



# County of Fresno

## ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

### FRESNO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

Regular Meeting Minutes  
January 17, 2018  
Department of Behavioral Health  
1925 E. Dakota Ave., Fresno, CA 93726

<p><u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u> Anna Allen Brandy Dickey Carolyn Evans Francine Farber Marta Obler Katie Lynn Rice Renee Stilson Curt Thornton David Thorne David Weber Donald Vanderheyden</p> <p><u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u> John Duchscher</p> <p><u>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</u> Sal Quintero (absent)</p>	<p><u>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</u> Dawan Utecht Jonathan Halverstadt</p> <p><u>PUBLIC MEMBERS</u> Mitch Collins Stan Lum Fidel Garibay Rachel Ensom Sharon Ross Scott Hollander Brent Potter Jose Manjarrez Deanna Kivett Alicia Austin Townsend Arian Miranda Veronica De Alba Leon Hoover Maya Fuentes Rondy Early Packard</p>	<p><u>PUBLIC MEMBERS – Continued</u> Ana Monreal Cecilia Franco</p>
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#### **I. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

##### **A. Opening Remarks**

BHB Chair Carolyn Evans called the meeting to order at 2:32 PM.

##### **B. Behavioral Health Board members stories**

Members were asked to share their experiences with substance use disorders, whether it was themselves or family. Brandy Dickey, Anna Allen, Curt Thornton, Katie Lynn Rice, Renee Stilson, Donald Vanderheyden, Francine Farber and Carolyn Evans shared their personal experiences.

## **II. Approval of Agenda by Board**

Agenda was approved.

## **III. Approval of Minutes from February 15th and March 15th, 2017**

Minutes were approved with changes.

## **IV. Update & Program Review – Department of Behavioral Health – Director Dawan Utecht**

### **Contract Highlights: Approved contracts, MHSA Annual Update and Primary Care Psychiatry Fellowship**

At the end of the calendar year, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plan. Also approved was the primary care psychiatry fellowship funding opportunity. The funding will be used for 15 primary care providers, which includes physicians and nurse practitioners for a yearlong fellowship through UC Irvine and UC Davis.

### **Legislative Update: Housing, Cannabis, Incompetent to Stand Trial, and Forensic Bed Increase**

Governor's budget was released the week of January 8, 2018. Items of note are the continued funding for the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR), a partnership between Social Services and Behavioral Health that provides care to children in foster care. Also funding was allocated to address the long wait list for felony defendants who are determined mentally incompetent to stand trial (MIST). Other monies, earmarked by MHSA, will assist with the services for the MIST population through the Oversight and Accountability Commission.

There are taxes from Proposition 64; however, funding for treatment will not be available until the 2018 / 19 budget. Funds possibly will be earmarked in the May Revise. In counties such as Fresno, cultivation of marijuana is not permitted; therefore, Fresno may not be able to collect taxes. There are funds in the budget for the Drug Medi-Cal Waiver; as more counties implement their waivers, funds will be pulled for use. The waiver plan for Fresno County was approved by the State and Federal Government. At a future meeting, a presentation on the timeline will be discussed.

Dawan stated that the Family Advocate terminated her agreement with the county. The Request for Proposal (RFP) will go out July 1, 2018. In the meantime, other advocacy providers will pitch in to help meet needs.

As reminder, Behavioral Health is part of the Central Valley Opioid Safety Coalition (CVOSC). A large part of the effort is to re-educate primary care and emergency care physicians, as well as the public, on proper utilization of pain medicine.

### **Program Review: Exodus Crisis Stabilization Services**

Exodus Recovery is the contracted provider for crisis stabilization services. The Adult Crisis Stabilization Center (CSC) currently has 25 beds, 11 in the Youth CSC. They provide 24/7 crisis stabilization services for clients who are experiencing mental health crises, are in imminent danger of presenting a risk to themselves or others, and / or at risk of becoming gravely disabled.

Referrals are done through Welfare & Institutions Code (W&IC) 5150 designation or an individual may voluntarily self-admit.

Operation of the program began in May 2012; at that time there was an adult (18+) unit with 12 beds. In March 2015, 16 beds were added, 8 beds were added to the Adult CSC and 8 for Children's CSC (up to 18 years old). In July 2016, a new contract was completed which included the addition of the Access Line. In February 2017, 8 more beds (chairs) were added, 5 for adult and 3 for youth.

Demographics for 2016-17 reflect the following that a quarter of the population served are adolescents; involuntary admissions made up a majority of the clients in both youth and adult.

Referrals and Linkage 2016-17:

There were 6,802 adults referred and / or linked to services during 2016-17. Of those, a mental health clinic and physician or psychiatrist made approximately 65 percent of the referrals, and approximately 32 percent were referred to inpatient services.

There were 1,970 youth referred and / or linked to services. Of those, approximately 69 percent were made by a mental health clinic and physician/psychiatrist and 29 percent were referred to inpatient.

Adult clients with three or more readmissions between July 1, 2016 to December 31, 2016 reflect 260; however, during January 1, 2017 thru June 30, 2017, the number of clients with three or more readmissions declined to 138. The decline is possibly due to the addition of services; the reason for decline is unknown at this time. Currently there is data being collected to help determine the factors in the decline; however, it could be difficult to determine. Further, the number of admissions during these same periods have shown a decline. Declines were also reflective in the Youth readmissions and admissions.

