

Alameda County Mental Health Board Minutes
September 13, 2010 ♦ 12:00pm-2:00pm
First 5 Office Suite 130
1100 San Leandro Boulevard
San Leandro, CA 94578

Meeting called to order @ 12:10PM by Vice-Chair Kelly Dulka

HOUSEKEEPING

Roll Call/Introduction of Guests

Mental Health Board Members:

Present: Patricia Buchanan, Kelly Dulka, Alane Friedrich, Samuel Greyson, Luvenia Jones, Sheldon Koiles, Laura Mason, Sup. Gail Steele and Patricia Sweetwine

Excused: Rochelle Elias and Lisa Gifford

Absent: Dorothy King and Ravi Sodhi

BHCS Staff: Agnes Catolos, MaryAnn D’Onofrio, Barry Hall, Barbara Majak, Gilda Mansour, Marye Thomas, MD, and Gary Spicer

Public: Joe Rose (NAMI), Guy Qvistgaard (JGPP), Joe Walker, MD (JGPP), Dennis Romano (ACCMHA), Karina Foote (FERC), Howie The Harp Representatives-Ruth Williams, Andrea Osipin, Terry Kelly, Mercedes Vinson, Lonnie Jones, Time Tucker, Eunice Tate, Lorenzo Kearney, James E. Clark Jr., Lillian Walker, Earnestine Knox, Greg Thomas, Linda Woodard, RC Thompson, Rondal Holmes, Jay Oakley and Rocky Lambert

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Public Comment	<p>Lorenzo Kearney expressed his concern re: the relocation of Howie the Harp (HH) and asked for continued reach out and help for their clients.</p> <p>Julia Lockhart related how HH has helped her and she hoped that they can continue helping clients.</p> <p>Ronald Holmes felt that HH should be relocated to a safer place.</p> <p>John Black expressed that what HH needs is more help and money but not closed down.</p>	
Approval of July 2010 MHB minutes	No correction was made to the MHB July Minutes.	M/S/C Ms. Friedrich/ Ms. Mason All favored Motion passed

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Emergency Agenda Item:	<i>Mr. Greyson made a motion to defer the presentation on Services to Returning Veterans and have Innovations Grant Program instead.</i>	<i>M/S/C Mr. Greyson/ Ms. Mason All favored Motion passed</i>
Committee Reports: <i>Adult Committee</i>	<i>Ms. Friedrich stated that the Adult Committee meeting in July was a very exciting and interactive meeting, they had discussion on Laura's Law and they had a family member shared her story on how she has not been able to get family member get evaluated for needed care; they also looked at the current law, 5150 and monthly reports from Sausal Creek, Patient's Rights, John George and Family Advocates.</i>	
<i>Children Advisory Committee (CAC)</i>	<i>Sup. Steele stated that at their last CAC meeting, they looked at the recommendations to the Blue Ribbon Committee on children in foster care.</i>	
<i>Santa Rita Jail Committee</i>	<p><i>Mr. Greyson stated that Santa Rita Jail Committee met last Thursday, they had discussion on the unfortunate death of an individual who was displaying mental illness in the jail and got tasered by the Sheriff Dept. They also discussed the proposed Santa Rita Jail study, the committee is hoping to have some guidance from the BHCS staff to get some info on what was previously done re: people with mental illness in the jail and to have suggestions on how to put out some study drafts.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele stated that she is really anxious to do a study about 100 inmates at Santa Rita Jail but she felt the need to ensure that they are not doing things that are already being done.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak suggested having a point person from the BHCS Dept. to work with Santa Rita Jail Committee to get some background data re: Santa Rita Jail e.g. who are being served; how many clients are being served; what has done with MHSA money trying to intervene with population that is recycling frequently through Santa Rita Jail and John George, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Spicer will identify the point person.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele asked to have the point person to come to the next Santa Rita Jail Committee meeting on Oct. 7th at 9am in Sup. Steele's office.</i></p>	
<i>Public Awareness Committee (PAC)</i>	<i>No report given.</i>	
Director's Report:	<p><i>Dr. Thomas provided the following info:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>o Budget update-BHCS Dept. will have an additional \$9.1 mil budget reduction and the System of Care Directors for TAY and Adult are working on ways to implement those reductions into new programs.</i> 	

