

Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Minutes of the Regular and ZOOM Meeting

Thursday, February 10, 2022
5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Clarkson called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Roll Call**

The following members were in attendance either via ZOOM, in-person, or conference call: Chair Lesley Clarkson, Supervisor Karm Bains, Supervisor Seth Fuhrer, Vice Chair Lupe Rose, Ateequr Rehman and Secretary Margery Hubbard.

The following members were excused: Jay Kaze

The following members were absent: Manny Vasquez

Also, in attendance: Rick Bingham, Assistant Director of Health & Human Services and Local Behavioral Health Director; Adam Reeb, Program Manager/Hospital & Emergency Services; Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Branch Director – Acute Psychiatric Services; Jesse Hallford, MHSA Staff Analyst, Kristy Holman and Sue Hopper, Executive Secretary.

3. **Public Comment:** ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON A MATTER NOT ON THE AGENDA may do so under the Public Comment portion of this agenda. As required by the Government Code, no action or discussion will be undertaken on any item raised during the Public Comment period. ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE BOARD ON A MATTER ON THE AGENDA may do so before or during the agenda item, as facilitated by the Chair.

4. **Action Items:**

- a. **Approve January 13, 2022, Meeting Minutes** Member Rose moved to approve the January 13, 2022, meeting minutes as submitted. Member Bains seconded the motion.

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

Nay votes: None

Abstentions: None

5. **Program Presentation** – Psychiatric Health Facility – Adam Reeb, Program Manager. Mr. Reeb reported on the following:

The Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) is a 16-bed, 24-hour inpatient facility that provides acute short-term hospitalization for adults in psychiatric crisis who cannot be safely served in outpatient services. Criteria of “Danger to Self,” “Danger to Others,” and/or “Grave Disability” is

required for admission to the PHF and must be due to an acute behavioral health condition. The PHF provides a structured secure environment with services provided by a multidisciplinary team including psychiatrists, mental health therapists, nurses, mental health workers, administration, and ancillary supportive providers with a goal of promoting a client centered recovery. The primary focus of the program is continuous diagnostic assessment of the individual's mental health status, stabilization and maintenance of the mental health condition, improvement of patient's functioning ability, and transitional planning with referrals to an appropriate post-hospitalization setting.

The PHF serves adult residents, 18+, of Sutter and Yuba counties experiencing an acute mental health emergency. This service is available to individuals who meet Medi-Cal medical necessity criteria as defined above in Welfare & Institutions Code 5150 (involuntary) and voluntary patients. PHF also admits individuals on a voluntary basis to the unit.

Due to the ongoing COVID pandemic, at times, the PHF will adjust its capacity from 16 patients to 10 patients. This permits requirements for quarantine and isolation to be met for patients being admitted to the unit that may have had COVID exposures. The decrease is also to ensure sufficient staffing in case there is a COVID outbreak amongst staff. The PHF typically serves between 270-350 individuals a year with an average length of stay of 6-8 Days, which does vary due to COVID.

Mr. Reeb also reported that Susan Williamson retired as the SYBH PHF Program Manager as of December 1, 2021. On January 31, 2022, Mr. Reeb was hired as the SYBH PHF Program Manager. Mr. Reeb has worked with SYBH since 2010 and has held positions as a Mental Health Worker, Crisis Counselor, Mental Health Therapist on the PHF, and Psychiatric Emergency Services Supervisor.

Continuing his presentation Mr. Reeb states that clients are the strengths of this program. The treatment provided is strongly recovery oriented to promote improved health in those individuals in treatment. The PHF utilizes the medical and social rehabilitation models of treatment and the principles of trauma-informed care. The program recognizes that patients and their families have specialized needs and respond to treatment in highly diverse ways that supports family and social support engagement in treatment.

There are four primary barriers to treatment: 1) Stigma around mental health; 2) Lack of helpful education of mental health conditions; 3) At certain times, lack of connections with family members or supportive persons; 4) COVID management.

Mr. Reeb states that as resources are available, enhancements to the physical plant to promote further safety for staff and patients is always recommended. First, plexiglass barriers around the nursing desk and a COVID safe food buffet cart would be helpful. Additionally, restoration or replacement of outside area, to include the patio could offer a safer environment with updated design to increase the safe and secure support of clients in the back yard. Grants are being actively applied for from DHCS to assist in completing these updates.

In response to a question Mr. Reeb states that the PHF does have two beds reserved in the Better Way Shelter that are utilized during discharge when appropriate.

6. **SUDS Program Update** – Continuum of Care – Phillip Hernandez, Program Manager: No updates provided.
7. **MHSA Program Update** – Betsy Gowan, Adult Services Deputy Director, MHSA Coordinator. Reporting for Ms. Gowan - Ms. Hallford reported on the following:
 - MHSA Annual Update – three focus groups have been held this week with over 135 attendees. Feedback was positive.
 - Meeting with the Steering and Program Development Committees monthly to provide feedback on the Annual Update.
 - Central Region WET Loan Repayment & Hiring Incentive – MHSA has started the loan repayment application – has been sent to current employees with the goal of awarding up to \$10,000 for their loan payments. Will begin advertising this incentive with new recruitments as well.
8. **Behavioral Health Director’s Report – Rick Bingham, LMFT:** Mr. Bingham reported on the following:
 - Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Efforts (DEI) – training has been ongoing with leadership since the summer of 2020. Training for all employees started throughout the last year. Dr. Marks provided training on Implicit Bias. Programs continue to have conversations regarding this within their staff meetings. Dr. Jones, consultant, is currently working with leadership and will begin working with line staff soon. Overall goal is to raise awareness of the impacts of racism within the behavioral health system.
9. **New Business:**
 - Discussion on SYBH response/involvement to community members arrested while experiencing a breakdown. Mr. Bingham explained that for our area, law enforcement conducts these interactions and makes these decisions. SYBH does provide training, such as Mental Health First Aid, to law enforcement.
 - Ms. Hubbard requested to add Mr. Vasquez’s absenteeism to the agenda for the March 2022 BHAB meeting. Ms. Hopper explained that after speaking with Mr. Vasquez, his appointment will expire in March 2022, and he will not be seeking re-appointment. Ms. Hopper has notified the Sutter County Board Clerk office to post a vacancy.
10. **Old Business:** None addressed.
11. **Other Announcements/Correspondence:** None provided.
12. **Adjournment:**

There being no further business brought forward Chair Clarkson thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 5:50 p.m.