

**MHAB Children’s Advisory Committee (CAC) APPROVED Minutes – Via Video Conferencing**  
**April 24, 2020 ♦ 10:06 a.m.- 11:30 a.m. ♦ 500 Davis St., San Leandro, CA Suite 120, Room B**

Meeting called to order @ 10:10 a.m. by LD Louis Deputy District Attorney (Alameda County Mental Health Unit)

<b>Attendees:</b>	<b>MHAB Members:</b>	✓	LD Louis, MHAB Chair, Deputy District Attorney (Alameda County Mental Health Unit), Vice Chair of Mental Health Advisory Board and Head of Mental Health Unit for the Alameda County District Attorney’s Office					
			Gail Steele, Former Board of Supervisor	✓	Joe Rose, NAMI National Alliance on Mental Illness-ACS	✓	Sarah Oddie, Supervisor Wilma Chan’s Office	
		✓	Adriana Furuzawa, Director of Early Psychosis Division, Felton Institute (Family Services Agency of San Francisco)	✓	Sara Marxer, Parent and member of MHSA Stakeholder Committee, staff member of PEERS		Alanna Powell, President Boldly Me	
		✓	Jessie Carmodi– East Bay Children’s Law Attorneys					
	<b>BHCS Staff:</b>			Andrea Dacumos, BHCS Recording Secretary	✓	Tanya McCullom, Program Specialist, BHCS Office of Family Empowerment	✓	Damon Eaves, BHCS Assistant Director Child and Young Adult
					✓	Kristin Boer, BHCS Office of the Director		

ITEM	DISCUSSION	DECISION / ACTION
I. Roll Call	A. LD Louis conducted roll call	
II. Introductions	B. Introductions made	
III. Approval of Minutes	A. February 28 minutes were approved, with the correction to Vanessa Cedeno spelling of her name on paragraph A. b under Discussion	
IV. Children’s System of Care Report by Damon Eaves	<p>A. Damon reported on <b>COVID-19</b> and how it’s impacting Children’s System of Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Clients are no longer being seen at the clinics</li> <li>b. A few MDs are still seeing clients with a large space between them</li> <li>c. Union rules state we cannot ask if clients are sick or have symptoms</li> <li>d. CBOs are ahead of the County in implementing video conferencing. BHCS has been scrambling to get various platforms to obtain licenses and get hardware functioning</li> <li>e. As 80-85% of services are contracted out, providers are doing the majority of the client meetings</li> <li>f. Staff has been creative in their outreach: drive by and dropping resources off, checking in, phone calls</li> <li>g. Centers are still contacting families and taking referrals.</li> <li>h. Child Crisis services have dropped off, as families are using more of their own tools, rather than be exposed to multiple people at risk. We may continue to see a decreased utilization of services.</li> <li>i. Contracts are coming up, which has been challenging with limited staff at the Cove. Many employees are medically fragile and don’t have the technology to work from home</li> </ul>	

