

Alameda County Mental Health Board Minutes
July 9, 2007 ♦ 12:00pm-2:00pm
Bay Fair Mall Community Room 2nd Floor
San Leandro, CA 94578

Meeting called to order @ 12:10 by Chairperson Marsha McInnis

HOUSEKEEPING

Roll Call / Introduction of Guests

Mental Health Board Members:

Present: Maxine Oliver-Benson, Deborrah Bremond, Karen Bridges, Rochelle Elias, Anthony Hare, Marsha McInnis, Jose Reyes, and Ron Tauber

Excused: Stephen Post and Sup. Gail Steele

Absent: Teresa Basa and Pat Buchanan

BHCS Staff: Agnes Catolos, Barry Hall, Barbara Majak, Robert Ratner, MD, Gary Spicer, and Marye Thomas, MD

Public: Michael Diehl (BMHC); Howie Harp Representatives-Jerome Attaway, Lorenzo Kearney, and Rick Herrera Peacemakers Group-Pamela Gaddies and Karen Mitchell; Traveler's Aid-Gregory Ash, and John Cummings

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<u>Approval of June 2007 MHB minutes</u>	No correction was made to the June 2007 MHB minutes.	Approval of July 2007 minutes... M/S/C Ms. Bridges/ Ms. Elias All favor
<u>Correspondence</u>	Santa Clara Mental Health Board Minutes and Agenda	
<u>Presentation</u> Housing Presentation by Dr. Robert Ratner	Dr. Ratner presented an overview of BHCS Housing Services as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the availability of a range of affordable housing options • Minimize the time individuals spend living in institutional settings • Track and monitor the type, quantity, and quality of housing • Provide centralized information and resources • Coordinate educational and training programs • Work toward the prevention and elimination of homelessness in Alameda County through 	

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<i>Housing Presentation (Cont.)</i>	<p><i>active participation in the EveryOne Home plan implementation.</i></p> <p><i>Current and Planned Projects:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Pool of Housing Advisors: Consumers and family members</i> • <i>Funding and finding new housing opportunities for people with mental illness and alcohol/drug related problems</i> • <i>Expanding and preserving affordable housing in Alameda County</i> • <i>Managing a Housing Assistance Fund</i> • <i>Creating a centralized inventory of housing resources</i> • <i>Supporting and helping to improve residential care facilities/board and care homes</i> • <i>Housing and housing related information and training sessions</i> • <i>Improving data collection and evaluation related to housing outcomes</i> • <i>Actively supporting the EveryOne Home plan to end homelessness in Alameda County: www.everyonehome.org</i> <p><i>Dr. Ratner also discussed: 1) Alameda County BHCS Housing budget info for 2007-2008 and potential housing impact over time 2) Using housing dollars for construction/rehab/acquisition vs. rental subsidies 3) Data re: housing status of adult service team participants</i></p>	
<p><u>Action Items</u> A. Election of MHB Chair</p>	<p><i>Ms. Bridges made a motion to elect Ms. Elias as the new MHB Chair. Ms. Bremond was asked to serve as interim Chair from August to November because Ms. Elias will be involved in the development of Anti Stigma Conference.</i></p>	<p><i>M/S/C Ms. Bridges/ Mr. Hare All Favor</i></p>
<p>B. CALMH (CA. Local Mental Health) Board</p>	<p><i>Ms. McInnis appointed Ms. Oliver-Benson and Mr. Hare as MHB liaisons to the CALMHB.</i></p>	
<p>C. MHB Orientation/Retreat on Sept. 15th</p>	<p><i>Ms. McInnis stated that this item should be called MHB Training/Orientation as oppose to Retreat.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Bridges made a motion to approve MHB Training/Orientation on Sept. 15th.</i></p>	<p><i>M/S/C Ms. Bridges/ Mr. Hare All Favor</i></p>
<p><u>Discussion Items</u> A. Housing Committee Chair or Liaison</p>	<p><i>Mr. Hare stated that in regards to Dr. Ratner's suggestion not to have a Housing Committee yet, he felt that having a liaison to the Housing meetings would be easier to do.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Ratner stated that he is willing to come to MHB meeting to give regular housing update.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. McInnis asked who would be interested to serve as a liaison to Housing.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Bridges stated that she is interested to serve as the liaison to Housing.</i></p>	

