

February 17, 2015



SOLANO COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes for Meeting of
June 16, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

Barbara Pisching Wright, Vice-Chair, called the meeting of the Solano County Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) to order at 4:35pm. Roll call confirmed a quorum.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tiffany Banks
Lis Delatorre
Alan Werblin
Erin Hannigan
Pamela Reyes
Melanie Norris
Barbara Pisching-Wright

MEMBERS ABSENT: Lori Espinosa; Angela Faulkner; Esmeralda Liberato; Christie Lynn DeClue

STAFF PRESENT: *In Alphabetical Order by Last Name:*
Leticia De La Cruz Salas Mental Health Services Administrator
Rachel Ford Consumer Affairs Liaison
Rob George Mental Health Services Manager
Cindy Limerick Mental Health Administration
Mary Roy Mental Health Services Senior Manager (MHSA)
Halsey Simmons Behavioral Health Director
Karen Smith Mental Health Clinician
Akon Walker Project Manager
Meredith Webb Mental Health Clinical Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT: *In Alphabetical Order by Last Name:*
Jolie Brower; Soren Perry; John Rayfield; Ron Scott; Will Taylor

II. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

III. AGENDA APPROVAL and APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Supervisor Hannigan made a motion to approve the agenda of June 16, 2015 and the meeting minutes of May 19, 2015 as written; seconded by Pamela Reyes.

Discussion: None; Vote 7/0/0

Motion Approved by Unanimous Vote

IV. PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS:

The Board received a presentation by Mr. Rob George, Mental Health Services Manager, and staff, regarding The Solano County Grievance and Problem Resolution Process.

Comments, Questions & Answers:

1. How many grievances are received by County Mental Health per year? Approximately, 50 to a ratio of approximately 4500-5000 clients served.
2. Is there a way to file a grievance on-line? We do not have an on-line grievance process at this time.
3. The Board suggested that County Mental Health consider and implement an on-line grievance filing process.
4. How difficult is it to change a service provider? Everybody has a right to change their provider and sometimes that will require a location change.
5. How do you deal with technical filing errors? A staff goes by the narrative on the form and have the ability to contact the beneficiary as long as the contact information is correct.
6. What is the time stamp when it's a grievance on an appeal form? The time stamp is based on the time the grievance came in by phone or mail.
7. If a consumer has an ombudsman, would the ombudsman follow the same grievance process as a consumer? They would contact us or they can contact the State ombudsman and redirect to us. Rachel Ford, Consumer Affairs Liaison, works with the State ombudsman on behalf of consumers.
8. Is the process available in languages other than English? We have posting for Spanish as the threshold language according to the State, we also have interpreters.

V. OLD BUSINESS

1. Jolie Browar, addressed questions that were submitted by the Board in writing regarding the Telepsychiatry policy used by Exodus at the Solano County Crisis Stabilization Unit
 - a. Ms. Browar stated that some questions were specific to a client and that she cannot discuss or address any specific case due to privacy practices but will talk in generalities:
 - b. Describe policies that require staff to attempt to contact the client's doctor for current and collateral information. Exodus staff make every possible attempt to get collateral information to include a 4 page intake and inquiry assessment form, we have access to Avatar; we have a system in place to notify County partners that their client is with us and to contact us with information. Our providers will use the body of knowledge in front of them to make decisions with the client about medication and treatment. Exodus does contact friends, police, family members within the guidelines of privacy laws. An adult client has a right to decline that information be released to their families. Many adults exercise that right. Just because a client has consented to one admission to our facility, does not mean that the consent holds in subsequent admissions. Their privacy is our responsibility and it is our responsibility to follow the law.
 - c. What do you do if a client does not want telepsychiatry? The client does not get seen by our psychiatrist at that moment. We have telepsychiatry providers available in the course of a day from 7:00am to 10:00pm.
 - d. Telepsychiatry requirements with Exodus include: 50" telescreen is used with Exodus to see the whole person to view non-verbal cues; during the telepsychiatry session, with verbal consent from the client, that one of our providers (nurse or social worker) is always there with the client during the telepsychiatry session (this is a second tier); documentation process discussed.
 - e. Comment from public – John Rayfield is going to encourage telepsychiatry
 - f. Staff update: new full time psychiatrist and a new nurse practitioner

VI. DIRECTOR/COMMITTEE REPORTS

Behavioral Health Program Report:

Halsey Simmons, Behavioral Health Director, provided an update on Local, State and Federal Mental Health Services to include updates regarding:

- Staff Acknowledgements: Rachel Ford, Consumer Affairs Liaison, acting interim supervisor of the Wellness and Recovery Unit; Karen Smith, Mental Health Clinician, is our Family Liaison and will develop a co-occurring group capacity for special support and training for individuals with both substance abuse and mental health challenges; Leticia De La Cruz Salas new Mental Health Services Administrator, overseeing Children’s System of Care and Administration; Sandra Sinz is going to be joining as the other Administrator, she will take on the Adult System of Care and Administration.
- Counties vs. State ruling on who should pay medical costs for people that are in locked facilities – Counties will not have to pay for medical hospitalizations for folks when they have to be taken from a locked facility to a medical hospital
- Still working on Housing issues in partnership with partner provider Bay Area Community Services (BACS)
- Dr. Sara Altschuler will be coming on board as a part time psychiatrist in the Vacaville clinic.

Mary Roy, Senior Mental Health Services Manager provided an update on The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) programs and services in Solano County:

- MHSOAC approved the MHSA Innovation Plan and will move forward with contracting with the Center of Disparities UC Davis
- Public Service Announcements in front of the movie theatres to run about suicide prevention materials
- HOME Program of Caminar to come in August
- ***Mental Health Advisory Board Executive Committee:***

Executive Committee has contacted the Crestwood Behavioral Health Facility in Vallejo, Our House and plan to visit in September. Barbara will send out times and dates to members to sign up for the visit.

No Meeting in July - Recess

Outreach Committee Report:

May is Mental Health Month Event: Esmeralda and Lis were involved in the Art show. Barbara reported on the art show reports provided by Angela Faulkner. Coordination for next year should begin soon. Tiffany Banks reported on the Caminar “Cammie Awards” as part of May is Mental Health Month.

Membership Committee:

Received an application from a Solano College student and will be considering that application. Contact Cindy Limerick for applications

VII. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Will Taylor of Bay Area Community Services (BACS), introduced Peer Counselor, Soren Perry as a new member of BACS.

VIII. BOARD COMMENTS

None

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:46pm. The next regular meeting of the Mental Health Advisory Board is scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 2015; 4:30pm at 2101 Courage Drive, Fairfield CA 94533, Multi-Purpose Room.