



March 2, 2023
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gaurav Mishra – District 1
Janice Luna Reynoso – District 1
Joel San Juan - District 1
Serita Polinaire – District 2
Todd Boyer – District 2
Jim Taylor – District 2
Robin Sales, Member-at-Large – District 3
Michael Grattan – District 3
Shea Benton – District 4
Amina Sheik Mohamed – District 4
Judith Yates, 1st Vice Chair – District 4
Janessa Goldbeck – District 4
Carol Clemens, Member-at-Large – District 5
Richard McGaffigan – District 5
Nathan Fletcher, Board of Supervisors Chair

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Bill Stewart, Chair – District 1
James Merino – District 2
Shannon Jaccard – District 3
K.C. Strang – District 5
Phil Deming, 2nd Vice Chair – District 5

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS)
Dania Barroso-Conde, Behavioral Health Advisory Board Coordinator, BHS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) was called to order by 1st Vice Chair Judith Yates at 2:33PM in-person and via Zoom.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND ROLL CALL

ON MOTION of Gaurav Mishra, seconded by Joel San Juan, BHAB approved the minutes for October 22, 2022 (Fall Retreat), and February 2, 2023.
AYES: 14 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Shelley Rezai from Lightfully Behavioral Health announced they offer primary mental health services for adolescents and adults in North County San Diego.

Bob Stonebrook inquired about how program success in BHS is evaluated and what reports are available to the public.

Tonya Savice spoke in support for the Veterans Art Project and its positive impact in her life.

Reginald Green spoke in support of programs and services for Veterans.

Ivan Sam spoke in support of more programs and services for Veterans.

Anthony Avalos spoke in support of more investment in comprehensive mental health services in particular to address the trauma impacting Black, Brown, and Indigenous communities.

John Sturm commented that he would like more discussion on CARE Court before San Diego County implementation in October.

IV. SUPERVISOR FLETCHER UPDATES

An update was provided to BHAB regarding leaders across the state and Nevada touring San Diego County behavioral health service sites across the county led by Dr. Bergmann and Supervisor Fletcher. Updates from this visit will be provided to BHAB at a future meeting.

V. PRESENTATION: Breaking Down Barriers: Overcoming Challenges to Mental Health Treatment in the Black Community

Serita Polinaire, BHAB Member, presented on the unique challenges African American (AA)/Black individuals face when seeking mental health treatment. The presentation also offered solutions in breaking down barriers by promoting healing, education, increase representation of AA/Black mental health professionals, and providing accessible and affordable mental health services to the AA/Black community.

VI. PRESENTATION: Community Engagement Update

Kat Briggs, Chief, Communication and Engagement (C&E) Team gave an update on community engagement efforts in BHS and in collaboration with other County departments noting collaboration with the Live Well San Diego office and the Youth sector on social media and newsletters. There has also been ongoing collaboration with the Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities (HSEC) as they have regional leadership teams in all five County regions. Additionally, BHS has new staff full-time, permanent, and part-time, non-permanent staff on the C&E team. At the end of March, BHS will be launching a new BHS Community Updates monthly newsletter and a new email address for the public to reach the C&E team.

Public Comment:

Jerry Hall encouraged BHAB members to attend Community Program Planning (CPP) process trainings to build their knowledge and be better informed advisory board members.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Luke Bergmann announced that on March 29, 2023, there will be a virtual community forum hosted by Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) regarding substance-use and overdose prevention. Details to be shared with BHAB via email announcement. Additionally, he that the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan for Fiscal Years 2023-24 through 2025-26 will soon be posted to the BHS website for a 30-day public review and comment period. The review period will begin on April 4, 2023, and end on May 4, 2023. Additionally, Dr. Bergmann mentioned that there has been

meaningful ongoing conversation regarding Alvarado Hospital infrastructure and clinical operations as that project continues to develop. He acknowledged Dr. Michael Krelstein, Clinical Director at BHS, and Angela Warneke, Department Administrator at the San Diego County Psychiatric Hospital (SDCPH), for their critical voice in representing the County's interest.

VIII. BHAB SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT OUT

Richard McGaffigan and Robin Sales from the Criminal Justice (CJ) Subcommittee submitted their subcommittee report with several recommendations. They would like their report shared with the Board of Supervisors and will bring forward their recommendations as an Action Item at the April BHAB meeting.

Serita Polinaire, Chair for the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention (AOD) Subcommittee reminded BHAB members that Kat Briggs' will be presenting at the next AOD meeting.

No update reported for the Community Engagement (CE) Subcommittee

IX. CHAIR'S REPORT

None provided.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements.

XI. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Joel San Juan, seconded by Gaurav Mishra the meeting adjourned at 5:03pm.