

**Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health
Behavioral Health Advisory Board**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting

Thursday, January 11, 2023

5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Esemann called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Roll Call**

The following members were in attendance: Chair Heather Esemann, Supervisor Mike Ziegenmeyer, Supervisor Don Blaser, Lesley Clarkson, Mary Page, Vice-Chair Manny Cardoza, Jay Kaze, Renick House and Maggie Walker.

Also, in attendance: Rick Bingham, HHS Assistant Director; Jesse Hallford, Adult Staff Services Manager, Betsy Gowan (ZOOM), Adult Services Branch Director; Brian Gilbert, Miranda Burnett, Wendell Peters and, Sue Hopper, Executive Secretary.

3. **Public Comment:** No public comments were provided.

4. **Action Items:**

- a. **Approve November 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes** - Member Cardoza moved to approve the November 9, 2023, Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member House.

Aye votes: Esemann, Clarkson, Cardoza, Blaser, Ziegenmeyer, House, Kaze, Page, and Walker

Nay votes: None

Abstentions: None

- b. **Review and Consider Application to fill Yuba County Consumer Representative seat and offer a recommendation to the Yuba County Board of Supervisors – Wendell Peters** - Member Cardoza moved to approve the offering a recommendation to the Yuba County Board of Supervisors to appoint Mr. Peters as a Consumer Representative to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board. The motion was seconded by Member Clarkson.

Aye votes: Esemann, Clarkson, Cardoza, Blaser, Ziegenmeyer, House, Kaze, Page, and Walker

Nay votes: None

Abstentions: None

5. **Program Presentation** – Augmented Forensic Youth Program – Josh Thomas, Program Manager, presented on the following:

- The Augmented Forensic Youth Program (AFYP) is a part of the Children’s System of Care (CSOC) program. AFPY serves approximately 35 youth per year...

- AFYP services are available to incarcerated youth who have been released and are ages 0 – 15 who experience mental health issues and who are Sutter or Yuba County residents.
- Referrals primarily come through therapist at the Tri-County Juvenile Hall and the Maxine Youth Guidance Center.
- Whenever possible engagement of the youth and family is started prior to the youth being released.
- Services include case management, parenting support, psychiatric medication support, therapy/counseling, intensive care coordination, participation in exit meetings, referral to community resources, child and family team meetings, weekly skills group, coordinating with community partners such as Probation and Schools.
- The goal is to increase engagement in services after release, reduce the need for treatment at higher levels of care and /or reduce the length of stay in residential treatment settings or inpatient services.

Discussion on the physical needs of these clients being addressed – such as eye exams. AFYP does not have a formal screening process for these issues, yet they do try to work with the schools should an issue be identified. Partnership Health Plan would/could provide this service. Peach Bowl Lions Club also supplies glasses/eye exams to school aged children for free.

- Point In Time count from June to November 2023 shows AYFP served 23 individuals. 18 from Yuba County and 9 from Sutter County.
- CANS (Child & Adolescent Needs Strengths) assessment tool is used as a “pre” and “post” test to measure the progress of the clients. Assessment is performed every six months other than for foster children which is performed every three months.
- CANS indicates services provide effective treatment for children, youth, and families.
- Program has supported some youth in obtaining legal employment and completing high school graduation.

6. **MHSA Program Update** – Betsy Gowan, Branch Director, Adult Services. Reporting for Ms. Gowan, Ms. Hallford reported on the following:

- 3rd Sector Report
 - 3rd Sector is the vendor evaluating the iCARE innovation program. This contract began in April 2023.
 - Phase I - iCARE Learning Framework Design – timeline April – October 2023. Review the original project learning goals, and when needed, further define, and refine concepts, process, and/or outcomes.
 - