



Joanne announced that Sandi Seely had left the Department and accepted a new position and expected that Dawn Garcia would fill in. Then she heard that Dawn was going to retire on January 22, 2016; she expressed her good wishes for Dawn's retirement. Joanne expressed a thank you to Kelley Juhrend for filling in to take the minutes.

- B. This month's success story was on the WISE Project and was presented by Susan Holt, Deputy Director. Wise stands for Workforce, Integration, Support and Education. Joan Keenan was to talk further on the program later in the meeting. The success is that Mental Health America has presented the First Annual Owlly Award to the Wise Project at DBH in recognition of their stellar work in integration of peers into the workforce.

## II. Approval of Agenda

Joanne asked the Board if there were any changes to the agenda. No changes were recommended. All approved the agenda.

## III. Approval of Minutes

David Weber mentioned that the on the Childrens Services Committee date that was posted as being January 21<sup>st</sup> should be changed to 28<sup>th</sup>. Joanne asked for verification from Carolyn Evans, who stated that the meeting would take place on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Joanne then asked for approval for the amended minutes. All approved.

## IV. Update and Program Review – Department of Behavioral Health - Susan Holt

Susan started the Department update by talking about the SB 82 Project – Investment in Mental Health Wellness Act. Through that act, The Department was awarded funding which will be going towards an Adult Crisis Residential Program and DBH is hoping to have the agreement signed by the architects soon and then for the design in Public Works.

The Sierra building negotiations are still continuing. The Department does not know what programs will be moving into the building until everything has been finalized. She mentioned that the Kingsburg Healing Center will be having their open house which was mentioned at the beginning of the meeting.

Regulatory Legislative: This update included pending legislation on Congregate Care Reform, which will reform group homes/foster care so that there is more permanency for the placed child. This reform is expected to be a lengthy process.

### **Contracts Highlights:**

Susan reported that the Department's Crisis Stabilization RFP closes January 25<sup>th</sup>, and Consumer and Family Advocacy closes February 4<sup>th</sup>. SUD Prevention Services is currently out to bid and will close February 4<sup>th</sup>. There is also a Joint Powers agreement between Cal MHSA and counties throughout the state, including Fresno, to help place clients who need state hospitalization. Currently there is a

Memorandum of Understanding with Cal MHSA that will be going before the Board of Supervisors on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Due to a significant shortage of psychiatrists within the central valley, the department will be taking an increase of funding for the Master Agreement for Locum Tenens on February 9<sup>th</sup>. In addition the Master Agreement for Institution of Mental Disease, Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers and Skilled Nursing Facilities is being increased and will go to the Board of Supervisors on February 9, 2016. Susan mentioned the RFP closing on February 12<sup>th</sup> for Culturally Based Access Navigation Specialist, which is a peer support county contract. Susan state that for Substance Use Disorder there will be a Request for Statement Qualifications, which will increase residential beds to 50; this is expected to close on February 17<sup>th</sup>. Also, the Substance Abuse Prevention Evaluator will be closing February 18<sup>th</sup>.

John commented regarding clients who are released from a state hospital to a board and care, treatment programs, etc., and who are not accountable to the County or the State. Susan stated that clients who are placed in a state hospital (Atascadero) are usually there because they are incompetent to stand trial or have other forensic related needs. These clients are transition outside of the Department's involvement. She stated that there is currently work with the Courts and Probation because of AB 109; many of these clients are no longer on parole but are being supervised by the Probation Department. There is an expectation to see more work with the justices system to see how to effectively work with this new population on their behavioral health needs. There is also a push to work on the regulatory component for housing needs of this new population. It was brought up that the Adult Services Committee is also tackling this issue.

DBH Program Update: Success Story: Wise Program

Joan Keenan, Clinical Supervisor, Sees Program, gave a presentation on the Workforce Integration Support and Education Program (WISE), which is through the Northern California Mental Health America which is administered through the Office of State Wide Health Planning and Development and MHSA. WISE was developed to provide peer support and family services along with technical assistance to the County on peer support services. There is a current bill SB614, Leno Bill, which is working towards a peer support specialist's certification for peers who are working in the mental health system. For Fresno County, there are twenty three key informant surveys for Leadership. Items from the surveys include clearly defined roles or duties, identification of core competencies, and promotional opportunities, and expansion of peer services and programs. There were also fifteen peers replies and stated they want a clear vision on how peers are used in the public mental health system. There are sixteen peer support specialist in DBH; they are placed in nine different teams and programs with seven different supervisors. Currently there are 3 vacancies and interviews are being conducted. Some of the specialists are certified as Recovery 101 facilitators. Other various trainings have been provided monthly for the specialists. Future trainings are Train the Trainer Peer Support 101, Managing of and providing group facilitating training for peers and working and recovery training of managers and supervisors of peer support workers.

Carolyn asked if the peer support specialists are paid employees? Joan answered that yes, they are paid employees. Carolyn then asked if peer support personnel with contracted providers participate in the WISE program? Joan stated that only current DBH specialist participate in Wise. Joan thanked the Board for allowing the time for her presentation.

V. Old Business

A. BHB Orientation *Ad Hoc* Committee:

Carolyn stated that the *Ad Hoc* Committee met and went over what should be included in the orientation binder to make it more compact, hopefully, the binder will be available for the BHB March retreat.

