



February 7, 2019
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes

P.O. BOX 85524
San Diego, CA 92186-5524
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MEMBERS PRESENT

Che Hernandez – District 1
Joel San Juan – District 1
Bill Stewart 1st Vice Chair – District 1
Michael Matthews Member-at-Large (MH) – District 2
Jenifer Mendel, Chairperson – District 2
Deanne George – District 3
Mike Grattan – District 3
Shannon Jaccard – District 3
Ed Weiner – District 3
Jerry Hall – District 4
John Sturm, Member-at-Large (ADS) – District 4
Judith Yates – District 4
Phil Deming – District 5
Richard McGaffigan, 2nd Vice Chair – District 5
K.C. Strang – District 5

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Janice Luna-Reynoso – District 1
Rebecca Hernandez – District 2

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Alfredo Aguirre, Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS)
Ben Parmentier, Administrative Analyst III, Behavioral Health Services

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) meeting was called to order by Jenifer Mendel, Chair, at 2:31 p.m. at the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, San Diego, California 92101, Room 302.

II. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Members of BHAB introduced themselves.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – January 3rd, 2019

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Joel San Juan, BHAB approved the minutes of January 3rd, 2019, as written.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

James Baker, Program Specialist with The Meeting Place Clubhouse, came before BHAB to discuss upcoming events including a 5k on February 14th 2019 and the Eat For Your Heart 10-day challenge.

V. 2018 DATA NOTEBOOK

Tabatha Lang, Chief Quality Improvement, Behavioral Health Services

Tabatha Lang came before BHAB to discuss the annual Data Notebook project. The Data Notebook is a structured mechanism for reviewing information and reporting on specific mental health services in each county. The final 2018 Data Notebook will be approved by vote at the March 2019 BHAB meeting, and submitted to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council by staff.

DISCUSSION:

Q: Does the Data Notebook indicate the needs of the community are being met with new and existing programs?

A: The Data Notebook responds to the prompts from the Planning Council concerning new BHS programs that have been implemented in various categories.

Q: What is a description of residential services?

A: Residential services are services that an individual received while living in a treatment center or program.

VI. UPDATES: INPATIENT PSYCHIATRIC CARE

Dr. Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services

Dr. Bergmann came before BHAB to discuss the status of the current inpatient psychiatric care and the barriers within San Diego County. He discussed the future outlook of behavioral health care within San Diego County.

DISCUSSION:

Q: How will this planning be different than what the County of San Diego and community members are already doing? What the time frame for this plan?

A: The consultant will be selected shortly and BHS will be presenting updates to the board of Supervisors on a quarterly basis over the next year. Critical information that is needed to make strategic decisions is not currently accessible, but this will improve with the addition of the consultant.

Q: Will the consultant have access to various entities including the Sheriff's Department?

A: Yes, the consultant will be able to access information from other departments, including the population in local jails.

Q: Is the consultant one person or an entity?

A: The consultant will be an entity with experience in this field.

VII. QUARTERLY DMC-ODS UPDATE

Dr. Nicole Esposito, Assistant Clinical Director, Behavioral Health Services

Angela Rowe, Chair, Alcohol and Drug Services Providers Association

Dr. Esposito came before BHAB to provide a quarterly update regarding DMC-ODS implementation and outcomes. Angela Rowe discussed the challenges and successes of implementation as observed by alcohol and drug service providers.

DISCUSSION:

Q: In light of the provider challenges raised by Angela on behalf of ADSPA, what are the steps being taken to remove some of their obstacles?

A: Our County continues to provide technical assistance to all the programs and training. Additional SanWits trainings have been added and a call line is operational daily.

The contractors have been reimbursed at their costs to offer support during this transition. More information is available online at:

https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/bhs/dmc_ods/dmc_ods_provider/dmc_ods_training.html

Q: In talking with different providers and I am able to recognize a parallel to history in mental health providers: Are we sure that we have provided sufficient funding/rates to get the job done? I am not talking about the ASAM criteria, but the actual reimbursements for services required by increasing numbers of clients and provided by approved providers. In my limited view, the key to successful implementation will be this factor. Especially for providers who are struggling to “step up” how they do business and want the ODS to be strong.

A: DMC-ODS allows for continual re-assessment of the rates. Their current variance in the rates is large by contractor which likely represents ramp-up costs and differences in adoption of ODS processes. Since DMC-ODS contracts are cost-reimbursement (with a rate cap that has yet to be enforced), we’ll have the opportunity to compare the contractors costs to the rates we are offering.

Q: I wonder why the County Billable vs. DMC-ODS billable numbers were so different from projections, and whether this was expected to continue or change or evolve, what was behind this discrepancy between projections and actual numbers?

A: We have seen steady progress with an increased number of DMC-ODS billable services. In order to be DMC-ODS billable, a client must both have Medi-Cal and the service needs to meet DMC-ODS standards. Programs need to adopt and master new program designs in order to consistently meet these new standards.

VIII. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Alfredo Aguirre, Director, Behavioral Health Services

- During the State of the County Address, Chairwoman Diane Jacob emphasized her 2019 priorities including behavioral health, improving care coordination, addressing homelessness and housing, and the issue of fire danger within the County of San Diego.
- During the BHAB public comment period, the board should refrain from extensive discussion of public the comment because it may violate the Brown Act.

IX. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

Jenifer Mendel, Chair

- Jenifer thanked the BHAB Board members that contributed to the Annual Report, and reminds members it will be circulated as a draft for final input before publication in March.

X. REPORTS FROM BHAB WORKGROUPS

- Care Coordination across the Continuum of Care: will meet with Dr. Luke Bergmann to further clarify the objective of the group and to meet with the consultant.
- Housing and Homelessness: will identify the gaps in services provided to homeless persons by examining the existing continuum of care and make recommendations on how to streamline work in order to allocate more money to funding the building of affordable housing. The group will be meeting with the Continuum of Care Lead for the San Diego Regional Task Force on the Homeless to become familiar with the network. Workgroup members have selected specific topics to focus on including: incarceration as it relates to

homeless, homeless youth directed to Monarch school and San Pasqual Academy, regulations within local governments as they relate to homelessness and the stigma surrounding homeless individuals, and the costs of providing housing first programs compared to other programs.

- Building a Better BHAB: The group met with Dr. Bergmann. The goal is to identify the objectives of Behavioral Health Services and future programs. This may involve improved data gathering and reporting in order to make better informed decisions. The group wants to have more information on future presentations prior to meetings in order to provide better feedback. The group wants to assist incoming BHAB board members to help them better acclimate to being a part of the board.

XI. ADVOCATE REPORTING

None

XII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of Phil Deming, seconded by Che Hernandez, the meeting adjourned at 5:03 p.m.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

Brown Act Procedure: As required by California Government Code 54950 et seq. (Ralph M. Brown Act), a copy of the packet of information that was mailed to Behavioral Health Advisory Board members at the point of posting of this agenda has been placed at the reception desk at 3255 Camino Del Rio South, San Diego, CA 92108, for public inspection, and is available at the site of the meeting for public inspection. Members of the public wanting their own copy of the advance materials may request them under Government Code 6250 et seq. (Public Records Act) and receive them on payment of copying charges of \$0.20/page, and actual mailing charges, if mailing of the material is requested. If you are planning to attend and need special accommodations, you must call Jackson Alexander at (858) 505-6521, at least three days in advance of the meeting.