



# County of Fresno

ADVISORY BOARDS AND  
COMMISSIONS

## FRESNO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

Wednesday, March 21, 2018 at 2:30 PM

Blue Sky Wellness Center

1617 E Saginaw Way - Fresno, CA 93704

### Regular Meeting Minutes

<p><u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u></p> <p>Anna Allen Carolyn Evans Francine Farber Marta Obler Katie Lynn Rice David Thorne David Weber Donald VanDerheyden</p> <p><u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u></p> <p>Curt Thornton John Duchscher Renee Stilson</p> <p><u>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</u></p> <p>Sal Quintero (absent)</p>	<p><u>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</u></p> <p>Dawan Utecht</p> <p><u>PUBLIC MEMBERS</u></p> <p>Rondy Earl Packard Jack P. Jessica Claridge Edith Rice Apple D. Virginia Sparks Mark Leanhart Fidel Garibay Stan Lum Susan Murdock Stan Lum Jose Manjarrez Marianne Kast Jorge Romero</p>	<p><u>PUBLIC MEMBERS –</u> <u>Continued</u></p> <p>Ryan Moore Marylou Brauti-Minkler Samara Nelson Mary Morrison Carrie Smithson Elizabeth Escoto LeeAnn S. Bob Solis Candis Crowley Ariana Miranda Ana Cisneros</p>
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#### **I. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Chair Carolyn Evans welcomed attendees. She reminded attendees that meetings will be held at Blue Sky Wellness Center through June.

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

Agenda approved.

#### **III. Approval of Minutes from**

The minutes from February 21, 2018 were deferred to the April 18<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

Director Dawan Utecht reported on the Teen Suicide Prevention Town Hall meeting that was held on March 13<sup>th</sup> at the Clovis Veteran's Memorial District. The event was well attended and there were reportedly 12,500 viewers on

Facebook; television viewers at the time of this report were unknown. Viewers were given the opportunity to participate / ask questions via text messaging. One hundred, twenty-six text messages were received; all messages were responded to.

## **Housing**

### **Emergency Housing Actions:**

The hotel/motel voucher pilot continues, though a review will be done on why the program is not being utilized as much as anticipated, and then strategize on methods to increase usage.

### **'Lodge' Concept (MHSA Annual Update)**

Subcommittee continuing to develop scope of work. The target for the release of the Request for Proposal (RFP) is this summer, with an anticipation of the program to be running by fall 2018. The Lodge Concept is described as emergency housing for individuals engaged in behavioral health services.

### **Fresno Rescue Mission:**

The Fresno Rescue Mission is working on expanding its shelter and sobering center. Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) is also reviewing ways to assist with this expansion.

### **Transitional Housing Actions:**

As previously discussed, the Corporation for Supportive Housing and Quality Review did a site visit of current Supportive Housing; they looked at Renaissance and Stasis. The review included looking at the contract to ensure it is meeting the requirements for Evidenced Based Practices, and is the service meeting the contract specifications. The formal report will come in May.

### **Master Leasing Pilot Program:**

An item will be presented to the Board of Supervisor (BOS) to increase slots to 75. The pilot is doing well, thus the need to increase capacity.

### **Independent Living Association (ILP):**

Contract negotiations are on-going. The target to present to the BOS is June 5<sup>th</sup>. ILP will provide technical assistance to room and board settings. It will assist landlords and clients in terms of responsibilities and what constitutes a quality room and board. It will assist in developing a database of facilities which have gone through the technical assistance.

### **Permanent Supportive Housing:**

Secured No Place Like Home (NPLH) planning funds of approximately \$150,000; the planning funds have also been approved by the BOS. However, the court validation process for NPLH is taking longer than expected; July 2018 is the target date. The process was designed to ensure housing funds are used as intended as written in Mental Services Act funding.

Recently Dawan and Deputy Director Susan Holt, along with the Fresno Housing

Authority, toured the Mental Health Center of Denver and other sites in Denver, such as innovative housing. The program includes getting investors to invest in projects with entities that benefit by the reductions in services. The program targets individuals that have multiple contacts with law enforcement; they monitor reductions in contacts with law enforcement and incarceration, which may result in reduction in costs for services. A return of the costs savings would go to the investor through Social Impact Bonds.

#### Housing Authority / Outside Developers

Looking at two different locations emergency, transitional and supportive housing. Each location has potential to accommodate to 100 – 200 individuals.

Lastly, DBH plans to use funds to contract a consultant to provide assistance with permanent supportive housing, such as finding a site, funding, etc. The RFP for that contract will be released in May.

