



# COLUSA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

Meeting was held on

**June 14, 2022**

At Colusa County Department of Behavioral Health

Room 102

162 E. Carson St., Colusa, CA 95932

and via Zoom

1. Meeting was called to order at 3:05pm
2. Establish Quorum
  - a. Those in attendance: Mayra Puga (CCBH), Haley Amundson (CCBH), Jeannie Scroggins (CCBH), Bessie Rojas (CCBH), Debbie Hickel (Member), Heather Bullis-Cruz (CCBH), Walter Osbourn (Member), Leona Satterburg (Member), Rob Wilson (Member), Diane Bransford (Member), Tony Hobson (CCBH), Mridini Vijay (CalBHBC)
  - b. Not in attendance:
  - c. *Quorum established*
3. Public Comment:
  - a. Ms. Vijay from CalBHBC stated there are various CalBHBC trainings on the state website ([www.calbhbc.org](http://www.calbhbc.org))
4. Old Business:
  - a. N/A
5. New Business:
  - a. Ms. Puga stated she will be discussing the data notebook. Noel J. O'Neill is the chair of this planning council. She stated the focus is "Impact of the Covid-19 public health emergency on: (1) The behavioral health of vulnerable populations in California, and (2) The ability of county behavioral health departments to provide mental health and substance use disorder (SUD) treatment services in 2020 and 2021." Ms. Puga went over some of the information in the data notebook. There were two copies passed around for members to look at. Ms. Puga stated in the notebook there is a breakdown of demographic data, which services are provided in



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our county and a lot of data collection. Ms. Puga will be doing data collection for our department with multiple staff members and in turn will compile that information, respond and send the information to the state.

- b. Mr. Hobson stated the data notebook comes from the Planning Council that look at trends across the state. He stated they were looking at Adult Residential Facilities previously. Mr. Hobson stated this is statewide to send a final report to legislature. Mr. Hobson stated this year they are looking at results of the pandemic; Colusa was working remotely. How did that impact care? What were lessons learned from the pandemic?
- c. Ms. Scroggins stated the data notebook is due in a month or two. She stated we will be getting data internally; the Advisory Board would then look at and approve to submit to the state. Ms. Puga will bring it back for review.
- d. Ms. Amundson stated Mr. O'Neill wanted all members to receive a copy of our Advisory Board bylaws to review. She mentioned Mr. O'Neill wanted to get the members the information as a refresher to be prepared for elections in November.
- e. Mr. Hobson stated Mr. O'Neill mentioned there is a community member interested but he would be a non-voting member during quorum.
- f. Mrs. Hickel stated bylaws are meant to be reviewed from time to time, the last review was in 2011. Mrs. Hickel stated we can look into an additional board member to be utilized as an alternate.
- g. Ms. Scroggins stated she would love for members to out number staff. She stated we can expand and market it in the newspapers, etc.
- h. Mr. Wilson said he knows a couple people that would be interested. He stated even non-voting members are valuable.
- i. Ms. Scroggins said we will put this on as an agenda item in old business for next meeting for members to review and discuss.

## 6. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Mr. Wilson called for approval of minutes for the May 10<sup>th</sup> minutes. Mrs. Satterburg seconded the motion. All present members were in favor.

## 7. MHSA Update:

- a. Ms. Puga stated the Advisory Board approved the MHSA plan for the 2022-2023 fiscal year during last meeting, and it has now been submitted to the Board of Supervisors for their review and approval on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Once the BOS approves, then it can move forward to the State.



