



FRESNO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

Wednesday, January 17th, 2024 at 3:30pm
1925 E. Dakota Fresno, CA 93726

Minutes

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</u>	<u>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u>
Brooke Frost MaryLou Brauti-Minkler Debbie Xiong Elizabeth Kus Alan Faulks David Thorne Angel Lopez	Susan Holt, <i>Director</i> Ahmad Bahrami Tina Young Jeannette Dominguez	Amber Molina Jacqui Cavallaro Jessica Underwood Tony Leyva Rondy Packard Xixmena Cuyuch Silvia Rios Christina Long Angela Hernandez Jana Todd Trish Small Yenifer Gallegos-Mejia Renee Stilson Heidi Hayden Adriana Zaragoza
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u> Manuel Piceno Carolyn Evans		
<u>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</u> Sal Quintero, <i>Supervisor</i> – Absent		

I. Welcome

Behavioral Health Board (BHB) Chair, Brooke Frost called the meeting to order at 3:32 PM

II. Approval of the December 20, 2023 draft Behavioral Health Board minutes

The draft of the December 20th, 2023 BHB meeting minutes were accepted as written

III. Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) Update; *Director, Susan Holt*

Director Susan Holt began the Department Update presentation in the usual manner of stating the Department mission, vision and goals, land acknowledgement, and select acknowledgments for the month of January. In response to information requested by the BHB, she continued with a list of events DBH is planning/will participate in throughout the upcoming 2024 new year. With note that this was not an exhaustive list and the public is encouraged to follow the Department on Social media to stay current with events.

Information on the January California Budget was discussed and mentioned that the shortfall projected by the Legislative Analyst's office is seeming significantly less than expected. While Behavioral Health funding remains top priority for the Governor, his proposed state-level solutions have been said to consist of planning to turn toward reserves, borrowing, stretching dollars,

deferrals and streamlining of some services. The Department will report back on this to the BHB with how things are going in a few months.

A. General Updates: DBH Events, Board of Supervisors (BOS) items and legislation

Director, Susan Holt shared an extensive list of topics and subjects that Department has been working through that were brought on from California Behavioral Health Reform and has impacted the County from 2022 to the present time. She also discussed some themes of focus she plans to use in the Department to help guide and keep up with the changes throughout this new year.

Board of Supervisors Items

- January 9th Handle with Care Plus Innovation Evaluation contract with UC Davis approved
- Two providers added to the DBH Outpatient Services Network
- January 23rd amendment to add the new Medi-Cal Mobile Crisis Benefit Services to existing agreement with the current contract provider, Kings View

Legislative Updates – Item of interest

- SB402 – Recent amendments
 - Clarified that Counties may delegate who is authorized for involuntary detainment and does not have to be county employees or county contractors
 - Included a requirement that licensed behavioral health professionals are designated by the County
 - Removed reference to homelessness

December 2023 suicide data showed 7 deaths by suicide. This number is close to the 6 deaths by suicide for the previous 3 years beginning in 2020

Mobile Crisis Update – New state mandate requires a midnight to 6a.m. shift for mobile crisis response, that was to begin December 31st. While the Department fell short to have a new contract presented and approved by the BOS prior to December 31st, a plan was needed to remain compliant. Individuals from the DBH Exec Team and a Senior Analyst completed training requirements and stepped in to fulfill these new shifts temporarily. In addition to the support from the current Day Shift contracted provider, Kings View the Department successfully stayed in compliance. The new contract will go to the BOS on January 23rd.

B. Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Continuum of Care Services Report

Fresno County is a Drug Medical Organized delivery system (DMC-ODS) that includes the following:

- One County operated treatment provider
- 14 contracted treatment providers
- 1 contracted prevention provider

Outpatient and intensive outpatient services are primarily in metropolitan areas while rural areas are largely covered through telehealth. The Department continues to seek opportunities to expand in person care. Additional services are provided through the following regions:

- Adult Residential, Withdrawal Management – metropolitan areas and through out-of-County (KERN)
- Adolescent Residential Services- Through Out- of- County provider (LA County)
- Narcotic Treatment Programs / Opioid Treatment Programs / Medication Assisted Treatment – Metropolitan Fresno County

Current funding sources consist of DMC-ODS as the primary, Substance Use Block Grant and Realignment for DMC covered services, which serves as a match to draw down federal reimbursement.

Annual Expenditures :

- FY 2021 – 22 – approx. \$29.5 m (including realignment funds)
- FY 2022 – 23 - \$39m – (including realignment funds)
- FY 2023 – 24 not yet completed; anticipated to exceed FY 2022 - 23

C. Care Act Update

A brief explanation of the creation and history of the civil court Care Act was provided. The Care Act process is initiated by filing a petition with the court to serve a respondent. The qualifying criteria for individuals (respondent) to participate in the pathway of an involuntary treatment process are as follows:

- An adult with a severe mental illness and a diagnosis of schizophrenia spectrum disorder or psychotic disorder
- Ineligible if the individual is already stabilized in ongoing voluntary treatment
- Clinical evaluation of being unlikely to survive safely and independently in the community
- Condition substantially worsening or needing increased levels of services and support to prevent relapse or deterioration that would ultimately lead to being gravely disabled or harmful to themselves or others

- Participate in a 12-month care plan or agreement that is the least restrictive option
- Requires that the individual will likely benefit in participating in a care plan

If an individual is determined to qualify and will engage in services through the court ordered process, they will be represented throughout the procedure by an attorney or public defender, and County Counsel will represent the County. A new role in California, defined in the Care Act as the Supporter, will be an adult person identified specifically to assist the respondent in understanding and help to make decisions within the Care Act process.

A graphic for the Care Act is available on the DHCS website. Public meetings will be scheduled to educate the public closer to the program launch, December 2024.

D. MHSA Planning

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update summary

The Proposition 1 ballot outcome will determine future MHSA dollars. So the changes in the Annual Update are few and the focus will be on wrapping up program evaluation projects already launched and reviewing potential projects referenced. With note to manage expectations, until the results for Prop 1 are known the Departments will keep focused on maintaining their commitment to ensuring critical core services don't suffer. The final touches of the written Annual Update draft are being made and plans for a Public Hearing to take place in March, with hope to submit to the BOS to finalize in April.

IV. Public Comment

- Question: BHB member asked if the Mobile Crisis Unit Clinicians have received any self-defense training prior to going out into the field.

Answer: The Clinicians do have a legal personal protection device on them and the Department is in the market to find a training company to provide self-defense training

V. Old Business

- **BHB Annual Planning meeting – January 13, 2024**
 - Completed BHB business with a few tasks to be completed through the BHB Exec Committee meeting
 - Working on the Annual Report to the BOS with a goal to have the draft completed in February and have BHB members vote on during the February 21st BHB meeting

VI. New Business

None

VII. Subcommittee Updates

- Adult Services Committee – Committee update postponed until the Feb. 21st BHB meeting
- Childrens Services Committee – Met December 21st and will meet again Feb. 22nd
- Forensics Services Committee – Meeting day changed to Fridays quarterly
 - Next upcoming meeting is Friday, March 1st at 10:00 a.m.
 - Same meeting location of BlueSky Wellness Center Ste 110
- Substance Use Disorder Committee – Update postponed until the Feb 21st BHB meeting
 - Committee met on December 14th
 - Will meet again March 14th

VIII. Public Comment

- California START Program Director, Yenifer Gallegos announced information on their agency who in partnership with the Central Valley Regional Center (CVRC), provides crisis intervention and prevention services as a team through mobile crisis response and provides specialized support for individuals with developmental delay

IX. Adjournment

5:11 PM

This meeting is open to the public under the Ralph M. Brown Act.