

Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Minutes of the ZOOM Meeting and Conference Call

Thursday, November 18, 2021
5:00 p.m.

NOTICE: Requests for assistive listening devices or other accommodations, such as interpretive services, shall be made through the Executive Secretary (530) 822-7327 ext. 202. Requests should be made at least 72 hours prior to the meeting. Late requests will be accommodated to the extent feasible.

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Clarkson called the meeting to order at 5:08 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Roll Call**

The following members were on the ZOOM meeting or on conference call: Chair Lesley Clarkson, Supervisor Karm Bains, Supervisor Seth Fuhrer, Vice Chair Lupe Rose, Jay Kaze, Ateequr Rehman and Secretary Margery Hubbard.

The following members were absent: Manny Vasquez

Also, in attendance: Rick Bingham, Assistant Director of Health & Human Services and Local Behavioral Health Director; Elizabeth “Betsy” Gowan, Deputy Director, Adult Services and MHSA Coordinator; Josh Thomas, Program Manager – Clinical Services – Children’s Services, and Sue Hopper, Executive Secretary.

3. **Action Items:**

- a. **Approve to enact Emergency Allowances during the COVID-19 Pandemic to allow the Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health Advisory Board to meet via Teleconference.** Motioned to approve by Supervisor Bains and seconded by Ms. Rose. Further discussion included the option to hold the BHAB meeting in person and using ZOOM beginning in January. Ms. Hopper will set up the Valley Oak room at Behavioral Health using social distancing protocols.

Aye votes: Board Members Fuhrer, Rehman, Rose, and Bains
Nay votes: Kaze and Clarkson
Abstentions: None

- b. **Approve September 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes** Member Bains moved to approve the September 16, 2021 meeting minutes as submitted. Member Kaze seconded the motion.

Aye votes: Board Members Fuhrer, Rehman, Rose, Bains, Kaze, Clarkson and Hubbard
Nay votes: None
Abstentions: None

- c. **Approve October 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes** Member Bains moved to approve the September 16, 2021 meeting minutes as submitted. Member Rose seconded the motion.

Aye votes: Board Members Fuhrer, Rehman, Rose, Bains, Kaze, Clarkson and Hubbard.

Nay votes: None

Abstentions: None

4. **Program Presentation – Youth Services – Josh Thomas, Program Manager-Clinical Services reported on the following:** Youth and Family Services Programs are designed to meet the socio-emotional and behavioral needs of children, youth, and families in both Sutter and Yuba Counties. The program coordinates with community stakeholders including child welfare services, probation, and school systems to provide a continuum of care that promotes positive outcomes for children of all ages. These services include assessment/diagnosis, psychiatric services, psychotherapy, case management, intensive care coordination, intensive home-based services, and therapeutic behavioral services. These services are provided at multiple office locations; as well as being provided in schools and client homes.

Families access mental health services via the Open Access Clinic at the Youth Outpatient site which occurs twice a week. The Open Access clinic utilizes a hybrid model of scheduled and walk-in triages and occurs on Mondays and Thursdays from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM or via appointments. This clinic provides a basic triage to determine if children and youth aged 0-20 years are likely to meet medical necessity criteria for specialty mental health services and, or, Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment (EPSDT).

Programs include: Open Access Triage Clinic, Youth Outpatient, Urgent Services, Embedded Unit, Children’s System of Care (CSOC), Transition Age Youth Full-Services Partnership (TAY-FSP), Oversight for the Youth for Change contracted vendor providing specialized services (TBS, IHBS, FSP, Wraparound), and Oversight for the Youth for Change contracted vendor providing embedded Peer staff. Most programs serve ages 0 – 20. The TAY program serves youth 16 – 25; and the FSP contract with Youth for Change serves ages 0 – 15.

Mr. Thomas also reports that Children’s Services provided services to 482 unduplicated clients in Yuba County for Fiscal Year 2019-2020 and 473 unduplicated clients for Sutter County with the majority of the clients between the ages of six and fifteen.

Mr. Thomas states that these programs have a long history of coordinating well with each other, and partner agencies, to meet the needs of youth being served and their families across the systems. They continue to experience good participation in multidisciplinary teams and the focus on collaboration with family and youth/child, individualized services continue to strengthen the program.

Mr. Thomas states COVID has been a challenge and difficulty. Assisting with transportation of youth families and groups have been impacted. Telehealth is being utilized and works well for some. Gathering in groups and group activities have definitely been impacted by COVID restrictions.

Obtaining and retaining quality staff has been challenging across programs agencies and counties. Employers have become more competitive within the past two years.

CSOC would like to put a smart TV with video conferencing capabilities in their CSOC Child and Family Team Meeting room in order to support partial in-person and video conferencing meetings to include staff and the youth and families' services providers and support persons.

In response to a question Mr. Thomas states that there are several PIP's (Performance Improvement Projects) being considered but none have been identified as approved at this time; really need to make sure there is data to support the project. Mr. Kaze would like to be involved when this project gets off of the ground. Mr. Thomas will provide the Staff Analyst with Mr. Kaze's contact information.

Discussion on the lack of a group home or STRTP in Sutter/Yuba counties. As of now no agency in the area is licensed for child placement so children needing placement are transported out of the area.

5. **SUDS Program Update – Continuum of Care – Phillip Hernandez, Program Manager:** Mr. Hernandez reported that the OFC and First Steps programs both have staff vacancies. Interviews were conducted last week with hopes to fill the positions by mid-January. Mr. Hernandez also reported that both OFC and First Steps are operating at half-capacity due to COVID. OFC currently has five clients engaged in the outpatient program; seven clients are enrolled in the dual-engagement program and seven women are enrolled in the First Steps program along with an interim group that is waiting for placement in the outpatient treatment program for First Steps. SUDS is also working with the homeless community trying to identify ways to facilitate access to and alleviate barriers to treatment.
6. **MHSA Program Update** – Betsy Gowan, Adult Services Deputy Director, MHSA Coordinator: Ms. Gowan reported that MHSA's timeline is on track for creating the MHSA Annual Update. The Annual Update will be presented at the BHAB meeting in April with the public hearing to follow. MHSA is also working on their review audit from the state which is scheduled for October 2022.
7. **Behavioral Health Director's Report – Rick Bingham, LMFT:** Mr. Bingham reported on the following:
 - Mental Health First Aid Training – continuing to be held. Adult training is scheduled for December 16, 2021 and Youth training on December 17th. Subsequent trainings are also on calendar for January and February. Ms. Clarkson requested the link for registration for these trainings.
 - BHAB In-person Meetings – this should be fine as long as masks are worn, and social distancing protocols are followed. Hybrid meeting is also possible yet harder for ZOOM attendees to hear the meeting.
8. **New Business:**
 - a. AB988 – Lesley Clarkson – Ms. Clarkson elected to skip this agenda item as it doesn't have to be addressed at this time.
9. **Old Business:**
 - a. Data Notebook Status – Ms. Clarkson will submit the survey to the state as long as there are no changes from the board. Mr. Bingham clarified that SYBH does not have a crisis mobile team – this is an engagement team (iCARE) – Ms. Clarkson will make this correction in the AB988 document as it is not listed in the Data Notebook.
10. **Other Announcements/Correspondence:** None addressed.

11. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business brought forward Chair Clarkson thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 6:05 p.m.