

Minutes
Adult System of Care Committee
August 24, 2021 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Laura Bemis, Ann Arneill, Corrine McIntosh Sako, Loran Sheley
(Jason Richards, staff)

Members Absent: William Cho

4:00 p.m. Welcome and Introduction
Ann Arneill, Acting Chairperson

Acting Chairperson Arneill convened the meeting at 4:05 p.m. and introductions were made.

Dr. Arneill reviewed the meeting agenda.

4:05 p.m. Review Goal:
Make recommendations to Behavioral Health Services and the Board of Supervisors for increased services to individuals experiencing homelessness

Dr. Arneill reviewed the MHB letters to the Board of Supervisors regarding homeless service needs over the previous year (Handouts #2 and #3). BHS has added homeless services since that time. BHS Division Manager Kelli Weaver provided further details via email during the meeting, including funding for the Wellness Crisis Response Team and Homeless Encampment Team programs. Dr. Arneill to follow up with Ms. Weaver regarding additional homeless services information.

Dr. Arneill reviewed the City of Sacramento Homeless 2021 Master Siting Plan To Address Homelessness. Dr. McIntosh Sako observed that all discussion about creating that housing did not include any proposals to provide supportive mental health services. The committee requested that Ms. Sheley ask Dr. Quist to address in his Director's report at our upcoming MHB meeting whether there have been any discussions between BHS and the City about BHS providing mental health services as a part of the City's Homeless Plan.

Dr. Arneill shared the most recent Sacramento Homelessness Covid-19 Response Team Weekly Progress Report (Handout #5). Highlights included a number of individuals exiting shelters as well as entering re-housing programs, as well as emergency housing vouchers available from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

BHS Program Manager Alondra Thompson to ensure that BHS managers from Adult Mental Health are at the next ASOC Committee meeting to make a presentation on the status of BHS mental health services and housing programs for homeless persons who are seriously mentally ill.

4:50 p.m. Review Goal:
Develop an actionable goal regarding Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)/Laura's Law once the stakeholder process is announced
Sub-goal: Informally research/survey what other MHBs have done with regard to AOT/Laura's Law and produce a briefing/short report

Dr. Arneill summarized the background of AOT/Laura's Law in Sacramento County (Handout #6), including the change from an "opt in" to an "opt out" system in California, Sacramento County's decision not to opt out, and the resulting informational and community input sessions. Community input was gathered and plans to address concerns were summarized in Handout #7.

Committee members discussed next steps, since the stakeholder process regarding AOT/Laura's Law is complete. Dr. McIntosh Sako advocated for MHB input on AOT/Laura's Law concerns due to the relevance of concerns received through community feedback sessions. The committee will hold a special meeting to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisor's for approval by the MHB at the upcoming MHB Special Meeting, which was previously set up to discuss Budget Priorities (date TBA).

5:30 p.m. Select Chairperson/Vice Chairperson

- Review Committee Duties (Handout #8)

Dr. Arneill outlined the Chairperson/Vice Chairperson duties for the Adult System of Care Committee.

Dr. McIntosh Sako was elected Chairperson and Ms. Bemis was elected Vice Chairperson (unanimous consent).

5:50 p.m. Public Comment

Community member expressed concern about individuals moving to Sacramento County from surrounding areas which exacerbates the housing crisis. This community member recommended having housing programs for Sacramento natives.

Community member expressed concern over homeless services that are meant as a transitional steppingstone instead of serving as permanent housing long term.

Community member suggested that MHB feedback focus on AOT programming, rather than rehashing existing criticisms of AOT.

Community member announced an upcoming monthly meeting for peer support workers (flyer was included in the chat).

6:00 p.m. Adjourn

Dr. Arneill adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.