

Alameda County Mental Health Board Minutes
September 8, 2008 ♦ 12:00pm-2:00pm
First 5 Office Suite 130
1100 San Leandro Boulevard
San Leandro, CA 94578

Meeting called to order @ 12:10 by Chair Rochelle Elias

HOUSEKEEPING

Roll Call / Introduction of Guests

Mental Health Board Members:

- Present:** Pat Buchanan, Rochelle Elias, Alane Friedrich, Maxine Oliver-Benson, Dr. Laura Mason, Dr. Stephen Post and Sup. Gail Steele
- Excused:** Dr. Anthony Hare
- Absent:** Dorothy King
- BHCS Staff:** Agnes Catolos, Barry Hall, Barbara Majak, Carolyn Novosel, Gary Spicer and Marye Thomas, MD
- Public:** Barbara Jacobs (ACFC), Hillary Diaz (ACFC), Ron Tauber (ACCMHA), Jerome Attaway (HHMSC) and Darnell Levingston

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<u>Approval of June and July 2008 MHB Minutes</u>	No correction was made to the June and July MHB minutes.	Approval of June and July MHB Minutes M/S/C Sup. Steele/ Ms. Oliver-Benson All Favored
<u>Presentation: BHCS Adult System of Care (TABLED) Open Session</u>	BHCS Adult System of Care Part II Presentation did not occur Dr. Alevizos was not able to attend the MHB meeting. Open session occurred in place of the presentation; several topics were discussed i.e.: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ How the State Budget not being passed affects the BHCS system. Dr. Thomas responded that the State Budget status has no major impact yet in the BHCS	

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Open Session (Cont.)	<p>system the providers are still getting paid; the programs that get direct funding from the state that are not being paid i.e. consulting positions and a number of statewide conferences have been canceled. The DMH stated that they would process claims that were submitted within the first 2 weeks of July and anything thereafter will be put on hold. The Dept. of Alcohol and Drugs stated that they don't know what is the rate going to be, as a result they are not paying anybody and if providers deliver services they do it on their own risk; there is no effort to reassure providers if they continue to deliver services. Dr. Thomas stated that they continue delivering services but it is the county that funds the cash flow and it is not sure how long the county will be able to do it.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Mental Health Court Update-Dr. Thomas related that a forum was held six weeks ago to know how the Mental Health Court is done, to know what are the pros and cons, to hear its benefit, to hear from clients and the criminal justice and to learn its efficacy. Four Bay Area counties (San Francisco, Marin, Contra Costa and Santa Clara) made a presentation about their mental health court. Dr. Thomas did site visits to Santa Clara and Contra Costa Mental Health Court and will have an upcoming site visit to San Francisco and probably Marin as well. It was described how a Mental Health Court functions.</i> ◦ <i>What efforts are being done to help homeless people who are mentally ill?- Mr. Spicer stated that when the CSS plan was submitted the 50% of the funding has to be spent on Full Service Partnerships (FSP) and its primary target are people who are chronically homeless and with serious mental ill; the following programs that started in Alameda County are: (1) HOST Program run by Bonita House which has approximately 90 slots for adults (2) STAY which targets about 30 Transition Age Youth (TAY) (3) North County Senior Homeless Program which is run by BACS that targets about 40 older adults (4) Transition to Independence Program (TIP) which is being run by the City of Berkeley to target TAY countywide (5) Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) Team which focuses on people with high jail recidivism; all of these programs have housing stipends for the targeted caseload.</i> 	
<p><u>Action Items:</u> A. To move Nov. 10th MHB Meeting to Nov. 17th</p>	<p><i>Ms. Oliver-Benson made a motion to move the MHB Nov. 10th meeting to Nov. 17th to hold the Public Hearing on Workforce Education Training Planning.</i></p>	<p><i>M/S/C Ms. Oliver-Benson/Ms. Buchanan All Favored Motion Passed</i></p>
<p><u>Discussion Items:</u> A. Stipend</p>	<p><i>Ms. Elias stated that stipend was discussed at the Executive meeting and would like to know if it's appropriate for members to receive stipend for attending meetings.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Spicer provided some background re: stipend which is not a brand new idea it has been talked about on and off for several years i.e. whether or not it is legal for members to</i></p>	<p><i>Ms. Elias stated that further discussion will take place at the Executive Meeting.</i></p>