#### **Program Review – Older Adult Team**

Provides outpatient mental health services to adults, at, near or over the age of 60, who have a significant impairment due to mental illness. Allocated positions include 6 Clinicians (3 filled positions), 4 Community Mental Health Specialists (CMHS), 2 Peer Support Specialists (PSS), 1 Mental Health Worker and 1 driver. The office is located at the Senior Resource Center.

Reaching Recovery was implemented in July 2016 along with other county operative programs. The tool measures Recovery Needs Level, Consumer Recovery Measure, and Recovery Marker Inventory. Tools measure changes in recovery across multiple domains and provide a structure for holistic care. These tools measure changes in recovery; DBH is in the phase of collecting some data, but not at the point where all the tools are being used to their full potential. The number of clients is increasing and program cost has slightly decreased. The majority of clients surveyed were generally satisfied with services.

DBH is exploring options for better group space; further transportation is another service the department is aiming to improve to better meet clients' needs, particularly the older adult population.

## **II. Old Business**

### **A. Report on Site Visit to Older Adult Team**

The BHB members that visited the program were pleased to hear of the wide arrange of services available to older adults. In terms of staffing, they were concerned that there was only one clinician currently working, two are on leave. The client to staffing ratio calls for a cap on the number of clients that can be served. Due to current staffing issues, clients that are not able to receive services, due to the cap, are being referred to PACE. Staff were said to be very knowledgeable and were able to clearly explain services they provide.

Carolyn completed the site visit report; she reported the strengths include

linkage of clients to community programs, which helps them build relationships and reduce isolation. The programs have a geriatric psychiatrist through telemedicine; they link all clients to physicians to help meet medical needs including cognitive decline. The space is small number of clients served; further the program needs to be fully staffed. Additionally, the program desires to be moved to a first floor space due to the population served. Another need is treatment facilities and housing to care for individuals with both mental health and physical health issues. However, overall the program is very impressive.

**B. MHSA Permanent Supportive Housing Report (heard under Department Update)**

*(Report is under Department Update)*

**C. Report on BHB Workshop—March 3, 2018**

The BHB members held a workshop which included discussing and developing a list of 2018 recommendations that will be presented to the BOS.

**1. Recommendations**

- 1) Create a system to educate and inform families of behavioral health services that are available and how to access those services.
- 2) Establish specific services for families with young children (prior to age 12) who need inpatient services or follow-up to inpatient services.
- 3) Move forward with a permanent supportive housing project available to all clients of Department of Behavioral Health.
- 4) Establish an employment program with job development, job placement, and job coaching to assist individuals with behavioral health disorders find and keep jobs.
- 5) Support SB 906 regarding certification for peer providers of mental health and substance use disorder services. When this legislation is passed, establish Certified Peer Support Specialist positions.

There were many items discussed; however, the agreement was to prioritize these five. DBH is in alignment with these recommendations.

**2. Board Training—June 2nd(?)**

During the workshop, a training from an outside source was discussed. The topics on which they would like to receive training on include Advocacy, Action Planning and Self-evaluation.

June 2<sup>nd</sup> from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM was agreed on for training; a location will be sought.

### **III. New Business**

#### **A. Report on Master Leasing Program— Mental Health Systems**

Central Region Vice President for Mental Health Systems Katie Wilbur presented. Katie covers the Mental Health Programs, Jessica Claridge is the Housing Coordinator, and Edith Rice, Program Administrator who handles logistics of the program.

Master Leasing program requires individuals to be a client of DBH. The department must complete a referral in order to enter the program, at which point housing is sought. The hope is to have clients become self-sufficient, gain employment, and be able to relocate to their own housing. However, they do not require clients to move out by the six-month mark. All units are individual units for the clients and / or client and children. Each unit has its own bathroom and kitchen. Clients pay 30% of their income towards housing. All apartments are fully furnished, including household essentials. Master Leasing program was designed to help clients who would have difficulty securing their own apartments.

This housing program began in May 2017, with DBH. Housed to-date are 21 clients. Each month referrals are received. On an average it is 7 days from the time of referral to moving in to an apartment. As of February 2018, 26 referrals were received; of those individuals 81% currently remain housed. There is a small wait list; however, a new complex will open April 1, 2018. There are a small number of clients who returned to their families and a small number of clients who were not satisfied with the options presented, so opted not to participate in the program.

The new complex will have 9 units; there are currently 25 units; however, with the new agreement in May there will be an increase for a total of 75 units. MHS works with a property management company that assists in procuring residence and renovations; they are vetted by MHS.

