



County of San Diego

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ALFREDO AGUIRRE
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December 31, 2015

TO: Behavioral Health Advisory Board

FROM: Alfredo Aguirre, LCSW, Director
Behavioral Health Services

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (BHS) DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JANUARY 2016

1. ACTION ITEM: MEDICAL SERVICES GROUP FOR MENTAL HEALTH AND MEDICAL SERVICES COVERAGE AT HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY FACILITIES

Board of Supervisors authority will be sought on January 26, 2016, for the competitive solicitation of a Medical Services Group to provide clinical management and administrative services from mental health and medical professionals to address healthcare staffing needs at the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (SDCPH). Complete details including the services provided, the specifics of the contract and the action proposed are outlined in the Board Letter contained the BHAB packet.

It is, THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that the Board support the recommendation to issue a competitive solicitation for the Medical Services Group in an effort to deliver a more consistent level of patient care across HHSA facilities.

2. ACTION ITEM: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES AUTHORIZATION FOR AUGMENTATION OF CONTRACTS

Board of Supervisors authority will be sought on January 26, 2016, to allow the expansion of current services, and associated increases to funding during this Fiscal Year, to continue implementing and enhancing the delivery of behavioral health services in San Diego County.

Recommendations include:

1. Accept the report from Behavioral Health Services on expanded mid-year mental health services, with a total annual funding increase in FY15/16 of approximately \$5,800,000, subject to the approval of the Director, Health and Human Services Agency. A complete summary of program enhancements can be found on Attachment A of the Board Letter.
2. Subject to successful negotiations, approve an increase in annual funding to Vista Knoll (contract #521711) from \$625,720 to approximately \$1,000,000, as required, to meet critical and emergent service needs of the County's Behavioral Health Services, subject to approval of the Director, Health and Human Services Agency.

These actions are aligned with priorities identified during the recent Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Community Engagement Forums and the creation of Health and Human Services Agency's (HHSA) Ten-Year Roadmap.

It is, THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that the Board support the expansion of current services and associated increases to funding during this Fiscal Year.

3. ACTION ITEM: VOTE ON PRIORITIES OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE 2016 CALENDAR YEAR

On October 10, 2015, the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) held a Fall Retreat where each BHAB Member was asked to state a priority issue for consideration in 2016. The BHS Director, Alfredo Aguirre, also shared priority issues for BHS in 2016. All responses were recorded and subsequent discussions were held by the BHAB Executive Committee at the November and December meetings.

On December 3, 2015, the BHAB Executive Committee concluded the majority of issues stated by BHAB Members aligned with priorities stated by Mr. Aguirre. Each priority was discussed and the majority folded into one (or more) of the categories referenced below:

1. Drug Medi-Cal Plan Implementation
2. Addressing the Homeless Crisis Countywide
3. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Spending Plan
4. Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Prevention Plan

On January 7, 2016, the Behavioral Health Advisory Board will vote on these priorities as stated below:

Vote to accept the above priority areas of focus recommended by the Behavioral Health Advisory Board Executive Committee for the 2016 calendar year.

4. BHAB UPDATES

Welcome New Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) Officers

On November 5, 2015, the following BHAB Members were elected into Executive Officer positions and will be formally seated in January for a term of one year:

Phillip Deming	Chairperson
Jenifer Mendel	1 ST Vice-Chairperson
John Sturm	2 nd Vice-Chairperson
Rebecca Hernandez	Member at Large (representing the alcohol/substance abuse community)
Vanessa Mapula	Member at Large (representing the mental health community)

5. LIVE WELL SAN DIEGO UPDATES / SPECIAL EVENTS

5.1 Methamphetamine Report Card and Press Conference

On November 30, 2015, the Methamphetamine Strike Force, Health and Human Services Agency leadership, Supervisor Dianne Jacob, and Sheriff Bill Gore partnered with Laura Duffy, United States Attorney for the Southern District of California for a press conference to release the annual Methamphetamine Report Card. The purpose of the press conference was to inform the public of the continuing adverse impact methamphetamine has on San Diego County and included a call to action for additional efforts to address this reemerging problem.

While it is no longer manufactured in San Diego County, meth is being imported across the border in record amounts from Mexico and is again a serious threat to our Region creating a quadruple threat; it is cheap, very pure, readily available and highly addictive. Unfortunately, 262 people died with meth in their system last year. Meth also negatively impacts families with a third of all domestic violence fatalities having had a history of meth use before death. To effectively address this growing problem, a whole community response will be required and includes law enforcement to drug treatment providers working together in a coordinated and focused manner.

