

From: [Board Of Supervisors](#)
To: [Agenda Management Support](#)
Subject: Item 8 comment_MHCAN
Date: Monday, June 2, 2025 5:09:25 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Ari Hutchison <aripaulhutchison@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, June 2, 2025 2:44 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Greetings from MHCAN

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Dear Supervisors Hernandez, Martinez, Cummings, Koenig, De Serpa.

I am writing on behalf of MHCAN to thank you for your past support and to express our heartfelt request for continued funding during this challenging budget year.

We understand and deeply respect the difficult decisions you and the Board must make in response to the County's current budgetary constraints. We know that many vital programs are being reviewed and that the County must balance many priorities.

That said, we sincerely hope MHCAN can be considered for an exception due to our organization's unique and irreplaceable role in the community of Santa Cruz. As a peer-run, client-centered nonprofit, MHCAN offers services that are not duplicated anywhere else in the county. For many, we are a lifeline — a safe, welcoming space where individuals facing mental health challenges receive peer support, crisis prevention, and a true sense of belonging.

We believe that cutting or reducing MHCAN's funding could have serious consequences for some of the most vulnerable members of our community. Our services reduce hospitalizations, prevent crises, and promote recovery — ultimately saving public resources and tax dollars in the long term.

We respectfully ask for your consideration in preserving funding for MHCAN so we may continue serving the people who rely on us most. We are committed to working collaboratively with the County towards finding creative solutions to meet shared goals, even in tough financial times.

Thank you again for your leadership, and for recognizing the importance of mental health services rooted in lived experience and peer support. We invite you to visit our center anytime and see the impact we make every day.

With respect and gratitude,

Ari Hutchison, Davide Crisanti, TJ Mckeney, Sheila Morrone, On behalf of the Mental Health Client Action Network (MHCAN)