



**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD (BHB)**

*Regular Meeting*

Via teleconference

June 17, 2020 – 5:00 -7:00 P.M.

**Board Members Present:**

Patricia Barrett  
Jeff Giampetro  
Dr. Mudalodu Vasudevan  
Tasso Kandris  
Cary Martin  
Carolyn Cooper  
Gertie Kandris  
John Weston  
Joe Dittman

**Board Members Absent/Excused:**

Karen Ivy  
Supervisor Villapudua

**Also Present:**

Greg Diederich, HCS Director  
Tony Vartan, BHS Director  
Frances Hutchins, BHS Assistant Director  
Betsey Rose, Deputy Director  
Angelo Balmaceda, MHSA Coordinator  
Hilary Crowley, Management Analyst III  
Isabel Espinosa, Office Secretary

**Guests:**

Tony Anderson, VMRC  
Michael Fields, Wellness Center  
Edna Ealey-Fields, NAMI SJC  
Sabrina Eng Flores  
Meghan Stanton  
Christie Libradeli  
Jamie Alexander, CAPC

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Behavioral Health Board meeting was convened on Wednesday, June 17, 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. INTRODUCTIONS**

Chairperson Tasso Kandris led self-introductions among board members and the public audience present at the meeting.

### III. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – OPEN TIME

- No public comment.

### IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Jeff Giampetro made a motion to approve the minutes. Patricia Barrett seconded the motion. The minutes were approved 9-0-0.

### V. PUBLIC HEARING

#### A. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Program Expenditure Plan, Three-Year Plan FY 2020-2023

- *Angelo Balmaceda*, MHSA Coordinator

Public Hearing was opened.

- Angelo reviewed the revised MHSA fund, the purpose of the funding, funding categories, planning methodology, and stakeholder participation statistics.
- BHS has recommended the outlined approach included in this year's plan due to the revenue uncertainty in the coming fiscal years. Once MHSA revenue impacts can be identified, BHS may elect to revise this plan and the projects included in it.
- Several public comments were received via email including a comment from Jamie Alexander of the Child Abuse Prevention Council. The comments were reviewed and included in the plan.
- Board member Jeff Giampetro commented that he would like to see prudent reserve funding increased.
- Board Chairperson Tasso Kandris urged board members to submit any additional comments via email to Board Secretary Isabel Espinosa.

Public Hearing was closed, as there was no additional comments.

### VI. PRESENTATION

#### A. Consumer Advocate

- *Meghan Stanton*, Executive Director, Consumers Self Help Center

- Consumer Self Help Advocates are contracted with San Joaquin County and are available at 1-877-965-6772, and on [consumerselfhelp.org](http://consumerselfhelp.org).
- Mental Health patients have the same legal rights guaranteed to everyone by the Constitution and other laws. Patients' rights are found in California Welfare and Institutions Code 5325 and 5325.1
- Every mental health client has the right to see and receive the services of a Patients' Rights Advocate.
- Duties of a Patients' Rights Advocate:
  - Represent the expressed wishes of their clients.

- Provide representation at Certification Review Hearings.
- They monitor mental health facilities and services for compliance with CA WI codes, and Title 9 regulation, and licensing requirements.
- Provides education and training to consumers, families, providers and the community.
- Advocates ensure that the consumer is informed about the involuntary detention.
- Patient Rights Advocates are available to provide training and education to consumers, providers, and the community by contacting 1-877-965-6772.
- Patient's rights advocates conduct investigations of complaints made by consumers or any member of the community.

B. Homeless Outreach, Emergency Winter Shelter, and COVID-19 response

- *Betsey Rose*, Deputy Director, Justice and Decriminalization Division

- Homeless Outreach teams provided the following services in addition to their regular duties. Outreach teams successfully housed all of there over 100 clients, with the exception of five who refused housing.

Homeless Outreach

- Winter shelter committee was formed in response the over 1,500 people in unsheltered circumstance in San Joaquin County.
- The overflow plan was scheduled for December 2019 to March 2020.
- In March 2020 the subcommittee turned their focus to support shelters and other homeless efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic
- 50 additional beds were created for both the Gospel Center Rescue Mission and Stockton Shelter for the homeless. Homeless Outreach teams from Whole Person Care (WPC), Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD), and PATH arrived at shelter each morning to triage.
- 560 unduplicated males were served.

COVID-19 Outreach

- 1,500 COVID backpacks were distributed to the homeless. United Way and the District Attorney's Office donated backpacks which included a COVID informational flyer, hand sanitizer, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.
- DA Tori Verber and Chris Rouppe, Board of Supervisors took immediate action with screenings; the city provided portable restrooms and hand washing stations.
- As of 06/07, over 11,000 screenings have been conducted at both homeless shelters.
- Outreach, Education, symptom checks, testing, and identifying high-risk population all were conducted in collaboration with Stockton Police Department, EMT's, Fire Department, District Attorney's Office, and the Board of Supervisors in Stockton, Manteca, Lodi, and Tracy.

- Meals were delivered to encampments courtesy of Bella Vista Restaurant. 100 meals were delivered 3 times a week.

#### Hotel Task Force/Project Room Key

- Task force included all in the previous committee and added Human Services Agency (HSA) and General Services.
- Project room key is a county wide collaboration in response to COVID-19, and presents a strategy for reducing exposure to COVID-19 infection among homeless who at risk due to age or pre-existing health conditions.
- The target population are medically high-risk homeless individuals who are not COVID positive.

### VII. OLD BUSINESS

- No report.

### VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- No report.

### IX. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

- Thanks to Betsey and her team, they are working 7 days a week. Time was well deserved. Thank you for all your hard work.
- We continue to check temperatures at all BHS locations.
- Family Ties and Recovery House are still operating, making sure staff and clients are protected.
- We have mandated mask use, with masks available at all point of entry.
- County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) proposed to the Governor a request to extend the deadline for the MHSA Three-Year Plan. Many counties did not have a chance to complete their community outreach.
- CBHDA also requested extending funding deadlines for monies that are at risk for reversion.
- With the delay in tax filing we are expecting budget delays in MHSA funds.
- California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) committee starts meeting this month. Work group begins next week. Will make recommendation, and make timelines for transitioning items to bring a better statewide system for foster care children.
- CBHDA and Department of Health Care Services completed a work group for COVID response and support. A \$1.6 million grant was received through FEMA for a media campaign, and expansion of the San Francisco warm line.

X. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Legislative Report – No report
- B. Children’s Committee – No report
- C. Grievance Committee – No report
- D. Housing Committee – No report
- E. Substance Use Disorder – No report

IX. ADJOURN TO JULY 15, 2020 AT 5:00 P.M.