

**Alameda County Mental Health Board Minutes**  
**September 11, 2006 ♦ 12:00pm-2:00pm**  
**Lakeside Plaza Building, 1401 Lakeside Dr. Room 1107**  
**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, Karen Bridges, Marsha McInnis, Joe Shimizu, Ron Tauber and Sup. Gail Steele*

**Excused:**       *Rochelle Elias and Anthony Hare*

**Absent:**         *Hal Zawacki*

**BHCS Staff:** *Barbara Majak, Carolyn Novosel, Marye Thomas, M.D. & Agnes Catolos*

**Public:**         *Martin Paley, Linda Smith and Michael Diehl (Berkeley Mental Health Commission), Lorenzo Kearney, Jerome Attaway, Valerie Robinson, Clarence Brewer, CC Wynn, Curtis McBride, Mary Johnson and Dexter Shabazz (Howie Harp Multi Service Center)*

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b><u>Approval of August 2006 MHB minutes</u></b>	<i>No correction was made to the August 2006 MHB minutes.</i>	<i>Approval of August 2006 minutes...M/S/C Ms. Bridges/Dr. Tauber All favor as written</i>
<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	<i>None</i>	
<b><u>Presentation</u></b> <i>Housing Multi Plan</i>	<i>Ms. Majak stated that Ms. Linda Gardner has been a fabulous partner with BHCS re: housing...Housing is one of the most serious concerns and issues for clients that BHCS serve both individuals with mental illness as well as individuals with alcohol and drug issues. Ms. Majak stated that they've struggled in developing housing for the population that they are serving since they are not housing experts; housing has its own language, laws and restrictions. Dr. Thomas met with Ms. Gardner and asked her help re: the Federal Government's request to all counties as well as the communities across the country to initiate plans to end homelessness in 10 years.</i>	

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<p><i>Housing Multi Plan (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>Ms. Gardner presented the Housing Multi Plan “Every1Home” Ending Homelessness in Alameda County which was consist of the following topics:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>History of Every1Home</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Three Systems of care joined together to develop a plan to end chronic homelessness in 10 years and address other homelessness over 15 years:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>HIV/AIDS Care</i></li> <li>2) <i>Homeless Continuum of Care</i></li> <li>3) <i>Mental Health Services</i></li> </ol> </li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <i>Every1Home Sponsoring Agencies</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Alameda County-BHCS, Housing &amp; Community Development, Public Health-Office of AIDS Admin., Social Services Agency</i></li> <li>○ <i>City of Berkeley-Housing Department &amp; Mental Health</i></li> <li>○ <i>City of Oakland-Community Development &amp; Human Services</i></li> <li>○ <i>Countywide Continuum of Care Council</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ <i>Every1Home Target Populations</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) <i>Homeless &amp; Chronically Homeless People</i></li> <li>2) <i>Low income people with HIV/AIDS</i></li> <li>3) <i>Low income people with mental illness</i></li> </ol> </li> <li>▪ <i>What is Homelessness?</i></li> <li>▪ <i>What is Chronic Homelessness?</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Who is Homeless in Alameda County?</i></li> <li>▪ <i>2005 Homeless Household Type</i></li> <li>▪ <i>2005 Chronic Homelessness Data</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Behavioral Health &amp; Homelessness</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Mainstream Systems &amp; Homelessness</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Lack of Affordable Housing</i></li> <li>▪ <i>National Response to Homelessness</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Every1Home Approach</i></li> <li>▪ <i>5 Major Goals of the Plan</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Preventing Homelessness</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Increasing Housing Opportunities</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Improving &amp; Coordinating Services</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Measuring Success</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Developing Leadership</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Why Adopt or Endorse the Plan</i></li> </ul> <p><i>A detailed handout was distributed.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak commended Ms. Gardner and her staff for working tirelessly on the housing plan.</i></p>	

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<p><b><u>Discussion Items</u></b> A. Housing Multi Plan</p>	<p><i>Ms. Bridges asked about adopting the housing plans, what the expectations from the cities are. What can they do?</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Gardner responded that they deliberately have not yet done the piece on what housing should go or in what cities because its not how it works; they want the cities to adopt the broad goals and work together to approach it and part of the implementation will be for each city to look at the plan as part of the whole.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Bridges suggested including the housing plan to the MHB presentation to the BOS.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele felt that there are so many questions that are not answered in the plan i.e. will the plan include helping homeless individuals get jobs or trainings and that there should be some steps of what's happening with people and what actually is being done.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Gardner responded that they do have an annual action plan that they are currently implementing and part of it is to be developed in the next 2-3 years but it's not a plan for individual level that Sup. Steele spoke about, it's really a broad systems plan that sets the framework.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak felt that the FSP's in the MHSA can get to the individual level, there are housing subsidy \$s in each FSP's; BHCS, Mental Health and Alcohol and Drugs Providers and cities need to be on the same table and have discussions re: how to secure housing for individuals who are literally living on the streets.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Gardner agreed with Ms. Majak's idea because the EveryIHome plan will never be at the level of individuals because whether an individual need a job or training it will take a dedicated concentrated work of people that will work directly with each individuals or families, programs like FSP's, shelter plus care etc. are at the individual level.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Tauber felt that it will be good to have 15,000 units and that it will be a wonderful accomplishment.</i></p>	
<p>B. Finalizing MHB Retreat Agenda Items</p>	<p><i>Mr. Paley expressed his appreciation of the MHB members cooperation with the interviews...MHB retreat will formally start at 9 am until 4pm, in the Alameda Room.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Paley presented some of the areas that were covered in the interviews which will be the agenda items for the retreat:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>MHB membership-recruitment, orientation and sustaining membership</i></li> <li>▪ <i>Board structure and process</i></li> </ul>	

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<p><i>Finalizing MHB Retreat Agenda Items (Cont.)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Communications-MHB members would like to have a dialogue with BHCS management</i></li> <li>▪ <i>MHB responsibility, accountability and effectiveness</i></li> <li>▪ <i>History of MHB</i></li> <li>▪ <i>BHCS expectations of the board</i></li> <li>▪ <i>MHB expectations of BHCS</i></li> <li>▪ <i>How to build a strong and effective board</i></li> <li>▪ <i>To develop a work plan</i></li> </ul> <p><i>Mr. Paley stated that he would like to help the MHB achieve a higher level of effectiveness and higher level of satisfaction about their roles as board members.</i></p>	
<p><b><u>Action Items</u></b> <i>Housing Multi Plan</i></p>	<p><i>Ms. Bridges made a motion for the approval of the Every1Home Plan.</i></p>	<p><i>M/S/C Ms. Bridges/ Dr. Tauber All favor</i></p>
<p><b><u>Director's Report</u></b></p>	<p><i>Dr. Thomas and Ms. Majak reported on the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Adolescent Crisis Response Center-Dr. Thomas stated that BHCS Dept. received only 1 respond to RFP and it was from 2 providers working together to provide a joint program but unfortunately the proposal was over the allocated fund, the dept. is in the process now of trying to negotiate the proposal down to fit within the available resources.</i></li> <li>▪ <i>MIOCR (Mentally Ill Offender Crime Reduction)-Ms. Majak stated that a new MIOCR Grant is now available at the state level. BHCS Dept. had MIOCR funding in the past but it was taken out of the state budget, its back and the BHCS Dept. will be applying for this revenue. MIOCR is really a forensic focus program but it does recognize that many individuals who are in jails have psychiatric diagnosis.</i></li> <li>▪ <i>MHSA Update-Ms. Majak stated that MHSA updates are available online; the 1<sup>st</sup> RFP FSP-HOST Program for homeless in Downtown Oakland is ready to be submitted at the end of this week and as soon as the 1<sup>st</sup> RFP is completed it will be use as a learning ground on how to roll out all the other RFP. Another areas that are making progress are the: 1) Sole Source which is the Greater Hope for the City of Fremont 2) Improving access and crisis care for Latino and Asian population. Announcement of civil service positions which will be available soon can also be found online i.e. Director of Housing, Director of Older Adult, Director of Transition Age Youth and Director of Training. Ms. Majak stated that one other piece of the MHSA is the Technology, the dept. is starting conversations about a new Info. System that will probably begin with desktop capabilities i.e. documentation of charts. One of the other major piece of the MHSA besides Capital &amp; Technology is the Prevention and Early Intervention; there is a Prevention and Early Intervention sub-committee that has been chaired Mary Hayashi from Alameda County. Ms. Majak stated that it's important to take a look at what direction the sub-committee is going, one of the biggest controversy is that some</i></li> </ul>	

