

Alameda County Mental Health Board Minutes
December 14, 2009 ♦ 12:00pm-2:00pm
First 5 Office Suite 130
1100 San Leandro Boulevard
San Leandro, CA 94578

Meeting called to order @ 12:15 by Chair Rochelle Elias

HOUSEKEEPING

Roll Call/Introduction of Guests

Mental Health Board Members:

Present: Pat Buchanan, Kelly O’Lague-Dulka, Rochelle Elias, Alane Friedrich, Lisa Gifford, Samuel Greyson, Sheldon Koiles, Laura Mason, Ravi Sodhi and Sup. Gail Steele

Excused: Luvenia Jones and Stephen Post

Absent: Dorothy King, Maxine Oliver-Benson and Patricia Sweetwine

BHCS Staff: Barry Hall, Barbara Majak, Gary Spicer, Marye Thomas, MD and Margaret Walkover

Public: Dennis Romano (ACCMHA), Joe Rose, Josh Thurman (BOS Chief of Staff) and Haeyoung Sohn (JGPP)

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
<u>Public Comment</u>	None	
<u>Approval of November 2009 MHB minutes</u>	No corrections were made to the November 2009 MHB minutes.	M/S/C Lisa Gifford/ Laura Mason All favored
<u>Correspondence</u>	<p>Ms. Elias related the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Alameda County Family Justice Center is sponsoring Elves for Elders Fair at 1200 West Winton at Hayward Mobile Country Club. ▪ The Stanford School of Medicine will held its 5th Annual Schizophrenia Education Day on Sat., Dec. 19th from 9am-12:30pm; this free event is designed for individuals with schizophrenia, family members, care givers and all mental health community members. ▪ The Measure A committee would like to have a MHB representative to seat on the committee...Ms. Elias appointed Stephen Post to represent MHB to Measure A Committee. 	

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<p><u>Presentations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NUMMI Plant Closure/Workforce Investment Board 	<p>Mr. Tony Castillo from Workforce Investment Board (WIB) provided info re: NUMMI Plant Closure that included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NUMMI will be closing in April 1, 2010 that will affect about 4000 workers to be out of job. ▪ WIB is doing everything they can to provide assistance to workers such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ They set up a reemployment center across from the NUMMI plant and its also located inside the united auto workers union hall ▫ They've partnered with EDD to provide job readiness workshop ▫ They procured the BHCS' Crisis Support Services to provide support and counseling through the assistance of AC Health Care Services Agency Director Dave Kears to ensure workers know how to access services. Mr. Castillo expressed that the BHCS contract has not being fully utilized by workers because typically workers don't want to hear or know that anybody else know that they are going through a difficult mental health issue and he felt that there should be some other way in providing mental health support to not stigmatize the workers. ▫ They procured the services of Central for Working Life Org. that is helping to train peers inside the plant to provide them with most accurate info. ▫ They assisted the State of CA in filing the Trade Act, a petition that workers can have access for additional services on top of the Workforce Investment Act funding that WIB manages; workers can now access up to 10000 additional retraining benefits and they are certified to be able to receive a relocation assistance and receive an employment offer outside the State of CA; the Dept. of Labor will relocate an employee and family member for up to 90% of relocation cost; they will get a subsidy on their program benefit under Pres. Obama's Recovery Act; they will also get a 60% tax benefit when laid-off; and under the Trade Act, workers will get a subsidy of 85% and they will get up to 3 years unemployment insurance. <p>Questions and answers e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Elias inquired about the contract with BHCS and asked if there's a significant effort in reaching out and what type of support will be in placed from county services. <p>Mr. Castillo responded that the contract with BHCS is a good contract, there is no problem with the contract but what they are concerned about is the lack of usage and he stated that WIB will be meeting NUMMI HR, he will address this concern and will try to convince them to include BHCS info into their resource area where workers can access info.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Ms. Friedrich suggested linking BHCS info with the job couch or the employment counselor to help reduce stigmatization. She inquired what types of trainings or 	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update on the Yale Project at John George (JG) 	<p><i>alternate job trainings WIB is seeking for the workers.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Castillo responded that the types of training will depend on the assessments of skills of the workers. BHCS were brought into all the career centers in Alameda County; they are connected with the case managers and they are part of the orientations of the career center.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ms. Friedrich suggested setting up GED courses.</i> <p><i>Mr. Castillo responded that they are working with local community colleges e.g. Ohlone College and the adult schools.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ms. Elias asked what Mr. Castillo thinks of the idea of a video on accessing mental health services as oppose to being approach individuality where workers may feel stigmatized.</i> <p><i>Mr. Castillo responded that the video should not be just about mental health and it should be more about job readiness with mental health info built in it.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ms. Elias stated that the board would like to continue working with WIB in helping the NUMMI workers and will work on the proposal to produce a video.</i> <p><i>Ms. Walkover (Director of Wellness Recovery Resiliency (WRR) Hub) presented an update on the Yale Project at JG which included the following info:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>BHCS contracted with Yale a year ½ ago to work with the Hub to provide support in the system transformation.</i> ▪ <i>Yale Program provided consultations to JG and the Adult Service Teams</i> ▪ <i>Consultation at JG-Yale worked with JG’s Wellness Resiliency Workgroup (a leadership group that include JG Admin Staff e.g. PES Nurse Manager, Dir. Of Medicine, Dir. Of Occupational Therapy; COO of ACMC; Patients’ Rights Advocate; Family Caregiver Advocates; Hub Director, etc.). The Yale Program provided Practice Change Workshop to about 75 people that included a variety of JG staff, patients and family advocates. WRR Hub meet with JG’s Wellness Recovery Workgroup every month to give them support and to talk about what changes they are making that are independent of Yale consultation.</i> ▪ <i>Consultation at Service Teams-Yale and the WRR Hub are meeting with every Service Teams programs to establish a personal relationship with each program to increase the wellness practice within their programs and to identify opportunities for change. The Service Teams identified that they do want a better relationship with JG and likewise with JG, they also want a better relationship with the Service Teams to help them with the discharge referral problem.</i> ▪ <i>WRR Hub is one of the programs for system transformation; they provide technical assistance and consultations to BHCS, county, providers, family and consumers; they help programs build on their strengths and increase the kinds of services and supports people in recovery needs.</i> 	

