



Behavioral Health Commission

Unadopted Minutes

Wednesday, October 2, 2024

Hybrid Meeting – College of San Mateo; Millbrae Library; and Online

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Lavanya Poreddy, Allen Bustos, Kristina Bell, Daniel Keohane, Vicky Yu, Rubi Garcia, Frieda Edgette, Bill Silverfarb, Jean Perry, Sophia Escobar, Ryan Lopez, Leticia Bido

**STAFF:** Jei Africa, Chantae Rochester, Kristie Lui, Doris Estremera (online), Andrew Tardiff (online), Scott Gruendl (online), Maria Lorente Foresti (online), Sofia Recalde (online), Sylvia Tang (online)

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**Excused:** Chris Rasmussen, Paul Nichols, Michael Lim, Sid Palani, Colin Chu

**Un-excused:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT (in-person):** None

**OTHERS PRESENT (online):** Bruce Adams, Sydney Hoff, Manuel Fletes Medina, Ted, Robert Taylor, Susan Cortopassi, Waynette Brock, William E, Jo, Ted Stinson, Lana Jean, Carolyn Shepard, Janet Gard, Pat Willard

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 3:33 p.m. by Vice Commissioner Jean Perry

### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Commissioners introduced themselves.

### **APPROVAL OF TODAY'S AGENDA**

Approval of the Agenda with the following change:

- Move presentation to after public comment  
▶ **M/S/C** Edgette/ Lopez

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the following meetings:

- June 5, 2024, Behavioral Health Commission Meeting Minutes  
▶ **M/S/C** Lopez/ Bido

### **Correspondence, Announcements, and Public Comment**

- Robert Taylor - 10/5 - Annual NAMI Walk at Seal Point Park starting at 9AM. More info at <https://www.namiwalks.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=1542>

- Rubi Garcia- 10/31 - Voices of Recovery throwing a Halloween Monster Bash party 5-7PM.
  - Event will include storytelling prizes, a costume contest and a pumpkin carving contest.
- Frieda Edgette: Beyond the Books: A Teen Mental Health Summit.  
Saturday, October 5  
10:00am-3:00pm  
Mitchell Park Community Center (3700 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto, CA, 94303)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Action Item:** Vote to Open 30-Day Public Comment Period for the Amendment of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update, Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25

► **M/S/C** Bido/ Keohane

## **PRESENTATION**

MHSA Innovation Plan

Presented by: Doris Estremera, MHSA Manager

- Presentation today will focus on amendments to the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) annual update.
- There are two big amendments that we're trying to make to our plan. One is related to our South County clinic and the other is related to new innovation project plans that we're looking to propose.
- All materials from today's presentation can be found at [SMCHealth.org/MHSA](http://SMCHealth.org/MHSA) under "Announcements" tab.
- South County Clinic amendments are in reference to the MHSA One-Time Spend plan and will impact the clinic's capital facilities.
- \$8M allocated over 3 years to renovation of the BHRS South County Clinics.
- Last fiscal year we were able to get started on East Palo Alto Clinic. We are looking now about moving forward due to changes and challenges.
- This is not a request for additional funding, but just a shift in plans for how to use the dollars.
- BHRS has been leasing the South County Clinic site for over 15 years, and the lease expires March 31, 2026.
- The renewal rate is significant and far beyond a reasonable rate for the current state of the property which includes safety issues.
- BHRS is proposing to purchase a new building to house the current clinic services and other programs including Conservatorship and Patients' Rights teams.
- MHSA is proposing to allocate \$5.5M of the existing \$8M to the new purchase.
- MHSA Innovation (INN) Funding amendments includes due to the transition from MHSA to Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), there are now new criteria including an extended deadline.
- Of the 19 INN ideas submitted in 2022 and after extensive review, there are four ideas that have moved forward and two more that are currently moving forward that are open for public comment.

- Four ideas include Peer Support for Peer Workers, Animal Care for Housing Stability and Wellness, allcove Half Moon Bay, PIVOT – developing capacity for MediCal building.
- Full proposals can be found at [SMCHealth.org/MHSA](https://SMCHealth.org/MHSA).

