**Behavioral Health Board Minutes San Luis Obispo County**

**April 17, 2024**

**3:00pm**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Members Present** | **Members Absent** |
| Barbara Levenson | Melissa Cummins |
| Mary Bianchi | Joseph Kurtzman |
| Leslie Brown | Rose Fowler- Plummer |
| Amber Gallagher | Devon McClellan |
| Chris Emert | Hugo Castaneda |
| Amanda Sherlock | Sup. Jimmy Paulding |
| Robert Reyes | **Guests** |
| Seth Stabinsky (For Ian Parkinson) | Jill Bolster-White |
| Dana Ready-Hunt | Trista Ochoa |
| Seleste Bowers (Cen Cal) |  |
| **Health Agency Staff Present** |  |
| Star Graber |  |
| Allie Metcalf |  |
| Frank Warren |  |

1. **Barbara Levenson called meeting to order @ 3:03pm**
2. **Introductions and Announcements:** 
   * Round table introductions.
3. **Public Comments:**
   * Amanda Sherlock- Is putting on a grief recovery workshop starting in May. The course is offered on a donation basis. You can contact her for more information.
   * Jill Bolster-White- Growing Grounds 40th anniversary celebration is coming up. It is on April 20th from 12-5pm and will have bands, food trucks, and other activities.
   * Trista Ocha- Works on the TMHA Peer Advisory Team. There will be a Mental Health Town Hall on April 23rd with Karina Silva Garcia. She will be talking about the importance of community advisors and how to get involved in the community.
   * Mary Bianchi- April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. There will be a Crime Victims' Rights Awareness Month Ceremony at the Ludwick Center on April 25th from 11:30am-1pm. Lisa Fraser who is the Executive Director of the Center of Family Strengthening is going to present a discussion on the Child Advocacy Center which will be opening soon.
4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes from March 20, 2024 M/S/C: Robert Reyes / Leslie Brown Abstain: 1

1. **Ongoing Business:**
   * Reminder that on April 26th Hugo and Barbra will be visiting SAFE (Services Affirming Family Empowerment).
   * July’s site visit is to Martha’s Place -Children’s Center. Mary, Rose, and Dana will be attending.
2. **New Business:**
   * Frank Warren gave a presentation on the impacts of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) reform. The presentation gave a quick review of the MHSA and the outcome of Prop 1. A few updates from the State on how this reform is going to look were described as well as the programs that will potentially be impacted. In the presentation there were two surveys linked where the public can comment on this reform. (see PowerPoint for more details).
   * Nominations of Officers for the Behavioral Health Board were held. Chair Barbra Levenson let the board know that the chair, vice chair and second vice chair were willing to stay on for another year. She then asked for nominations for officers from the floor. No one else was nominated. The slate stands as Chair Barbara Levenson, First Vice Chair Mary Bianchi and Second Vice Chair Robert Reyes. There will be a vote at the May meeting.
3. **Membership Committee - Update:**
   * Copies of each of the recruitment flyers were passed around. Each of the members were asked to write if they wanted copies of the flyers which they will receive at the next meeting. PDF’s of the flyers were also sent out via email.
   * The California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions sent out a report on the membership changes occurring in January 2025. Next year 50% of the board membership will be consumers or the parents, siblings, spouses, or adult children of consumers. There is an emphasis on recruiting this population for this reason.
4. **Committee Representatives- Update:**
   * MHSA Advisory Committee: Barbara Levenson and Leslie Brown attended the meeting. There was an overview about Prop 1 and MHSA reform. There was no request for fiscal approvals. Minutes and information about the next meeting are on the website.
   * The next QST meeting is April 18th.
   * Barabra Levenson let the board know that the CALBHB/C quarterly meeting and training is happening April 19th and April 20th. You can join via zoom and listen to speakers, learn how to be an effective board member and much more.
5. **Administrator’s Report- Star Graber**
   * The County has a new Administrative Officer Matt Pontes. The department heads of the Health Agency will be meeting with him soon so he can learn all about the different programs and the work the County does.
   * There is a budget update. The budget was submitted at the end of last year. The Health Agency was looking at a reduction list of 2.2 million dollars. With this reduction there will be no loss of programing or staff layoffs. To meet these 2.2 million reductions the County is looking for new revenue sources and looking at internal operations reductions.
   * The Behavioral Health Department in general is operating 4.2 million dollars in the red. 3 million dollars of that has to do with Smart Care billing. The money is in the system and the money will be coming. The other million dollars is mostly out of county placements for out of county hospitals. Rates for those hospitals are going up so the county is trying to get more contracts with many different facilities with different levels of care to get better rates.
   * With these new numbers the Health Agency will be able to cover the rest of the cost and is not asking the Board of Supervisors for any general fund money.
   * The New Behavioral Health Board webpage on the county website was presented. This is where you can find all agendas, minutes and presentations for the meetings. County members can also apply to be a part of the Behavioral Health Board and submit a public comment on the website.
6. **Presentation:** 
   * Traci Autry from Wilshire Community Services gave a presentation. She described the different programs Wilshire has to provide services to older adults. The last part of her presentation contained a breakdown of medical services and what options older adults have. Seleste Bowers from CenCal also helped explain the difference between CenCal, Medicare and County Behavioral Health (See PowerPoint for more details).

**Reminder:** Next month Presentation on CARE Court/Bridge Housing- Morgan Torell and Teresa Pemberton

**Adjourn at 4:47pm**

**Next Behavioral Health Board Meeting May 15th, 2024 at 3:00pm**