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- b. Mrs. Satterburg asked for the budget page that was being reviewed during the May 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Puga said she will email her the documents.
8. Director's Report:
- a. Mr. Hobson stated he is getting familiar with staff and business here. He's invested in the work here. He's worked in many different agencies in the behavioral health field. He knows the need for our small counties. He can see from past where the need originates. He understands the need to review policies and internal processes.
  - b. Mrs. Hickel asked if Behavioral Health is getting away from the housing program. Mr. Hobson stated not as far as he knows. Ms. Scroggins stated if there is a need we link them to services. Ms. Scroggins stated we have houses available for FSP individuals. Ms. Scroggins stated there is a new program for our county coming in, it might be more appropriate for public to start at Health & Human Services rather than coming here first; as in if it is not related to mental health just housing specific.
  - c. Mr. Wilson says our county can set an example for the State since we have dedicated staff to assist with housing.
  - d. Mrs. Hickel asked if we had a property secured for our No Place Like Home program. Mr. Osbourn responded the property is secured next to the church on Highway 20.
9. Program Integrity:
- a. Ms. Bullis-Cruz emailed out her data to members.
  - b. She reminded the Board that this is a "snapshot" based on today's data. This is specific to mental health not SUD.
  - c. Ms. Bullis-Cruz reported we had an increase of intakes last month but average wait days were steady. There were 56 people requesting intakes. We won't have accurate data until the end of the month to know whether their intakes were kept, canceled or no showed.
  - d. Mrs. Satterburg asked if we could get a report on the trends for first 6 months of year, would it be easy? Mrs. Bullis-Cruz responded that she does it at end of year but she can do it in July.
  - e. Mr. Wilson asked from an agriculture stand point, is there anticipated impact of unemployment because of the drought? Is the drought affecting people being employed and causing them to seek services?
  - f. Mrs. Bransford stated there has been a huge layoff in the ag field since 100,000 acres of rice has not been planted due to no water. Mrs. Bransford stated there is such high unemployment that there is a possibility many farm workers will be forced to leave. "Do consider that the impact of that



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which may be huge”. Mrs. Hickel stated she has seen businesses close because there is not enough staff.

- g. Mrs. Satterburg stated there are many agencies that need people to work; it is a problem all across all fields. She stated anything that can help us follow trends then the better we can respond.

## 10. Quality Assurance:

- a. Mrs. Rojas emailed out her data.
- b. Mrs. Rojas reported the trends for May: we had an increase to 23 clients from 15 clients in SUD, but we still need numbers to grow. There was a medication management increase. The parity rate is 229 Latino clients equaling 56.68% of total clients with county population. Year-to-date is also going up every month.
- c. Mr. Osbourn asked for dual diagnosis numbers. Mrs. Rojas answered there were 404 clients in May, 77% of those clients were dually diagnosed. Mrs. Rojas stated some clinicians do not identify for SUD issues. Mrs. Satterburg asked if it’s being captured in intake. Mrs. Rojas stated that yes in intakes clients are asked about substance use, but some people deny use and we only document what is reported by the client.

## 11. PRA Report:

- a. Ms. Bullis-Cruz stated she is still filling in until we hire a new Patient’s Rights Advocate. There is someone who is ready to start, but the contract needs to go to the BOS to be approved. Ms. Bullis-Cruz stated the prospective PRA is already trained so she can jump right in.
- b. Ms. Bullis-Cruz stated there are no grievances as of today.

## 12. Safe Haven Report:

- a. Ms. Scroggins updated us on Safe Haven. There have been more groups added. Ms. Bullis-Cruz started a nutrition group, nicely attended. One of our Behavioral Health clinicians is starting a senior connection group, starting this Friday. Ms. Puga is still offering her cultural exploration group. There is a positive affirmations group offered, some movement groups, arts and crafts, and other various groups. Ms. Scroggins stated the group calendar is on our county website.
- b. Ms. Scroggins stated there is discussion with Safe Haven Leadership about taking a field trip. She stated they want to start more local then travel farther out after we see how our first trip goes.



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- c. Mr. Wilson asked how many members Safe Haven has now and we need to increase that as well
- d. Mrs. Hickel stated there is a Colusa Founders' Day this weekend with China town tours downtown. We should share this information with Safe Haven members. It is from 9:00am-2:00pm on Saturday. Mr. Osbourn said he will tell the members.
- e. Ms. Scroggins reported on the youth center. She stated we are hiring a second peer support specialist. We want to be open by start of school year. We have purchased all furniture at this point, just getting little pieces together. Ms. Scroggins and Ms. Puga are finalizing the membership application and consent forms so parents know what to expect. Ms. Scroggins stated we are just needing to get medical permission slips if we do field trips.
- f. Ms. Scroggins stated we will plan for grand opening.
- g. The official name is Bright Vista Youth Center.