## **Public Comment on Presentation:**

### Questions & Responses

- Following 30-day public comment period, what is the timeline? When is the earliest that projects will be ready?
  - allcove and PIVOT can likely be running by January.
  - Others may need to go through an RFP so likely July 2025 start date.
- Does Half Moon Bay have a site identified?
  - Cameron from Coast Pride will be invited on 11/6 to share more information and take questions.
- Since some of these plans were proposed in 2022 and won't be implemented until 2025, is there a plan to revisit how relevant the plans will be in 2025.
  - This was part of the feasibility review to ensure that the plans will still be relevant in the future.
- Can we bring some technological innovation projects given the timeliness of rise of tech innovation in Silicon Valley?
  - Last process we ran was in 2022. At this point we don't have the capacity to run another innovation proposal process given the fact it is traditionally an 8-month process and we have the transition to BHSA in January.
  - In the past we have used the funds to do some work in technology including working with Help @ Hand.
- Re: peer support and peer workers, where are you finding the peer workers and is this more contracted or volunteer based?
  - Doris will take this question and bring back next meeting. Her current understanding is that they will be hired peer support workers.
- Do all four projects definitely receive funding?
  - Yes, all four projects are up and running and 2 more are currently being moved forward.

## **PRESENTATION**

### Data Notebook

Presented by Scott Gruendl, Assistant Director, Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

- The data notebook is an instrument that's promoted by the California Planning Council, and it is designed to help commissions meet the review mandate to also serve as an educational resource because of the data that's presented and the questions that are answered.
- It is also a way to collect opinions from the local commissions and to identify unmet needs and make recommendations.
- Changes are being made to the data notebook. Historically the notebook focused on standardized questions and special interest topics.
- Moving forward the standardized questions have been dropped and the notebook will focus on topics of special interest to the Planning Council and will be used to track a set of yet to be defined performance outcomes.

- The topic for 2024 is homelessness.
- Data over past years shows there was about a 6% increase per year in California and federally a 12% increase per year.
- California also represents almost half of the total amount of homelessness in the entire US.
- For Point-In-Time counts of homelessness from 2019-2023, in each measure, 2023 has represented the highest point.
- Response to homeless programs have varied between 2019-2023.
- Historically we haven't collected homelessness and housing services into the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) because we used our own system, but we are currently transitioning into the HMIS system.
- The state through the planning council is currently trying to figure out performance measures, but they have not yet figured out what they will be. They asked some questions in the data notebook to help them figure out measures.
- The planning council is interested to know what topics the Behavioral Health Commission is interested to see future Data Notebooks focus on. A survey will be sent out to help collect information.

### **Public Comment on Presentation:**

#### Questions & Responses

- When do we find out the topic for FY 25?
  - We find out focus topic at the beginning of September. We could also monitor the minutes from the planning council.
- Most questions seem after the fact e.g. where a homeless person is placed after they are found, but are there any questions around why there is homelessness in the first place?
  - The planning council is not an entity with so much authority. They are considered more of an appendage due to state requirements. The prevention work relates to the transition to Prop 1 where early intervention and prevention services are being moved to public health. Moving forward you will likely see more prevention type activities related to behavioral health coming from public health.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

#### Committee for Children & Youth Service

#### Reported by Frieda Edgette

- We are in our 3rd cohort of our Youth Action Board. They're the strongest cohort we've had to date, and so we are now shifting into a dyadic leadership model around our strategic programmatic efforts. So one adult and one of our Youth Action Board leaders will be co-leading each of our strategic initiatives.
- This coming year we are shifting pathways into a prototype which the committee will be testing for 6 months in the new calendar year.
- Meeting this month will be a focus on youth crisis needs assessment.

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 4:00 p.m. Hybrid meeting: In-person at allcove 2600 S El Camino Real Suite 300, San Mateo Virtual: [Zoom](#) or dial 669-444-9171 Meeting ID: 990 0971 9684

#### Committee for Adult Services Reported by Yoko Ng

- Last meeting we brought in a representative from the Pride Center and shared about peer run programs. We are hoping to have a site tour later on.
- We've been working to connect with California Clubhouse to present to us, but it has so far been unsuccessful.
- Hoarding Task Force has been doing a wonderful job working with clean up services. Next Task Force meeting will be in November.
- We are hoping to do a site tour in November.