B. Annual Report:

Joanne stated that the report is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Supervisors on February 2, 2016.

VI. New Business

A. Client Risk Assessment

John talked about the "New Client" who are clients coming from the judicial system with no behavioral health information submitted. He stated that in order to create a treatment plan, assessment are done by self-reporting of the client and there isn't a true picture of what the client's needs are. John stated that there will be further discussions on this topic.

B. Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for 2016

Joanne stated that a list of recommendations sent in the board packets were from 2014. Carolyn stated that some of the recommendations had been acted upon and completed and that the list is lengthy. Curtis Thornton asked if the list could be shortened in order to capture the Board of Supervisors attention. He feels some the items are general and vague and feels that the list should be more specific. He believes a specific goal or process to show that progress is being made or is completed. Francine Faber stated that it may be beneficial to bring back the Public Information Division. She stated that maybe the list of recommendations could be broken down to more specific plans. After discussion it was suggested to meet prior to next month's meeting and to develop a list of recommendations.. Rene Stilson suggested that the public give input too. Susan Holt then asked, as a reminder that the goals and objectives be aligned with the Department's work plans that are being developed. Joanne then asked for a motion to convene at 1:00 pm prior to next month's meeting. John motioned to convene the board to discuss the development of a list of recommendations to the Board of Supervisors in collaboration with DBH. Francine then seconded the motion. All approved. David Weber recommended that it be important to collectively look at the recommendations.

C. Ethic Training

Joanne gave a reminder that there will is an Ethics training on February 1, 2016

D. BHB Orientation/Training

Joanne mentioned that the proposed orientation and training should take place in March.

E. Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

February and March have been covered. No other suggestions were made at this time.

VII. Committee Reports

- A. **Adult Services:** Chair Carolyn Evans reported that housing is still a major focus. The committee would like to see the department designate a housing coordinator and identify minimum standards for room and board homes for the referral list, which can be provided to clients and case managers. In addition, to housing, the committee will be looking at barriers to treatment. Carolyn stated that from the BHB *Ad Hoc* Committee on Room and Board Homes met, and the committee will be meeting with select room and board providers to understand how to better support them and their residents.
- B. **Children's Services:** Chair Carolyn Evans reported that the committee discussed psychiatric inpatient care for children under 12 years of age. Evidence supports the theory that hospitalization may not be the best option for young children. She stated that our county and others are exploring other options for young children. Currently state wide, there are 100 beds available for children under 12. She also stated that the committee received an update from the Child Welfare Mental Health service providers whose work is the result of the Katie A. lawsuit involving mental health services for foster children. Since more children qualified for services that was expected, there are now four agencies providing services to children and their families. At the next week's meeting the Committee will hear about human trafficking from will receive an update from Central Stars on the Adolescent PHF.
- C. **Justice Committee:** Chair Joanne Cox reported that committee met on January 11<sup>th</sup> and had the opportunity to hear from DBH Director Dawan Utecht about a new program called "Stepping Up" which is a national initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illness who are in the jails. Dawan stated that Fresno County has not bought into the initiative yet but is working on learning more. Currently there are 220 counties nation-wide that are participating, with Fresno being one of 58 counties in California looking into the program. She mentioned that it is not known how many California counties are supporting but it is being researched. She reported that there are six actions that need to be taken in order to participate; they must convene leaders and decision makers to collectively review, develop and implement. Joanne reported that Kevin Dunes from Corizon addressed issues that have occurred in the Jail. There have been some change in personnel; in addition, they are using traveling nurses to fill in for vacancies as they occur. Corizon is working on the intake process that will be done by RN's. He mentioned that this time last year they were behind 3, 500 medical requests and are currently behind 350 requests. Next meeting will be March 14<sup>th</sup> at Blue Sky and will discuss a Map Point at the Jail.
- D. **Substance Use Disorders Committee:** Chair John Duchscher reported that the meetings take place every first Wednesday of the month and that the location will be moving around due to Election's training room not being available. He reported that the big issue for SUD Committee is having providers talk to one another about issues and concerns within their programs; he has noticed that more collaboration is taking place amongst the providers. He reported that last meeting, the client risk assessment was covered. He also mentioned that discussion groups are formed to discuss each topic. He mentioned that the ultimate goal would be to become a behavioral health system.

VIII. Public Comment

Brian Bradley announced the Ethics Training on February 1<sup>st</sup> at the UC Center. There will be 2 sessions, morning and afternoon. He stated that there are spots available for both sessions.

Curt Thornton announced a one day conference on April 21, 2016 at the New Covenant Church on East Nees Ave, Fresno. He stated that the purpose is to help bridge with the faith organizations.

Carolyn Evans gave a brief story regarding a person in need of services and how staff worked with this person to get the appropriate help that he needed. She was very commendable to the department and staff for being able to help this person.

Brenda Kent announced that a conference on prisoner realignment, which is a joint venture with the Department of Corrections, and treatment programs is expected to take place in March. Joanne asked for a flyer to be sent to Kelley for distribution.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 PM. The minutes were recorded by Kelley Juhrend, Administrative Assistant of the Department of Behavioral Health and submitted to the BHB Executive Committee.