The future of the Crisis Stabilization Services will include use of data to explore methods to continue to reduce the number of clients with multiple admissions, potential use of DBH's Avatar system as their Electronic Health record, and potential expansion of the Access Line. The contract will end in 2021; the department will start the RFP process in 2020.

## **V. Old Business**

### **A. Report on Site Visit to Exodus Crisis Stabilization Units**

Carolyn stated that when Exodus is full they refer clients to emergency departments. The number of clients diverted to emergency departments are unknown per Exodus. American Ambulance is contacted when Exodus CSU is at capacity to begin diversion. During regular business hours, there can be at least 8 to 9 people diverted, even while still on diversion, they accept walk-ins. Diversion, however, is an infrequent occurrence and only goes on until releases are made.

Exodus CSU staff received praise for their work and services they provide to clients as well as ensuring family involvement. Recommendations made include enlarging or

moving to a larger facility, consider using MHSA funds to further extend /expand services, improving the landscaping / atmosphere, and having more activities for youth.

**B. Ad Hoc Committees to Follow-up on letters to the City Council RE: Alcohol Licenses and Central Valley Opioid Safety Coalition RE: Lock It Up Program**

The ad hoc committee to visit pharmacies for the Lock It Up program currently consists of one BHB member, a member from the CVOSC; a third member is needed. Curt contacted CVS and Walgreens; Walgreens has a regional office that they can visit. CVS does not have a regional office; they have an assigned supervisor for this area; Curt was also offered an 800 number to discuss his concerns. Before contacting the pharmacies, he would like to secure a third member.

Carolyn asked for volunteers for the Alcohol Licensing ad hoc committee. None at this time.

**New Business**

**A. Discuss and vote of BHB meeting and training**

Important for boards to have training, the BHB is relatively new and it is a good practice to have some type of formal training. Susan Morris Wilson may be the trainer; she was recommended by the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions; she also serves on the State Mental Health Planning Commission. The proposal is to have two trainings, one each in February and March. The first will be the BHB only and the second may be by Ms. Wilson. Training will be funded by DBH.

Curt made a motion to schedule a date for the first meeting. The first meeting is set for March 3, 2018 from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Motion carried. Carolyn will contact Ms. Wilson to discuss and finalize the second training.

**B. Site Visit: Children's PHF at Central Star – February**

The next visit will be Children's PHF, date to be determined.

**C. Appointments of BHB Committees**

- Brandy Dickey appointed to Chair Children's Services Committee
- Curt appointed at-large to the BHB Executive Committee
- Marta Obler will continue to serve as the Chair for the Justice Committee
- Carolyn will continue to serve as the Chair for Adult Services Committee

**VI. Committee Reports**

**A. Adult Services**

Adult Services did not meeting in January. The next meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2018 at 10:00 AM at Blue Sky.

**B. Children's Services**

The Children's Services Committee met at the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Warehouse, where they received a tour of the facility and information on the program. Their primary focus was an update on the Continuum of Care Reform Act, which requires home based family care for foster children. In Fresno County, DSS (Department of Social Services) is

contracted to provide a team for each child in their care and develop a plan. Ideally, the child should be housed in a stable permanent family home; however, there are congregate care homes for short-term stays. There is a lot of transition taking place; once completed all group homes must be certified as short term residential treatment programs in order to continue serving foster children.

The committee's next meeting will be on February 22nd at the Senior Resource Center; they hope to have a representative from Social Services to present on referrals to DBH Child Welfare Mental Health Team.

### **C. Justice Services**

Probation Director Kirk Haynes reported on AB 109 and a general probation update. Provisions under AB 109 requires that lower level offenders, who are released from prison, be supervised by Probation after incarceration. They are all assessed and most serve at least one year of probation. The Community Corrections Partnership is responsible for allocating funds and forming programs. Turning Point First Street Center provides substance use treatment, FSP for SMI clients, and transitional services. New RFP for jail medical services was put out, the panel is meeting and touring other jails to observe providers. The next meeting is March 12, 2018.

### **D. Housing Task Force Meetings**

A meeting was held on January 12th. As the BHB's primary focus is permanent supportive housing, Carolyn gave an update to that. The Corporation for Supportive Housing has been hired to review and evaluate the work of the current supportive housing; they will be here February 21st and 22nd. DBH is procuring an RFP to hire a contractor to assist in the development of supportive housing. The contractor will help with development plans, provide property management, identify funding sources, etc. Mental Health Systems (MHS) reported on their master leasing program. MHS secures housing and leases it to DBH clients referred by case managers. MHS staff and DBH case manager's work with the residents to ensure success. Deanna Kivett of MHS will give a presentation to the BHB in March.

### **E. Other reports or announcements**

The Jewish Federation of Central California provides support services to Jewish Temples and synagogues in this area. One of the arms is Jewish Family Services; they provide services to all individuals. A new program is Tools for Life; it is open to the entire community. Programs include Senior Exercise Program and a new Mental Health Program.

## **VII. Public Comment**

Public comment held.

## **VIII. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 4:12 PM.

**This meeting is open to the public under the Ralph M. Brown Act.**