

**Sacramento County Mental Health Board  
 Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT) Advisory Committee  
 MINUTES– IN PERSON MEETING  
 HYBRID PARTICIPATION OPTION  
 Tuesday October 10, 2023  
 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM**

Members Present: Corrine Sako, Severine Hollingsworth, Adams Wills, Sarina Rodriguez, Evan Minton, Kaino Hopper, Mykel Gayent and Elijah Orr (staff: Glenda Basina)

Members Absent: None.

<b>Agenda Item</b>
<p><b>I. Remote Participation of Members – Government Code Section 54953(f)</b></p> <p><b>II. Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Introductions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Committee Members</b></li> <li>- <b>System Partners</b></li> <li>- <b>Other Attendees</b></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <a href="#"><u>Acknowledgement of Conduct Agreement</u></a></li> <li>• <b>Announcements by CWRT Advisory Committee Members</b></li> </ul> <p>Chair Sako shared information pertaining to member remote participation and commenced the meeting at 6:14pm. Afterwards, introductions were made.</p>
<p><b>III. Public Comments related to the Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT)</b>          - <b>3 Minutes Per Person)</b></p> <p>None</p>
<p><b>IV. Presentation by Edelman on CWRT Marketing Plan</b></p> <p>Sara, Kierstan and Lily spoke on the marketing and logo. Simple, memorable for community. Poster with QR code driven to 988Sacramento.org. Blue, dark blue, brown and white. Target languages; Arabic, Cantonese, English, Hmong, Russian, Spanish, Vietnamese. General market on radio, outdoor, transit, shelters, convenience store posters, grocery market posters and digital, social media. Asks for committee to provide feedback and comments on logo by 10/18. County Legal reviewing contract with Edelman for signature. Meantime, Edelman to continue website coordination; Edelman/County to identify community partners that can support with translations. Member Hollingsworth commented CWRT logo is small compared to 988 also would like to show more facets of culture on the poster to relate to diversity of Sacramento County. Member Hopper loved the tree with Sacramento known to be the city of trees. Asked to add “We can come to you” to the poster. Melinda Avey commented that the urgency is missing. Does not know what CWRT is. Are they supposed to be called? Need two stories, one as 988 and the other, CWRT.</p>

Christie Gonzales responded that Wellspace/988 is part of CWRT team. Edelman requests to give feedback to Alondra via email to give to them by Wednesday, 10/18.

**V. Discussion/Action Item: Review CWRT Advisory Committee Bylaws with Reconsideration of Membership Exclusion Criteria**

Chair Sako announced that due to no quorum of in-person committee member attendance, Agent Item V will just be a discussion, to be returned at the next meeting for action. Chair Sako proceeded to share about the confusion on exclusion of law enforcement, including any with intimate partnership. Chair Sako played the video onscreen pertaining to Sup. Desmond's comment about the membership criteria. Chair Sako asked for feedback on draft revision. Member Orr thinks it plays a good role to have someone with law enforcement experience. Beneficial to have the primary experience but is also aware that the public is open to speak at meetings. Asked for clarification on role at law enforcement and also reason as to why the exclusion criteria. Member Gayent commented that if individual is vetted and have been going out to crisis in the past, only want that sector to provide insights on what we may be missing, not law enforcement. Member Rodriguez commented on the conflict of optics; understands community trust to have law enforcement on committee, also lax of will to include them. There could be the possibility of first responders, fire/EMT and thinks their expertise is needed. Per Member Hollingsworth, she welcomes anyone to make sure seats are filled for lived-experience and has empathy/understanding, but law enforcement making ridicule of mental health. Asks the purpose of their membership and intention for law enforcement to join the committee. Continued to say "we all can learn and need lived-experience to sit in committee". Member Hopper commented it's a good time to look at it, good to listen to stakeholder's input. Some officers have lived-experience and could hear from them and may make a good candidate. Member Minton commented that not everyone will be happy when bylaws are created and doesn't want to rehash this again with the limited time members meet. In reality, not everyone can be happy. Otherwise, how many times will this be rehashed? Law enforcement has an important perspective to give and asked "was the bylaws not approved"? Chair Sako referred to the CWRT website where everything is documented and all went to the Mental Health Board for approval. Member Orr appreciates Member Minton's comments and understands the bylaws were approved and also the interview process. Welcomes anyone with lived-experience to give insight and wouldn't be opposed to the idea. Chair Sako stated this item to come back for feedback.

**VI. Update from BHS on CWRT Program Implementation, Including Data & Response Outcomes**

- **9/28/23 CWRT Program Update here:**  
[https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/SiteAssets/Pages/Community-Wellness-Response-Team/CWRT%20Timeline%20September%202023\\_Final\\_GM%209.27.23.pdf](https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/SiteAssets/Pages/Community-Wellness-Response-Team/CWRT%20Timeline%20September%202023_Final_GM%209.27.23.pdf)

- **Update from BACS**

**a. Questions from Committee Members & Members of the Public**

Alondra shared the updates provided online (see link). Karen spoke on dispatches as of today with first week of extended hours; shifts 7-3:30pm, 11:30am-8pm. 103 calls and 21 cancelled/resolved over phone. On hiring, one Behavioral Health Peers Specialist started last week, doing reference check on 2 peers with 3 more in the pipeline for interviews. Three Mental Health Counselors pending interview.

Christie reported on Wellspace. 10379 phone calls to 988 from Sacramento for September 2023. Shared a caller experience with CWRT dispatch successfully connected. Emily/BACS provided update on training/onboarding. Will be doing calls last week of October.

Chair Sako asked for update from Alondra on conversations with Sheriff about transferring 911 calls to 988. Per Alondra, working on defining situations where law enforcement is not needed for a call, making a way to compromise to serve the community. Christie added that Sacramento is vanguard of state of California crisis response. Member Hollingsworth requests to revisit 1-4 identifying when law enforcement to be included.

**VII. Adjournment**

- **Meetings Held 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of Each Month from 6pm-8pm**
- **Next Meeting Scheduled for Tuesday November 14, 2023**

Chair Sako asked for public comment not on agenda to which no one responded. Chair Sako adjourned meeting at 8:05pm.