

**INYO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

MONDAY, July 12, 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 10:04 a.m.

INTRODUCTIONS

All present via Zoom introduced themselves.

COMMUNITY & STAFF Virtually PRESENT

Supervisor Dan Totheroh

Dr. Gail Zwier

Lynn Martin

Karen Colter

Vanessa Ruggio

Colleen

Salvador Montanez

Jane Gillam

Lisa Trunnell

Ralph Cataldo

Lucy Vincent

Gina McKinzey

April Eagan

Chrystina Pope

Shelley Scott

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

June 14, 2021 – Jane Gillam asked for questions or comments on minutes - minutes were unanimously approved.

OPENING ACTIVITY

As requested in previous meetings, Chrystina Pope again shared a tapping exercise to demonstrate its use in trauma-informed care.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

❖ Jane Gillam acting as Chairperson remarked that this is Dr. Zwier's last meeting in the role of Deputy Director of Behavioral Health. Posed the question to the group: "What do we accomplish during this meeting?" and how will this continue after Dr. Zwier is no longer here?

1. Transparency and availability of services. Each month, when reports given, it gives community persons an opportunity to ask questions about the services we provide. Supervisor Totheroh remarked that this is a committee that is most positive and focusses on problem-solving the challenges and barriers. Jane credited Dr. Zwier's leadership with this.

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2. Establishes community
3. It is a pace to document progress. Each sub-department reports on their programs and contributions to the community as well as the challenges.
4. Supervisor Totheroh reported that he uses the meetings to identify issues and needs to bring forward to BOS

DIRECTOR'S REMARK

- ❖ Dr. Zwier shared that Chrystina Pope will be in the role of clinical lead and required head of service for the MHP, in addition to her current responsibilities. HHS and BH leadership to support the ongoing work in the transition.
- ❖ As requested, will provide a handout on the roles and responsibilities of a Behavioral Health Board.
- ❖ Contract for Patient's Rights Advocate – Dr. Zwier shared that she has identified Willyum & Frank Smith Waters; two persons who provide Patient's Rights Advocacy. She explained that they provide phone support and will come four times a year to provide training for us. Lucy Vincent will share their information with the group via email. Support given for this contract.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pertaining to any item on the agenda:

- ❖ Lynn Martin expressed how this community (BHAB) has been wonderful for her. Gina McKinzey agreed that it has been a good forum for staff to be able to let everyone know about the work we are doing and provides encouragement to keep up the good work.

REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS

QI Committee Meeting Report by Ralph Cataldo:

- ❖ Mr. Cataldo shared that we are in the midst of preparation for the Medi-Cal Triennial Review –stating that it is “an opportunity to showcase the work we do.”

SUD Services – by April Eagan:

- ❖ From Tim Villanueva: We wrapped up the school mentoring program. Some of the mentors are continuing to see their youth throughout the summer! We have had two hiking outings this summer, and we are slowly ramping up the Outdoor Program. We have signed up new youth for both the Outdoor and the Mentoring Programs.

SUD Services – by Dr. Zwier:

- ❖ Remote services continue in the SUD program especially as we have not yet moved into the new consolidated building. Exemptions for remote services for services such as DUI are slated to end at the end of the calendar year.

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PROGRESS HOUSE RESIDENT MEETING REPORT by Gina McKinzey:

- Population remains steady; we had a few respites in June.
- June Lake outing/free concert this week
- The generator is up and running
- Focus: Working to do Strengths Assessments/working with folks to help them find jobs.

WELLNESS CENTERS: Presented by Vanessa Ruggio:

- Showers (MWF) and Laundry (TTH) are continuing to be scheduled by appointment
- In collaboration with Public Health, vaccine clinics went well
- Progress House is bringing food to the Wellness Center to share with folks.
- LP Wellness Center is moving to the new side of the building in the next month or so.

Reports received from Chrystina Pope, LMFT:

Child and Family Services

- ❖ The Child and Family began summer group. They are having a fun and emotionally educational time together. We have had an increase in intakes of the past two months, due to one therapist on extended leave, we have recruited support in the intake process to make sure all who are referred are seen as soon as possible. The Child and Family team have are exemplifying resilience as they pull together for the common good of our work.
- ❖ Perla Gastelum – completed PC Care Level II – she will be able to train staff & community members in English and Spanish.

Adult Therapeutic Services

- ❖ The adult team continues to provide individual therapy in the field, telehealth and in office. We are transitioning towards meeting in the office and finding our rhythm once again with our clients, once we are in the new building.

SUD Treatment Services

- ❖ The SUD team continues to rally around the enthusiasm which was created by sending out a perinatal flyer. They are hosting community partners more in their meetings and groups and building awareness of perinatal needs. Two new Seeking Safety groups have been formed.

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FIRST

- ❖ Family Intensive Response and Strengthening Team (FIRST) is proficient in billing Medical. Jody Veenker is assisting with intake process when needed for the Child and Family team. We all continue to collaborate to meet our clients' needs.
- ❖ All of the staff is eager to move into the consolidated building with the intention of getting settled and reigniting creativity within our work with the community.

Tele-health update shared by Dr. Zwier:

- ❖ Dr. Zwier talked about re-evaluating what telemedicine can do in response to crisis situations in the community, now that Dr. Schneider has retired. Dr. Zwier has been speaking to a community partner about the possibility of sharing an in-person psychiatrist who could provide the specialty services within our community.
- ❖ Dr. Zwier shared how our nursing staff dropped down from three nurses to one. Kelly Nugent has been very helpful in assisting Nurse Wendy Fogelstrom, especially on days when telemedicine appointments are being held. At some point, we may need to evaluate the minimum qualifications for job is no candidate emerges. Importance of coordinated care for complex needs was underscored.

OLD BUSINESS

MHSA Plan – there will be a separate review of the Mental Health Services Act Plan in August. Recommendation that a fiscal consultant helps us sort through some of the very complicated fiscal pieces.

NEW BUSINESS

Transitions for BH

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

The next meeting to be virtually held will be held on Monday, August 9, 2021 at 10 am.

Transcribed by:

Lucy Vincent