



COUNTY OF ORANGE – HEALTH CARE AGENCY

# PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:** September 29, 2022

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## OC Health Care Agency Announces Partnership with Anaheim Ducks Promoting Mental Health

**SANTA ANA, CA** – The OC Health Care Agency (HCA) is partnering with the Anaheim Ducks National Hockey League (NHL) Club in its first ever multi-year partnership to promote mental health awareness.

As part of the three-year partnership, the HCA will cross-promote its mental health wellness resources platform, the OC Navigator with the Anaheim Ducks. The promotion features the OC Navigator logo displayed on all player helmets. The OC Navigator tool is a robust online resource designed to connect the community with local mental health and support services, including recovery resources.

“Focusing on mental health is important for all ages, we are thrilled to support this partnership with the Anaheim Ducks organization,” said Chairman **Doug Chaffee**, Fourth District Supervisor.

“We are grateful to have an effective tool like the OC Navigator connecting all of Orange County with mental health resources,” said Vice Chairman **Donald P. Wagner**, Third District Supervisor. “Sharing the message is key.”

The partnership will focus on the HCA’s mental health campaign across the Ducks’ organization. Beyond the Honda Center and the Anaheim Ducks’ organization, the HCA will have visual signage at Rinks locations throughout Orange County and the ARTIC Transportation Center. Additional awareness will be featured on the NHL Club’s digital media channels, website, TV, and radio platforms.

“Every day, there are family, friends, and co-workers who suffer in silence,” said Supervisor **Andrew Do**, First District. “It’s important to know that you’re not alone. If you can’t talk to a friend or family member, there’s always someone at the National Hotline – 9-8-8 – ready to listen.”

“To urgently respond to the mental health crisis here in Orange County, we must prioritize removing the stigma around mental health and seeking help,” said Supervisor **Katrina Foley**, Second District. We must remove the stigma to talk about dying, cancer, grief, depression, and our emotions. To help, we want to empower our diverse community of Orange County residents to take advantage of the wide range of mental health resources the county offers.”

“Mental health impacts our entire community,” said Supervisor **Lisa A. Bartlett**, Fifth District. “It is critical that those struggling with mental health issues know that help and resources are available and encourage them to reach out, and loved ones to reach in. I am so pleased to partner with the Anaheim Ducks to get this very important message out there. We can all play a role in promoting good mental health.”

In addition, the HCA will be the Presenting Sponsor of the Captain’s Challenge, a Ducks’ program for fifth-grade students that promotes healthy living and prepares students for the California Physical Fitness Test.

“Maintaining good mental health is as equally important as maintaining good physical health,” said **Dr. Veronica Kelley**, the HCA’s Chief of Mental Health and Recovery Services.

To celebrate the partnership, Ducks fans attending the team’s Opening Night game October 12 vs. Seattle will receive an OC Navigator paper hockey helmet courtesy of the HCA.

**Reach Out:**

- Mental Health wellness resources, visit [www.OCNavigator.org](http://www.OCNavigator.org), or call OC Links (855) 625-4657
- OC Warmline for free, emotional support 24/7 call or text (714) 991-6412
- Crisis Lifeline 24/7, call 9-8-8

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