



### FRESNO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

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

**Minutes**  
 Meeting Via Webex  
 September 16, 2020

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>PUBLIC MEMBERS</u>
Carolyn Evans	Judge Cordell
Francine Farber	Elizabeth Escoto
David Thorne	Nicole Marroquin
Kylene Hoshimoto	David Tan
Donald Vanderhyden	Rigo Robles
Debbie Xiong	Amber Molina
Mary Lou Brauti-Minkler	Krudnick
Steffanie Long	Elizabeth Williams
	Nakia Vue
	Wendell Stephenson
	E. Wilbon
	Call-in User 1
	Call-in User 3
	Call-in User 5
	Call-in User 6
	Call-in User 8
	Call-in User 10
	Diana Castaneda
	Ryan Banks
	Karen Levinson
	Ray Banks
	Brooke Frost
	Fausto Novelo
	Kaylie Dewolffe
	Ana Maria
	Devoya Mayo
	Chris Roup
	Dia Yang
	Call-in User 2
	Call-in User 4
	Call-in User 5
	Call-in User 7
	Call-in User 9
<u>ABSENT</u>	
Amanda Boone	
<u>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</u>	
Ari Martinez (Representative of Supervisor Sal Quintero)	
<u>BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</u>	
Dawan Utecht, Director	Susan Holt
Maryann Le	Brian Bradley
Ahmad Bahrami	Tiffany White
Tina Young	Kannika Toonnachat
Jeannette Dominguez	Kathy Anderson
Dan Xiong	

**I. Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Chair Carolyn Evans called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. and began by mentioning the Proclamations issued by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for the month of September as National Alcohol and Drug Recovery month as well as Suicide Prevention Awareness month.

An announcement was made regarding the celebration of Alcohol and Drug Recovery event known as Soberstock. This year it will be a virtual event streaming on YouTube Saturday September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. The online link and electronic flier were provided [bit.ly/cp4rsobersstock](http://bit.ly/cp4rsobersstock). Soberstock XV t-shirts are available to purchase by contacting Gary Knepper at (559) 930-2873.

The Central Valley Suicide Prevention Team will host a drive thru event Saturday September 19<sup>th</sup> at Clovis High School. They will be distributing information on available resources in the community.

A New Behavioral Health Board (BHB) Member, Steffanie Long was introduced and asked to provide a

brief explanation on her interest in the BHB. Steffanie stated that she is a consumer interested in helping other consumers access services needed.

## II. **Approval of Agenda by Board**

The agenda was approved

## III. **Approval of minutes for August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

Minutes from the August 19<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted as written

## IV. **Black Lives Matter, Racism and Trauma-Devoya Mayo, Cultural Broker & Project Trainer, Holistic Cultural and Education Wellness Center, with guest Judge LaDoris Cordell, Retired, Superior Court of California**

Judge LaDoris Cordell was introduced by Devoya Mayo with a summary of her professional experience and her involvement over many years in the fight to end systemic racism. Judge Cordell presented a brief outline on the history of systemic racism in the country, concluding with the statement of, “a great need always requires greater resources to support the work”. Judge Cordell remained available and responded to questions from meeting participants who inquired on how best to support Fresno residents. Devoya Mayo gathered information and created a document containing data in percentages that represents the mental health wellness gap in the community. Devoya will email that document to Jeannette Dominguez to distribute.

## V. **Department of Behavioral Health Update – Director, Dawan Utecht**

Dawan began by stating that there are many activities taking place this month in support of National Suicide Prevention and Drug and Alcohol Recovery while also mentioning that it is National Hispanic Heritage Month. Several resources have been provided for the community and employees by the Department through many different channels, including social media ads that are now available in different languages. With the unfortunate events of recent disasters occurring, such as COVID -19 and the Creek fire, a new resource was added to the Behavioral Health website to help individuals cope with disaster fatigue <https://www.co.fresno.ca.us/departments/behavioral-health/behavioral-health-disaster-relief>. More resources and activities can be found at [www.fresnocares.org](http://www.fresnocares.org).