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	<p><i>Questions and Answers:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Ms. Elias asked how long is the Yale Group contract? And what has been the cost of the contract?</i> <i>Ms. Walkover responded that the Yale Group contract is for 2 years and the cost of the contract is \$638,000; they come once a month and stay for a week; they meet with as many people and consult with as many projects e.g. within the adult system of care, older system of care and TAY as well; they also provide consultant over the phone.</i> ▪ <i>Mr. Koiles asked if the Hub will continue the Yale's work.</i> <i>Ms. Walkover responded yes, one of the reasons why Yale was hired was to be able to transfer technology to support Hub on what they can offer to the system.</i> ▪ <i>Ms. Elias expressed her concerns about Yale contract because she felt that a lot of things are still problematic at John George e.g. quality of care for the patients.</i> <i>Ms. Walkover responded that what they are doing is putting down roots to help everyone be able to solve the problems but it takes time.</i> ▪ <i>Sup. Steele expressed her concern about various issues still going on at John George.</i> ▪ <i>Ms. Friedrich felt that the Yale Group was not hired to solve all the problems at John George.</i> ▪ <i>Ms. Elias expressed her concern about hiring someone from out of state as oppose to getting a local group e.g. Stanford Univ., UCSF or UC Berkeley; she felt that there is a number of resources in CA or even within the Bay Area that may be able to look at sustainable support and consultation for the types of changes need to happen at John George. She felt that there should be measurable outcomes with the Yale consultation.</i> <p><i>Dr. Thomas clarified the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▫ <i>the contract with Yale does have some deliverables and what was only asked at the Executive meeting was an update on Yale Project at John George</i> ▫ <i>most of the issues at John George are administrative issues e.g. why people don't get their snacks, why people don't get discharge, etc...these issues are not purview of the Yale contract nor the Hub. What the Hub is trying to do is to work with the Yale not specifically in consultation with John George but with the system to develop and enhance skills relative to recovery which is a new vision for BHCS.</i> ▫ <i>Dr. Thomas added that people asked why Yale...when the MHSA passed the CA. Assoc. of MH Directors and CIMH spent considerable amount of time identifying best practices and even though there are extremely prestigious institutions and universities in Bay Area often the best practices for certain kinds of things are</i> 	

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	<p><i>not in this county or even in the State. Yale has the very best knowledge, they've done and demonstrated best practices through research, through evaluations and through involvement of consumers, families and the community who understand wellness and recovery and they can bring the knowledge to CA. and to Alameda County. Yale is transferring the knowledge to the Hub and to the providers they consult.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>Mr. Thurman asked if something is being done in Tri-Valley or Tri-City. Ms. Walkover responded that she is scheduled to meet with the Service Team at Livermore and the Yale Team is scheduled to come in Jan.</i> ▪ <i>Sup. Steele suggested for the next meeting to take care of internal things e.g. how committees are working</i> ▪ <i>Ms. Dulka felt that the board should honor the time frame of the agenda that was set to not miss the last part of the agenda and not spend a lot of time to learn a lot of things which she felt can be done in other ways or outside the board meeting.</i> 	
<p><u>Director's Report</u></p>	<p><i>Dr. Thomas stated that the county is approaching a terrible budget year and there is a lot of challenges e.g.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ <i>need to fill many positions due to hiring freeze</i> ▪ <i>need to implement MHSA programs to not lose the funding</i> ▪ <i>a number of RFP's were issued e.g. Recovery Education Center will be implemented to support the entire system and it will provide services to the general service teams that have been available to service team and in concert with the system transformation, the providers who won the RFP are expected to work with the department as a learning collaboration.</i> <p><i>Dr. Thomas added that she is very interested to hear how can the department help the board members to increase their knowledge of the system and to have an awareness on various systems issues to work together in moving the system forward and she suggested having additional discussion at the next Executive meeting or may be convene on a regular basis.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Friedrich felt that it would be helpful if more board members could attend the Executive meeting even if it's only by the phone to set the agenda.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Elias mentioned that there are 5 slots available for the MHB to participate in the BHCS Budget Meeting that will start in Jan. every Tuesday</i></p>	
<p><i>The rest of the agenda items were tabled.</i></p>		

*Meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm
Minutes submitted by Agnes Catolos*