

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

May 19, 2022, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**Meeting Location**

Webinar and phone conference

**Meeting Attendees:**

- MHSA Steering Committee members: Daniel Calabretta, Karen Cameron, Genelle Cazares, Ebony Chambers, Laurie Clothier, Julie Field, Karly Gonzalez, Anatoliy Gridyushko, Hafsa Hamdani, Crystal Harding, Sharon Jennings, Erin Johansen, Olivia Kasirye, Melissa Lloyd, Brad Lueth, Ruth MacKenzie, Ryan McClinton, Lori Miller, Noel Mora, Leslie Napper, Ryan Quist, Koby Rodriguez, Lynsey Semon, Christopher Williams
- General Public

Agenda Item	Discussion
<b>I. Welcome and Member Introductions</b>	The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. MHSA Steering Committee members introduced themselves.
<b>II. Agenda Review</b>	The agenda was reviewed; no changes were made.
<b>III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes</b>	The April 2022 draft meeting minutes were reviewed; no changes were made.
<b>IV. Announcements</b>	<p><b>Lori Miller, SC member:</b> There is a virtual Fentanyl Awareness Town Hall scheduled for Wednesday, May 25, from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. It will be <a href="#">livestreamed on YouTube</a>. We will have these events about once every three months. See <a href="#">Attachment A – Fentanyl Awareness Town Hall flyer</a>.</p> <p><b>Ryan McClinton, SC member:</b> Behavioral Health Services is currently developing the Wellness Crisis Call Center and Response Team (WCCCRT). There is an <a href="#">online survey</a> to collect suggestions for the final program name. As well, we are <a href="#">recruiting members</a> for a Steering Committee for this project. This Steering Committee will be a subcommittee of the Mental Health Board but board membership is not a requirement. We are looking for diverse voices who have experience with the behavioral health and the criminal justice system.</p> <p><b>Koby Rodriguez, SC member:</b> It is Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month. Next month will be Pride Month. We will have our first in-person Pride Festival since 2019: <a href="https://sacramentopride.org/">https://sacramentopride.org/</a>. Tickets are on sale. It will be a two-day festival this year.</p> <p><b>Melissa Lloyd, SC member:</b> May is also National Foster Care Month. At present, in this county there are about 1,400 kids in</p>

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	<p>foster care. Over the last six years, Child Welfare has decreased entries by 57% and overall we have reduced the number of children in foster care in Sacramento County by 40%. That is due to partnership with many in the community. We are doing a lot more to help keep kids and families together safely in their home with supportive services. There will be an upcoming foster parent appreciation picnic in September. We are still very much in need of good, safe, attentive individuals who can provide foster care for our youth.</p> <p><b>Ruth MacKenzie, SC member:</b> May is also Older Americans Month, during which we recognize the contributions older people throughout this country make to our society.</p> <p><b>Angelina Woodberry, Cal Voices:</b> Cal Voices will host its <a href="#">26<sup>th</sup> Annual Peer Empowerment Conference</a> virtually on Friday, June 10, 2022.</p> <p><b>Sharon Jennings, SC member:</b> I recently participated in the <a href="#">5<sup>th</sup> Annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Symposium</a> on May 16, sponsored by the National Council on Aging. The Symposium was fascinating, free, and recorded and I am downloading sessions so I can go back and re-listen.</p>
<p><b>V. Executive Committee / MHSA Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Executive Committee Updates</b>            Sharon Jennings, SC Co-Chair, requested those present to submit post-meeting evaluations and also shared the following update:</p> <p><u>MHSA SC membership changes</u>            Judge Borack, SC member representing Juvenile Court, announced in April it would be her last meeting. Thank you, Judge Borack, for your service. Judge Daniel Calabretta will be the new primary member representing Juvenile Court. Welcome to Judge Calabretta!</p> <p><b>MHSA Updates</b>            Dr. Ryan Quist, Behavioral Health Director, presented the following updates:</p> <p><u>COVID-19 Update</u>            A few months ago, we talked about how COVID cases in Sacramento County had decreased to low point of about 65 cases a week, but since then we have seen an increase. We are now seeing a little bit of a spike, up to an average of 364 cases over seven days. That is impacting our ability to meet the needs of the community around behavioral health services. It is also impacting our county staff, service providers, and those we serve. Because of this uptick in cases, I once again wish to remind everybody to please be safe and practice all the precautions you can. There is no requirement for masks, but</p>

