

Alameda County Mental Health Advisory Board Minutes
October 21 2019 ♦ 3:00pm-5:00pm
The Redwood Conference Room, 1100 San Leandro Blvd., San Leandro, CA. 94577

Meeting called to order @ 3:00 PM by Chair Lee Davis.

Roll Call/Introduction of Guests

Mental Health Board Members:

Present: Chair Lee Davis, Vice Chair L.D. Louis, Marsha McInnis, Linda Ramus, Tamika Greenwood, Juliet Leftwich, Loren Farrar, Brian Bloom, Vanessa Cedeno

Absent:

Excused: Sheldon Koiles

BHCS Staff: Dr. Karyn Tribble, Robin Eldridge, Jeanelle Wan

Public: Dianne Lam, Christopher Wong, Lawrence Abbott, Lajuan Thompson, Nava Shaham, Christina Aboud, Patricia Fontana-Narell, Katy Polony, Sue Silva, Kimberly Graves, et al.

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Roll Call / Introductions	Roll call taken. Introductions made.	
Emergency Action	None	
Approval of Minutes	Tabled	
Correspondence		
Action Items:		
BHCS Director's Report	<p>Announcement of Plan Administrator, Imo Momoh, who will start on Monday, December 16. Moving forward with bringing him on board and restructuring the department. He will be responsible for finance, quality management, IS, and IT departments to ensure they are timely and compliant. Primary job to work with division program leaders.</p> <p>Management executive team has a retreat in January. Meeting with leaders to ensure accountability.</p> <p>Hope that one year from now, launch formal strategic planning process. Next year, looking at reorganizing the department and looking for more feedback from the Board, stakeholders, and community. Marsha McInnis asks if East County will be kept in mind, and yes, it aligns with the plans.</p>	
Chair's Report and Discussion	<p>December meeting cancelled due to the holidays. January meeting rescheduled to second Monday from 3-5 pm. Proposed Strategy Session on Saturday, February 1.</p> <p>Bylaws discussion planned for January. New state laws clarify and significantly expand the authority of local boards. The bylaws ad hoc committee will review and make any edits to the memo for discussion by January's meeting. The Board would welcome any information or advice from County Counsel prior to submitting an amended bylaws for approval. Board of Supervisors (BOS) must approve of changes to bylaws after the Board votes.</p>	

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<p>MHAB Committee Chairs' Reports</p>	<p>Children's Advisory Committee: Last meeting, Damon Eaves provided extended update on Children's Systems of Care. One discussion was how to propose potentially to expand parent navigation. Representative from Family Education Resource Center (FERC) to speak on Friday whether there is space within FERC to expand the services to accommodate more people. Organizations in Union City provide good services, but they are limited. Looking into how to support these programs to make it county wide.</p> <p>Criminal Justice Committee: Nathan Hobbs mentioned a new pilot program at Santa Rita that involves MAT and counseling by Options. Inmates of Unit 9 will not have access, only Unit 31 for now. Hoping to have Sergeant Calegari, who specializes in classifying inmates when they are first processed, to come speak. Recently, a group on the committee went to the Santa Rita Jail and will be reporting back. Currently still following up.</p> <p>Adult Committee: No December meeting. There will be one on Tuesday, November 26, from 12-2 pm. Next meeting on January 28. Looking to invite people representing older adults, substance abuse disorder, or possibly criminal justice know how to come in and represent those areas or give a talk. Will plan the calendar for 2020 at the November 25th meeting. Adult and Older Adult SOC Director, Kate Jones, updated the committee on the opening of Amber House, crisis response program, mandatory authorization process for acute care only, managed healthcare plans. Presentation from Chief Clinical Strategy Officer from Bay Area Community Services (BACS), Ben Blake, provided a good overview of what BACS does, including Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Mental Health Association provided patient rights amnesty report. Wants to meet the new director of the mental Health Association of Alameda county and Nathan Hobbs, Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Administrator.</p> <p>QIC: Last meeting not attended by Loren Farrar due to a time conflict.</p>	
<p>Discussion Items</p>	<p>FASMI (Family Advocates for the Seriously Mentally ill) requested increasing the number of subacute treatment beds and facilities and permanent supportive housing for the seriously mentally ill in Alameda County. Through personal accounts and empirical data FASMI underscored that uninterrupted, long term treatment and step down to supported housing is more effective than discharge before stabilization.</p> <p>Dr. Tribble noted that one of the reasons that more acute beds were not available was a statewide perception on a statistical model that there were enough beds available to meet community needs. She noted that for several reasons this was becoming increasingly inaccurate: Alameda treats an increasing number of patients from outside the county, individuals are more acute than they've been before, and the system is not prepared to handle both physical and mental medical challenges. Besides addressing the financial aspect, Dr. Tribble noted one of the barriers to opening a new facility was identifying a suitable location that would be welcomed in the community.</p> <p>The Board raised the potential of using the closed Glen Dyer facility and other county properties to convert to new subacute facilities. The Board of Supervisor Rep. Vanessa Cedeno noted that the</p>	

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	<p>Glenn Dyer facility had been initially considered for conversion to homeless housing, but the plan was discontinued because of public response. It was noted that a similar stigma would need to be overcome to use a facility that had originally been used at a prison for another purpose. The combination of public support and political will were noted as being necessary to make repurposing this facility a success. There are other spaces that could potentially be used, such as hospitals who seem to be interested in working with the county. Most of Fairmont campus is split between the Alameda Health System and the Alameda County. There are other facilities and buildings not being utilized, and housing-related programs are going to be developed.</p> <p>County restrictions on subacute facilities are how they are funded and who the beneficiaries are (i.e. cannot create one for private institutions). Issue of conservatorship in this county: people must be conserved before they can go to a subacute facility.</p> <p>FASMI requested that specific demographic data on Alameda County Subacute facilities be provided by the County. Dr. Tribble agreed to provide data.</p> <p>There was also a discussion on the difficulty of accessing care for loved ones if they didn't meet criteria for "grave disability."</p>	
Public Comments	<p>SPEAKER NAME: Kimberly Graves: Wants more support in providing treatment. Needs more resources, acute beds, and permanent supportive housing.</p> <p>Sue Silva: Lack of mental health care for the severely mentally ill.</p> <p>Christina Aboud: Support more acute beds and supportive housing. Appreciate the efforts of the Board but more needs to be done.</p>	

Adjourned 5:04 pm

Minutes submitted by J. Wan