### a. General Update, including Information Addressing Racism and Trauma

In response to the subject of systemic racism, Director Dawan Utecht spoke of active self-reflection within the department and mentioned specific work that is being done toward structural development. A recent award of funds was received through the Office of Statewide Health and Planning (OSHP) providing the opportunity for Fresno County to apply the funds toward workforce education and training that will include components to aid in the goal of building a more diverse workforce. Dr. Tiffany White from the Department also spoke of projects that had already begun prior to the George Floyd incident/protests and highlighted that although work is being done in response, the Department recognizes the need for continued efforts in order for the needed progress to be made.

### Legislation: Awaiting Governor Signature (deadline September 30)

- SB 803 Mental Health services: peer support specialist certification
- AB 2112 Suicide Prevention: established Office of Suicide Prevention in Dept. 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
- SB 855 Health coverage: mental health and substance use disorders (parity)
- AB 890 Nurse Practitioners: scope of practice: practice without standardized procedures
- AB 2360 Telehealth: mental health
- AB 1976 Mental Health Services: assisted outpatient treatment

### b. Mental Health Services Act 3-Year Plan—Posting and Public Hearing

The Mental Health Services Act 3- Year Update Plan is still being worked on with a new

anticipated hearing date in November. The Department will be in close communication with the Behavioral Health Board to ensure updated information of scheduling is received.

c. Update on Substance Use Disorders System of Care

Drug Medi-Cal organized delivery system of care waiver began in January 2019. Data provided was from January 2019 through June 2020. Due to a lag in data submission from providers some information is considered incomplete and does not reflect an accurate count. Factors to consider for the incomplete data are:

- New benefits of case management, recovery services and medication assistance treatment
- Work is in process to receive clarity from DHCS in recovery services for definition on what is allowed and what documentation is required
- Some providers provide services that they are not billing

Data shows that there has been an increase in services to the rural areas as well as a significant increase in telehealth services.

Individuals seeking SUD services can call the Access line and will be greeted by someone from the SUD contracted provider, Beacon.

d. Report on Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness, and Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Grant

The Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) program is run by Kingsview and has the two main components, outreach engagement and linkage, along with specialty mental health treatment services. The program is funded partially through the PATH grant, County matched MHSA funds and Medi-Cal billing. Homeless mentally ill mobile outreach and treatment services to rural areas is also provided through the program.

## VI. Old Business

- a. Report on Virtual Site Visit to Project for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)  
Members of the Behavioral Health Board (BHB) attended a virtual site visit to the PATH program on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The Chairman of the BHB reported the program as excellent with good staff. A suggestion from BHB is consideration for expansion due to the program capacity of only 30 slots. They also suggest considering utilizing alternative housing in addition to the current practice of waiting on permanent supportive housing due to the shortage.
- b. California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C) Central Region Meeting via Teleconference – October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 2020  
CALBHB/C are having their central region virtual meeting Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. and Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup> is from 12:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Interested individuals can register on the CALBHB/C website.

## VII. New Business

- a. Hybrid Board Meeting for October  
No hybrid meeting for October. The topic will be re-visited next month.
- b. Virtual Site Visits – Board & Care Home – Fillmore Christian Gardens  
Jeannette will send the link to join the virtual site visit of Fillmore Christian Gardens on September 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. Jeannette will begin coordinating a site visit date for the October visit to IMPACT program.
- c. Ad Hoc Committee to Review and Revise BHB Goals and Standing Agenda  
Chairman Carolyn Evans requested to form an Ad Hoc Committee to review and revise the BHB Goals and Standing Agenda for the upcoming year and asked for any other volunteers from the BHB members. BHB members Francine Farber and MaryLou Brauti-Minkler volunteered and it was left open for more BHB members who would like to still join.

d. Nominations of Officers for 2021

Nomination for Officers by the BHB members will be made in October and November from the floor or by contacting Jeannette who will report to the BHB. Election of Officers will occur at the end of the December BHB meeting.

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

All Committees except for the Executive Committee remain suspended. Consideration will be taken for any BHB members interested in reviving and chairing a committee virtually.

**IX. Public Comment**

NAMI California Conference is virtual this year and there is no cost to attend. October 12-13, 2020. You can register at [www.namica.org/events](http://www.namica.org/events).

**X. Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

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

1925 E. Dakota Ave. Fresno, California 93726

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