



**JANUARY 17, 2023**

**VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**4:30 – 6:00 PM**

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

**Mental Health Advisory Board Members:** Supervisor Monica Brown, Denise Coleman, Daniel Cotton (late), Rachelle Jackson, Chair (excused), Heather Theaux-Venezio and Michael Wright.

**Behavioral Health Services Division Members:** Emery Cowan, Behavioral Health Director, Leticia De La Cruz Salas Behavioral Health Services Administrator (absent) and Tracy Lacey, Mental Health Services Manager-MHSA Coordinator.

**DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**

I.	<p>CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL The Mental Health Advisory Board was called to order by Heather Theaux-Venezio at 4:38 p.m.</p>
II.	<p>CONFIRMATION OF VIRTUAL DISCUSSION: Consider adopting a resolution of the Mental Health Advisory Board authorizing remote teleconference meetings for the February 2023 as a result of the continuing Covid-19 pandemic state of emergency.</p> <p>Heather Theaux-Venezio motioned approval of the Mental Health Advisory Board authorizing remote teleconference for February 2023 meeting. The motion was properly moved, seconded and passed with a unanimous vote of 4 in favor and 0 against.</p>
III.	<p>ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC There were no items from the public on matters not listed on the Agenda.</p>
IV.	<p>APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2023 AGENDA Heather Theaux-Venezio motioned to approve the January 17, 2023 Agenda. The motion was properly moved, seconded and passed with a unanimous vote of 4 in favor and 0 against.</p>
V.	<p>APPROVAL OF THE DECEMBER 13, 2022 MINUTES Heather Theaux-Venezio motioned to approve the December 13, 2022 Minutes. The motion was properly moved, seconded and passed with a unanimous vote of 4 in favor and 0 against.</p>
VI.	<p>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH REPORT – EMERY COWAN Emery Cowan gave updates from the attached Behavioral Health Report.</p>
VII.	<p>MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) REPORT - TRACY LACEY Tracy Lacey provided data related to suicide and overdose deaths for calendar year 2022. There were 61 suicide deaths and 62 overdose deaths in Solano County. She also reminded participants that the 988 Suicide &amp; Crisis Lifeline is live. Provided an update on Mobile Crisis programs, the Community-Based program is not operational due to not having staffing to run the program. School-Based program is operating. The multi-media campaign intended to advertise the Community-Based Mobile Crisis program is on hold until program is operating again.</p>
VIII.	<p>NEW BUSINESS &amp; UPDATES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1) CARE COURT DISCUSSION – SUPERVISOR MONICA BROWN Monica Brown motioned approval to have guest speaker present at the March MHAB meeting to talk about CARE Court. The motion was properly moved, seconded and passed with a unanimous vote of 5 in favor and 0 against.</li><li>2) LPS/PES MEETING – HEATHER THEAUX-VEZIO Heather Theaux-Venezio provided highlights from last month's LPS/PES meeting.</li></ol>

	<p>3) LEGISLATION Supervisor Monica Brown announced that all bills are due Friday.</p> <p>4) RECRUITMENT - MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE The two applicants that were interviewed after the meeting will need to be approved by the Solano County Board of Supervisors.</p> <p>5) OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS There were no updates during this meeting.</p>
IX.	<p>PUBLIC COMMENT Hazel Bright of NAMI wanted to remind MHAB that the Mental Health Diversion Grant Funding expires on February 15, 2022.</p>
X.	<p>MHAB BOARD DISCUSSIONS Board members had discussions relating to mental health, homelessness, mobile crisis and concerns affecting the community.</p>
XI.	<p>ADJOURN The meeting was adjourned by Heather Theaux-Venezio at 5:48 p.m.</p>

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES  
Behavioral Health Services Division

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## Memorandum

To: Local Behavioral Health Advisory Boards (MHAB/ADAB)  
From: Emery Cowan, LPCC, LMHC- Chief Deputy, BH Director  
Date: January 12, 2023  
RE: Monthly report of significant issues

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*This report is shared across advisory boards on a monthly or at least quarterly frequency. Any questions can be sent to [ecowan@solanocounty.com](mailto:ecowan@solanocounty.com)*

**BH Workplan for FY23-24:** we have surveyed the community and staff around key activities and goals for the next fiscal year. All divisions within HSS are developing their workplan to be later reviewed by the CAO. You can view last year's goals [here](#); please share any feedback [here](#).

**Workforce Crisis-** BH continues to have 42 current vacancies as of 1/12/23. We continue to have two critical leadership vacancies: our Adult Administrator and the Deputy Director position; the other critical vacancies continue to be in direct services. We continue to discuss with HSS admin/HR for help in updating classifications and salaries to ensure there is parity with competitors and growing demand. We ask that our boards share our openings via the job posting link: <https://jobapscloud.com/solano/>.

**Opioid Settlement Funds-** BH received community feedback on a survey asking for priorities, of which was informed by the [DHCS](#) Eligible Uses. Results support the expansion of many existing programs as well as some new areas. However, not all projects can be fully accomplished with these funds, so there will be a need to make an intentional and impactful focus. As shared in our recent newsletter, here are the top 10 areas people felt needed the most attention:

1. Expand availability of treatment for OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, including all forms of Medication Assisted Treatment
2. Support mobile intervention, treatment, and recovery services, offered by qualified professionals and service providers, such as peer recovery coaches (i.e., Peer Support and parent/caregiver coaching Services)
3. Provide the full continuum of care of treatment and recovery services for OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, including supportive housing, peer support services and counseling, community navigators, case management, employment, and connections to community-based services (i.e., contingency management)
4. Provide access to housing for people with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions, including supportive housing, recovery housing (sober living environments), training for housing providers, or recovery housing programs that allow or integrate medications.
5. Support crisis stabilization centers that serve as an alternative to hospital emergency departments for persons with OUD and any co-occurring SUD/MH conditions or persons that have experienced an opioid overdose.

6. Provide OUD treatment, including MAT, recovery support, harm reduction, and other to those who are involved in the jails/courts- justice system
7. Training for health care providers regarding safe and responsible opioid prescribing, dosing, and tapering patients off opioids
8. Funding evidence-based prevention programs in schools or evidence-informed school and community education programs and campaigns for students, families, and staff.
9. Increased availability and distribution of naloxone and other drugs that treat overdoses
10. Education of law enforcement or other first responders regarding appropriate practices and precautions when dealing with fentanyl or other drugs.

**Mobile Crisis Team-** The Pacific Clinics team is still on diversion due to staffing challenges. They have had a few potential hires and we continue to support them in whatever they need to reactivate the team including adding incentive pay and other recruitment bonuses. A new BH Information Notice [draft](#) has been shared by the state that will require all counties to have dedicated mobile crisis teams with specific requirements, Solano is already ahead of that curve in most areas.

- There have been no new updates on the Vallejo IHART team.

**Solano House, Beck MH Facility Updates-** The vendor is pending the site visit from the state Community Care Licensing ([CCL](#)) team. Once the site visit is completed and programmatic issues, if any, addressed, they receive their operating license and can begin to intake clients. Meanwhile, the BH team is working with the vendor, Y3C, on processes and policies.

**Newsletter-** You can review past and current issues [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>. Contractors who have MH/SUD related news, events, & trainings that they'd like to be shared, can contact us at [bhinfo@solanocounty.com](mailto:bhinfo@solanocounty.com)

**Forensic Referrals-**

December 2022 FORENSIC TRIAGE TEAM Referral Breakdown			
MH Diversion	MH Court	MH Services	AOT
2	0	5	0
<b>Total: 7</b>			