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<i>Stipend (Cont.)</i>	<p><i>receive financial benefits. The main concern in considering stipend is to increase consumer and family participation to the MHB because the board has been lacking consumer and family involvement for a long time now. Mr. Spicer stated that the board needs to decide if they would like to create a stipend for the whole board or for consumers and family members only. The DMH's recommendation is to make one class of board members, offer stipend to everybody and make it an individual choice whether or not a board member accepts it or not.</i></p> <p><i>It was mentioned that a board member is entitled to receive reimbursement for transportation to meetings at the county rate. Transportation expenses are presently included in the legislative mandate.</i></p>	
<u>Director's Report</u>	<p><i>Dr. Thomas provided info. on the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>◦ Family Education Resource Center (FERC)-FERC will be opening soon, its first office is likely to be located in Oakland and there will 3 satellite offices which are coming soon as well. The RFP bid was awarded to the Mental Health Association.</i> <i>◦ Family Relations Manager-Rosa Warder (United Advocates for Children and a family partner in the Children System of Car) is the newly hired Family Relations Manager; she will start at the end of Sept.</i> <i>◦ 3 South Update-The BHCS Dept. is working with the Sheriff Dept. re: 3 South which is an inpatient unit at North County Jail for inmates who have psychiatric illness. 3 South proceeding is moving along, its facility has been renovated and it has a bidder. The BHCS Dept. and the Sheriff Dept will get together to look at what they are currently spending, what their projected budget is, where the funding gap is and to see if additional funding is needed.</i> <i>◦ Workforce Education and Training (WETP) Planning Update- Mr. Spicer stated that the WETP process is about to conclude, the final draft is expected to be done at the first week of October. The WET Plan is focusing on three areas:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1) To improve the pipeline that is about recruiting workers into the mental health workforce.</i> <i>2) To provide financial incentive to make it more feasible for people without substantial means to have an opportunity to participate in educational programs and get some scholarship or tuition reduction or loan repayment program.</i> <i>3) To develop programs about building workforce for consumer and family employment to effectively accomplish a more diverse workforce in mental health.</i> 	

<i>ITEM</i>	<i>DISCUSSION</i>	<i>ACTION</i>
<u>MHB Chair Report</u>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<u>Committee Chair Report</u> <i>Adult Committee</i>	<i>Ms. Friedrich stated that the Adult Committee did not meet in August and mentioned that the minutes from their previous meeting that was in the MHB packet has some handouts from the Native American Health Center Presentation she felt they are good info and worth reading.</i>	
<i>Children's Advisory Committee (CAC)</i>	<i>Ms. Majak presented CAC report on behalf of Ms. Novosel... CAC did not meet in August, in Sept. meeting they focused on co-occurring initiative: an overview of the initiative was presented and they had a discussion on how to connect co-occurring and children programs more effectively.</i>	
<i>Public Awareness Committee (PAC)</i>	<i>Ms. Elias stated that the PAC will be sponsoring a forum to be given by Carl Pascual re: the proposed RFP process around stigma and added that Barbara Meyers is now trying to have subtitles for the TV program that she developed.</i>	
<u>Liaison Report</u> <i>Alameda County Family Coalition (ACFC)</i>	<i>Ms. Dashiell stated that it has been a year since the ACFC became a liaison and thanked the board members who supported them. She introduced 2 ACFC members: Barbara Jacobs and Hillary Dias. She related that she met with Dr. Thomas and Mr. Kears to address some concerns i.e. ACFC recognition. Ms. Dashiell thanked Sup. Steele for facilitating the meeting.</i>	
<i>Housing Committee</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>MHSA Report</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<i>Budget Task Force</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
<u>Public Comments</u>	<i>Mr. Attaway related his good experiences at Howie Harp and thanked Travelers Aid for their support.</i>	
<u>Board Comments</u>	<i>None.</i>	

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