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 10:30 a.m. Virtual: [Zoom](#) or dial 669-900- 6833 Meeting ID: 983 9161 3998

#### Committee for Older Adult Services Reported by Jean Perry

- We've had some new client members attend our recent meeting.

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 1p.m. Virtual: [Zoom](#) or dial 669-900-6833 Meeting ID: 944 8158 6160

#### Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee

Reported by Leti Bido

- No report given.

#### Committee for Alcohol and Other Drug Services

Reported by Leti Bido

- Last meeting some commissioners visited Sitike Counseling Center in South San Francisco.
- It was helpful to better understand the services and demographics.

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 4 p.m. In-Person.

#### **Director's Report presented by Dr. Jei Africa**

See attached slides.

- We are continuing efforts to make Narcan easily accessible by planning vending machines in all our regional clinics.
- Opioid settlement funds are funding the vending machines, and more people will be trained in using Narcan over time.
- Coalition for Safe Schools and Communities is attempting to have a county wide strategy to address mental health conditions in youth.
- Cordilleras Health and Healing Campus is moving forward and the plan is to begin moving in clients hopefully in late October.
- Following up on questions about Sam Trans shuttle at Cordilleras—there is a plan to have a temporary shuttle for pick up and drop off, and a more permanent plan once the campus opens.
- This month's newsletter focuses on Peers and Office of Consumer and Family Affairs including stories of lived experience.
- Board of Supervisor Proclamation on 10/08 at 9AM in Board of Supervisor Chambers.

- Global Peer Support Celebration Day – Thursday, 10/17 in San Mateo
- 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Housing Heroes – Wednesday, 10/16 in Redwood Shores Library.
- Past issues of the Directors Newsletter can be found [here](#).

### **Public Comment on the Director’s Report**

- No public comments.

### **Liaison, Task Force and Ad Hoc Committees**

#### Suicide Prevention Committee

Reported by Yoko Ng

- Met 10/1 and had a special presentation from Office of Epidemiology and Evaluation at San Mateo County Health on suicide, self harm.

Next meeting is November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30PM via Zoom.

#### Legislative Committee

Reported by Victoria Yu

- Based on discussion with our attorney, Gina Beltramo, and Dr. Jei Africa, we identified the purpose of the committee is to support the county’s behavioral health department by providing and gathering feedback on their legislative priorities.
- We are in the process of identifying advocacy groups we have not traditionally been working with.
- We encourage our fellow commissioners to join this commission especially if they have previous insight.
- Additionally, we welcome new commissioners to support and join the committee.

#### New Member Committee

- No report given.

#### QIC Committee

Reported by Jean Perry

- No report given.

#### Site Visits Committee

- No report given.

#### Cal BHB/C

- No report given.

### **Old Business**

- Slate of officers - 3 of 4 positions that were open are clear; next month would like to have members accept their position.

- Chair - Jean Perry
- Member at Large - Michael Lim
- Representative – Dan Keohane
- Vice chair - Leti Bido or Yoko Ng (needs to go to vote)
  - November - will go to a vote

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Committee for January Retreat
  - Leti Bido, Yoko Ng, Ryan Lopez, Lavanya Poreddy, Rubi Garcia

**Meeting Adjourned:** The meeting adjourned at 5:31 p.m.  
by Vice Commissioner, Jean Perry

**Next BHC Meeting:** Wed, November 6, 2024, from 3:30-5:30 p.m.  
Hybrid meeting  
Information will be posted on  
[www.smchealth.org/bhrs/mhsa](http://www.smchealth.org/bhrs/mhsa)

**Next Executive Committee Meeting:** Wednesday, December 4, 2024, at 5:30p.m.  
College of San Mateo  
College Center, Building 10, Room 468, and  
Millbrae Library, 1 Library Ave, Study Room B

PLEASE BE SURE TO CONTACT CHANTAE ROCHESTER AT 650.573.2544 IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND EITHER THE BHC OR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING.

In compliance with the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), auxiliary aids and services for this meeting will be provided upon request when given three-day notice. Please call 650.573.2544.