5.2 BHS All-Provider Luncheon

On December 14, 2015, members of the Mental Health Contractors Association (MHCA) and the Alcohol and Drug Services Providers Association (ADSPA), along with BHS Leadership and members of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board, attended the BHS All-Provider Holiday Luncheon at Anchors Catering and Conference Center. Over 130 participants (the highest ever in attendance) enjoyed a traditional holiday meal of turkey and all the trimmings.

Holiday wishes were expressed by Holly Salazar (BHS Assistant Director of Departmental Operations), Dixie Galapon (MHCA President) and Angela Rowe (ADSPA President) who all offered a heartfelt thanks to the providers who serve our clients with dignity and care throughout the year. In addition, Alfredo Aguirre reflected on accomplishments in 2015 and spoke to upcoming priorities in 2016.

5.3 Cookies for Wounded Warriors at Edgemoor

Each year, Edgemoor staff participates in a *Cookies for Wounded Warriors Donation/Exchange* organized by Nancy Beecham, Director of Nursing at Edgemoor. Participants are asked to bake three dozen cookies: one dozen to keep at home, another dozen to donate to the Wounded Warriors, and a third to exchange with other participants. Although this is primarily intended for staff, a handful of residents baked cookies in the occupational therapy skills kitchen and contributed to the activity. Over 30 dozen cookies were delivered to The Wounded Warrior Project serving veterans and service members who suffer from physical or mental illness.

5.4 Edgemoor Volunteer Luncheon

On December 15, 2015, approximately 40 people attended a luncheon to honor Edgemoor volunteers and celebrate their ongoing support and service. Administrator Walter Hekimian made welcoming comments and shared the amount of volunteer hours calculated for 2015 (over 1,200 for regular volunteers and over 32,000 hours for nursing students), all of which contribute to Edgemoor's success. Director of Nursing, Nancy Beecham, also thanked the volunteers and shared appreciation for their service.

6. UPDATE FROM THE CLINICAL DIRECTOR'S OFFICE (CDO)

6.1 6th Annual Integration Summit

On December 2, 2015, the 6th annual Primary Care and Behavioral Health Summit was held at the Jacobs Center. More than 300 providers from mental health, primary care and alcohol and drug services registered for a full day of keynotes and breakout sessions. Topics included such subjects as Medication Assisted Treatment, Grief and Loss and Prescription Drug Abuse as well as two keynote speakers: Neva Chauppette, Psy.D and Jurgen Unutzer, MD, MPH, MA.

6.2 San Diego City College Public Mental Health Academy

Another cohort of students graduated from the Public Mental Work Certificate of Achievement Program at San Diego City College, bringing the total number of graduates to date to 146. The certificate program, which was developed and implemented as part of the County's MHSA Workforce Education and Training Plan, includes 19 units of coursework as well as field placements. It is designed to prepare students for entry level mental health work and serves as an academic stepping stone toward higher degrees in the field.

The program is now fully incorporated into the College's curriculum, with a small amount of continued County funding that supports the Academic Counselor position. The Academic Counselor is a key part of the program's success which provides needed support to help students navigate the program, stay enrolled and graduate. Currently 311 students are enrolled in the program with nearly 80% identifying themselves as having lived experience of behavioral health challenges either personally or with a family member.

6.3 Care Coordination for Complex Cases

The Clinical Director's Office (CDO) has an emerging role in care coordination with the health plans around complex cases such as individuals with eating disorders. This is area of specialty care that Behavioral Health Services has not typically been involved with previously. Ongoing system-wide case conferences are contributing to improved care coordination for individuals with complex behavioral health issues.

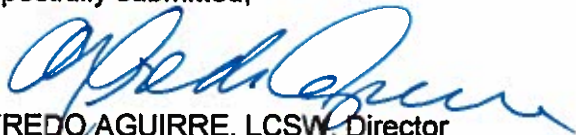
6.4 AOT Implementation

In preparation for the implementation of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (Laura's Law), the CDO is looking to increase staffing with the Adult Forensics unit and make other preparations for this new component in which CDO has a major role.

6.5 HHSA Trauma Informed Systems Implementation

BHS continues to serve in a leadership role within the Health and Human Services Agency's Trauma Informed Systems Integration. HHSA has adopted a policy regarding Trauma Informed Systems Integration which states that on an annual basis, each region and division within the Agency will conduct a scan, develop and implement an action plan addressing trauma informed systems integration across policies, practices, language, environments and client partner inclusion in decision making.

Respectfully submitted,



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Behavioral Health Services

AA:tf

cc: Nick Macchione, MS, MPH, FACHE, HHSA Director
Holly Salazar, BHS Assistant Director of Departmental Operations