December 5, 2024
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON
Janice Luna Reynoso, Member-at-Large – District 1
Gaurav Mishra – District 1
Joel San Juan – District 1
Jessica Kramer – District 3
Robin Sales, Chair – District 3
Stuart Gaiber – District 3
Judith Yates, 2nd Vice Chair – District 4
Amanda Berry – District 4
Aaron Byzak – District 5

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT IN PERSON
Bill Stewart, Member-at-Large – District 1
Julie Hayden – District 2
Serita Polinaire, 1st Vice Chair – District 2
Donald Romo – District 5

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE
Andrea Rodriguez on behalf of Chairwoman Nora Vargas

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS)
Dania Barroso-Conde, Program Coordinator, BHS
Maria Molina-Melendez, Behavioral Health Advisory Board Coordinator, BHS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) was called to order by Chair Robin Sales at 2:33 p.m. in-person and via Zoom.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 7, 2024

ON MOTION of Judith Yates, seconded by Stuart Gaiber, BHAB approved the minutes from November 7, 2024.

AYES: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

III. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

One in-person public comment, and one e-comment received.

In-Person Comment:

- John W. Edwards III, founder of Better Cuts Mental Health Alliance, provided an overview of his organization's mission to train barbers in the community on mental health resources and trauma-informed practices.

E- Comment:

- John Brady gave feedback about navigating the online form to participate in the BHAB subcommittees.

DRAFT

IV. CLUBHOUSE SERVICES ROUNDTABLE

As part of BHAB duties to be better informed of BHS services, the following Clubhouses participated in a roundtable discussion:

- Escondido Clubhouse
- The Meeting Place Clubhouse, Inc
- San Diego NAMI Clubhouse

During the clubhouse services roundtable, the following topics were addressed:

- Uniqueness of each Clubhouse
- Overview of the Work Ordered Day (WOD) for members
- Member involvement in the running of the Clubhouse sites
- Overview of the Drop-In Center Model to WOD and the impacts, if any to members
- Described the Transitional Employment (TE) process
- Overview of attendance since COVID to present
- Qualifications for new staff, and trainings offered
- Description on the process of starting a Clubhouse Board and their roles
- Engagement efforts with the families for each site
- Accreditation process for the Clubhouses and any impacts related to it
- Success stories were shared for each Clubhouse

V. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR AGENDA ITEM: CLUBHOUSE SERVICES ROUNDTABLE

Four in-person public comments, and no e-comments.

In-Person Comments:

- Mary Jo O'Brien emphasized the need to increase the number of Clubhouses available, noting that broader access to these services would allow more individuals to engage with the Clubhouses and the services offered.
- Alfredo Aguirre addressed the work-order day model in Clubhouses, stating that it supports individuals in recovery to build skills and confidence in rejoining the workforce. He encouraged continued support for this model as it benefits members.
- Lisa Garcia addressed the drop-in and work-order day models within the Clubhouses, suggesting that both models could better address the diverse needs of individuals, offering flexibility for those who may prefer a less structured environment alongside those seeking workforce preparation.
- Dan Kasperick shared his experience with the drop-in model, emphasizing its importance in fostering peer connections, personal growth, and skills development. He noted this approach has been effective for individuals prioritizing community development.

VI. ACTION ITEM: BHAB 2025 PRIORITIES

ON MOTION of Gaurav Mishra, seconded by Aaron Byzak, BHAB approved the BHAB 2025 Priorities.

AYES: 8 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 1

VII. PRESENTATION: AUTHORIZE A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH SHARP HEALTHCARE FOR HOSPITAL-BASED CRISIS STABILIZATION SERVICES WITHIN SHARP CHULA VISTA MEDICAL CENTER

Piedad Garcia Ed. D., LCSW, Deputy Director, presented on Authorize a Single Source Contract with Sharp Healthcare for Hospital-Based Crisis Stabilization Services within Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center. The following was presented:

- Crisis Stabilization Units (CSUs) provide services on a short-term basis for up to 24 hours. The following services are provided:
    - Crisis intervention
    - Mental health assessment
    - Medication assistance
    - Therapy and peer support
    - Resources and connection for ongoing behavioral health services
- In January 2024, Sharp Healthcare received one-time grant funding from the Department of Health Care Services to develop an Emergency Psychiatric Assessment, Treatment and Healing (EmPATH) model CSU within Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center. The EmPATH CSU will integrate CSU services within the emergency department to streamline care.
- The Board Letter will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on January 29, 2025, to authorize the single source contract with Sharp Healthcare to establish CSU services within the Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center.

VIII. ACTION ITEM: AUTHORIZE A SINGLE SOURCE CONTRACT WITH SHARP HEALTHCARE FOR HOSPITAL-BASED CRISIS STABILIZATION SERVICES WITHIN SHARP CHULA VISTA MEDICAL CENTER

ON MOTION of Stuart Gaiber, seconded by Gaurav Mishra, BHAB approved to Authorize a Single Source Contract with Sharp Healthcare for Hospital-Based Crisis Stabilization Services within Sharp Chula Vista Medical Center.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 1 ABSTENTIONS: 1

IX. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Luke Bergmann, Director, BHS, provided the following updates:

- A Board Letter brought forward by District 4, titled *Authorize an Assessment of the Behavioral Health Services Department to Optimize its Role as a Health Plan, an Assessment of Potential Impacts on the County Health and Human Services Agency, a Competitive Solicitation for Consulting Services to Support the Assessment, and a Report Back on Findings and Recommendations,* will be presented at the Board of Supervisors meeting on December 10, 2024. The assessment within HHSA, set to begin with BHS, will be impactful as BHS operates the County's Behavioral Health Medi-Cal Plan (BHP).
- California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) presents a significant Medi-Cal payment reform. It will transition from a cost-reimbursement model to a fee-for-service model which will impact funding of services. Under this model, reimbursement is directly tied to the volume of services provided, creating opportunities to enhance Medi-Cal revenue.
- The Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), which will replace the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), will introduce changes in funding allocations and reporting requirements.
- The Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment (BH-CONNECT) waiver is expected to receive federal approval by January. The BH-CONNECT waiver seeks to address the significant shift in the Institute for Mental Diseases (IMD) exclusion, which excludes Medi-Cal reimbursement to psychiatric facilities with 17 beds or more. If approved, the waiver will enable Medi-Cal reimbursement for facilities meeting specific conditions.
- Senate Bill (SB) 43 will take effect on January 1, 2025. BHS is collaborating with multi-sector partners and stakeholders to support the implementation efforts to ensure readiness by providing trainings to healthcare providers and law enforcements.
- BHS will realign the system of care council meetings and regional collaboratives starting in early 2025. The new structure will focus on more inclusive meetings organized around community

engagement, regional and sector-based programming, and behavioral health transformation initiatives. This approach aims to better align resources and efforts with the needs of diverse communities.

X. CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Robin Sales shared that the January BHAB meeting will be dark due to the holidays. The January BHAB Executive meeting is scheduled to take place on January 16, 2025 from 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. The meeting will be extended to welcome the new BHAB Executive Officers.

Additionally, she stated if any BHAB members have roundtable recommendations, please send to Maria Molina-Melendez, BHAB Coordinator.

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

XII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of Amanda Berry, seconded by Gaurav Mishra, the BHAB meeting was adjourned at 4:57 p.m.