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<i>Director's Report: (Cont.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Howie the Harp (HH) update-Dr. Thomas specified 3 things that the board needs to be aware of: 1) HH which is a place 2) Traveler's Aid which is the organization that has interim contract 3) Clients who use services at HH. She stated that it is the intention of the BHCS Dept. all along to terminate the interim contract with Traveler's Aid which started when OISC org. disbanded. Dr. Thomas related that Sup. Carson convened a series of community forums to help determine and structure what services would be continued at some point and the county GSA stated that the current location of HH is no longer a viable option because the building has so many issues e.g. safety issues, not handicap accessible and to bring up the building to today's standard is almost impossible. BHCS is working with Traveler's Aid to develop transition plan for clients.</i> 	
Presentation: Innovative Grants Program	<p><i>Gilda Mansour (Program Specialist for Innovation Plan) presented the following info on Innovative Grants Program:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Innovation funds is 5% of MHSAs funds (CSS-50%; PEI-20%; WET-10%; Capital and Tech.-10%); the total sum for MHSAs funds ranges each year based on tax revenue that comes in from the state, \$35-\$40 mil each year and Innovation has about \$2 mil a year.</i> • <i>State Mandated Purposes:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Increase the quality of services, including better outcomes for individuals with mental illness.</i> ○ <i>Promote interagency collaboration</i> ○ <i>Increase access to services</i> ○ <i>Increase access to underserved groups</i> • <i>State definition of "Innovation" -is a project that contributes to learning in the field of mental health, rather a primary focus on providing a service.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) <i>Introducing new practices/approaches</i> 2) <i>Adapting an existing practice/approach, including modification for a new setting or community</i> 3) <i>Adopting a practice/approach to mental health that has been successful in non-mental health contexts or settings</i> • <i>State mandated restrictions:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>All projects must contribute to new learning in the field of mental health</i> ○ <i>One-time projects with time limits-18 month limit and not intended to fund ongoing services.</i> • <i>Mini-grants to fund many ideas from the community</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Extensive outreach to "non-traditional" providers-applicants must meet 1 of 3 criteria 1) non-profit 2) group or individual with fiscal entity or organization backing up 3) public entity</i> 	

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<i>Presentation: Innovative Grants Program (Cont.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ <i>Simplified application process-completely web based; 2-3 page application process. Grantees will receive funds within 30 days of approval.</i> ◦ <i>Community decision making-Innovation Board which is composed of community members will review application on online and will make recommendations on funding.</i> ◦ <i>Two funding rounds each year-the 1st round submission deadline Sep. 30th and the 2nd round is TBA.</i> ◦ <i>Free technical assistance provided to 65+ applicants</i> ◦ <i>Wide range of ideas-the county is anticipating receiving 150+ applications ranging from \$500- \$250,000 amounts of projects.</i> ◦ <i>Sharing learning-there will be an “Innovation Conference” that will showcase successes and challenges of Innovative Projects.</i> ◦ <i>FAQ’s e.g.: Who Can I serve with this grant? It has to focus on people with mental health issues; Can this fund an existing strategy? No, it cannot fund something that is already being funded.</i> • <i>Innovative Grants Program Web Page: www.acinnovations.org and all info can be access via facebook as well.</i> 	
Discussion Item: <i>Santa Rita Jail Committee Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) for Law Enforcement</i>	<p><i>Mr. Greyson stated that one thing the MHB could do is to recommend and contact each of the law enforcement agencies including Sheriff Dept. He stated that the state judicial councils recommend that CIT be provided for each and every law enforcement in the county and be adopted by their agency. He would like the board to approve the recommendation to provide CIT to all police officers and may be the board could send a letter to various agencies to encourage them and let them know that its something the board feel is necessary.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Dulka asked what are the fiscal implications?</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Thomas responded that there are several fiscal implications e.g.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1) Training and trainers cost</i> <i>2) Cost to the Police Dept. because they will be off the streets for 36-40 hours to take the CIT Training.</i> <p><i>Dr. Thomas related the following info:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Greater Bay Area Mental Health Directors received a request from BART to do CIT for BART Police. San Francisco County has done the training for the BART police in San Francisco.</i> • <i>Dr. Thomas had conversation with Officer Neff (from Oakland Police Dept.) who has been assigned to raise training threshold for OPD and she is currently working on</i> 	

