

Alameda County Mental Health Board Minutes
June 12, 2006 ♦ 12:00pm-2:00pm
Alameda County Conference Center
125 12th Street, Hayward Room, 4th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Meeting called to order @ 12:00pm by Chairperson Marsha McInnis

HOUSEKEEPING

Roll Call / Introduction of Guests

Mental Health Board Members:

Present: Deborrah Bremond, Rochelle Elias, Joe Shimizu, Sup. Gail Steele and Dr. Ron Tauber

Excused: Karen Bridges, Anthony Forrette Anthony Hare, Marsha McInnis and Hal Zawacki

BHCS Staff: Michelle Burns, Barbara Majak, Carolyn Novosel, Marye Thomas, MD, Gary Spicer, Thomas Walker & Agnes Catolos

Public: Berkeley Mental Health Commission (Lorraine Taggart, Linda Smith, Pamela Wilson, Michael Diehl, Trish Thomas, Sandi Harrington, Howard King and Alan Maris), Lois Thompson (Pathways to Wellness), Howie Harp (Lorenzo Kearney, Jerome Attaway, Valerie Robinson and Clarence Brewer)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<u>Approval of May 2006 MHB minutes</u>	May 2006 MHB minutes was not approved due to lack of quorum.	
<u>Correspondence</u>	None	
<u>Presentation</u> Albany/Berkeley Mental Health Commission (ABMHC) and Alameda County Mental Health Board (ACMHB) Joint Meeting	Mr. Shimizu stated to his understanding of the genesis for a joint meeting of Albany/Berkeley Mental Health Commission (ABMHC) and ACMHB was through the MHSA process, ABMHC members felt that there should be a joint meeting to have a better coordination between the ABMHC and the ACMHB and to explore the possibility of cooperating with each other re: the MHSA and other issues. Mr. Shimizu asked Mr. Diehl if he has any comment how it started and what should be done. Mr. Diehl stated that the idea of a joint meeting came from one of the MHSA meetings, Ms. Harrington proposed to have the two commissions meet and exchange information.	

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<p><i>ABMHC and ACMHB Joint Meeting (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>Berkeley could discuss having a consumers involvement because majority of their members are consumers which ACMHB could learn from since MHSA is asking for more consumers and the ACMHB could discuss family involvement because the county's doing a great job re: family which ABMHC could learn from. Mr. Diehl added that there are other areas that need discussion i.e. TAY, HOST Program and North County Programs.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu stated that to facilitate this discussion, he felt that it would be a good idea to exchange info. as to where both commissions could express their concern re: MHSA particularly those programs that the county has in North County and asked a BHCS staff to explain what their MHSA program is all about.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak made a comment that she was at the last MHB Executive Meeting and the discussion centered around what people are interested in and what ABMHC is working on in a more generic sense because it's not just all about MHSA for both boards, programs in Berkeley and a system in Alameda County; need to know each others interest.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. King stated that he's interested to know what the county's working on concerning senior citizens.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Spicer stated that the Dept. has submitted the Community Services and Supports (CS&S) Plans at the county level and Berkeley level, he was in Sacramento for both of the review sessions for both plans. Mr. Spicer felt that it's an ongoing and outstanding issue around DMH determined allocation of CS&S funds to Berkeley. The CS&S plan for the county level in the amount of approximately \$11mil there were plans developed in all 4 age group categories: Older Adults, Adults, TAY (Transition Age Youth) and Children; there is an outstanding issue around Children's plan because of Children Wrap Around Services which the ABMHC addressed in the plan they submitted to the state; there are 3 or 4 proposals in the Older Adult plan that are particularly interest to ABMHC group i.e. program for homeless which will be RFP'd to the community of providers; there's an effort to develop more proposals to integrate primary care and mental health services; there's also an outreach mobile integrated services program that has been primarily targeted to South County but may provide an important model as the county moves along; part of looking at these proposals is to recognize that its a big county and not all proposal will be implemented in all part of the county but the intent is that they are countywide programs and services are available to anyone who</i></p>	

