

Sacramento County
Mental Health Board (MHB) General Meeting Minutes
 July 9, 2025

Meeting Location
 700 H Street
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Attendance			
MHB Members			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Corrine McIntosh Sako, <i>Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Kesha Harris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Evan Minton, <i>Vice Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Bradley Lueth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Patricia Wentzel, <i>Secretary</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Theresa Riviera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Laura Asay-Bemis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Melinda Avey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Mallika Walsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mykel Gayent	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent		
County Staff to MHB			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Jason Richards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Chris Costa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent

Agenda Item	Discussion
I. Welcome and Introductions	<p>Chair McIntosh Sako called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. A quorum was declared, introductions were made, and the Conduct Agreement was acknowledged.</p> <p>Mental Health Board Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair McIntosh Sako announced that August 2025 will be the final MHB meeting, which will be celebratory and reflective in nature. The first Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting will be September 24, 2025. Applications are still being accepted, and are available on the BHC webpage: https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Advisory-Boards-Committees/Behavioral-Health-Commission/BC-Behavioral-Health-Commission.aspx. Ms. Riviera attended a community event and spoke with immigrants who were experiencing PTSD and will be reaching out to the County to help with this process. Ms. Harris affirmed the hard work of Sacramento County mental health professionals, and clarified public comments made at a previous meeting regarding Stop Stigma Sacramento. Mr. Minton affirmed continued support and advocacy for the treatment needs of individuals with serious mental illness incarcerated in Sacramento County jails.
II. Public Comment	<p>Public Comment 1: Community member thanked the MHB for having a conversation about mental health diversion, and expressed support for mental health diversion programs in Sacramento County.</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion
III. Consent Matters: Approval of Minutes	<p>Ms. Avey moved to approve the June General Meeting minutes (Handout #2) and Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. (Mr. Minton, Mr. Gayent, and Ms. Harris abstained. All other members voted Aye.) Motion carried.</p>
IV. Division of Behavioral Health Services Director's Report	<p>Dr. Ryan Quist, Behavioral Health Director, provided a written report on the status of Behavioral Health Services (BHS) (Handout #3). He also provided verbal updates and answered questions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acknowledged holidays and cultural observances in July, including National Minority Mental Health, Independence Day, Islamic New Year, International Self-Care Day, National Hire a Veteran Day, and National Disability Independence Day. • BHS is partnering with the Rivercats and will also be partnering with the Republic coming up soon, to raise awareness of behavioral health through sports. • BHS began a new pilot, beginning July 1st, where a clinician will be doing a ride along with Sacramento City Fire Department to respond to Mental Health call. • On July 1st, BHS went live with BH-CONNECT, with a submission of BHS's plan and intended programming to DHCS. • As of June 23, The Sacramento County's Youth Detention Facility has successfully maintained its National Commission on Correctional Health Care (NCCHC) accreditation, demonstrating its commitment to high-quality health services. • The Ripple Effect documentary blog series details the impact of the Fentanyl Crisis on our community. The series is available at safersacramento.com/the-ripple-effect. • BHS is exploring trends on pressures and triggers for youth that might affect their behavioral health. Noting surges in risk factors (such as emergency department visits) will help BHS alert the community/providers to help mitigate behavioral health challenges.
V. System Partner Updates	<p>No system partner updates were made.</p>
VI. Mental Health Board Business	<p>Liaison Reports No written liaison reports were submitted for this month.</p> <p>Committee Reports Members were referred to the Mental Health Board Meetings webpage for MHB Committee Meeting minutes: https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Advisory-Boards-Committees/Mental-Health-Board/BC-Mental-Health-Board-Meetings-2024.aspx</p> <p>Committee and Workgroup Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair McIntosh Sako affirmed the work on the CWRT Advisory Committee, and reminded members that this work will continue via the upcoming BHC subcommittees.
VII. Discussion/Action Item – Review and	<p>MHB members reviewed the draft of the Annual Report on the Sacramento County Mental Health Board for calendar year 2024 (Handout #7).</p>

Agenda Item	Discussion
Take Action on Draft of Annual Report on the Sacramento County Mental Health Board for CY 2024	Ms. Harris moved to approve the report and Ms. Wentzel seconded the motion. (All members voted Aye.) Motion carried.
VIII. Discussion Item – Presentation on Mental Health Diversion	Representatives from BHS Court and Justice Involved Programs and the Public Defenders Office provided a presentation on Mental Health Diversion (Handout #8). This presentation discussed the law, process, data, common questions, and positive outcomes of mental health diversion in Sacramento County.
IX. Adjournment	Chair McIntosh Sako adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.