



SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

4:30 – 6:00 PM

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES**

Mental Health Advisory Board Members Present: Denise Coleman, Rachelle Jackson, Chair, Heather Theaux-Venezio Michael Wright.

Absent: Daniel Cotton and Supervisor Monica Brown.

Behavioral Health Services Division Members Present: Emery Cowan, Behavioral Health Director, Interim and Tracy Lacey, Senior Mental Health Manager.

Behavioral Health Services Division Members Absent: Leticia De La Cruz Salas, Behavioral Health Services Administrator and Kate Grammy, Behavioral Health Services Administrator.

DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS

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| 4:30 pm | I. | <p>CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL</p> <p>The meeting was called to order by Rachelle Jackson at 4:31 pm. A quorum was attained.</p> |
| 4:33 pm | II. | <p>CONFIRMATION OF VIRTUAL DISCUSSION: Consider adopting a resolution of the Mental Health Advisory Board authorizing remote teleconference meetings for the period September 2022 through October 2022 as a result of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic state of emergency.</p> <p>Rachelle Jackson motioned approval of Mental Health Advisory Board authorizing remote teleconference for October 2022 meeting. The motion was approved.</p> |
| 4:35 pm | III. | <p>ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC</p> <p>Lisa U'Ren from NAMI Solano County wanted to inform the Mental Health Advisory Board about the discrimination that is occurring in the Mental Health Diversion Court. It is estimated that 43% of defendants in Solano County jail are suffering from a mental health illness. Mental Health Diversion was implemented in December 2018 to help individuals' who meet specific criteria. NAMI offers case management and funding is set to expire in February 2023. Please share grant funding with NAMI.</p> <p>Theresa Comstock, Executive Director, CALBHC, reminder of resources and training available to Board members, an invitation to the CALBHC/C Oct 21, 2022 meeting from 1:00 – 4:00 pm, in Sacramento (virtual option as well) and introduction of Myra Tahir, Intern.</p> <p>CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions -https://www.calbhbc.org October 21, 2022 Meeting Registration - https://calbhbc.org/registration.html</p> |
| 4:40 pm | IV. | <p>APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 AGENDA</p> <p>Rachelle Jackson motioned to approve the September 20, 2022 Agenda. The motion was properly moved, seconded and passed with unanimous vote of 4 in favor and 0 against.</p> |
| 4:45 pm | V. | <p>APPROVAL OF AUGUST 16, 2022 MINUTES</p> <p>Rachelle Jackson motioned to approve the August 16, 2022 Minutes. The motion was properly moved, seconded and passed with a unanimous vote of 4 in favor and 0 against.</p> |
| 4:50 pm | VI. | <p>SCHEDULED CALENDAR</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Routine Business <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a Laura's Law Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Referrals b MH Related Legislation CARE Court passed, which is an unfunded mandate. Solano County is expected to implement on/around December 2024. c LPS/PES Meeting Discussion Some law enforcement, hospital, Behavioral Health staff collaboration experiencing some challenges and need to continue and improve open lines of communication. |

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| | | <p>2 New Business There were no updates during this meeting.</p> |
| 5:05 pm | VII. | <p>PUBLIC COMMENTS There were no items from the Public on matters listed on the Agenda.</p> |
| 5:10 pm | VIII. | <p>STAFF REPORTS</p> <p>1 Director's Report Emery Cowan highlighted items from her report, Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT) expansion, expanding substance use disorders and detox beds, collaboration with managed care plan partners, homeless housing initiative (HIP) funding align with continuum care of behavioral health, children's crisis continuum grants requesting to expand access to beds for children for different initiatives, 19-20 % vacancy in behavioral health, recruitment, retention & internships to address vacancies, community mobile crisis update, mental health facility ribbon cutting with 32 beds ready to go in January to start placing clients newsletter (16 augmented i.e. 16-18 months and other may be more permanent), new behavioral health newsletter, etc.</p> <p>2 MHSA Report Tracy Lacey provided updates: community engagement process with concerns like homelessness, integrated care with dual and complex diagnosis and will publish the report.</p> <p>Ms. Lacey announced that the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Public Hearing will be held on November 15, 2022 from 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm, followed by Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. We need quorum from the Board.</p> <p>Solano County was awarded round two of the student mental health student services act grant to fund suicide prevention support, training and TA, and school based mobile crisis, screenings of students in middle and high school at risk of dropping out.</p> <p>Ms. Lacey gave presentation to California Behavioral Health Directors on Suicide Prevention and shared overdose deaths involving Fentanyl, suicide deaths in Solano County, mobile crisis (community & school based) received 602 calls between the two programs, Solano Community College wellness center ribbon cutting.</p> <p>Introduction of Lori Espinosa, new Family Liaison with the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) team.</p> <p>Ms. Theaux-Venezio asked Ms. Lacey about curriculums for Certified Nurse Assistants (CNAs) on mental health aide. Solano County is looking at curriculum model. Other trainings/education around overdose prevention and substance were discussed. Ms. Lacey will keep get back to Board.</p> |
| 5:25 pm | IX. | <p>COMMITTEE REPORTS</p> <p>1 Executive Board There were no updates during this meeting.</p> <p>2 Membership Theresa Comstock reminded the MHAB members that there is a 10-member minimum requirement for the size of Solano County. Ms. Comstock will be sending information. Ms. Cowan will also mention MHAB recruitment in the next Behavioral Health newsletter.</p> <p>3 Outreach and Education There were no updates during this meeting.</p> |
| 5:35 pm | X. | <p>BOARD DISCUSSION</p> |

