

**Alameda County Mental Health Board Minutes**  
**October 8, 2007 ◊ 12:00pm-2:00pm**  
**Bay Fair Mall Community Room 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**San Leandro, CA 94578**

Meeting called to order @ 12:15 by Vice-Chair Deborrah Bremond

**HOUSEKEEPING**

Roll Call / Introduction of Guests

**Mental Health Board Members:**

**Present:** Deborrah Bremond, Pat Buchanan, Rochelle Elias, Maxine Oliver-Benson, Dr. Stephen Post, Jose Reyes, Sup. Gail Steele, and Dr. Ron Tauber

**Absent:** Karen Bridges, Rochelle Elias and Anthony Hare

**BHCS Staff:** Fiona Branagh, Barry Hall, Linda Hunt, Barbara Majak, Carolyn Novosel, Gary Spicer, Marye Thomas, MD, and Agnes Catolos

**Public:** James, Kirkham and Jill Mason (Seneca), Ms. Laurie and Ms. Maxwell (Telecare), Margot Dashiell (AC Family Coalition), Robert Farrow (AC Mental Health Assoc.), Martina L. (HHMSC) Lorenzo Kearney (HHMSC), Joseph Carter (HHMSC), Rocky Lambert Sr. (HHMSC), Melvin Johnson (HHMSC)

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<b>ACTION</b>
<b><u>Approval of September 2007 MHB minutes</u></b>	No correction was made to the September 2007 MHB minutes.	M/S/C Ms. Buchanan/ Mr. Reyes All favored
<b><u>Correspondence</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Santa Clara County Meeting Agenda and Minutes</li> <li>• Flyer for the Challenging the Stigma and Discrimination Conference on Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> at Unitarian Church, Oakland, CA from 8am-4pm</li> </ul>	
<b><u>Presentation Willow Rock Center (WRC)</u></b>	Ms. Novosel provided a background on why WRC was created...in 1994 Ms. Novosel was asked to develop a crisis team that will go to John George to intervene because children go to JG together with the general population; in 1995 a contract with Alta Bates was developed to receive 5150 children, to do the evaluation and to determine whether or not inpatient was indicated or could adolescent be sent home; the Alta Bates contract lasted for	

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<p>WRC Presentation (Cont.)</p>	<p><i>10 years and in 1999 or 2001 STARS facility which is a group home and a psych facility for adolescent was closed down. Ms. Novosel stated that the BHCS wanted to have a real dedicated facility for adolescents as a result WRC was developed and opened on July 2007, a crisis response service and psychiatric health facility to serve adolescents from ages 12-17 years old.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Mason, Director of Seneca Center Residential Services stated that Seneca operates the 23 hour component and the outpatient services...any youth who is placed on a 5150 in Alameda County comes through WRC, they are evaluated to determine whether or not they need to be in the 24 hour center or if they need to be admitted into the inpatient program. When kids come to the 23 hour program; staff help them to settle down, help them recover from any crisis they just experienced and help them to get back into the community as quickly as possible; clinicians are available 24/7 as well as 2 support counselors; staff contact families and work with families to come up with the safety plan to get the youth back into the community and back in their home environment. Outpatient services are short term follow-up services for kids who may not be link to existing services in the community or may be coming back to WRC repeatedly who may need a higher level of care and more services, follow-up outpatient services will be provided for up to 30 days.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Lourie stated that Telecare Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) is the inpatient unit for adolescents with 12 beds, for ages 12-17 and serve kids who cannot be manage in 23 hour setting and tend to have severe medication issues or higher level of acuity; kids stay for an average of up 4 days, it is a short intense stabilization of the kids; kids are returned to placement that are determined best for them i.e. to their homestead, foster care or group home placement.</i></p> <p><i>Telecare PHF top 5 diagnoses are: 1) Psychosis 2) Impulse Control Disorder 3) Mood Disorder 4) Bipolar 5) Depression. Telecare work with families, community providers who are involve in kids lives; some kids are living with extended family; they also work with Children Welfare System re:, kids who are living in foster care or group homes, Probation Dept. and school districts. Telecare use a model called “Discovery Centered Clinical System” which is used for years with their adults program and it is adopted for the adolescent population, this model is about awakening kids hopes, having to figure out who they are, how they want to move forward and what choices will they make that will help them have a better future.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Branagh stated that one of the goals at WRC was to prevent hospitalization and it was partly the reason why a crisis response was set up, there are 60% of the 5150 youth who are</i></p>	

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<i>WRC Presentation (Cont.)</i>	<i>going to the crisis response service and not being hospitalized, it is a great saving financially to the county as well as helpful to kids by not having to go through the whole process of going on to inpatient unit.</i>	
<b><u>Action Items</u></b> <i>A. To set aside 10 min of every MHB Meeting to hear from groups representing concerns of families of people with mental illness</i>	<i>Discussion took place re: several suggestions for an appropriate motion re: Alameda County Family Coalition (ACFC)</i>  <i>Dr. Tauber made a motion that the board invites the ACFC to establish a liaison to the MHB.</i>	<i>M/S/C Dr. Tauber/ Sup. Steele Motion Passed</i>
<i>B. Mental Health Board Meeting Location</i>	<i>Mr. Hall stated that the concern re: the current MHB meeting location-Community Room at Bay Fair Mall is that at some point the mall will be renovating and expanding their retail operations and at some point they could take the community room...MHB needs a new location that is centrally located and close to BART.</i>  <i>Ms. Bremond suggested one location that the board could consider is the First Five Office located at 1100 San Leandro Blvd. corner of San Leandro Blvd. and Davis St., BART is across the street and with free parking. Ms. Bremond was able to reserve a conference room for a year starting Dec. 2007.</i>  <i>Mr. Reyes made a motion to approve the First Five Office to be the new MHB meeting location starting Dec. 2007.</i>	<i>M/S/C Mr. Reyes/ Ms. Buchanan Motion Passed</i>
<b><u>Discussion Items</u></b>	<i>None</i>	
<b><u>Director's Report</u></b>	<i>Dr. Thomas discussed the following:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>• State Audit-Prop 36 a treatment in lieu of incarceration in substance abuse was audited, there was no finding of noncompliance.</i></li> <li><i>• External Quality Review Audit-which is the Federal Govt. audit of the State on compliance for Medical and Medicaid rules and because the BHCS Dept. has the local mental health plan, they audit the Dept. to make sure that they comply with medical quality regulation, the audit result turned up very well. Dr. Thomas will share a written report to the board re: the percentage of clients who are on medical who access mental health services, Alameda County is above the state average in Medical penetration for practically all population and probably lead the state re: penetration for children due to the EPSDT expansion. The EQR Auditors also remarked that BHCS website is one of the best practices.</i></li> </ul>	

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<p><i>Director's Report (Cont.)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>MHSA Update- Mr. Spicer provided updates re: MHSA as follows:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>BHCS is currently on the implementation phase of Community Services and Supports (CSS) funding which is 50% of the MHSA funds.</i></li> <li>○ <i>CSS claim for Alameda County is largely implemented with 2 exceptions 1) Mental Health Court Specialist Program-to put a mental health professional in the court to assist clients 2) Integration of mental health and primary care for older adults.</i></li> <li>○ <i>BHCS is currently launching Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) planning process, PEI funds allocation in Alameda County is about \$7.2 mil a year, compare to the CSS which is about \$16 mil and about \$4 mil supplement.</i></li> <li>○ <i>PEI planning process is well underway, PEI planning process model is similar to CSS such as community outreach and education, identifying focus group to provide input etc., one distinction with PEI planning is creating a specific planning panel around underserved ethnic populations.</i></li> <li>○ <i>The CA Dept. of Mental Health and the Oversight and Accountability Commission (OAC) issued planning guidelines which will be included in the planning panel structure as well as in the Ongoing Panel Council (OPC) which is the ongoing stakeholder body which was made in placed prior to planning for PEI and Workforce Devt and through annual update as they occur.</i></li> <li>○ <i>PEI planning process timeline, the Dept. is hoping to be able to present a plan to the OAC by March 2008; the planning process is to be concluded by a public hearing to be conducted by the MHB, the public hearing occurs at the end of a 30 day review and a comment period by the general public.</i></li> <li>○ <i>Workforce planning is underway as well, it is a little different, it is likely to be driven by need assessment which is a requirement to do a formal need assessment in Alameda County.</i></li> <li>○ <i>The Workforce Education and Training Plan timeline, the plan is expected to be concluded by March or April 2008, the annualized fund for the county is about \$1.4 mil.</i></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <i>Criminal Justice Inmates- BHCS Dept. is looking at reopening unit at the Glen Dyer Jail in North County, Request For Qualification (RFQ) will be on the Board of Supervisors (BOS) agenda, if RFQ passes it will be issued the following day after the BOS Meeting; the jail unit is anticipated to start on Feb. or March 2008. Dr. Thomas believed that reopening unit at Glen Dyer will be a better service and more cost effective service than the current program at Santa Clara County.</i></li> </ul>	

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<b><u>Chair Report</u></b>	<i>Ms. Bremond stated that the MHB orientation/training held on Sept. 15 went well, it was a good training and very helpful to board members. Ms. Bremond mentioned that Ms. Elias would like to schedule a board retreat in the near future.</i>	
<b><u>Committee Chair Report</u></b> <i>Children Advisory Committee (CAC)</i>	<i>Ms. Novosel stated that the CAC began a discussion with children providers and interested community individuals re: PEI activities, there were about 34 attendees, there will be some summary notes that will be compiled and may be available at the next CAC meeting. Mr. Rackmill facilitated the meeting and it was well attended.</i>	
<i>Public Awareness Committee (PAC)</i>	<i>Ms. Bremond mentioned that the Stigma Conference will be held on Friday, Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> from 8am-4pm at the Unitarian Church in Oakland.</i>	
<b><u>Public Comments</u></b>	<i>Mr. Kearney addressed that the City of Oakland will no longer provide turkey for the Thanksgiving Day this year, a lot of clients were saddened by this news. Mr. Kearney thanked the BHCS Admin. Staff for sending 2 Howie Harp representatives to a conference in St. Louis, Missouri.</i>	
<b><u>Board Comments</u></b>	<i>None</i>	

*Meeting was adjourned @ 1:55 PM  
Minutes submitted by Agnes F. Catolos*