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<i>Discussion Item: Santa Rita Jail...(Cont.)</i>	<p><i>an 8 hour training with Maryann D’Onofrio (Crisis Response Program Director). Dr. Thomas related that Officer Neff mentioned that the new OPF Chief would like to do CIT for OPD and that her goal is to start early next year. The BHCS Dept. would participate in both developing and putting the training together.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Greyson asked how the training is going to be funded.</i></p> <p><i>Dr. Thomas responded that they could use MHSa one-time fund to pay cost for materials, staff, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele stated that she spoke with the Hayward Chief and he is interested in doing the training. Sup. Steele would like to see a follow-up with the Hayward Chief and she would like the Chief to be part of the training early next year.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Majak stated that they can mention the CIT with the Sheriff Dept. at their regular meeting and discuss how it can be done.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Jones related that she is involved in CIT Committee in Berkeley chaired by Carol Patterson and she related that at their last meeting they saw a video on how the first response was being thought and how to address people when police officers are called in for the 5150.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Koiles felt that the CIT seems focus on mental health issues, he felt that may be it should be expanded for all conflicts e.g. personality disorder or high stress issues to have social inclusion rather than separating out mental health consumers as a separate category.</i></p>	
Action Item: <i>Santa Rita Jail Committee CIT for Law Enforcement</i>	<i>Sup. Steele made a motion that the MHB embark on a year of educating all the Alameda County City Councils in necessity of training for the local police and also to answer any questions that they may have about the mental health system.</i>	<i>M/S/C Sup. Steele/ Ms. Friedrich All favored Motion passed</i>
Public Comments:	<p><i>Richard M. stated that he is an employee and also a client at HH. He has been a client for 5 years, he felt the program is going on strong with no interference and yesterday was the first time he has seen county staff in the building. He related that a lot of people needs HH to keep them going. He felt that taking away and moving this program is a big mistake and he expressed that it’s a vital program for Oakland.</i></p> <p><i>Milton Hare addressed his concerns e.g.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>• no one from the county has really visited the program for several years</i> 	

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<i>Public Comments: (Cont.)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>the whole investigation report was done without a visit to the program</i> • <i>the program is funded as an outreach program but it does more than an outreach</i> • <i>the county sent a notice to leave the premises as of Oct. 1st, they would like to ask to extend it to Oct. 15th because he felt that there has to be a longer period of time to transfer operation</i> • <i>there should be a continuity of care, a better thought of transition mechanism and also a site visit to the program.</i> <p><i>A client related how HH helped her find shelter when she was homeless and listened to her problems. She asked not to close down HH or give them time.</i></p>	
Board Comments:	<p><i>Ms. Friedrich stated that the board is concern for the safety of the HH clients who are expressing they don't want to relocate.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Mason would like to know if there is way to keep HH community together during the transition instead of sending them to different agencies.</i></p> <p><i>Sup. Steele felt that may be some help could be provided through POCC to keep HH's community together to continue supporting each other.</i></p> <p><i>Mr. Koiles stated that one of the main forces for recovery for mental health issues is the environment an individual is in. He felt that the relocation of HH should be consider in a positive area surrounded by positive influences to benefit the clients.</i></p>	

*Meeting was adjourned at 2:00PM
Minutes submitted by Agnes Catolos*