

# Sacramento County Mental Health Board Adult System of Care Committee

## MINUTES – TELECONFERENCE MEETING Tuesday, January 25, 2022 4:30PM – 6:30PM

Attendees: Corinne McIntosh-Sako, Loran Sheley, Ann Arneill, William Cho and Laura Bemis (staff: Glenda Basina)  
Absentee:

| Agenda Item   | Presenter  | Time               |
|---|--|--------------------|
| <p><b>I. Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <p>Presenter:<br/>Corrine McIntosh Sako</p>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Sako convened the meeting at 4:30pm and introductions were made.</li> </ul>   | <p>4:30-4:35pm</p> |
| <p><b>II. Update on BHS Wellness Crisis Call Center and Response Treatment Program</b></p> <p>Presenter:<br/>Alondra Thompson, BHS Health Program Manager<br/>Robert Kesselring, BHS Health Program Manager</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alondra shared slides with information on WCCCRT, a new 24/7 call center. Follow up information and updates on WCCCRT also available on the website.</li> <li>• Held community stakeholder workgroups for discussion/input and these were reviewed by BHS, County departments and Labor Organizations for a finalized program and tentative launch of July 2022</li> <li>• Goals from input include; safely de-escalate crises, provide links to accessible/affordable mental health resource, offer a response team that excludes law enforcement staffing, a community-based model and decrease criminalization of mental health/homelessness.</li> <li>• Next steps: Community input on name, input recommendations from County. MHB Ad Hoc also to review the recommendations at their and their Advisory Comm.</li> <li>• Phase 1 thru March 2022: Evaluate emergency response call data for peak call times and geographical placement of response teams; Develop response protocols/workflows; Create job descriptions and recruitment materials; Develop a training plan.</li> <li>• Phase 2 thru June 2022; Identify space for WCCCRT, research technology, develop marketing strategy, expand urgent care clinic to 24/7</li> </ul> | <p>4:35-5:00pm</p> |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  | <p>operation, develop a strategy for coordinating services with Community Based Organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Live 7/1/2022 (tentative); MHB created Ad Hoc Community responsible for integrating community input and provide advisement after implementation.</li><li>• Employment opportunities; Peer Specialists, Mental Health Coordinators and Counselors, Administrative Services Officer I/II (already filled), and Senior Office Assistants</li><li>• Contact Alondra or Rob for feedback/suggestions and questions.</li><li>• Member Sheley asked if the timeline is on the same webpage which Rob confirmed. Also inquired about the hiring/recruitment workshop if it's happening again. Per Rob, the workshop was arranged through personnel/hr department and they will arrange future but Rob may reach out and ask them to make one specifically for this program.</li><li>• Chair Sako inquired about geographical placement of teams and if they would be housed at East Pkwy. Per Rob, whatever the location decided upon will be the location of the call center/admin. It may also be the home-base for the response teams. Per Alondra, Response Team is mobile and they're currently getting a feel on peak calls on where to place their mobile teams. Call center to track where those teams are. Chair Sako also inquired about collaboration with City of Sacramento. Rob responded that they will serve anyone in the County, including the City of Sacramento, avoiding rerouting people.</li><li>• Member Cho suggested for a shorter name for a shorter/easier website for access to crisis. Alondra stated they'll make note of it and that the current website is for information/updates on the implementation plan.</li><li>• Public Comment 1: Questioned staffing with a Peer counselor. Will there be any credentialed mental health workers involved with these teams? Alondra responded that a Peer and Clinician will be responding to crisis calls. The call center will also have both licensed and licensed-eligible counselors. Next asked, about recruitment challenges for these positions. Rob agreed there's a mental health worker crisis, nationally, making it difficult to fill positions and County is offering license/shift differentials to make it appealing for folks to apply.</li><li>• Member Cho asked about collaboration/consultation with cities/jurisdiction and MOUs with these</li></ul> |  |
|--|---|--|

|  |  |                    |
|--|--|--------------------|
|  | <p>entities for response. Rob responded that Division Managers meeting with those folks/communities. Chair Sako suggested this may be for the committee to follow up/check in with Dr. Quist.</p>  |                    |
| <p><b>III. Update on BHS Vocational Services</b></p> | <p>Bernice Zaborski, MHA<br/>MH Program Coordinator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shared a presentation on employment services, partnered with Department of Rehab (DOR), Pride Industries/Crossroads Employment.</li> <li>• Has contractual relationship with DOR to secure/retain employment for individuals with psychiatric disabilities. State/county combined resources fund this program.</li> <li>• Main core support is career exploration, what do they want to do, what are their skills. Job search, learn skills to find work. Transportation funds, interview/work clothes, haircuts/nails done etc. anything needed to help them get employed.</li> <li>• A centralized/streamlined referral process; DOR contacts applicants within 2 weeks of receiving application to set up intake appointment. Review application and decide on an individualized plan for employment. Applicants signs and referred for employment.</li> <li>• PRIDE approved by DOR for vocational assessments, employment services and retention services.</li> <li>• Challenges/barriers for employment; benefits planning (losing SSDI, SSI). Transportation issue. Housing instability. Family/childcare issues. Legal issues/negative, background. Lack of proper ID. Food/medical and motivation issues.</li> <li>• Benchmark for employment readiness: motivation, organizational skills, job application skills, expectations of work settings/ethics, social skills and maintaining workplace relationships.</li> <li>• Workforce Fundamentals Group. Meets 2x a week over the phone about 9 skills – how work changes your life, skills specific to the workplace, stressors, problem solving, managing mental health,</li> <li>• A team of people helping, counselors and Pride.</li> <li>• Successful placement; employed for 90 days, have PT/FT employment, they like the job with minimum wage or better. Interacts with people without disabilities.</li> </ul> | <p>5:00-5:25pm</p> |

|   |   |                    |
|---|---|--------------------|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member Arneill asked if FSPs independently provide employment services or if everyone is funneled through Co-Ops/Pride? Bernice stated they may independently do something and FSPs can refer to coops. Member Arneill also asked about any outcome data for PRIDE in terms of placements/retention data. Bernice stated they reached out to the FSPs with these questions along with the questions that Chair McIntosh-Sako provided in advance of the meeting. Bernice shared the various FSP responses to the different scenarios/issues asked.</li> <li>• Bernice will reach out and get more FSPs and provide Member Arneill with her write ups, after she cleans them up. Lastly, Member Arneill asked if the FSPs ever use individual placement support, EVP, for doing vocational services. According to Bernice, not at this time and that it will take a lot to ramp it up but will look more toward to doing for Rapid employment.</li> </ul>   |                    |
| <p><b>IV. Presentation by Public Health Advisory Board’s Correctional Health Committee on Behavioral Health Services Provided to Criminal Justice-Involved Individuals in Sacramento County jails</b></p> | <p>Public Health Advisory Board – Correctional Health Committee, Co-chair Libby Abbott, Liz Blum, and Steven Orkand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The PHAB members introduced themselves and shared slides on the work they’ve been doing for a year, their activities and directions going forward.</li> <li>• Their scopes/Objectives: Investigate discrepancies related to Covid response in jails. Understand progress and identify root cause challenges to the Mays Consent Decree Remedial Plan. Incarceration is a public health problem. Make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors (BOS).</li> <li>• Their ad-hoc working committee consists of 9 max members. 4 PHAB seats, 3 community seats and 1 volunteer.</li> <li>• Letter to BOS in Oct/Nov 2021 available on their website, addressing the health cost of incarceration, racism is an issue and findings on the second round of monitoring reports and need to reduce population.</li> <li>• A fourth letter is being prepared for the BOS for status on Transparency/Accountability- Supervisor Nottoli verbally committed to public hearings, targeted for Mar/Apr. Also, a dashboard with jail health metrics for data transparency. PSJA CEO Candidate status of appointment is unknown. Delay in implementing advisory committee. Org chart for PSJA does not include ACH, PHAB, MHB. In-Custody Deaths – No contact to date with SSO,</li> </ul> | <p>5:25-5:50pm</p> |

