



### FRESNO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

DBH Health and Wellness Center  
 1925 E. Dakota Ave.  
 Fresno, CA 93726

#### Minutes

Meeting Via Webex  
 October 21, 2020 3:30 p.m.

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>		Jennifer Guzman	Jacqueline White
Carolyn Evans	Debbie Xiong	Rita Mehia	Melissa Dickerson
Francine Farber	Kylene Hashimoto	Val Hernandez	Vincent Montgomery
Donald Vanderhyden	Steffanie Long	Isaiah Bankson	Rene Barrios
Mary Lou Brauti-Minkler	David Thorne	Farisa Ikner	Hong Vo
		Johanna Torres	Katherine Rextroat
<u>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</u>			
Ari Martinez (Representative of Supervisor Sal Quintero)			
<u>ABSENT</u>		<u>PUBLIC MEMBERS</u>	
<u>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</u>		Karen Levinson	David Tan
Dawan Utecht, Director	Susan Holt	Marilyn Bamford	Amber Molina
Maryann Le	Erica Flitcraft	Jessica Underwood	Katrina Rudnick
Ahmad Bahrami	Cynthia Hager	Nakia Vue	Diana Castaneda
Tina Young	Tamara DeFehr	Brooke Frost	Chris Roup
Jeannette Dominguez	Helen Herrera	Andrew Sorge	Karen Tombs
Jolie Gordon-Browar	Andrea Ziebell	Devoya Mayo	Rosio Laguna
Erinn Reinbolt	Elizabeth Aguirre	Etisha Wilbon	Fidel Garibay
Kerry Winter	Maya Solano-McDaniel	Ignasio Liscano	Kaylie Tejada
Michael Muro	Qi Sun	Jacqueline White	Jennifer Guzman
		Melissa Perkins	Neil Collins
		ICSI	Trish Small

#### I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chair Carolyn Evans called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM, and made a brief announcement on meeting regulations, the reserved time for public comment and the procedure for questions and response.

A moment was given to acknowledge a list of staff from the Department of Behavioral Health as Honorees of the Month. The Honorees assisted in response to and throughout the emergency Creek Fire situation. In addition to their routine duties, staff provided support to those individuals affected by the major disaster. The Department will continue to help community members impacted by the fire. The Board wanted to give a special Thank You to the team of helpers.

Roll call of Behavioral Health Board members

#### II. Review of Agenda

#### III. Approval of Minutes for September 16, 2020

Minutes from the September 16<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.

#### **IV. Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) Update – Dawan Utecht, Director**

Director Dawan Utecht began with the Department’s Mission, Vision and Goals statement. The month of October was acknowledged as representing National Hispanic Heritage, Indigenous Peoples Day, National LGBTQ+ History and National Coming Out Day, and mentioned the supportive activities the Department highlights throughout the month.

##### **a. General Update**

###### Board of Supervisors Agenda Items / Contracts

- September 22
  - Forensic Behavioral Health Jail Diversion Services
- October 6
  - California Department of Housing and Community Development for 2 No Place Like Home developments
- October 20
  - Amendment to Dreamcatchers Agreement
  - Capital Purchase of 5555 E. Olive Ave and 5520 E. Hedges Ave

###### COVID-19 Update

As of October 20<sup>th</sup>, Fresno County numbers show a slight increase in cases. Having 7.3% positive cases for a second week will put Fresno back in the more restricted purple tier. The percentage number needs to be below 7%.

The impact on services data in comparison to last year, shows a small change of more services provided to individuals in both Mental Health and Substance Use Disorders through the COVID-19 pandemic.

A report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showed 63% of young adults have experienced an increase in anxiety or depression related to COVID. Locally the department has seen a spike in youth in crisis and a spike in completed suicides. Year to date, there have been seven completed suicides of youth age 19 or under, compared to five total for last year. In response the department has partnered with schools, local agencies, emergency departments and through social media, to bring awareness in identifying the warning signs and to provide information of resources available. DBH is exploring increasing capacity of the Exodus Crisis Stabilization Center and Central Star Youth Psychiatric Health Facility.

##### **b. Newly Signed Legislation**

###### Legislation- Signed by Governor

- SB 803 Mental health services: peer support specialist certification
- SB 823 Juvenile Justice Realignment
- SB 855 Health Coverage: mental health and substance use disorders (parity)
- AB 465 Mental health workers: supervision
- AB 890 Nurse Practitioners: scope of practice: practice without standardized procedures
- AB 1304 California MAT Re-Entry Incentive Program
- AB 1976 Mental health services: assisted outpatient treatment (“Laura’s Law”)
- AB 2112 Suicide Prevention: establishes Office of Suicide Prevention in Department of Public Health
- AB 2218 Transgender Wellness and Equity Fund
- AB 2265 Mental Health Services Act: use of funds for substance use disorder treatment
- AB 3242 Mental Health: involuntary commitment (telehealth)

##### **c. Mental Health Services Act Update**

Item deferred to next month

##### **d. Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Report**

By December 1<sup>st</sup> County Behavioral Health Departments have a statutory requirement to submit an annual Cultural Competency Plan Requirement (CCPR) that must adhere to the 15 National CLAS Standards that are comprised under the following four domains:

- 1 - Principle Standard
- 3 – Governance /Leadership /Workforce
- 4 – Communication and Language Assistance
- 7 – Engagement, Continuous Improvement and Accountability

The Department has implemented the national standards through many activities with an equity focus as well as maintaining genuine engagement in discussion of culture and confronting racism. Some of the activities applied to build on the health equity of the community include, hiring of a Diversity Services Coordinator, completing another Cultural Humility Survey, partnering with the Fresno County library to develop an equity library, marketing focus and feedback sessions, providing several trainings, including an equity focus workforce education training, providing additional support to the LGBTQ+ and African American populations and completing the MHSA Community Planning process with a focus on including access to the underserved. The Department will continue to work on long-term strategies.

**e. Quarterly Housing Report, including The Lodge and Board & Care Homes**

The Lodge

The Lodge is a short-term research pilot that is part of Fresno’s Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovation Plan for adults experiencing severe mental illness and homelessness or at-risk of homelessness. The 30-bed facility will be driven by peer support services. The contract with vendor RH Community Builders is currently in negotiation and anticipated to go to the Board of Supervisors in November, with a projected “Go Live” date of February 1, 2021. Individuals will be referred through County approved referral sources such as, Emergency Rooms, Crisis Intervention Team or Psychiatric Hospitals. The anticipated length of stay will be 45 days. Every individual will receive an assessment with a plan created according to their individual needs and will not be considered for successful discharge until they have become entered into the Coordinated System of Care (CES), eligible for housing programs and accepted and engaged by an ongoing service provider. Performance monitoring and reporting will be completed annually, and the BHB will be made aware.

No Place Like Home (NPLH) Permanent Supportive Housing

While a competitive bidding process had been completed and contract negotiations were underway, the provider declined to continue to pursue a contract, thus the Department will move on to the next highest bidder. These Supportive Services contract include all Supportive Services Housing below:

- Villages at Paragon – December 2020
  - 27 units; all NPLH
  - 25 one-bedroom; 2 two-bedroom
- Villages at Broadway – November 2021
  - 39 units; 18 are NPLH
  - 10 one-bedroom, 18 two-bedroom and 11 three-bedroom
- Barstow Commons – November 2021
  - 26 units; 12 are NPLH
  - 25 studio; 1 one-bedroom

Independent Living Association (ILA)

Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP)

ILA in Fresno County currently has 7 member homes with a combined 49-bed capacity. The Independent Living Association (ILA) is a collaborative community-wide effort that supports independent living operators, tenants and the community by promoting high-quality independent

living in privately-owned or operated homes and complexes that provide shared housing for adults with disabilities who are on a fixed income.

Transitional Residential Services Program/Specialized Transitional Residential Services Program (TRSP/STRSP) aka Board & Care Facilities

Currently there are 19 total TRSP/STRSP Facilities with 147 contracted individuals placed. The contract with TRSP/STRSPs allows DBH to place conserved individuals and those at risk of conservatorship locally, when historically they had been placed in out-of-county facilities at a higher cost due to the individuals' being considered hard to place. These contracts ensure DBH is operating in accordance with Welfare and Institutions Code, section 5801 and the California Code of Regulations, Title 22. The current contract provides capacity for the higher-level special services that include but not limited to:

- Ambulatory
- Medical
- Behavioral
- Legal
- Medication management
- Self-grooming and hygiene
- Money management
- Transportation
- Anger and conflict
- Developmental delays

**V. Public Comment—Community input is welcome, but Board meetings are not forums where questions are asked and answered**

No public comment received

**VI. Old Business**

**a. Report on Virtual Site Visit to Fillmore Christian Gardens Board & Care Home**

BHB member Mary Lou Brauti-Minkler reported she was impressed with the well-kept facility, and that the operator of the home was very compassionate; the staff and residents seemed to have a good rapport. Residents are expected to be self-sufficient in hygiene, take medication, complete chores and stay on task. The average length of stay is one year. The home is accepting clients during COVID pandemic after being quarantined for 2 weeks to ensure safety for all.

**b. CALBHB/C Central Region Meeting via Teleconference—Oct. 1-2**

The two-day training session hosted by the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions provided a training to assist local BHB's in the duties they perform, as well as giving the opportunity to receive information of grants given and available. BHB member Francine Farber stated she appreciated the tips received on recruiting and retaining BHB members.

**c. Report from Ad Hoc Committee on Review and Revision of BHB Goals and Standing Agenda**

Ad Hoc Committee members Carolyn Evans, Francine Farber and Mary Lou Brauti-Minkler met via zoom to review the Standing Agenda and Goals for the BHB. Progress was made in revising the documents for the next two years. It is anticipated they will be completed and ready to present at the December BHB meeting.

**VII. New Business**

**a. Virtual Site Visits—IMPACT FSP, Mental Health Systems, Oct. 22, 2020**

Virtual site visit tour has been scheduled for 1:00 pm for the full-service partnership. BHB members received the program contract for review prior to the tour.

**Holistic Cultural and Education Wellness Center—Nov.**

Being coordinated to schedule the date of tour. Members will be notified.

**b. 2020 Date Notebook/California Behavioral Health Planning Council**

BHB members have received the electronic copy of the annual Data Notebook. The Department will assist in completing the notebook. The new section added for this year is on Telemedicine. The requested submission date is in November. A copy of the completed survey will be made available.

**c. Nomination of Officers for 2021**

Nominations received

Chair – Kylene Hashimoto

Vice Chair - Mary Lou Brauti-Minkler

Secretary – Francine Farber

Presented nominations accepted by nominees

No nominations received from the floor at the present time. Nomination opportunities will continue through November and voting will take place in December.

**VIII. Committee Reports—All Committees Suspended**

**IX. Public Comment (*Any person wishing to address the Board will be limited to 5 minutes or less according to the time available and the number of those wishing to address the Board*)**

Independent Living Association representative Ignacio Liscano thanked Director Utecht and stated they currently have open vacancies, and anyone interested may contact him for more information.

Carolyn Evans commented on the recently passed Responsible Neighborhood Market Act that limits the number of liquor stores in the City of Fresno. In the past the BHB advocated for such legislation and will discuss further at the November meeting.

**X. Adjournment**

4:50 PM