

**INYO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD  
WEDNESDAY, July 12, 2023  
2:30 pm**

**Offered In Person at 1360 N. Main  
Street, Bishop  
And virtually via Zoom**

**Informational Notes Only – No Quorum**

**Call To Order/Welcome**

The Meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**Membership Present**

**In Person:** Lynn Martin Supervisor Trina Orrill

**Community & Staff Present**

<b>In Person:</b>	Kimball Pier	Colleen McGuire	Araceli Morales
	Branden DeHaven	Vanessa Ruggio	Gina McKinzey
	Chrystina Pope	Katharine Paquette	Vivian De La Riva
	Lucy Vincent		

**Virtual:** technical difficulties prevented virtual attendance

Participants introduced themselves.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*This item is set-aside at each meeting to allow the public to address issues not on the agenda. No action can be taken, but items can be placed on future agendas.*

Ms. Martin reminded participants that books can be donated for jail.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes from June 14, 2023 meeting could not be approved for lack of a quorum.

**INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEMS**

- 1) Director Update – Kimball C. Pier shared information about contracts being renewed. (Informational)

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- a. Staffing update – Chrystina Pope, Clinical Administrator, informed the group that she is transitioning from her work here at Inyo County Behavioral Health so she can provide private therapy in the community.
  - b. Dr. Pier told the group about staff additions: Katie Hawkins, Associate Clinical Social Worker, our new in-person psychotherapist intern, and Madoka Urhausen, LMFT, our newest telehealth provider.
  - c. Jail services update - Deanna will be holding a women’s group.
  - d. Dr. Pier explained the components of the MHSA Three-Year Plan and the process of obtaining its approval. She told the group about trainings that will be provided this year. She also shared some of the changes the state is in the process of making in MHSA funding distribution and requirements, and how this might impact rural and frontier counties such as ours. A lively discussion ensued. Dr. Pier explained that The SmithWaters Group, our Patients’ Rights Advocates, will be visiting the governor about these developments.
- 2) Wellness Center updates (Informational) – Vanessa Ruggio and Gina McKinzey presented:
- a. Groups offered and attendance rates -Regular Groups continue to be offered, and new ones will begin. RE: attendance rates – For services including groups, visits with case management, 346 people visited the Bishop Wellness Center 1,286 times in June. In June, 34 people visited Lone Pine 63 times.
  - b. Measuring success – Gina McKinzey shared that, as indicated by total visits, community members enjoy the groups being offered, and the other services they can access at both Bishop and Lone Pine Wellness Centers.
- 3) Progress House (Informational) – Gina McKinzey presented on behalf of Kelly Nugent
- a. Current census = Progress House is filled to half its capacity, currently. The new commercial kitchen is still in the works. The additional space will enable residents to participate in meal preparation.
  - b. Admission criteria was updated in May 2023 – the new criteria is working very well for persons accessing Progress House.
- 4) SUD (Substance Use Disorder) program update (Informational) – Catie Grisham presented:
- a. SUD staff is incorporating family services in the Drug Court Program including a kid’s group and some multi-family group activities. These are well-received by clients and their families.
  - b. Provided Educational training to the CASA and RFA programs.
  - c. More educational lectures and resources have been added to our outpatient services such as life skills, health and nutritional information, and financial literacy.
- 5) FIRST program update (Informational) –Chrystina Pope presented on behalf of Jody Veenker
- a. Current staffing – The FIRST Team is in the process of hiring an

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- assistant. This Social Worker IV should join the team by the end of July.
- b. Ms. Pope shared about Ms. Veenker's great work and the services received by FIRST Families
  - c. Wraparound
- 6) BH services update – Chrystina Pope shared about:
- a. Staffing challenges – recruitment efforts continue.

The meeting adjourned 3:29 pm

Transcribed by:

*Lucy Vincent*