

INYO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
MONDAY, August 9, 2021
10:00-11:15 am
Virtually Held via Zoom
Informational Meeting Notes

Informational Only/No Quorum

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

All present via Zoom introduced themselves.

COMMUNITY & STAFF Virtually PRESENT

Supervisor Dan Totheroh	Lisa Trunnell
Marilyn Mann	Ralph Cataldo
Lucy Vincent	Jennifer Ray
Vanessa Ruggio	April Eagan
Chrystina Pope	Stephanie Tanksley
Samantha Rottner	

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 12, 2021 – We did not have a quorum so we did not take action.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Chrystina Pope, acting as chairperson. Jane Gillam was unable to make it today, but she did send an email, which was forwarded to BHAB attendees and which Marilyn Mann read to the group to place context to the following:

DIRECTOR'S REMARK

- ❖ Marilyn Mann read Jane Gillam's email to the group to provide context to the following:
 - In July, the Board of Supervisors approved updated job description for the position of Deputy Director of Dept. of HHS – Behavioral Health, which will meet Title IX qualifications to be appointed as the local Mental Health Director. We want to support hiring a staff member with clinical strengths as one of our priorities.
 - HHS is working with personnel to establish a contract with a recruiting firm.
 - In order to meet contractual obligations as a County Mental Health Plan (MHP); and after reviewing her education and experience, DHCS has approved Marilyn Mann's appointment as Interim Local Mental Health

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- Director, and the Board of Supervisors took action at the end of July to appoint her in the interim role.
- Effective last week, in order to ensure we are providing the highest quality services to our community, Chrystina Pope is acting as “head of service” with regard to clinical needs and team support.
 - A leadership transition team has been assembled and is already providing support to the Behavioral Health team.
 - We will be working with the Board to identify ways to increase membership.

Supervisor Totheroh joined Ms. Mann in assuring the group that the recruitment has been authorized, and that all appropriate action is taking place in order to find a qualified Local Mental Health Director as quickly as we can.

Chrystina Pope noted with gratitude that this has been a team effort. She expressed optimism as we move forward.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Not Applicable as this was information sharing meeting only due to the lack of a quorum

REPORTS AND INFORMATION

QI Committee Meeting Report by Ralph Cataldo:

- ❖ Mr. Cataldo shared that the State of California Medi-Cal Triennial Review will be held from August 24, 2021 through August 26, 2021.

Diversity Inclusion Workgroup - Equity

- ❖ Stephanie Tanksley informed the group that the Equity Workgroup is still meeting on Mondays and providing recommendations on ways to increase equity and inclusion in mental health. Mrs. Tanksley said she would ask Mikaela Torres, as part of the equity workgroup, to join us at next month’s BHAB meeting.

SUD Services by Chrystina Pope

- ❖ Catie will be doing assessments in the jail in place of a part-time counselor who retired.
- ❖ DUI Groups will begin toward the end of this month in Bishop and in Lone Pine. We are getting back to in-person groups.
- ❖ Sheila Turner worked on a 12 week Peri-natal program and a men’s trauma-focused group.

WELLNESS CENTERS: Presented by Vanessa Ruggio:

- ❖ We had another COVID-19 vaccination clinic and were able to help some of our homeless persons get a vaccine.
- ❖ A couple of our case managers linked with the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program at Northern Inyo Hospital (NIH) and did some outreach with them.

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- ❖ Assisted some people in getting new cell phones.
- ❖ A case manager is providing jail services in addition to providing services at Wellness Center. New groups will be offered.

Youth Services Report – by Chrystina Pope, LMFT:

- ❖ We continue to get several new intakes each week
- ❖ One of our clinicians has tendered her 2-week notice
- ❖ We will work with the schools for help in finding space within the schools to provide safe and confidential services.
- ❖ We have been integrating the family into our work with at risk youths
- ❖ We have crisis intervention training coming up, which will involve
- ❖ Reflecting parenting will begin in October
- ❖ Ms. Mann shared that confirmation of yearly FURS funding has been received which will fund training and ongoing staffing of the FURS team
- ❖ We had our first 2 FURS calls in the last two weeks. This brought to light how needed the FURS work is.

Adult Therapeutic Services

- ❖ The adult team is transitioning to working in the new building
- ❖ Trauma-Informed Care “Train the Trainer” program: Stephanie mentioned that an 18-month-long training that will go along with FURS training will be coming to Inyo County. We will be collaborating with OVCDC, Probation, HHS, Bishop Indian Head Start. It will train 150 people and then create about 30 Trainers. After training staff, we will survey to determine attitudinal change.

Prevention Report – by April Eagan:

- ❖ Prop 64 Grant has been received to increase services
- ❖ We are also working on one-time funding, due today. This will help us train staff.
- ❖ Outdoor Program: 3 outings in July with 5-10 participants, 1 outing was out of Lone Pine in collaboration with Probation
- ❖ Day Camp August 2-4 with 9 participants, will report more details next meeting

OLD BUSINESS

MHSA Plan – Ms. Mann shared about the MHSA Review which took place last week. We will be working through the recommendations we will be receiving in writing, and working with State around the finalization of our Plan which was delayed by the impact of the pandemic.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Mann inquired as to how many members are to be on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board – Stephanie Tanksley answered that it is to be a 7-person Board. She asked whether the two applicants had been authorized by the Board of Supervisors (BOS), but they have not. Ms. Mann offered her assistance in getting these put on the

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board agenda. We need to advertise to attract more applicants. We need at least four persons in order to take action on items.

Supervisor Totheroh posed that County Counsel will be able to assist us in getting the new applicants brought in since we do not currently have a quorum.

The group discussed some of the issues concerning the bylaws and the percentage of persons with lived experience that are required in order to have a functioning board.

Supervisor Totheroh, thinking of the Behavioral Health group, shared a quote he heard at the Olympics which pertained to athletes helping fellow athletes: “It’s nice to be important; it’s even more important to be nice!” Something to reflect on: We get to stop in our tracks to help those around us!

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Review Roles and Responsibilities of Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Under QI: MHSAs Presentation
Recruitment

The meeting adjourned at 10:52 am.

The next meeting to be virtually held will be held on Monday, September 13, 2021 at 10 am.

Transcribed by:

Lucy Vincent