



October 3, 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
Julie Hayden – District 2
Serita Polinaire, 1st Vice Chair – District 2
Robin Sales, Chair – District 3
Holly Herring – District 3
Judith Yates, 2nd Vice Chair – District 4
Amanda Berry – District 4
Aaron Byzak – District 5

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT IN PERSON

Donald Romo – District 5
Bill Stewart, Member-at-Large – District 1

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELECONFERENCE

Jessica Kramer – District 3
Stuart Gaiber – District 3
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 2:30 p.m. in-person and via Zoom.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING MINUTES FROM AUGUST 1, 2024

ON MOTION of Amanda Berry, seconded by Joel San Juan, BHAB approved the minutes from August 1, 2024.

AYES: 12 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

III. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Three in-person public comment requests, with no e-comments received.

In-Person Comments:

- K. Marie expressed a need for a more accessible and effective mental health system, noting concerns about current treatment services for mental health conditions. She highlighted the importance of timely support for individuals seeking help.

- Mary Jo announced that the peer council seats are filled and ready to engage with stakeholders. She requested information from the County of San Diego (County) on the allocation of a recent \$3.3 billion dollar budget appropriation by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).
- Paloma Cerna, representing the North County Equity and Justice Coalition, encouraged BHAB to advocate for enhanced mental health resources and awareness within the Sheriff's Department to better support individuals in custody and the community.

IV. PRESENTATION: 1ST TRIMESTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (BHS) BUDGET CYCLE

Erendy Fong, Chief, Agency Operations, BHS, presented on the 1st Trimester BHS Budget Cycle. The following was presented:

BHS Five-Year Forecast items:

- Behavioral Health Payment Reform
- Senate Bill (SB) 326 Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA):
- Children's Crisis Residential Program, Substance Use Residential & Treatment Services
- East County Crisis Stabilization Unit – Opening Plan
- Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Funds
- SmartCare Electronic Health Records
- SB 43 Involuntary Behavioral Health Treatment

BHS budget priorities are the following:

- Ensuring continuity of care for members
- Maintaining network adequacy
- Continuing the system transformation
- Investing in essential infrastructure and workforce
- Optimizing revenue to reinvest back into our network

V. PRESENTATION: BHS PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT EXTENSIONS BOARD LETTER

Cecily Thornton-Stearns, Assistant Director, Chief Program Officer, BHS presented BHS Procurement and Contracts Extensions Board Letter. The following were presented:

In the upcoming October 22nd Board Letter, BHS will seek authorization competitive solicitations, single source contracts, and existing contracts.

Competitive solicitations include:

- 24- Hour Mental Health Rehabilitation Centers (MHRCs)
- Providing long-term, continuous care for adults with serious mental illness.
- Locum Tenens Services
- Children and Youth Crisis Stabilization Unit
- Training and Technical Assistance for Community-Based Organizations (CBOs)

Single source contracts include:

- Adult Substance Use Outpatient Program for Alcohol Use
- School-Based Outpatient Behavioral Health Services

Extend existing contracts include:

- Substance Use Teen Residential Treatment Program
- Behavioral Health Collaborative Court
- Web Infrastructure for Treatment Services

- Breaking Down Barriers
- It's Up to Us Multi-Media Campaign

VI. ACTION ITEM: BHS PROCUREMENT AND CONTRACT EXTENSIONS BOARD LETTER

ON MOTION of Stuart Gaiber, seconded by Joel San Juan, BHAB approved the motion for the BHS Procurement and Contract Extensions Board Letter.

AYES: 10 NAYS: 1 ABSTENTIONS: 1

VII. DISCUSSION ITEM: 2024 BHAB FALL RETREAT AGENDA

The 2024 BHAB Fall Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, October 19th at the BHS Headquarters, in the La Jolla Room. The retreat aims to foster relationship building and strategic planning for next year's BHAB priorities.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Luke Bergmann, BHS Director, provided the following updates:

- The Homekey Round 3 developments launched three new projects that will add 240 residential units in the city of San Diego, this will be the Round 3 grant that will provide allocation funding for the three development projects.
- BHS has brought forward a letter of intent to move forward with University of California, San Diego (UCSD) Health partnership. The County will offer an unsecured loan of up to \$32 million to UCSD Health for facility improvements at the East Campus Medical Center.
- Highlighted that Proposition 36 will sunset provisions of Proposition 47, which could impact BHS provisionally approved funding.
- The Board Letter Creating A Children, Youth, And Transition Age Youth Behavioral Health Continuum Framework For San Diego County, brought forward by Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer (District 3), highlights the development of an Optimal Care Pathways (OCP) focusing on children and youth, with actionable deliverables expected in approximately 18 months.

IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PRESENTING THE 2025 SLATE OF OFFICERS

BHAB Members will vote on the Slate of Officers at the next BHAB meeting in November. No additional nominations were made on the floor.

X. CONCLUDING QUESTIONS OF COMMENTS

The following questions were raised the following individuals:

- Judith Yates: Pertaining to the Procurement Board Letter Presentation, have things changed in the Mental Health Rehabilitation Center?
- Jessica Kramer: There is concern for continued discussion on legislation and programs that is not inclusive of disability rights, BHAB should consider the disability rights and equitable access to information
- Stuart Gaiber: There is a concern of losing beds in Tri-City. What would happen if services were not met?
- Amanda Berry: Regarding the Procurement Board Letter, and considering that community-based organizations work within challenging county contracts – How does the County's role compare to the role of a managed care plan?

XI. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT OUT

Substance Use Prevention Subcommittee:

Stuart Gaiber, Co-Chair, reported that the main discussion in the last meeting was on Proposition 36.

Participation & Partnership:

Janice Luna-Reynoso, Chair, reported there has not been a Participation & Partnership Subcommittee meeting in the last previous months. She is seeking for a Co-Chair to assist in leading and facilitating the meeting.

Justice System Nexus with Current Behavioral Health Issues Through a Racial Equity Lens:

Robin Sales, Chair, reported that the subcommittee has been discussing alternatives to calling law enforcement for individuals with mental health issues. All BHAB members are invited to the October 21st subcommittee meeting where the Mobile Crisis Response Teams (MCRT) and Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) will be discussing these matters.

XII. CHAIR'S REPORT

BHAB Chair, Robin Sales, reported on the series of special convenings focused on the CARE Act; three sessions have been held to date. All participating partners demonstrated a high level of engagement, and as we move into the second year of the CARE Act program, collaboration remains strong, forward focused and there is a desire to continue the conversation around areas of improvement and ways that BHAB can be of support.

Robin will not be in attendance for next month's meeting. Serita Polinaire, 1st Vice Chair, will lead the November BHAB meeting in her absence.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The 2024 BHAB Fall Retreat will be held on Saturday, October 19th from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at the Behavioral Health Services Headquarters.

XIV. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of Joel San Juan, seconded by Stuart Gaiber, the meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.