



June 6th, 2019
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes

P.O. BOX 85524
San Diego, CA 92186-5524
(619) 563-2700 • FAX (619) 563-2775/2705

MEMBERS PRESENT

Joel San Juan – District 1
Janice Luna-Reynoso – District 1
Bill Stewart 1st Vice Chair – District 1
Jenifer Mendel, Chairperson – District 2
Deanne George – District 3
Ed Weiner – District 3
Mike Grattan – District 3
Shannon Jaccard – District 3
Jerry Hall – District 4
John Sturm, Member-at-Large (ADS) – District 4
Judith Yates – District 4
Richard McGaffigan, 2nd Vice Chair – District 5

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Che Hernandez – District 1
Michael Matthews Member-at-Large (MH) – District 2
Rebecca Hernandez – District 2
Bill Wells – District 2
Lynn Sharpe-Underwood – District 4
K.C. Strang – District 5
Phil Deming – District 5

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services
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 2:28 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 – May 2nd, 2019

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Deanne George, BHAB approved the minutes of May 2nd, 2019 as written.

AYES: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 1

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

V. ACTION ITEM: LPS FACILITY DESIGNATION GUIDELINES BOARD LETTER

Dr. Luke Bergmann, Behavioral Health Services Director

The LPS Facility Designation Guidelines Board Letter contains minor updates to the County's LPS Facilities Guidelines and codifies Dr. Luke Bergmann as the Board of Supervisor's signatory for LPS facility reviews and designations.

DISCUSSION:

Q: How many people are currently under LPS conservatorship in San Diego County?

A: Approximately 1200 people are currently under conservatorship.

LPS FACILITY DESIGNATION GUIDELINES BOARD LETTER

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Deanne George, BHAB voted to support the LPS Facility Designation Guidelines Board Letter.

AYES: 9 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 2

VI. ACTION ITEM: STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS OPIOID AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE

Dr. Luke Bergmann, Behavioral Health Services Director

Dr. Danyte Mockus-Valenzuela (BHS Prevention and Planning Unit manager) and Dr. Nicole Esposito (BHS Assistant Clinical Director) came before BHAB to share updates to the Prescription Drug Abuse Plan, including a brief history of the Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force (formerly the Oxy Task Force). The discussion included renaming the plan to broaden the focus to all opioids, and the key strategies of the plan: opioid stewardship in healthcare; accessible evidence-based treatment; and reduction of related harms and overdose/death prevention.

DISCUSSION:

Q: Will California or San Diego County file lawsuits against pharmaceutical companies in response to the opioid crisis, similar to other states (i.e. Ohio)?

A: California has filed several lawsuits; San Diego County has not filed a lawsuit at this time.

Q: Can Fentanyl be manufactured within the country?

A: Fentanyl is a synthetic drug which can be manufactured anywhere, but most of the illicit Fentanyl is coming from outside of the country due to cheaper manufacturing costs.

Q: Understanding the Prescription Drug Abuse Task Force is focused more on prevention, policies, and programs rather than treatment is there access to evidence-based practice of Medically Assisted Treatment (MAT)? is there an effort to strengthen the MAT process to create longer term change?

A: Current data shows that when MAT is discontinued for people with opioid use disorders, the rate of opioid overdose is higher. It is important to emphasize the whole person approach to treatment and judicious use of medicine.

Q: Can weaning people off MAT over an extended period of time as a supplement to another treatment be used as an alternative method?

A: Data has shown that weaning increases the likelihood of people dropping out of treatment, with an increased rate of an opioid-related death. There is currently no evidence to support that weaning is a safe strategy to employ.

Q: What is the greatest challenge in the key strategy of opioid stewardship in healthcare?

A: Focused work on what providers need, as well as getting physicians to take a judicious approach to prescribing, such as identifying opioid drug prescribing as a risk for patients.

STRATEGIC PLAN TO ADDRESS OPIOID AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG MISUSE

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Deanne George, BHAB voted to support the Strategic Plan to Address Opioid and Prescription Drug Misuse.

AYES: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 1

VII. ACTION ITEM: ADVANCING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD LETTER

Dr. Luke Bergmann, Behavioral Health Service Director

Dr. Bergmann discussed the Continuum of Care Board Letter that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors on June 25, 2019. The Board Letter will share updates on advancing the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care: the Public Consultant Groups stakeholder engagement work, structure of governance across multiple sectors, and work being pursued to develop a more integrative data structure for BHS.

DISCUSSION:

Q: Has the County considered a partnership between Behavioral Health Services and Public Safety Group for facilities and beds as an alternative to jail?

A: Yes. There is Programming for Reentry, Support and Stability (“PROGRESS”) which addresses the mental health of sentenced offenders in an alternative custody setting.

ADVANCING THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD LETTER

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Bill Wells, BHAB voted to support a summary draft of the Advancing the Behavioral Health Continuum of Care Board Letter.

AYES: 10 NAYS: 1 (Hall) ABSTENTIONS: 0

VIII. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: STRENGTHENING THE BRIDGE BETWEEN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Sarah Gordan, Public Safety Group Program Manager

Sarah Gordon came before BHAB to present the directions PSG received from the March 26th Board of Supervisors’ meeting: The CAO was directed to work with the District Attorney, Sheriff’s, and schools to strengthen the response to individuals with behavioral health issues who intersect with the criminal justice system.

DISCUSSION:

Q: Is the coordination between agencies, hospitals, and clinics being facilitated by a common data system?

A: Not currently – but that is one of the desired results. Research is being done to determine how best that infrastructure can be built.

Q: Is the County looking into having PERT be placed in San Diego colleges and within the San Diego Unified School District?

A: Yes, potentially. With further research, that could very well be one of the recommendations.

IX. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

Jenifer Mendel, Chair

BHAB will be dark in July and will reconvene in August.

X. DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Dr. Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services

Dr. Bergmann introduced Aurora Kiviat, Behavioral Health Services' new Assistant Director of Departmental Operations.

XI. REPORTS FROM BHAB Workgroups

- Housing and Homelessness: Prevention and Diversion trainings are being conducted by the Regional Task Force for the Homeless. A recent report on Pathways to Youth Homelessness indicates that not much progress has been done in homelessness for the past 5 years.
- Building a Better BHAB: The workgroup has been discussing presentation formats for guest speakers. The group would like more emphasis on the speaker's ask and context of their presentation before the meeting.
- Continuum of Care: None.

XII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of Jenifer Mendel, seconded by John Sturm, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.