## 13. State Required Contract Review:

- a. Mr. Hobson stated he does not have any contract reviews to bring to us at the moment. He asked what contracts the board is interested in.
- b. Mr. Hobson stated the BOS meeting on June 21<sup>st</sup> is loaded with contracts. He asked how the board wishes to move forward so they become aware. Are they interested in inpatient psychiatric hospitals, substance use residential facilities? Any particular interest this boards has? Mr. Hobson stated he can give an overview on every contract we have but it could be a little much.
- c. Mr. Osbourn said SUD would be interesting.
- d. Professional services contract with health records. Treatment or methadone clinics and care facilities. How much will ARF take away from any other contract? A previous director had a tendency to go out and get as many contracts as possible to serve as a backup, but the BOS said not to do that because we would not have enough money. They would much rather the department to pick specific ones. Mrs. Hickel would be interested in where the ARFs are located and what do they do, how many people are there, are they staying our leaving, are they getting the help they need?
- e. Mr. Hobson stated our conservators will be housed in this facility. He stated there are community care licensing standards. The facility is approved for Medi-Cal billable services.



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- f. Mr. Hobson stated the ARF is yet to have contract in place because we are still bidding for remodel. After that, we will develop a contract and seek the board's approval.
- g. Mr. Hobson stated there will be significant changes with Drug Medi-Cal services. There has been restriction on what can be provided and reimbursed for. The change will expand what services we can offer. Mr. Hobson inquired if it would be of interest to this board. He stated that he can bring proposed changes from Drug Medi-Cal contract and the board can see how much expansion the department is doing. Mr. Hobson stated it is important that this board be aware that Drug Medi-Cal services are limited and reimbursement rates are low. Medication assisted treatment is not covered by Drug Medi-Cal but it is being proposed that it will be covered next year. Mr. Hobson stated he has a meeting next week to review the proposed changes and he will bring the contract to our next board meeting, including what the exact changes are.
- h. Ms. Scroggins asked if we would we like an agenda item for an update on that, we can pull Brizia M. or Shannon P. for a report on conservators.
- i. Mrs. Hickel said the state review of contracts has been an agenda item forever and that she isn't necessarily worried about the contracts but more so those facilities.
- j. Mrs. Satterburg stated she is more concerned about the fiscal piece. What contracts are fiscally putting us at risk? The fiscally tenuous things, will that have an impact on our business? There are substance abuse treatment concerns because we don't have our own residential facility? Are substance programs limiting their intakes to that county? Ms. Bullis-Cruz stated that has changed. If they have Medi-Cal from a different county as long as they are living here, we can accept them into service in order to not delay treatment.
- k. Mrs. Satterburg wants to see anything that will change budget, look at trends, what do we need. What do the fiscal contracts look like? Mrs. Hickel stated Colusa County doesn't have any options. Mrs. Hickel stated the ARF will be the first thing in years, because there has been no housing to place people and the county needed to contract out.
- l. Mr. Hobson stated we are building up Drug Medi-Cal services; ability to expand what we do and be reimbursed by Drug Medi-Cal plan. Then we will be able to expand. Mr. Hobson stated the Drug Medi-Cal contract is a great thing. Individuals placed in high-cost facility is estimated to be about a million per year. Mr. Hobson stated if we have our own facility this number should greatly reduce. He stated there is a possibility we can bring some clients back to the community and step them down, when



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appropriate. Mr. Hobson stated we can charge other counties for the beds we aren't using to offset costs; this will be a big piece of the puzzle. Mr. Hobson stated he will bring documents on what it costs us per facility, then look at what we can step down into our residential and visualize comparison. Mr. Hobson stated he can bring changes to Drug Medi-Cal to another meeting for expansion of services. Mr. Hobson stated he will bring the Drug Medi-Cal contract revisions for board to review.

- m. There was conversation that it is mundane to review a whole contract so we just need to review pertinent pieces and make sure we are getting money's worth.
- n. There is a justification for ARF: closer to home to provide more services versus driving to Redding or Red Bluff. Mrs. Satterburg stated we strengthen support services since they are closer to home.
- o. Mr. Hobson stated the 9 beds in Williams are for adult residential, the other 3 beds could be a peer respite, can keep people here locally. Mr. Hobson stated it is just being discussed we don't know how it'll play out yet, maybe it can reduce hospitalization costs.

14. Chairperson's Report:

- a. Mr. Osbourn stated we should visit the CalBHBC website to look at trainings, he has been completing them and they are very informative.
- b. Mrs. Satterburg said she has looked at website and it does have great trainings and information.

15. Board of Supervisor Report:

- a. Mr. Boes was not present.

16. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned at 4:04pm

**Next meeting scheduled for: Tuesday July 12, 2022 at 3:00pm**

Minutes completed by: Haley Amundson