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| | | Board members provided updates or concerns relating to mental health issues affecting our community. Some of those topics included the ribbon cutting for the new Board & Care and Augmented Board & Care building. |
| 6:00 pm | XI. | ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned by Rachelle Jackson at 5:41 pm. |

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Memorandum

To: Local Behavioral Health Advisory Boards (MHAB/ADAB)
From: Emery Cowan, LPCC, Interim BH Director
Date: September 13, 2022
RE: Monthly report of significant issues

This report is shared across advisory boards on a monthly or at least quarterly frequency. Any questions can be sent to ecowan@solanocounty.com

Integrated MH & SUD Capacity:

- **Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT):** As previously shared, Solano BH will be working with FHS to establish a Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) program to support Jails and BH clients through approved medications for treatment alcohol, opioid and other. BH will be coordinating with Partnership and the provider network under the DMC-ODS waiver, as well as looking forward to upcoming Opioid Settlement Distribution [Funds](#) (total amounts pending, re: county allocation and potentially some cities) to create a robust plan to address overdose prevention and opioid use.
- **Withdrawal Management (aka Detox):** BH and PHC are looking to support applicants who have applied for the state's Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) funds to build a facility that expands medically assisted withdrawal management and SUD residential beds; discussions include match funding and continued DMC-ODS reimbursement of services.

Managed Care Plan Collaboration- Solano BH reached out to Partnership Health Plan of California (PHC) to establish monthly meetings to improve managed care and mh plan coordination, communication processes, and shared responsibilities. As we continue to meet, an area of focus currently is the use of the MCP's Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) program state funding in alignment to our county and CAP Solano JPA Homeless Housing Assistance Program (HHAP) state grant allocations and COC Local Homeless Action Plan.

Children's Crisis Continuum- Solano BH and surrounding counties are supporting and working with several providers who applied or are applying for Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) funds to build/rehab facilities to support increasing beds for crisis residential and respite. If fully funded, these projects can support our need for children's specific crisis stabilization services (diverted from CSU or hospitals) and stabilize near their families.

MH Workforce Crisis- BH has a 19-20% vacancy rate which totals 43 positions, 16 of which are clinicians, 6 psychiatrists/NP/PA, 2 nurses, and 6 mh specialists/case managers (hardest to fill critical positions). Recruitment and retention continue to be an issue and direct service staff are taking on extra work from the vacant positions to ensure we serve clients per state timeline

Administrative
Services

Behavioral
Health Services

Child Welfare
Services

Employment &
Eligibility Services

Medical
Services

Older & Disabled
Adult Services

Public Health
Services

requirements. We are seeing a higher acuity in the need of our clients and community and crises happening more frequently. Our administrative staff are overloaded with the increasing state mandates, grants, reporting and requirements (Kaiser Carve out, CalAIM, etc.) One solution is that BH is working on developing an Internship Proposal to address some of the recruitment issues by creating a Learning Site program across disciplines to recruit directly from schools, offer internships/hours, and jobs upon completion. However, we are asking HR for help in updating classifications and salaries to ensure there is parity with competitors and growing demand. We have submitted a recruitment/retention plan to administration and HR.

Community Mobile Crisis Update- the community based mobile crisis team, through Pacific Clinics, has served 420 people since inception (May 12, 2021) and 79 people this fiscal year, with an average community stabilization rate of 60%. This program is particularly impacted by the national workforce challenges within behavioral health. As such, they are currently short staffed and will be putting the program on a temporary reduced capacity starting 9/27/22. This will negatively impact the number of people that would be diverted from crisis and ED visits by mobile crisis interventions and law enforcement’s intended reliance on this much needed service. During this reduction in programming, they will partner with law enforcement directly to cross-train, provide support with crisis assessments as much as possible and train existing staff. During this time, SCBH will be making a proposal to the BOS to consider increasing salaries with CCMU grant dollars to improve recruitment and retention. Once staffing is stabilized, the program looks forward to a community access line to services. We have reached out to support Vallejo PD and coordinate in relation to their mobile crisis plans/funds and have not heard recent news on their progress- there were plans to focus on a mobile health team concept to not duplicate mental health mobile crisis efforts.

MH Facility Ribbon Cutting- The Ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for 2 pm on 10/25/22 to inaugurate the new MH Treatment Facility housed in the Beck campus. The contractor, Yolo Community Care Continuum (YCCC) or Y3C, was approved by the Board of Supervisors on 9/13/22 and is on target for submitting the board and care Community Care Licensing (CCL) application and will begin planning staffing and program plans as well as coordination with referral sources for residents to move in for the facility to open in January 2023. Board members are invited to join.

Newsletter- In line with BH’s communication and social marketing plan, we launched our first community newsletter in September 2022. You can view it [here](#) and anyone in the community can go to our website and sign up to get future emails <https://www.solanocounty.com/depts/bh/default.asp>

Forensic Referrals

| AUGUST 2022 FORENSIC TRIAGE TEAM Referral Breakdown | | | | |
|---|----------|-------------|-----|------------|
| MH Diversion | MH Court | MH Services | AOT | Drug Court |
| 5 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 1 |
| Total: 17 | | | | |