

**INYO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**  
**MONDAY, June 14, 2021**  
**10:00-11:15 am**  
**Virtually Held via Zoom**  
**Minutes**

***Informational Only/No Quorum***

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m.

**INTRODUCTIONS**

All present via Zoom introduced themselves.

**COMMUNITY & STAFF Virtually PRESENT**

Supervisor Dan Totheroh	Lisa Trunnell
Dr. Gail Zwier	Ralph Cataldo
Lynn Martin	Lucy Vincent
Karen Colter	Gina McKinzey
Vanessa Ruggio	

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Special Meeting regarding May as Mental Health Awareness Month May 10, 2021- Informational Only, No quorum: The Minutes for May's meeting were unanimously approved.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

- ❖ Jane Gillam, acting as Chairperson: Ms. Gillam asked for comments about the minutes; discussed the strengths presentation by Tim Toppass. Dr. Zwier asked whether the group would like to hear presentations re other services. Ms. Gillam and group decided that this would be beneficial.

**DIRECTOR'S REMARK**

- ❖ Changes on the horizon and BHAB membership: Dr. Zwier informed the group about the progress of the move from Grove Street. Supervisor Totheroh inquired as to whether we have the guidance we need. Dr. Zwier shared that staff is following protocol and still wearing masks. She noted that the Pandemic taught us how to do remote work, and that this experience is helping us in this transition to the new building. Services will continue in the field, which has been the preferred model, and staff will also rotate in to the building to do office work, as desks in the new building are located in shared spaces, and interviews rooms are limited.

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- ❖ Dr. Zwier announced to the group that she will be retiring from her work as HHS- Deputy Director of Behavioral Health after 24 years in that position and 28 years for the County. Dr. Zwier reminded BH Board of the statutory role in choosing a new director and the qualifications of the position.
- ❖ Dr. Zwier shared about the Diversity/Inclusion Work Group, which is called the Justice-Equity-Diversity-Inclusion (JEDI) group. JEDI is continuing to meet; presented to the larger HHS Group last week and presented some poll questions for staff in attendance. Mikaela from the PIQA team provided technical assistance. The group is continuing with listening sessions and trying to move toward bringing it to the community.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Pertaining to any item on the agenda:

- ❖ With regard to BHAB Membership applications – we expect that the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors will agendaize the two member applications we received prior to getting more applications in.
- ❖ Ms. Gillam expressed her appreciation of Dr. Zwier’s leadership and her desire to have continued connection with her going forward, as she has a heart for being an advocate for the providers in Inyo County Behavioral Health.
- ❖ Ms. Martin inquired as to whether Chrystina Pope would be leading us in therapeutic activities at future BHAB meetings. Dr. Zwier shared that we are expecting that she join us again as her schedule permits.
- ❖ JEDI – Ms. Gillam expressed a desire to keep JEDI as part of the agenda going forward. She inquired whether Supervisor Totheroh was willing to take a lead around this item with the Board of Supervisors. Dr. Zwier expressed appreciation for his support.

### **REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS**

#### ***QI Committee Meeting Report:***

#### ***Ralph Cataldo shared the following audits and review updates:***

- ❖ SUD State audit is due this week – this is an opportunity to showcase our work. We will also enter our Triennial review, which will take place in August. We are working on our Program Improvement Projects (PIPs) and will see if the State accepts our progress. We have a lot of interaction with the State.

#### ***SUD Services - Prevention:Dr. Zwier shared the Report received from April Eagan:***

- ❖ Outdoor Program starts up again this week, with a goal of one outing per week and 4-6 children per outing this summer. Tim has been working on revised guidelines for the program regarding masking, spacing, and cleaning. The Bristlecone hike will be the first outing. Day Camp will be August 2-4 at Bishop Creek.

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- ❖ Students in the Mentor Program will be back on campus in the fall, and the program will be able to start up again in person. Tim is planning to re-engage the volunteers in the Mentor Program this summer with a mentor luncheon.
- ❖ Jorge is researching starting a Club Live program for middle school students in the fall. He has been meeting with school staff and will attend training later this month.

### ***PROGRESS HOUSE RESIDENT MEETING REPORT by Gina McKinzey:***

- 8 residents including respites represents an increase as opening up.
- Residents went on some outings last weekend.
- We had a bonfire/s'mores night.
- The music group continues with Orion each week.
- We look forward to more outings and more groups.
- Crisis Response – After 5, we answer the crisis line calls. 60% of these calls are dealt with in-house, which prevents them from turning into a crisis situation.

### ***WELLNESS CENTERS: Presented by Vanessa Ruggio:***

- Showers and Laundry are continuing to be scheduled by appointment
- In collaboration with Public Health, we held 2 vaccine clinics in Bishop and one in Lone Pine. This represents a more targeted outreach for vaccination. Efforts supported by group.
- Case managers are still responding to crisis on-call and doing outreach.

### ***Reports received from Chrystina Pope, LMFT:***

#### ***Child and Family Services***

- ❖ The Child and Family Team have been very active in the past month, supporting youth at the end of the school year and planning for summer. We will be facilitating summer intensive therapy groups for youth focusing on social and emotional skills in Bishop and Lone Pine. One of our therapists is on an extended leave and the team has rallied around to absorb her caseload. Carri Coudek and Catie Grisham from SUD are facilitating a LGBTQ group for youth. This is due to the voice of our clients to create safe space for the community. The Child and Family team are out in the field much of the time and are doing great work.

#### ***Adult Therapeutic Services***

- ❖ The adult team continues to provide individual therapy. Clients are being seen in the office more as COVID restrictions lift. They are managing the influx of intakes and full caseloads. They defiantly are working as a team while tending to the community. A discussion is forming around Intensive Care Coordination for those who are entering the community from incarceration between Wellness Center, re-entry program, FIRST, SUD and Behavioral health to support

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resiliency and community support for this population. This is encouraging great collaboration in the community.

### ***Adult Therapeutic Services continued shared by Dr. Zwier:***

- ❖ Tele-health update: Our transition from Dr. Schneider to Dr. Winsten, our tele-health psychiatrist, will be complete at the end of this month. Dr. Schneider saw everyone from children to older adults, and she supported local emergency room doctors during crisis calls.
- ❖ Staff – we now have one nurse. Therefore, Kelly Nugent, with a background as a certified nurse practitioner, is providing tele-med support. Nurse Anita Richardson, now retired, is helping us get our charts ready for the upcoming Triennial Medi-Cal Review.
- ❖ We are going to hire 2 APar persons for Progress House rather than hiring one BPar person.

### ***SUD Treatment Services***

- ❖ The SUD team has sent out a flyer to our partners for SUD perinatal support and group for outreach. A new awareness of the need for support for new mothers with or without mental health/SUD concerns has been revealed through our outreach. This discussion will be taken back to the perinatal taskforce to assist the community in meeting this need for mothers of young children

### ***FIRST***

- ❖ Family Intensive Response and Strengthening Team (FIRST) is now billing medical for Intensive Home-Based Service and Intensive Care Coordination. We continue to collaborate and find new ways to support the families that are in common with the Adult and child and family services.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

### **AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

The next meeting to be virtually held will be held on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 10 am.

Transcribed by:

*Lucy Vincent*

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