



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES (BHRS) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD (BHB) November 21, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting convened at 5:07 p.m. and called to order by Kathy Rupe, Chair. Peter Dean led the board members and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kym Barber, Peter Dean, Jack Griffith, Annie Henrich, Margie Johnson, Loren Mannard, Kathy Rupe, Keryn Whitlow, Terry Withrow

STAFF PRESENT

Cynthia Bocage, Tony Vartan, Pam Esparza, Kevin Panyanouvong, Leonor Sierra, Maribel McCarrol, Brittney Kirkland, Melissa Farris, Karen Servas, Olivia Jimenez

GUESTS PRESENT

Caity Meader, Erika Reyes, Martin Gutierrez, Mohssa Wolf, Jelaine Esquerra, Sandra Ruiz, Hilda Mode, Hunter Lynette, Robert Wroten, Roman Scanlon, Megan Torres, Abionna Stephney, F. Johnson, D. Baldwin, R. Garnick, T. Lemings, R. Alvarez, K. Neal, S. Carson, P. Carson, K. Singh, A. Rogers, N. Baker, M. Pitti, J. Harnden, E. Dominique, D. Martinez, R. Andrade, Tray K., K. Howry T. Groves, M. Guefa,

CORRESPONDENCE

None reported.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action: Jack Griffith made a motion to approve the Behavioral Health Board minutes of October 24, 2024, Keryn Whitlow seconded the motion.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (BOS) REPORT

Supervisor Terry Withrow encouraged consumers to continue their path to recovery. He stated how he favored BHB meetings at Stanislaus Recovery Center (SRC) and thanked SRC for hosting the BHB meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONSUMER, GENERAL, FAMILY

None reported.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS – BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD (BHB)

Kathy Rupe presented the Slate of Officers as follows: Kathy Rupe as Chair and Keryn Whitlow as Vice-Chair. With no further recommendations, Kathy made a motion to close nominations. Motion to elect Kathy Rupe as Chair and Keryn Whitlow as Vice Chair was made by unanimous consent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

Kathy Rupe reported the committee finalized the agenda for the November 21, 2024, Board meeting. They also recommended a new candidate for board membership. The California Behavioral Health Planning Council 2024 Data Notebook survey is due on November 30, 2024.

Administrative Fiscal Management Committee

None reported.

Hospitalization Committee

None reported.

Mental Health Committee

None reported.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Committee

Margie Johnson reported Steven Berkowitz, Executive Director of The Redwood Family Center, presented an overview of services offered at Residential Valley Recovery Resources.

PRESENTATION: Proposition 1: Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2024 Project Application

Leonor Sierra, BHRS Chief, Integrated Services and Maribel McCarroll, Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Policy Manager provided a PowerPoint presentation on Proposition 1, Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2024 Project Application, a two-bill package to modernize the state's behavioral health care system, improve accountability, increase transparency, and expand the capacity of behavioral health care facilities. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was distributed to the board members.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Tony Vartan, BHRS Director, thanked SRC staff for hosting BHB meeting and emphasized the value of supporting and encouraging one another through recovery.

The following highlights were reported:

- SB43 is on schedule to be implemented on January 1, 2025.
- The first CARE Court graduation will take place on December 9, 2024, at 10:00 a.m., at the Board of Supervisors' chambers, located at 1010 Tenth St. Modesto.
- CARE Act data was reported.
- Housing projects continue to expand in Stanislaus County:
 - Turlock facility holds 87 beds and is ready to receive clients.
 - Transitional housing with 42 units at the corner of 9th St. and L St. in Modesto.
 - Housing for Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder population.
- BHRS continues to work on new projects and initiatives to increase funding for crisis and expand services.
- BHRS submitted an application to the State, for funding of twelve million for infrastructure and twelve million for supplemental care, for individuals that maybe incompetent to stand trial.

- The 24/7 Mobile Crisis Unit contracted with Telecare is completely operational to assess individuals throughout the entire county.
- Veterans' symposium was held on November 9, 2024, in Patterson, CA focusing on the importance of integrating services for Veterans.
- Integrated Care Center project for SUD individuals regardless of coverage can be assessed and receive service.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Annie Henrich, Stanislaus Asian American Community Resource (SAACR) invited members to participate in the Holiday Gift Giving for AAPI Families and Children in need, on December 14, 2024, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Stanislaus County Veterans Center, located at 3500 Coffee Rd., Modesto. Presentation will include, how to access mental health services.

Pam Esparza, Chief, Supportive Services Division, announced Behavioral Health Wellness Center located at 800 Scenic Dr., Modesto has extended business hours to meet the needs of the community. Monday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Maribel McCarroll invited members to the next BHSA Advisory Committee meeting on December 18, 2024, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Martin G. Peterson Event Center, located at 720 12th St, Modesto.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m. The next meeting will be January 23, 2025, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., at the Stanislaus Veterans Center, 3500 Coffee Rd. Ste.15, Modesto, CA. 95357.

Respectfully Submitted by O. Jimenez, Confidential Assistant III