	<p>B. LD brought up the significant economic impact there will be with the lack of service revenue. Leadership is working with BOS and administration in reviewing services. It is speculated that Core services will remain, but new and scheduled projects will be either be delayed or put off.</p> <p>C. LD asked the group if there have been any materials developed for the TAY population on coping with the COVID-19. LD would like to share with Family Justice Center. She would like to see the BHCS website more robust with more points of contacts to resources and partner agencies</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Damon has been dealing with technology and has not dealt with TAY directly.</li> <li>b. Tanya has access to a lot of information from family run organizations and has been sending it out to Family Partners. Also directing families to school districts and certain non-profits who are issuing laptops and tablets. Internet access is the other issue. Looking at providing them with WIFI hotspots, either free or low cost. Most families have a cell phone at the minimum.</li> <li>c. Adriana formed an emergency operation center and compiled a resource guide for the community (unemployment, immigration, how to talk to children, resources and virtual tours of museums, etc.) It also includes online resources that have a peer specialist present.</li> <li>d. Joe agreed while resources are a good idea, there is a population who doesn't have access to technology. Many families use the library for internet access.</li> <li>e. Adriana pointed out teens prefer texting as the medium of communication, however, this is not a reimbursable activity. Phone calls are better, but needs to be more than a check in, but a focus on moving treatment plan forward. Other technology challenges <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Young people often lose their phone privileges</li> <li>ii. Parents using the one household computer.</li> <li>iii. Siblings are being home schooling.</li> <li>iv. Adriana's agency is looking at more robust telehealth platform, to have a secure end to end communication. Also need to think about the hardware and the burn rate.</li> <li>v. Need to be proactive in getting basic needs to families, such as gift cards to get groceries or coloring books and pencils.</li> </ol> </li> <li>f. There needs to be fundraising for supplying tablets for the youth population.</li> <li>g. LD brought the point has been debated if internet should become a regulated utility, treated like phone, water and electricity.</li> <li>h. Jessie's agency has reached out to 1300 foster youth, group homes and caregivers. 18-21 young are most likely to have phone and be out and about. Court has been using the video platform, Blue Jeans for 2 days a week, hearing the most severe cases. Similar to Adriana, checking in to see how clients are doing with stress and anxiety. On a Small scale, sending out a phone. Large scale, insuring policies for 21-year-olds are not dismissed. Another sticking point—visitation has stopped with parents. It's not equal if a family has means, they will find a way. Distant placement prohibits unification, mental health, hospitalization 5150d, stressors and inability to use normal coping skills.</li> </ol> <p>D. Tanya brought up the legality issue of kids not having computers which is essential for distance learning. Free and public education is being denied by this lack. Faith based organizations are doing zoom through youth ministry for the purpose of giving them an outlet and hanging with other youth they'd usually hang out with.</p>	<p>Email any resource links to LD so she can compile info into a resource guide.</p> <p>LD will send a follow up email to remind everyone to solicit information</p>
<p>V. Discussion</p>	<p>A. <b>Strategic Planning</b> on the future of MHAB Children's Advisory Committee</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. LD will write up of target areas for children's committee and confirm with Lea.</li> <li>b. Strategic Planning would also include a handout of what came out of retreat</li> </ol>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c. Report back out to MHAB with this group’s feedback</li> <li>d. Jessie Carmodi is applying for seat on MHAB – which will make 3 sitting board members on this committee</li> </ul>	
<p><b>VI. Chair’s Report by LD Louis</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. LD is continuing to meet about the \$85 million ask from Sheriff Department from HSCA to beef up mental health services at Santa Rita Jail. An ad hoc group has been formed. She will be drafting a letter to MHAB objecting to \$85 million without public input. There were a number of closed meetings and no rationale why it was appropriate, highlighting concerns: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. No transparency with public</li> <li>b. Need Justification of expenditure</li> <li>c. Special meeting to vote on Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup></li> <li>d. Need to take a vote of ad hoc members voted to move letter forward to advisory board, which is highly probable.</li> <li>e. Requesting a public forum.</li> </ul> </li> <li>B. Video platform has made it easier to conduct an emergency session. Would have been far more difficult without the convenience of a video conferencing tool. It has increased participation who would have otherwise not been able to attend during work hours.</li> <li>C. MHAB is Monday before this meeting. Will make this a standing agenda item will be to report on greater MHAB meeting</li> <li>D. LD announced the Alameda County Behavioral Health, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Division is looking for community feedback which will guide MHSA service and funding priorities for the next three years. They are looking for consumers, family, and providers to complete the 23-question survey at <a href="https://acmhsa.org">https://acmhsa.org</a> by <b>May 30, 2020</b></li> <li>E. LD invited Sarah to make sure we got the word out to MHAB steering committee and stakeholders’ group. Need to share with families and networks. Need as much participation to get things moving. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Sarah will solicit for focus groups and PEER youth groups who can participate in focus group in the next week that can comment into MHSA process.</li> <li>b. Joe will reach out to Alanna Powell of Boldly Me and QUEST and TAY 16 and up teenagers who could attend next MHAB meet and use this meeting as a focus group</li> <li>c. If you know of any parent support groups happening, we could access in Alameda County.</li> <li>d. Jessie is a part of a national coalition, will look for TAY.</li> </ul> </li> <li>F. Joe has been meeting with NAMI National who does not have issues with HIPAA confidentiality. He pointed out that AA and NA have been meeting remotely often dealing with personal issue. He will be in touch with AA and NA to find out what they are doing to maintain confidentiality and will bring it back to this group. Jessie is aware of Zoom bombers that have disrupted AA / NA meetings.</li> </ul>	<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>CPM_Eflyer_FINAL (2) 4-16-20.pdf</p> </div> <p>LD will send an email of introduction to form focus group of TAY</p>
<p><b>V. Future Agenda Items</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. UPDATED Presentation on Children’s Services</li> <li>B. Children who are their own primary advocate (e.g. foster youth or youths without appropriate parental care)?</li> <li>C. Care facilities for youth (Fremont Hospital), Out of County Facilities</li> <li>D. Foster Care Issue</li> </ul>	

	E. Anxiety, Stress and Suicide in the TAY Population F. Ask for expansion of services similar to Union City Family Center	
<b>Public Comment on Items not on Agenda</b>	A.	
<b>VI. Adjourn</b>	Meeting Adjourned 11:35a	
<b>Next Meeting</b>	Friday, May 22, 2020 at 10a at 500 Davis Street, San Leandro	

Minutes submitted by Andrea Dacumos