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<p><i>ABMHC and ACMHB Joint Meeting (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>lives in the county. The initial plan is for the first 3 years; there's 2 years remaining in the 3 year planning period with an expectation that there will be an annual update to the plan which will give an opportunity to look at successful programs and how to replicate them or expand them or to look at programs that are not quite working. Mr. Spicer stated that to achieve improvements in those planning updates is going to be a matter of collaboration with communities that are being discussed at today's meeting. How does the ACMHB and the ABMHC interact around the implementation of these proposals, the refinement of these proposals and the annual updates to the plan; What communication structure to put into place now? The flipside is that the ABMHC is a jurisdiction under the MHSA that will receive funds directly from the state and because there's not enough money in the ABMHC allocation it really puts a little more burden to the county because there's also not enough money in the county allocation to really address all these needs it's not because ABMHC has a separate allocation is doesn't mean they live in a separate county; the delivery of services is in the same county and there's no residence test to determine who is eligible to participate.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Spicer gave an update about the CS&S plan that they've submitted to the state, they've not gotten a final approval yet but he's still hopeful to get approval by the end of June, any approval in the month of June is retroactive to June 1st if it doesn't happen till July its starts July 1st it applies to the month its approve. The Dept. has submitted their response to the state initial review letter where they raised some issues around kind of mechanical i.e. the state ask for clarification on how a program should be implemented and somewhere more extensive i.e. how does the county address children wrap around services and the other 2 big issues that Mr. Diehl will appreciate are the proposals of creating homes and how to implement this proposal because its really was not in & out a FSP but it's really design to provide housing support and increase housing availability for clients of FSP. Mr. Spicer felt that that it'll work out pretty clearly how to describe the proposal and how it's communicated pretty clearly to DMH. Mr. Spicer felt pretty confident that the state will approve their response but its the least of their troubles because they've done the easy part, the hard part will be the actual implementation of all those proposals.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Smith stated that what Mr. Spicer said is really exciting and promising and felt that this action that both commissions are communicating is essential because Berkeley is part of Alameda County, however, the MHSA does mandate that Berkeley gets funds whether Mr. Spicer considered it a burden but let the legal system deal with it. Ms. Smith stated that she noticed that the ACMHB has absence of clients and</i></p>	

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<p><i>ABMHC and ACMHB Joint Meeting (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>consumers as part of their board and asked how the board can have an interaction and move forward towards change and transformation when the people that the boards trying to help are not present.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Walker stated that the representation on the MHB is not determined by the board members but by the county Board of Supervisors.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele expressed her frustration about appointing consumers to serve on the board.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu stated that there are currently 5 openings to the MHB and invite ABMHC members if they are interested to serve on the MHB.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Harrington stated that she has submitted an application and also another ABMHC member-Susan Isles has applied. Ms. Harrington addressed that one of the problems that she's hearing from clients in attending or becoming MHB member is the MHB meeting location and suggested issuing stipend.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Diehl stated that there's another applicant Anthony Lopez who was a member of Oakland Homeless Coalition. Mr. Diehl stated that all of these applicants are from Sup. Carson's district.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak stated that it'll be a problem because Sup. Carson doesn't have any openings.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Walker stated that there is an opportunity to do an out of district appointment, there's one BOS who has 3 opening he might consider appointing somebody out of his district.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu that the MHB has done quite a bit re: consumer recruitment and will continue to do it. Mr. Shimizu would like to have discussion on how both commissions will cooperate and coordinate as far as the MHSA and other general issues are concern; he felt that some areas that they can cooperate are: housing issues, homeless issues, recovery center, Family Education Info Center and TAY...Mr. Shimizu asked ABHMC group if they have any other idea.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Wilson suggested having a MHB liaison to the ABMHC.</i></p>	

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<p><i>ABMHC and ACMHB Joint Meeting (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>Mr. Shimizu wanted to know what Berkeley has in mind for their \$800,000 MHSA allocation.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Diehl responded that one of their main concern is TAY i.e. street youth situation in Berkeley.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Wilson suggested having another joint meeting after the submission of the MHSA plan annual review for both ABMHC and MHB to have some feedback whether or not a program need some tweaking and also suggested to do joint meeting on an annual basis.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu agreed with Ms. Wilson about having a joint meeting again by the time of the MHSA Plan Annual Review but he felt that there should be a constant communication between ABMHC and MHB, not limited to once a year and hoping to have continued dialogue. Mr. Shimizu stated that another thing the MHB is doing is to define what the MHB should do in regards to MHSA and asked ABMHC what their commission is going to do.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Diehl responded that they do have certain responsibilities as a commission, part of it is to advise their city council; they have a Steering Committee that is the major drive on the MHSA; its basically the accountability group, part of their job is to solicit public testimony and one of the things they need to look at is their housing sub-committee.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Harrington stated that their role as a Steering Committee, as a commission pursuant to the on-going planning they are not stopping in the process while waiting to hear about the CS&S funds. ABMHC began planning prior to the election or before Prop 63 was passed, they recently heard good news with respect to their individual plan that was submitted to the state, they haven't received the firm ok yet but they are confident that it's going to be approved. Ms. Harrington stated that one of the things they've decided to continue doing not just as a project of the Steering Committee but with the commission as a whole is probably to pull many body as they can, to continue the outreach that they've started during the planning process, just to continue to keep old members, many members of the community as possible. Ms. Harrington stated that one of the reasons they don't have more family members in their commission as oppose to consumers is because they meet the same night as the NAMI Meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Spicer related that their 1st planning session is scheduled on June 19th to have a</i></p>	