One of the missions of this program is to restore neighborhoods. The Property Management company fully renovates the houses; each unit has its own front door.

Jack, is a participant of the program. He reported what a positive impact it has been on his life.

#### **B. Visits with Board of Supervisors**

Tina Young is securing the dates with BOS members. Carolyn noted that individual meetings are important; however, it is also important to attend the regular BOS meetings. A calendar of the meetings was passed out.

#### **C. Site Visit: Holistic Cultural Education and Wellness Center—April 11th**

The visit will be from 10:00 AM to noon on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

**D. Planning for Community Outreach and Forums—Sanger, May 12th; Fresno, June 14<sup>th</sup>**

The first forum / outreach event will be held on May 12<sup>th</sup> in Sanger and will be led by Anna Allen. Further details are forthcoming.

Francine Farber will organize a forum in Fresno, tentatively set for Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 PM. Location and confirmation to be announced.

A third will be announced at a later date.

**E. BHB Executive Positions**

Due to the recent resignation of Brandy Dickey, Katie Rice agreed to step into the role of Vice Chair, leaving the Secretary position vacant. Francine volunteered to serve as Secretary; however, nominations and elections must occur to confirm.

- Francine Farber nominated Katie Rice for Vice Chair
- Donald Vanderheyden nominated Francine for Secretary

An election will be held next month.

**IV. Committee Reports**

**A. Adult Services**

Guest speaker from Social Security, SSI, and Ticket-to-Work program presented. The speaker was Joe Davis, Management Support Specialist, SSA. The focus was on SSI and the application and appeals process. The group learned that a special division called Disability Determination Services makes decisions to deny or approve claims. All denials can be appealed. Once approved the individual automatically receives Medi-Cal benefits; however, if incarcerated benefits are suspended but can be reinstated once released. However, on the 13<sup>th</sup> month, benefits will be terminated and the individual must reapply.

The Ticket to Work program assists individuals on SSDI and SSI to gain employment. The ticket holders initially work with the Department of Rehabilitation; however, the DOR does not have the resources to help the Seriously Mentally Ill (SMI) population. Mr. Davis offered to return to the group in April, he will bring individuals from the Disability Determination Division and the Ticket to Work program.

**B. Children's Services**

A presentation was made from Turning Point Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Full Service Partnership. Although the TAY's program's focus is not on housing it necessary for stability. The lack of housing for this population was a gap identified in the housing assessment. The TAY program utilizes all community resources. Many of their clients have co-occurring conditions. The program is able to pay for residential treatment

for substance use disorders; however, there are few residential treatment programs that are willing to accept individuals with serious mental health disorders.

### **C. Justice Services**

Caroline Ahlstrom from Corizon briefly updated the group that the contract for jail medical services and medical services for the Juvenile Justice Campus was recently awarded to California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG). CFMG will begin providing services starting July 1; however, transition between CFMG and Corizon will begin in April to ensure a smooth transition.

The group discussed topics to be heard during 2018.

Suggested topics and guest speakers for 2018 include:

- Collaborative Courts (BHC, veteran's, drugs, going to be a human trafficking in July); dashboard
- Decarceration / Sequential Intercept Mapping (SIM) updates and / or subcommittees 1) Crisis Response Team; 2) Coordinated Re-entry; 3) Diversion (to be heard during separate meetings)
- Conditional Release Program (CONREP)
- Probation / Parole
- Patient advocacy training – Gloria Hernandez
- MAP Point Presentation
- Community Corrections Partnership
- Public Guardians Office
- California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG), Mental Health Supervisor

Next meeting is scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **D. Ad Hoc Committee on Expansion of Lock-It-Up-Program**

Curt Thornton was not present to discuss.

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

Carolyn announced the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Bike Show on Say No to Violence. Tina will send out the flyer.

**V. Public Comment**

Marianne Kast, President for the League of Women Voters, briefly discussed mental health and gun violence. She gave a statement on the tragedy that occurred on February 14<sup>th</sup> and the U.S. Administration's response. She read a piece she wrote on these matters covering public concerns and studies, and was encouraged to submit it to the Fresno Bee.

Bob S. commented on participation and services for veterans. Further questions or comments were addressed after the meeting with Donald Vanderheyden.

Marylou M. notified attendees of the upcoming NAMI Walk on May 5<sup>th</sup> at Woodward Park. NAMI is encouraging agencies / organizations that work with clients experiencing mental illness to contact NAMI if they wish to have an informational table / booth at the event.

Candice C. shared her personal challenges / experiences, Katie Rice offered to meet with her after the meeting to discuss further.

**VI. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 3:58 PM.

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