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	<p>masks are strongly recommended when you are away from your homes.</p> <p><u>May is Mental Health Month</u>            In addition to all the other things shared earlier, May is Mental Health Awareness Month and a related event I would like you to hear about tonight is that Saturday we will be at the River Cat's game. We will be having a special evening focused on mental health awareness. The Speakers Bureau will be in attendance and will share stories and resources. Tickets can be purchased at this link: <a href="https://fevo.me/3xXTT74">https://fevo.me/3xXTT74</a></p> <p><u>California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) and Semi-Statewide Electronic Health Record (EHR) Project</u>            CalAIM is California's initiative around new updates to the Medi-Cal program in California. For the first time in many years, there is significant behavioral health focus being incorporated into the CalAIM initiatives. This includes two of the most important behavioral health initiatives we have talked about in the past: documentation redesign and payment reform. In comparison with other healthcare disciplines, behavioral health providers spend a great deal of their time doing documentation. In addition, payment reform will simplify the way we are reimbursed for our services. The payment reform initiative is set to be implemented July 1, 2023. We have a lot of change ahead of us.</p> <p>In order to help facilitate that change, CalMHSA, the statewide Joint Powers of Authority works in the interest of behavioral health and counties from across the state and they are working on a semi statewide EHR to help implement all of the CalAIM initiatives. This is being done in collaboration with a number of counties. Sacramento County participated in the CalMHSA competitive process to select a vendor and EHR system. We will join in the implementation of this semi-statewide EHR. This will line up perfectly with the July 1, 2023 implementation of payment reform.</p> <p>There is an opportunity for us to participate in a multi-county Innovation Project to demonstrate that the implementation of this EHR actually results in a reduction in workload for our service providing staff. In doing this we would be helping staff, which is important right now with our workforce crisis, but we would also help consumers by allowing staff to spend less time on paperwork and more doing the important work they want to do. I am asking for any feedback you may have on this topic and would be interested in knowing whether or not there was support for the implementation and feedback on the potential innovation of this project.</p> <p><b>Erin Johansen, SC member:</b>  <i>I really want to support the decision to move forward with the plan that you have outlined today regarding a change in the EHR</i></p>

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	<p><i>and to the payment process. This will help to address that part of our workforce crisis related to a decrease in job satisfaction when people spend time doing paperwork and not serving clients. Social workers come to this field because they want to help people, so this will be a major benefit for all of us that work in this field and for the people that we serve. Thank you for your leadership in pushing for this. It is not easy, but the provider community is behind you.</i></p> <p>Jane Ann Zakhary, Division Manager, presented the following updates:</p> <p><u>MHSA Fiscal Year 2022-23 Annual Update</u>            Thank you, Steering Committee, for your support in moving the Annual Update forward. We also presented to the Cultural Competence Committee and then to the Mental Health Board at the public hearing at the end of the public comment and review process and they also supported moving it forward. There was a lot of thoughtful feedback and comment received and all of that comment has been summarized and responded to in the final version of the Annual Update. We will put forward the Update incorporating those comments and responses, as well as some additions, to the Board of Supervisors in June after which we will submit to the state by June 30th. We will provide a status update next month.</p> <p><u>No Place Like Home (NPLH) Housing Project</u>            We also want to give you an exciting update around our NPLH work. I shared previously that the <u>On Broadway</u> project that we had put forth in round three was not awarded for competitive funding. We worked on that project again in partnership with EAH Housing and submitted a new application in round four. We look well seated to receive an award with potentially a score of 198 points out of 200. Those awards will be announced next month, and we hope to be able to provide you with that update at your next meeting as well.</p> <p><u>SC meeting format</u>            We recently sent out a survey to gauge interest in attending in-person at future meetings if we offered a hybrid in-person/virtual set up. We were in-person for years and the last two years we have been virtual. We are looking at moving to a hybrid set up that would offer the opportunity to participate in person as well as virtually. The deadline for survey completion is tomorrow, May 20<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<p><b>VI. Nominations for One (1) Co-Chair</b>  <i>Members/Alternates will nominate and vote via online survey. Results will</i></p>	<p>Jane Ann Zakhary provided context and introduced the Nomination for Co-Chair: Our wonderful co-chair Ebony Chambers will be terming out soon so we are asking for Co-Chair nominations. As requested by SC, we will do this via online survey.</p>