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<p><i>ABMHC and ACMHB Joint Meeting (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>preliminary discussion about what action they should do and to develop an appropriate structure for on-going planning because there are new funding stream in the MHSA that they have not develop yet.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak asked who is on the ABMHC Steering Committee.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Harrington responded that their Steering Committee consist of staff, ABMHC members and representatives from the community.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele asked if ABMHC has a Children’s Committee.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Maris responded yes and that he is the chair and they have 2 other commission members on the committee.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele felt that it might be good idea if ABMHC Children’s Committee meets with CAC to have discussion on Berkeley kids to know what their issues are.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Maris felt that its really important that there are consumers and family members representation to the commissions and committee, he felt that Berkeley has done a pretty good job with it and that if ABMHC and MHB are going to work together there should be the similar composition on both commissions. Another thing that ABMHC had with their original proposal is to have the county provide sufficient funds so that ABMHC can go into schools under the direction of a staff person, a qualified staff person. Mr. Maris related that Albany School District recently passed a program, parcel tax to increase programs and one of the items is to increase mental health services to students. He had spoken to the BOS about this issue, they have kids who are in trouble, who need to have their issues addressed and he believe they can do it under severe emotional disturbances and that they need to do it.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele asked if Albany’s using EPSDT money because it’s what the rest of the county is doing to get mental health services in school.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Maris stated that there are some restrictions with EPSDT.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Novosel stated that with EPSDT the child has to be a full scope Medi-Cal that’s why they are doing expansion in the county as it pertains to mental health services in schools.</i></p>	

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<p><i>ABMHC and ACMHB Joint Meeting (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>Mr. Maris believed that there will be some problems outside of EPSDT, who are not full scope Medi-cal.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele addressed that especially in south county there's a lot of kids who are not Medi-cal eligible; they're trying to do a different method in dealing with this issue, they have a program called "Our Kids" which is funded through tobacco money in Oakland and Hayward and some of the money goes to some county services who treat kids who are not Medi-Cal eligible.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Wilson would like to know where MHB committees meet, she's interested with Adult Committee and PAC.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Walker asked ABMHC members to give their mailing addresses to send MHB monthly meeting packet.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. King added that in terms of their structure, their work is done in committees, no report is given to the commission only action items from their standing committees; they do have committees that are issue oriented i.e. May is Mental Health Month Committee every year as part of the May is Mental Health Month and related that this year, Sup. Carson was the guest speaker, they were trying to get people together to mitigate stigma and gave out awards to people who have done work in mental health. Mr. King invited MHB members for their next year's May is Mental Health Month event.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu related that Mr. Walker is the MHB's Awards Committee Chair and that they are doing the same type of celebration in May is Mental Health Month by giving awards. Mr. Shimizu stated that the MHB should decide whether or not to have a liaison to ABMHC as suggested by Ms. Wilson. Mr. Shimizu added having a structure discussion meeting after the June 19th meeting to have an idea how the structure should be.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Harrington believed that they should also send the MHB info about where and when their subcommittees meet in addition to the topics that were addressed.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Maris asked if the joint meeting can also be held in Berkeley.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu replied that it's fine to meet in Berkeley. Mr. Shimizu hoped that this is a very good first step to start the cooperation between MHB and ABMHC.</i></p>	

