



SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD (BHB)

Regular Meeting

Via teleconference

July 15 2020 – 5:00 -7:00 P.M.

Board Members Present:

Karen Ivy
Patricia Barrett
Jeff Giampetro
Dr. Mudalodu Vasudevan
Tasso Kandris
Cary Martin
Carolyn Cooper
Gertie Kandris
John Weston
Joe Dittman
Sabrina Flores-Eng

Board Members Absent/Excused:

Supervisor Villapudua

Also Present:

Greg Diederich, HCS Director
Tony Vartan, BHS Director
Betsey Rose, Deputy Director
Isabel Espinosa, Office Secretary

Guests:

Adam Cheshire, Program Administrator
Tony Anderson, VMRC
Michael Fields, Wellness Center
Karen Walker
Douglas Vigil

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Behavioral Health Board meeting was convened on Wednesday, July 15, 2020 via Zoom teleconference. Chairperson Tasso Kandris called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM, and led the pledge of allegiance. The Board Secretary took roll call. A quorum was established at this meeting.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – OPEN TIME

- Patricia Barrett commented that Doug Vigil applied to become a board member and that he attended his third meeting today.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Jeff Giampetro made a motion to approve the minutes. Gertie Kandris seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 11-0-0.

IV. PRESENTATION

A. Homelessness in San Joaquin County

- *Adam Cheshire*, County Administrator's Office
- The following documents were distributed to Behavioral Health Board members to highlight the County's work on Homelessness.
 - San Joaquin Continuum of Care – Shelter that Succeeds
 - San Joaquin Continuum of Care – The San Joaquin Community Response to Homelessness – 2020 San Joaquin County Strategic Plan
 - San Joaquin Continuum of Care – Housing Development Report – June 2020
- Three main barriers to Homelessness are pets, partners, and possessions. The unsheltered homeless do not want to give these up to find housing.
- A lot of 'not in my backyard resistance'. The community wants the sheltered homeless to be in the same areas as unsheltered homeless.
- Homelessness report will be presented to the Board of Supervisors at the next meeting. Stockton City Council officially accepted report on 07/14/2020.
- The report recommends an emergency shelter modeled after Sacramento's Meadowview emergency shelter. A facility that can house and provide services to homeless population. While the shelter may cost more to run with no services offered, the best return on investment would be to work with the population and help get them off the streets.
- One regional shelter will not be enough to meet the needs of the entire county; the report suggests each major population in the county has the responsibility to address this crisis within its own community.

B. Homeless Outreach and COVID-19 response update

- *Betsey Rose*, Deputy Director, Justice and Decriminalization Division
- COVID-19 numbers are increasing.
- Outreach still conducted on a daily basis. Stockton Police Department (SPD), Stockton Fire, and the District Attorney's (DA's) Office are still going out with members of the community to distribute resources and information, identify high-risk individuals, those who need medical attention, and/or need isolation.
- Community Medical Center (CMC) staff on site at shelters, BHS staff rotates the same staff at the shelters. CMC staff conducting all weekend screenings.

- Meal delivery is continuing three times a week thanks to a generous donation. Program anticipated lasting until October.
- COVID-19 positive cases are increasing in the Stockton Shelter for the Homeless, and Gospel Center Rescue Mission.
- Increase coming from clients walking out of the hospital, without reporting to Public Health. Some clients are referred to the Shelter.
- Screening at the Homeless Shelters will now be conducted by a CMC staff.
- Project Room Key is sheltering 71 high-risk homeless.
- COVID house at Gospel Center Rescue Mission has 18 people, and was able to discharge 5 in the last few days.
- Manteca has 5 beds designated for COVID positive clients.
- Working on further collaboration between shelter, hospitals, and BHS. Clients are being discharged to themselves and entering shelters or coming to appointments without notifying anyone that they are COVID positive.
- California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) will release inmates who have 180 days or less on their sentences. This releases 9,000 people in the state of California, 122 will be in San Joaquin County. 42 of the 122 were connected to BHS at one time, and may need to come back for services.
- CDCR release may affect the homeless population, as many people released do not have family to house them.

V. OLD BUSINESS

- No report.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- No report.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- *Tony Vartan*, MSW, LCSW, Behavioral Health Director

- COVID numbers are increasing in the community. Some staff is still working remotely while the other half works in the office. Staff rotates to ensure there is adequate social distancing.
- Staff is using electronic and telehealth capabilities to serve our clients.
- Timeliness is good in all of our departments. Our physicians are seeing clients before the deadline.
- Working on the state level in collaboration with the Human Services Agency (HSA) on Cal AIM project for foster care children

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Legislative Report – No report
- B. Children’s Committee – Carolyn Cooper reported that Stockton Unified School district would be doing a Coffee Talk via Zoom regarding trauma informed care with their Psychologist. Flyer will be shared with our agency, and our Prevention and Early Intervention contractors.
- C. Grievance Committee – No report
- D. Housing Committee – No report
- E. Substance Use Disorder – Cary Martin shared an email from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) titled Health Privacy Rule 42 CFR Part 2 is revised, modernizing care coordination for Americans seeking treatment for substance use disorders. Would like to discuss in further detail at the next meeting.

IX. ADJOURN TO AUGUST 19, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M.