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<p><i>be announced at next meeting.</i></p>	<p>As a reminder the MHSA Steering Committee has two co-chairs who serve staggered terms. The co-chairs lead the meetings, facilitate the meetings, and are seated members on the SC Executive Committee. The Executive Committee is made up of six members and their primary charge is to develop the MHSA SC meeting agendas, although the SC sometimes asks that they take on other tasks.</p> <p>The Executive Committee reviews the SC meeting evaluations that come in each month and plan for the work ahead based on that input. Executive Committee members also step in to facilitate when a co-chair is unable to be at a meeting.</p> <p>The Executive Committee is comprised of the two co-chairs; Dr. Quist, our Behavioral Health Director; and three elected members. Ebony has been wonderful in helping to lead the steering committee for the past two years. Now she will be terming out. Sharon Jennings is our other co-chair and was recently elected so she is fairly new in her term. Aside from Dr. Quist, the three members elected by the SC are Ryan McClinton, Leslie Napper, and Koby Rodriguez.</p> <p>As requested, we have put a survey together allowing members to nominate from all eligible SC members. As a reminder, to be eligible to serve as a co-chair, members should be seated in a primary seat. There is emphasis on consumer and family member positions. After receiving survey responses, all nominees will be vetted—we will reach out to them and make sure they are willing to accept their nomination and can participate in that role as co-chair. After that, we will put out another survey to allow you to vote. It is a two part process, and based on your past feedback and request we will do this offline. The SC co-chair nominations survey will be emailed to steering committee membership after tonight's meeting.</p>
<p><b>VII. MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention Program Presentation –</b>  “Mental Illness: It’s not always what you think” Project and Stop Stigma Sacramento Speakers Bureau</p>	<p>Ajna Glisic, Program Coordinator, provided program context, explaining that the “Mental Illness: it’s not always what you think” Project focuses on reducing stigmatization within Sacramento County and has refreshed its promotional materials. She then introduced the people from Edelman working on this project refresh and the speakers from the Stop Stigma Speakers Bureau:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Candace Koehler, Edelman</li> <li>• Sarah Ortega, Edelman</li> <li>• La Viola Ward, Stop Stigma Speakers Bureau</li> <li>• Michael Hansen, Stop Stigma Speakers Bureau</li> </ul> <p>The Edelman team gave a presentation on the “Mental Illness: It’s not always what you think” Project. See <a href="#">Attachment B – “Mental Illness: It’s not always what you think” Project presentation</a>.</p>

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	<p>Members of the Speakers Bureau speakers shared their personal stories.</p> <p><b>Member Questions and Discussion</b>  <i>[Many SC members expressed their gratitude for the work done by the project and to the speakers from the Speakers Bureau.]</i></p> <p>It is important to be kind to everyone. When I was young, a relative of mine was going through a traumatic event that affected everybody in the family. I did not know what he was going through and was not kind to him. Even if I was young, I should have known better; you never know what other people are going through. When something happens to someone, it can affect everyone. They need your support. I realized it and I changed. If you do not realize what other people are going through and are not supportive of them, it can really affect them. It is best to be as kind and supportive as possible and be a good listening ear.</p> <p>How does the team respond to students/youth when gun violence or community violence occurs locally? Are there partnerships with schools/districts? Are there any youths serving as speakers? What are the age requirements?</p> <p><i>The Speakers Bureau is often invited to speak to various school groups/classes in several school districts throughout Sacramento County. We would love to partner and collaborate more with local districts. We definitely welcome youth speakers and we would love to have more, with parental support and consent, of course. The youngest speaker we have had was 16 years old.</i></p> <p><b>Public Comment</b>  <i>[Several members of the public also expressed their appreciation for the presentations and the speakers from the Speakers Bureau.]</i></p>
<b>VIII. General Steering Committee Comment</b>	None.
<b>IX. General Public Comment</b>	None.
<b>X. Adjournment / Upcoming Meetings</b>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m. Upcoming meetings will be held on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 16, 2022</li> <li>• July 21, 2022</li> </ul>

Interested members of the public are invited to attend MHSA Steering Committee meetings and a period is set aside for public comment at each meeting. If you wish to attend and need to arrange for an interpreter or a reasonable accommodation, please contact Anne-Marie Rucker one week prior to each meeting at (916) 875-3861 or [ruckera@saccounty.gov](mailto:ruckera@saccounty.gov).