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p><u>Action Items</u> <i>Nominating Committee Members for the annual Mental Health Board election</i></p>	<p><i>This item was not discussed, due to lack of quorum.</i></p>	
<p><u>Discussion Items</u> <i>Retreat: How does the MHB want to see its role in the MHSA planning?</i></p>	<p><i>Mr. Shimizu stated that the MHB has been discussing this item in their previous meetings; it was discussed to have the retreat on July 15th or Sept. but nothing has been definite yet.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Walker stated that the rationale was that during summer months a number of board members are on vacation and by having the retreat in Sept. it will give MHB and BOS more time to recruit new MHB members.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu felt that by Sept. the MHSA structure will be in more solid form and suggested to consider one Saturday in Sept. for the retreat.</i></p>	
<p><u>Director's Report</u></p>	<p><i>Dr. Thomas reported the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• Budget Update-Dr. Thomas stated that the county budget hearings have been scheduled, June 19th at 1:30pm and invited everyone to come and participate in the budget hearing so that it's known that there really is an interest in what happens. Dr. Thomas stated that there are 2 items added to their budget this year: (1) due to the closure of Oakland Jail (2) the new Juvenile Hall Center. Mr. Kears will be asking that additional \$700,000 in Measure money go into the BHCS budget to pay for the additional workload and responsibility for mental health.</i> <i>• Dr. Thomas related that Alta Bates Herrick the only 5150 receiving facility for adolescent in the county sent a letter to the Dept. stating that they no longer want to have contract part of the reason is that Alta Bates often will get youngsters from all over the county who don't meet Medi-Cal necessity criteria for evaluation.</i> <i>• Dr. Thomas stated that they are now in the process of interviewing for the Medical Director who will take the place of Dr. Singer who just retired. Dr. Thomas stated that the Dept. will have 3 panels which will provide input into the Medical Director selection. 1) Community panel-which would have representation from MHB, providers (both county & contracts; both Alcohol and Drugs & Mental Health), consumers and families. 2) Actual rating panel-will have the structured questions and will actually rate the candidates. 3) Hiring Panel-will consist of Dr. Thomas, Ms. Majak, Mr. Spicer; will take input from the other 2 panels and will make the final selection.</i> 	

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<i>Director's Report (Cont.)</i>	<p><i>Dr. Thomas asked the MHB to appoint one member to participate on the panel and come up with 2 questions that will be relevant to the function of the Medical Director; the interview process will take place on June 21-all day and June 22-from 9am-1pm.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak added that HR wants the questions by the end of Friday or early Monday.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Tauber was appointed to be the MHB representative on the panel.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Thomas stated that re: Criminal Justice, they are still in the process of working with the Sheriff Dept. and the Medical Center to get the inmates hospitalized at John George; there are continuing areas that need to be worked out; there have been issues around security and global positioning devices to help monitor security and screening to make sure that people who are admitted don't post any major criminal justice risk.</i> <p><i>Ms. Majak added that from BHCS perspective when an inmate walk through the door of John George they become a client and they don't want a heavy Sheriff's presence on the unit.</i></p>	
<u>Chair Report</u>	<i>Mr. Shimizu stated that there will be a public meeting of the CA. Mental Health Planning Council, June 14-16, 2006 in San Jose CA.</i>	
<u>Committee Chair Reports</u> <i>Adult Committee Report</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>Awards Committee Report</i>	<i>Mr. Walker stated that the MHB 6th Annual Community Service Awards that was held on May 25th was well attended.</i>	
<i>Children's Advisory Committee (CAC) Report</i>	<p><i>Ms. Novosel stated the CAC discussed the following at their last meeting:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Assets and challenges for each of the contractors in the Children's Network</i> • <i>AB3632 Special Education Mental Health</i> • <i>IDEA-Federal dollars for Special Education</i> 	
<i>Housing Committee Report</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>Public Awareness Committee (PAC) Report</i>	<i>Mr. Shimizu stated that at the last PAC meeting on May 16th, they had a record of 9 people in attendance; Ms. Heiliger reported that this year the committee has 19 presentations of the Stepping Beyond the Stigma Presentation; so far they had a total of 376 presentations. Mr. Shimizu stated that at their presentation in Alameda Point Collaborative, Sup. Alice Lai-Bitker came and she mentioned it to the BOS that she was</i>	

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<i>PAC Report (Cont.)</i>	<i>very impressed with the presentation. The PAC is still working on developing a presentation for youth. Mr. Shimizu invited ABMHC members to join PAC on anti-stigma issues.</i>	
<u><i>Liaison Committee Report</i></u>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<u><i>Public Comments</i></u>	<p><i>Mr. Brewer addressed his concern to the BMHC members about a client who has some jurisdiction issue around housing in Berkeley.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Attaway addressed the importance of the Howie Harp Multi Service Center (HHMSC) to a lot of mental health clients, he related that he is an example because he was a client at HHMSC who had nowhere to live, no hope, no goals but when he came to the center his life was changed, now he is sort of a role model to the community.</i></p>	
<u><i>Board Comments</i></u>	<i>Mr. Shimizu stated that the NAMI Walks took place on June 3rd, BHCS staff who participated were: Dr. Thomas, Doug Del Paggio and Maxine Heiliger. PAC team had collected over \$2500 and \$3200 online donations.</i>	

*Meeting was adjourned @ 2:00PM
Minutes submitted by Agnes F. Catolos*