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
|  | <p>who has purview over notification. Seeking contact via ACH.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Current focus areas- Data sharing &amp; transparency. Alternatives to incarceration, decreasing jail population, preventing the first arrest/trauma.</li><li>• Discussion what has MHB looked into regarding services in the jail system. If correctional health is prioritized for 2022. How to work together to advise BOS regarding mental health services, preventing incarceration, receive and connect to services needed?</li><li>• Chair Sako interested in this area of focus.</li><li>• Member Cho commented on Liz's comment about separating duties of Coroner and Sheriff, which is already separated in Sacramento County. Curious to her intent on this. Liz to do more investigation on this. Member Cho also commented about the budget process and ARPA funds being allocated towards the sheriff instead of public health, which was not the case. Liz responded that the \$181M allocated to the Sheriff to offset the General Fund has to date still yet to be broken down for the public.</li><li>• Member Arneill asked if they were aware of MHSA innovation program to do diversion of clients out of the jails into 1 stop service center, a forensic BH program to justice-involved clients with mental health problems. Liz responded that she sat on the RFP for this program.</li><li>• Member Sheley thanked the presenters and asked about ASOC planning their next steps and figuring out what they need to do to put in future agenda to work on this. Laura asked the group what support they would like from ASOC. Libby responded that they would take anything/opportunity and interview for landscape for alternatives in incarceration or a co-authored letter to BOS.</li><li>• PHAB Member Orkand commented there are many who have serious mental health problems in the jail that doesn't need to be there. If infrastructures were in place, these could have been avoided. Supporting programs available to prevent incarcerations, need to know if they are well funded and if they work well. Jail health itself has space/personnel problems. Also need to ensure there's a warm handoff after discharge from jail into programs that work.</li><li>• Public Comment 1: Commends the PHAB in their presentation, it's a need/want in Sacramento County. As a parent of a son who's currently in-</li></ul> |  |
|--|--|--|

|   |  |                     |
|---|--|---------------------|
|   | <p>carcerated, she loves that he's incarcerated because he's safe, fed, has shelter and knows where he is. If parent input in the stakeholders is needed, she would give her input as another voice to what they're trying to do.</p>  |                     |
| <p><b>V. Discussion/Action Item: Review and Approve Letter of Recommendation regarding Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services' Implementation of Peer Support Specialist Certification Program</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review previous ASOC Meeting Minutes regarding this issue: <a href="#">10/26/21</a>, <a href="#">11/23/21</a>, <a href="#">12/28/21</a></li> <li>- Review Cal Voices presentation slides: <a href="https://drive.google.com/file/d/191RSeBEHWXeMXyG-qHmRB10VPQvw0FGU/view?usp=sharing">https://drive.google.com/file/d/191RSeBEHWXeMXyG-qHmRB10VPQvw0FGU/view?usp=sharing</a></li> <li>- Discuss the draft MHB recommendation letter regarding PSSC Cal Voices</li> </ul> | <p>Corrine McIntosh Sako</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair elected to remove the action on this item based on additional information received this morning from Dr. Quist as it's not an appropriate decision to make at this time. In order to include CalVOICES in addition to the program being designed by CalMHSA, BH would need to go through the competitive process to ensure fair practices. BH does not have the capacity to take this on with all other developments right now. By not making this recommendation at this time, does not preclude from making a recommendation at a later date.</li> <li>• Member Arneill clarified that CalVOICES would need to respond to a proposal/RFP like any other for fair practices and another bidder could get the contract.</li> <li>• Member Bemis – Mentioned the deadline already passed. Chair Sako confirm this deadline was January 17 but that it is ongoing and CalVOICES would be happy to get their recommendation at any time.</li> <li>• No action taken.</li> </ul> | <p>5:50-6:10pm</p>  |
| <p><b>VI. Public Comment</b></p>  | <p>Members of the Public</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Comment 1: Pleased to see information on jail-like services. Also has a son incarcerated and have concerns.</li> <li>• Public comment 2: Read on paper that County BOS refused state/federal funds to expanding jails but it is back on the table again. Wants to know why the BOS took this position. Liz responded that the revenue funds would cost taxpayers more, cancelling the plan in November 2019 and that physical structures would not address majority of the issues which was the reason in March 2021,</li> </ul>  | <p>6:10-6:30 pm</p> |

|                                |   |               |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------|
|                                | <p>BOS refused and there currently is no jail expansion on the table. The County can now focus on investing funds in prevention and diversion programs instead of jail structure. Chair Sako also responded that space studies being done analyzing the existing space to how best utilize it versus expanding/adding more space.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public comment 3: Consumers Self-Help Center wants to connect/collaborate with community members. A peer run/driven organization hosting listening session regarding gaps in mental health services. They will be having a summit on March 30 and anyone interested in attending or serving as a panel member are welcomed.</li> <li>• Public comment 4: Wonderful presentations and a lot of information around the jail and looking forward to seeing how these move along.</li> </ul> |               |
| <p><b>VII. Adjournment</b></p> | <p>Corrine McIntosh Sako</p> <p>Chair Sako adjourned the meeting at 6:40pm, thanked everyone who attended and reminded the next meeting will be Feb 22 at 4pm.</p>  | <p>6:30pm</p> |