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<u>Director's Report</u>	<p><i>Dr. Thomas discussed the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Budget Update-the Alameda County budget passed; there was no reduction for BHCS; the dept. is anticipating a stable year in terms of not having to manage reduction as well as there is a growth going on in MHSA funding.</i> • <i>Willow Rock Center (WRC)-opened last week. WRC consist of 2 components: 1) an acute psychiatric hospital 2) crisis stabilization program.</i> • <i>Inmates at Santa Rita/Criminal Justice System-the BHCS and the Sheriff Depts. are looking at reopening the unit at North County jail; it is like an inpatient unit, clients have the same rights as though they were in general population i.e. probable cause hearings etc.; it is more efficient arrangement and a much better clinical treatment.</i> • <i>MHSA Update-Mr. Spicer provided MHSA update as follows:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>The decision on spending the additional augmentation \$4.2 mil has been completed; the performance contract between the county and the state has to be amended to account for the augmentation of the MHSA funding.</i> ○ <i>The HOST (Homeless Program in North County) is up and running which serve a few clients, 1 client was housed and 1 client got a job.</i> ○ <i>The STAY program has started at Fred Finch</i> ○ <i>The BACS North County Senior Homeless Program is expected to start within the month of July.</i> ○ <i>The Family Education Research Center is within the guidance and process of a steering committee that is trying to create a start up program by the end of this calendar year.</i> ○ <i>Need to fill a position for MHSA Senior Planner because Margaret Walkover is now the Director of Wellness Recovery and Resiliency</i> ○ <i>A 2nd interview for the hiring process of the Older Adult Director is scheduled later this month.</i> ○ <i>The MHB will receive the progress report for MHSA implementation in MHB August Meeting.</i> ○ <i>There has been a delay in the release of guidelines for the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI), the latest news was that those guidelines will not be finalize until late Oct. which is good and bad news for the dept...bad news because it slows down the arrival of PEI funds and good news because it gives the dept. enough time to develop a planning process in place.</i> ○ <i>Workforce Development early guidelines are out and final version of guidelines is expected to be completed in August; Alameda County might receive about \$3.5 mil of Workforce Development funding over 2 ½ year period.</i> • <i>Dr. Thomas thanked Ms. McInnis for 4 years of service and complimented her for the</i> 	

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	<i>wonderful job she had done and the leadership she provided.</i>	
<u>Chair Report</u>	<i>Ms. McInnis thanked everyone, she stated that it was such an honor being appointed to the board, she learned so much about the county mental health system and that she is proud to say as a citizen of Alameda County she felt that the BHCS Dept. is doing things responsibly.</i>	
<u>Committee Chair Report:</u> <i>Adult Committee Report</i>	<i>Mr. Hare stated that the Adult Committee discussed the following at their last meeting:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Continued discussion of wellness and recovery; how they might be defined.</i> • <i>Patients' rights concern</i> • <i>WRC--the committee discussed whether they should get a WRC report because of 5150 concerns but committee members felt that the Children's Committee is the appropriate place for WRC report.</i> • <i>Unidentified or underserved population-i.e. hearing impaired and mute population</i> 	
<i>Children's Advisory Committee (CAC) Report</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>Housing Committee Report</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>MHB Recruiting Committee</i>	<i>Mr. Hall stated that there is a new appointee Stephen Post-District Three and one application was forwarded to the Board of Supervisor.</i>	
<i>Public Awareness Committee (PAC) Report</i>	<i>Ms. Elias reported the following:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Cable TV showing of Mental Health Matters is expanded up to 6 more programs; it is going to be shown on various Comcast cable in the East Bay for the next 6 months.</i> • <i>Re: Challenge in Stigma Conference, PAC was able to recruit Dr. Shaw who has written a book about stigma, he will be helping with the planning of challenge in stigma conference. Ms. Elias invited everyone who would be willing to come and work on some of the PAC programs.</i> • <i>PAC need to work on updating the media involvement re: mental health issues; they are looking at 2 ideas to have media involvement 1) through the Mental Health Matters Programs 2) By having a person on PAC focus to work with media i.e. newspaper article re: mental issues and stigma.</i> 	
<u>Liaison Committee Report</u> <i>Criminal Justice Oversight Committee (CJOC)</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>MHSA</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	

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<i>Berkeley Mental Health Commission (BMHC)</i>	<p><i>Mr. Diehl discussed the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>BMHC is dealing with the budget planning process, unfortunately they got some budget cuts with some programs i.e. housing programs.</i> • <i>State budget</i> • <i>City of Berkeley Mayor public comments for everyone re: problematic street behavior; the Mayor is looking at raising parking fees to create \$2 mil.</i> • <i>Need to recruit BMHC members.</i> 	
<u>Public Comments</u>	<p><i>Mr. Attaway thanked Mr. Spicer for fixing the elevator and Ms. Crowder for her support. Mr. Attaway stated that a lot of beautiful things taking place at Howie Harp i.e. fundraising. Mr. Kearney thanked everyone for not giving up on Howie Harp and he stated that he is really appreciative of the BHCS Dept. working with the clients and felt amazed re: Housing Presentation and hoped that everything goes well.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Gaddis stated that she teach a class at Howie Harp and started a group called “operation save a life” and provided info. re: Peacemakers group who help people on the street; they go to area where there are troubles. Ms. Gaddis addressed the need to have an extended program at Howie Harp.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Herrera addressed his concern re: housing issues.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Mitchell stated that she is a homeless case manager and a coordinator for Peacemakers as well and she is interested to be involve with MHB to be able to bring more support and more ideas.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Hare stated that Howie Harp needs a place to make their report and that he felt frustrated that Howie Harp have needs and they don’t know how to get into BHCS attention.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Spicer responded that Gigi Crowder is now the liaison to Howie Harp.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Ash addressed that Howie Harp needs to stay open for more than 3 hours.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak responded that there is a funding issue to make Howie Harp stay open for longer hours.</i></p>	
<u>Board Comments</u>	None	

*Meeting was adjourned @ 2:25PM
Minutes submitted by Agnes F. Catolos*