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<p><i>Director's Report (Cont.)</i></p>	<p><i>members of the subcommittee would like to see all Prevention and Early Intervention \$s go to children but there are very strong voices saying that all age populations have a need for the Prevention and Early Intervention initiatives throughout the state. Alameda County has 2 representatives in the subcommittee: Jay Mahler (new Consumer Manager) and Alex Brisco (from HCSA). Information about a connection between DMH and Oversight and Accountability Commission (OAC) can be found at the website; OAC is responsible for the approval of how the \$s are spent. In the first portion of the MHSA planning that was just completed the Community, Services and Supports DMH did the approval with the OAC reviewing; in the Prevention and Early Intervention OAC will do approval of how \$s are spent with DMH reviewing.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Bridges asked if TAY is included when the Dept. is talking about adolescent.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak responded that they generally separating the populations: adolescents are up to 16-18 yrs. old officially 18-26yrs old.; there is a discussion now about Transition Age Adults who are moving into older middle age and elderly; MHSA-TAY are generally older adolescents up to 25-26 yrs. old.</i></p>	
<p><b><u>Chair Report</u></b></p>	<p><i>Ms. McInnis distributed a draft of the MHB's presentation to the BOS and she asked MHB members to look through the draft and bring it to the MHB Retreat. Ms. McInnis mentioned that Mr. Shimizu is leaving the MHB and that the board will miss his invaluable support, knowledge and advocacy.</i></p>	
<p><b><u>Committee Chair Reports</u></b> <i>Adult Committee</i></p>	<p><i>No report given.</i></p>	
<p><i>Awards Committee Report</i></p>	<p><i>No report given.</i></p>	
<p><i>Children's Advisory Committee (CAC) Report</i></p>	<p><i>Sup. Steele stated that they were suppose to discuss the Katie A. lawsuit (a lawsuit about kids not getting mental health services at very critical times) but the person who is doing the presentation was not able to attend.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak stated that Social Services is the lead agency in Katie A. lawsuit and whatever instruction the judge gives, Social Services have to define who are at risk.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele addressed that most of the kids at Foster Care seems to have substance abuse issues and that the statistics is not matching the reality of the street. Sup. Steele felt that the MHB together with the Board of Supervisors and Social Services should meet with Alcohol &amp; Drugs to take a look at substance abuse concerns.</i></p>	

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<i>Housing Committee Report</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>Public Awareness Committee (PAC) Report</i>	<p><i>Mr. Shimizu stated that PAC had 3 meetings in August:</i>  <i>Aug. 10<sup>th</sup>-Special meeting to review accomplishment and appreciation of Speaker's Bureau volunteers</i>  <i>Aug. 15<sup>th</sup>-Regular PAC meeting</i>  <i>Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>-they've discussed Steve Bischoff's proposal re: presenting anti-stigma presentation to the Family Group. Mr. Shimizu stated that they continuously having problem with family members becoming Speakers Bureau speakers and be able to go to various presentations.</i>  <i>Mr. Shimizu added that they do need to market more Speakers Bureau Presentations to the religious group.</i></p>	
<b><u>Liaison Committee Report</u></b> <i>Criminal Justice Oversight Committee</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<b><u>Public Comments</u></b>	<p><i>Mr. Brewer stated that the Housing Multi Plan presentation is the best thing he heard re: homelessness and that Ms. Gardner did a great job. Mr. Brewer stated that substance abuse does play a big role in homelessness not just in Alameda County but across the country.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Kearney related that he attended a 5150 meeting in Berkeley on Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> and HIV meeting on Aug. 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Kearney asked for support to sponsor him to attend conferences 1) To Change Culture in Behavioral Health Care in Salt Lake City, Utah and 2) Shaping Housing and Policy for future generation in Chicago.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Debbie Thomas stated that she would like to know what is going on with Howie Harp Multi Service Center (HHMSC) and would like a clarification because she attended a meeting and learned that there will be no more Case Management and no more RFP for the center.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Thomas responded that she's not sure what meeting Debbie Thomas attended because the BHCS Dept. has made a commitment to continue services at HHMSC at present level until its replace with something better.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Attaway thanked BHCS Dept. for keeping the HHMSC open. Mr. Attaway addressed that they need money for more service trainings, elevator at HHMSC is not working and they are not receiving money from the county in 2 months.</i></p>	

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<i>Public Comments (Cont.)</i>	<p><i>Dr. Thomas responded that she doesn't know why HHMSC is not receiving money because as far as Dr. Thomas knows there is no reason to be holding back with the HHMSC funding and that they are committed in paying the contract and have HHMSC staff get paid.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Gardner mentioned that they are working towards creating some new bodies to help implement the housing plan and that she would love to talk to anyone who would be interested in serving.</i></p>	
<b><u>Board Comments</u></b>	<p><i>Mr. Shimizu stated that this month's MHB meeting is his last meeting to attend because he was ask to serve as the President of Piedmont Gardens where he lives and that it's been 7 years since his son died, he felt that its time for him to change course of his life. Mr. Shimizu thanked everyone for their kindness and cooperation and stated that he will send Sup. Lai-Bitker his resignation letter.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Tauber stated that Mr. Shimizu is a model for seniors.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Shimizu stated that one of the things he learned through involvement to mental health services particularly in MHSA is that services should be client and family centered but in his personal opinion it's not the case its a management or corporation centered.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Tauber stated that he phoned all the board members and encouraged them to attend MHB retreat and also he spoke with Sup. Carson's Chief of Staff Lara Sims re: Hal Zawacki's removal from the board.</i></p>	

*Meeting was adjourned @ 2:05PM  
Minutes submitted by Agnes F. Catolos*