly to nearby emergencies and provide basic life support services to their friends and neighbors, and the rest of our community. These EMTs have worked hard, passing multiple individual skills tests as well as patient assessment evaluations.

We congratulate the class and wish them the best! ■





## Community Paramedicine Update to the Public

2021 was a landmark year for Community Paramedicine and Outreach at San Juan Island EMS. The most significant change was hiring a new Community Paramedicine and Outreach EMT, Ryder Cuddington, to assist Director Lainey Volk.

Community Paramedicine is funded through a combination of grants and public funding. Lainey Volk describes Community Paramedicine as, "Working with our vulnerable population through care-coordination and injury prevention, to minimize use of our 911 system for preventable problems. Paramedicine and Outreach overlap at Injury Prevention. We have provided grab bars, safety poles, medication dispensers, walkers, and Files of Life along with other needs. In 2021 this included installing 25 car

seats, providing 9 helmets to children, and assisting over 100 Community Paramedicine patients on a regular basis.

Volk also directs the Community Outreach at San Juan Island EMS, which helps our community achieve one of the highest cardiac arrest save rates in the country. Teaching the public CPR and First Aid has been shown to be one of the first links in the chain of survival. In 2021, Lainey Volk and Ryder Cuddington awarded over 461 CPR, Basic Life Support, and First Aid certifications to members of the public, as well as teaching instructor level courses, wilderness courses and infectious disease prevention courses.

San Juan Island EMS is currently working with community partners to improve AED and CPR access. We are working to update our AED registry so we can notify AED owners on San Juan Island when their pads and batteries need to be replaced.



In addition to the prevention and education programs Community Paramedicine offers, they also assist island residents with aging in place by helping manage day-to-day tasks, such as wound care or medication management. Superintendent Nathan Butler stated, "The goals of the Community Paramedicine Program are to improve the quality of life and health for our citizens, while reducing the cost of healthcare. Through Community Paramedicine, we can identify short- and long-term patient outcomes that are appropriate for measuring the success of a variety of interventions."

San Juan County Public Hospital District #1 acquired Village at the Harbor on February 28th, 2022, as part of the long-term plan to allow island residents to "age in place" or remain on the island as they grow older. Community Paramedicine plays a large role in this goal, as they provide at-home medical services and supplies to seniors who are struggling.

Board Chair Anna Lisa Lindstrum states, "I am very excited to see these long-term goals of the Hospital District begin to come together in 2022. The District has made large leaps in providing aging in place options for island residents with the expanded efforts of Community Paramedicine and the acquisition of the Village."

Community Paramedicine providers are on duty six days a week for ten hours a day, providing back-up service for the on-duty EMTs and Paramedics when necessary. On average twenty-four percent of our calls occur concurrently, requiring an additional crew to respond. Community Paramedicine EMTs can easily fill the gap and respond with a second ambulance. ■

San Juan Island EMS is starting a program called "Save a Life San Juan."

This involves working to locate Automatic Electronic Defibrillators (AEDs) in our community to ensure that they are working properly and working to deploy them where they are needed.

Ensuring that AEDs are functional, charged, and have no service recalls is of vital importance.

If you have an AED and are willing to join the registry, please contact [office@sanjuanems.org](mailto:office@sanjuanems.org). An AED can restore the normal rhythm in victims of sudden cardiac arrest and saves lives.

**Save a  
Life  
San Juan**

*If someone you know may benefit from the services provided by the Outreach Department at San Juan EMS, please email [prevention@sanjuanems.org](mailto:prevention@sanjuanems.org) or call (360) 378-5152.*





San Juan Island  
Emergency Medical Services  
1079 Spring Street  
Friday Harbor, WA 98250

ECRWSS  
Postal Customer

PRSRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Friday Harbor, WA  
Permit #9

LIGHTS & SIRENS

# Are you CPR and First Aid Certified?

San Juan Island EMS offers CPR and First Aid Classes to the general public at low rates to support a healthy community.

*CPR Saves Lives!*

Heartsaver CPR/AED .....	\$45.00	Heartsaver First Aid and CPR/AED .....	\$90.00
Heartsaver First Aid.....	\$45.00	CPR/AED Skills Exam Only .....	\$35.00

*update from administrator ~ continued from page 8*

precautionary measures such as installing anti-slip bars throughout their home, helping with medication management, installing car seats, providing medical supplies such as walkers, canes, and crutches. A new grant helped fund this.

Advanced Life Support expansion: Paying off the Frank Wilson Memorial EMS Building opened \$120,000 a year to be spent on operations rather than debt. We are spending this on adding a fifth paramedic. A paramedic is the highest credentialed medical first responder. While our agency has dozens of EMTs, until recently we've only had four paramedics.

New EMT Class: Our EMT class of 13 students has finished, and new students are ready to take the National Exam. This 250-hour course involved nearly a dozen guest lecturers and field excursions with experts in everything from legal issues to Hazmat, many lectures by our training officer Weyshawn Koons, many hands-on skills sessions, around thirty skills tests per student, numerous written tests large and small, as well as both group and individual patient assessments.

Radio Upgrade: Over the course of 2021 and 2022 we will have replaced most of our handheld and mobile radios to take full advantage of the county's new radio dispatching infrastructure (CODAN). This will enable more efficient deployment of resources and better communication between responders. ■

*update from administrator ~ continúa desde la página 8*

**Ampliación de la paramédica comunitaria:** Hemos añadido un segundo EMT a este programa muy exitoso que trabaja en la comunidad en las medidas de precaución, tales como la instalación de barras antideslizantes en su casa, ayudando con la gestión de la medicación, la instalación de asientos de coche, proporcionando suministros médicos como andadores, bastones y muletas. Una nueva subvención ayudó a financiar esta labor.

**Ampliación del soporte vital avanzado:** El pago del edificio Frank Wilson Memorial EMS abrió \$120.000 al año para ser gastado en las operaciones en lugar de la deuda. Estamos gastando esto en la adición de un quinto paramédico. Un paramédico es la más alta credencial de primera respuesta médica. Mientras que nuestra agencia tiene docenas de EMT, hasta hace poco sólo hemos tenido cuatro paramédicos.

**Nueva clase de EMT:** Nuestra clase de EMT de 13 estudiantes ha terminado, y los nuevos estudiantes están listos para tomar el examen nacional. Este curso de 250 horas involucró a casi una docena de conferencistas invitados y excursiones de campo con expertos en todo, desde temas legales hasta Hazmat, muchas conferencias de nuestro oficial de entrenamiento Weyshawn Koons, muchas sesiones de habilidades prácticas, alrededor de treinta pruebas de habilidades por estudiante, numerosas pruebas escritas grandes y pequeñas, así como evaluaciones de pacientes tanto grupales como individuales.

**Actualización de la radio:** A lo largo de 2021 y 2022 habremos sustituido la mayoría de nuestras radios portátiles y de mano para aprovechar al máximo la nueva infraestructura de despacho por radio del condado (CODAN). Esto permitirá un despliegue más eficiente de los recursos y una mejor comunicación entre los intervinientes. ■