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

**August 21, 2024**

**3:00pm**

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| **Members Present** | **Members Absent** |
| Barbara Levenson | Chris Emert |
| Mary Bianchi | Cen Cal Representative |
| Leslie Brown | Amanda Sherlock |
| Hugo Castaneda | **Guests** |
| Lori Thomas Hicks (for Amber Gallagher) | Jon Nibbio |
| Rose Fowler- Plummer | James Sofranko |
| Melissa Cummins | Trista Ocha |
| Robert Reyes | Bill Matthew |
| Devon McClellan | Shawn Ison |
| Sup. Jimmy Paulding | Brian Atwell |
| Robert Crout (for Ian Parkinson)- | Michael Azevedo |
| Dana Ready-Hunt | Stephanie Carlotti |
| **Health Agency Staff Present** | Mike Bossenberry |
| Samantha Parker | Danielle Martinez |
| Star Graber | Jamie Bing |
| Allie Metcalf | Christina White |
|  | Nancy Crawford |

1. **Barbara Levenson called meeting to order @ 3:02 pm**
2. **Introductions and Announcements:** 
   * Round table introductions.
3. **Public Comments:**
   * Nancy Crawford wanted to introduce Care Connection Transport Services who contract with the county.
   * TMHA’s Journey of Hope Festival is September 14th at Avila Beach Golf Resort from 12-4pm. Flyers were handed out and emailed to the board members.
   * SLO’s Overdose Awareness Day event is August 31st at Mittchell Park in San Luis Obispo from 2-4pm. More information about this event was sent out to the board via email.
   * Brain Atwell, the President of Nami, wanted to draw attention to the organization. The website is namislo.org. They are hosting their first Beautiful Minds Walk since Covid at Laguna Middle School in SLO. The walk is September 28th 9am-12pm. They are taking corporate sponsor applications as well as individual participant sign ups currently.
   * Trista Ochoa brought attention to THMA’s Peer Advisory and Advocacy Team. They hold two meetings a month on different mental health topics. On September 24th Barbara and Mary will be presenting about the Behavioral Health Board to the group.
4. **Approval of Minutes:**

Minutes from May 15, 2024, M/S/C: Leslie Brown /Robert Reyes Abstain: 0

1. **Ongoing Business:**
   * Barbara reported on the SAFE (Services Affirming Family Empowerment) site visit she as Hugo conducted in April. They were able to learn about the services provided and tour the space. Their only recommendation was to be able to expand their services and expand the space they are currently in. The site visit report was sent out to the board.
   * August’s site visit is to Martha’s Place -Children’s Center. Mary, Rose, and Dana will be attending.
   * A sign-up sheet was passed around for 2025 site visits. The three sites are:
     1. January 2025: Atascadero Adult and Youth Mental Health Services
     2. April 2024: SLO South Street: Youth Drug & Alcohol, Prevention & Outreach, and Veterans Services
     3. July 2025: TMHA Wellness Center “Safe Haven”
   * There is a request to submit new presentation topics for the board meetings next year.
2. **New Business:**
   * A Video by the County Public Information Team is being produced about the Behavioral Health Board. This will be an informational video to post on the county website and send out for recruitment purposes to the community. There will be filming at the Behavioral Health Board meetings, site visits, and other board events. There will be more information on this in the future. The production crew will also do several interviews for the video. If you would be willing to be interviewed reach out to Barbara Levenson or Allie Metcalf.
3. **Membership Committee - Update:**
   * New potential Behavioral Health Board Members introduced themselves. They described their experience and why they wanted to be on the board.
   * The executive committee is asking for board members to be a part of the Membership Committee. With several applications for board membership currently, there is a need for members to sit in on the interviews and be a part of the process. Please reach out to Allie Metcalf or Mary Bianchi if you can be a part of the interviews and/or committee.
   * There are Agency Board placements whose terms are expiring. These agencies are CenCal, Probation, TCRC. A motion was made to approve their reappointments: M/S/C: Sup. Paulding/ Melissa Cummins
4. **Committee Representatives- Update:**
   * Barbara Levenson attended the QST Meeting on August 8th. This meeting was about crisis continuum. The QST meetings will now be called QIC (Quality Improvement Committee) meetings.
   * The next CAL BHBC Meeting is September 7th.
5. **Administrator’s Report- Star Graber**
   * Samantha Parker was introduced as the new Division Manager for the Access and Crisis Services Division. Samantha spoke about her work experience and her experience with the county as well has her plan for the Access and Crisis Services Division. The next few months the Behavioral Health Department will be making plans for this new division before they take the plan to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
   * Prop 1 dedicated a bond for infrastructure which is different than housing funds. The first grant is out now and due December 13th (There is a second round in 2025). The state is split up into several regions. Our region has 4 other counties and will be competing for 51 million dollars. The Behavioral Health Department has already begun to speak to the other counties in the region to see what projects they are perusing so the plans are not all the same and can be mutually beneficial. Our counties plan is a campus including a youth PHF, and additional adult PHF, adult crisis residential treatment, and youth crisis residential treatment. The next step is looking at properties which would most likely be in North County.
   * The Behavioral Health Strategic Plan was approved by the Board of Supervisors, and we are now looking at the next steps for the plan. Star is requesting members of the board to be a part of a working group to being to look at the metrics that should be chosen to evaluate the success and progress of the strategic plan.
   * The county team did a great job at the end of the fiscal year to bill everything to make up for the three-million-dollar deficit and even added two more million dollars from services not billed. The reason this billing error occurred was because of software issues when the county switched their electronic health record to SmartCare last year.
6. **Presentation: Crestwood Behavioral Health Services- Danielle Martinez**
   * Danielle Martinez presented on Crestwood Behavioral Health Services and the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF). The history of Crestwood was explained as well as the current state of the company. The staff roles as well as the day-to-day operations at the PHF were described. Data was shared including admission rate, discharge locations, and length of stays. Improvements and changes to the PHF since Crestwood took over the operation of the PHF from the County on July 1st, 2023, were shown (See PowerPoint for more details).

**Reminder:** Next Month Presentation on Mobile Crisis- Josh Simpson, Bethany Shakespeare

**Adjourn at 5:03pm**

**Next Behavioral Health Board Meeting September 18th, 2024, at 3:00pm**