



March 5, 2020
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

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

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Che Hernandez – District 1
Joel San Juan – District 1
Janice Luna-Reynoso – District 1

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health
Ben Parmentier, Administrative Analyst III, Behavioral Health Services

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) was called to order by Judith Yates, Chair, at 2:30 p.m. at the County Operations Center, 5520 Overland Avenue, San Diego, California 92113, Hearing Chambers.

II. INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS

Members of BHAB introduced themselves.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – FEBRUARY 6, 2020

ON MOTION OF John Sturm, seconded by Michael Matthews, BHAB approved the minutes of February 6, 2020, with a correction.

AYES: 11 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

V. PRESENTATION: MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION BOARD LETTER

Sarah Gordon, Group Program Manager, Public Safety Group

Sarah Gordon came before the board to discuss a Board for a program for clients eligible for voluntary mental health diversion through a law passed in 2018. The proposed program is a result of a partnership between Public Safety Group and Behavioral Health Services. It includes an expansion of Behavioral Health Court services to add a legal track for diversion, serving 35 people on diversion status at any given time.

ACTION ITEM: MENTAL HEALTH DIVERSION BOARD LETTER

ON MOTION OF Jerry Hall, seconded by John Sturm, BHAB voted to support the Mental Health Diversion Board Letter.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

DISCUSSION:

Q: What area of the county will the clients come from?

A: Clients will come from the entire county, but the central court will be located downtown.

Q: Can clients be diagnosed after their arrest?

A: Yes. Telecare will provide a thorough diagnosis upon referral.

Q: Will this program include clients who have violence associated with their charge?

A: Yes, they will be included, however, there will be a complete analysis on whether public safety can be maintained.

Q: Will felony-misdemeanors be allowed?

A: This program will only be for felonies.

Q: Will victim input be considered in the process?

A: Yes, the program will reach out to the victim for their input for consideration.

Q: If a client is a repeat offender after having already successfully completed the diversion program, will their original case come back? Would they be eligible to redo the program?

A: If a client successfully completes the program for their first case, that case is finished. If there is a repeat offense, the analysis would have to be done again. The prior case would not have an impact on their current case.

Q: Will the treatment providers use long-acting injectable medication?

A: Yes, the program will offer injectables, and it can be ordered for consideration by the judge within Behavioral Health Court. Treatment providers cannot impose injectables against a client's will.

Q: After the completion of the program, how long will the clients remain in housing?

A: After completion of the program, Telecare will work with clients to secure transitional housing or permanent housing within their step-down level of care.

Q: Will the Probation Officer overseeing this program be trained in this special population?

A: The program funding will include a second Probation Officer who will receive special training on this population.

VI. ACTION ITEM: RADY CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH HUB BOARD LETTER

Dr. Luke Bergmann, BHS Director

Dr. Bergmann came before the board to provide updates on the progress of the behavioral health hub for children and youth in partnership with Rady Children's Hospital of San Diego. As one of five behavioral health hubs that will be located throughout the region, this hub will be responsive to the specialized needs of children and youth. It will include co-location and affiliation with a general acute care hospital, access to inpatient acute psychiatric care, outpatient step-down services, crisis stabilization, services for those with juvenile justice involvement, and linkage to care coordination. The proposed terms include the County leasing property for the construction and operationalization of the hub.

ON MOTION OF John Sturm, seconded by Michael Matthews, BHAB voted to support the Rady Children's Behavioral Health Hub Board Letter.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

DISCUSSION:

Q: Will the hubs include a separate urgent care from the regular urgent care?

A: Yes, the hub will include a separate urgent care for the clinics.

Q: Will the County-contributed property for this project be used exclusively for behavioral health, or will it be usable by Rady's for other purposes?

A: The property the County will be contributing for this project will be used exclusively for behavioral health.

VII. PRESENTATION: SAN DIEGO CARES

Dr. Kristi Koenig, Medical Director, Emergency Medical Services

Kurt Mechals, Chief of Family Protection, San Diego County District Attorney's Office

Kurt Mechals and Dr. Kristi Koenig came before the board to present information on the San Diego Health CARES initiative. This awareness initiative was launched in October 2019 and is targeted towards improving prevention and response practices for domestic violence and strangulation.

DISCUSSION:

Q: Is CARES partnered with family justice centers?

A: Yes, the program is embedded.

Q: Has the entire police department been trained in domestic violence awareness?

A: Yes, the strangulation protocol has been shared with all law enforcement in San Diego county.

VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services

Dr. Bergmann discussed the County of San Diego COVID-19 website (www.coronavirus-sd.com) as part of the County's efforts to spread information and provide local updates.

IX. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Judith Yates, Chairperson

- 2019 Annual Report Draft: Members are to review and provide feedback if desired.
- Call for Volunteers/Advocates: Board members were provided with a list of councils and are encouraged to participate in other councils and boards.

X. REPORTS FROM BHAB WORKGROUPS AND LIAISONS

- **Housing and Homelessness:** The work group is currently working on narrowing the focus of the work group, such as youth and family homelessness or one other issue, still to be decided.
- **Continuum of Care:** The group met on February 18th and began an ongoing discussion of visioning for the Behavioral Health hubs, which included identifying community partners, inclusion of a person with lived experience and family members, and stigma informed outreach to communities surrounding hubs.
- **Building a Better BHAB:** A handout was distributed of duties and responsibilities of BHAB members. The handout presented two alternatives for Board to consider as an amendment to the bylaws.

XI. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Michael Matthews, the meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0