



April 4, 2024
Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB)
Meeting Minutes

MEMBERS PRESENT

Bill Stewart, Member-at-Large – District 1
Janice Luna Reynoso, Member-at-Large – District 1
Gaurav Mishra – District 1
Joel San Juan - District 1
Todd Boyer – District 2
Kaye Kelley Turpin – District 2
Serita Polinaire, 1st Vice Chair – District 2
Jessica Kramer – District 3
Holly Herring – District 3
Stuart Gaiber – District 3
Shea Benton – District 4
Judith Yates, 2nd Vice Chair – District 4
Carol Clemens, Member-at-Large – District 5
Andrea Rodriguez, on Behalf of Nora Vargas, Chair of the Board of Supervisors

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Robin Sales, Chair – District 3
Janessa Goldbeck – District 4

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Aurora Kiviat, Assistant Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS)
Dania Barroso-Conde, Program Coordinator, BHS
Maria Molina-Melendez, BHAB Coordinator, BHS

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) was called to order by 1st Vice Chair Serita Polinaire at 2:31PM in-person and via Zoom.

II. NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENTS

(Note: Spelling of names are unconfirmed)

Two written e-comments received.

- Carol Clemens shared her family experience with CARE Court, expressed appreciation to BHS CARE Court staff for their support, and provided BHS staff permission to share her contact to anyone interested in hearing her story.
- Angela Rowe advocated for more housing options for families involved in Child and Family Well-Being (CFWB) services so families can safely reunify as well as for more recovery residence funding.
- Irma Contreras advocated for the importance of substance use treatment programs as well as housing for families involved in the CFWB.

- Mary Jo O'Brien, Co-Chair of the Peer Council identified four (4) areas of concern for advocacy: Implementation of Peer Support Certification; Transitional Age Youth; Special Population; and Adult and Older Adult Issues. Currently their focus is on self-care for the certified Peer Support and would like the County to consider looking into aid for them.
- Tonya Savice, a disabled Veteran, Director of Advocacy for the Veteran's Art Project, and a peer support specialist advocated for more funding for art programs for mental wellness for through art. She would like to request funding to help veterans deal with PTSD through Art and affordable housing for Veterans in San Diego County.
- Rio Reese, Prevention Outreach Specialist with the Southern Indian Health Council, advocated for increased grant funding in East County for holistic healing programs through the arts in partnership with the Veteran's Art Project and proposed a pilot program for Native Veteran's to support re-integration through cultural arts.
- Ivan Sav is a Cultural Advocate for Native American veterans, stated that there needs to be a focus on cultural healing and teaching life skills to be able to be back in their own tribal communities.
- Karen Marie commented on her son who has a diagnosis of anosognosia, has been granted LPS conservatorship, and is waiting for placement. She advocates for more to be done for those diagnosed with anosognosia while also being grateful that conservatorship has been granted to her son.

III. **CONSENT CALENDAR**

An amendment was made to correct the Minutes from March 7, 2024, to show Jessica Kramer's attendance as attended.

ON MOTION of Judith Yates, seconded by Bill Stewart, BHAB approved the motion to correct the meeting minutes from March 7, 2024, and the acceptance of Donations Board Letter.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

IV. **PUBLIC HEARING: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) AMENDMENT TO THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2023-26 THREE-YEAR PLAN**

Dania Barroso-Conde stated one public comment was submitted for the MHSA amendment and will be included with the MHSA Amendment report.

V. **PRESENTATION AND ACTION ITEM: MHSA AMENDMENT TO THE FY 2023-26 THREE-YEAR PLAN**

Nadia Privara, Assistant Director, Chief Strategy and Finance Officer at BHS, provided an overview of the MHSA Amendment that will be presented to the Board of Supervisors (Board) on June 4, 2024. The Amendment would transfer \$10 million from Community Services & Supports (CSS) to Capital Funds & Technology Needs (CF/TN). Funds will support the construction of the East Region Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU).

ON MOTION of Serita Polinaire, seconded by Bill Stewart, BHAB approved the motion for the MHSA Amendment to the FY2023-26 Three-Year Plan.

AYES: 12 NAYS: 1 ABSTENTIONS: 0

VI. **ACTION ITEM: BHAB 2024 PRIORITIES**

ON MOTION of Judith Yates, seconded by Bill Stewart, BHAB approved the motion to approve the BHAB 2024 Priorities.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

VII. ACTION ITEM: ESTABLISHING THE 2024 BHAB SUBCOMMITTEES

Judith Yates, 2nd Vice Chair, provided input on behalf of Robin Sales, BHAB Chair, supporting the item and acknowledging the thought and effort that went into the drafting of the action item in preparation for the April BHAB meeting. Dania Barroso-Conde provided additional input noting the background and context in developing the action item with the identified subcommittees.

ON MOTION of Gaurav Mishra, seconded by Todd Boyer, BHAB approved the establishing of the 2024 BHAB Subcommittees.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

VIII. ACTION ITEM: APPROVAL OF BHAB PUBLIC COMMENT LANGUAGE ON SENATE BILL (SB) 43

ON MOTION OF Stuart Gaiber, seconded by Joel San Juan, BHAB approved the Public Comment Language on Senate Bill 43.

AYES: 13 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

IX. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Aurora Kiviati, Assistant Director & Chief Operations Officer, BHS, provided updates on the following:

- The April BHAB Director's Report (DR) provides a comprehensive update on BHS's approach to optimize community and stakeholder engagement built upon the foundation of the BHS Communication & Engagement Team and outlines key drivers and mechanism for community engagement with the community as informed by BHAB.
- On April 9, 2024, BHS will provide a report back to the Board on Senate Bill (SB) 43 implementation in San Diego County and a report back on regional board and care capacity.
- The Board approved \$15 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to support the implementation for Senate Bill (SB) 43.
- With the passage of California Proposition 1, the Board will present a Board Letter on April 9, 2024, that lays the foundation for implementation planning by BHS in response to the changes to programs and services under Proposition 1. BHS planning has been ongoing and will be informed by BHAB.
- Information on CARE Act informational sessions can be found in the April DR.

X. CHAIR'S REPORT

Serita Polinaire, 1st Vice Chair, yielded her time to Bill Stewart, Member-at-Large to provide a CARE Act update.

Bill stated that he is a member of the Judicial Council of California CARE Act Working Group as a San Diego County regional representative and shared information gathered through his participation in the workgroup. Community members are encouraged to participate in the CARE Act Working Group ad hoc subcommittees to provide valuable feedback. More information on the CARE Act Working Group can be found at the following link: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/committees/care-act-working-group>

XI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The MHSA annual update has been posted online for a 30-day public review period.

- The California Association of Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C) meeting will be held in-person in Sacramento and via Zoom on April 19, 2024, with a training session on April 20, 2024.

XII. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of Serita Polinaire, seconded by Bill Stewart the meeting adjourned at 3:51pm.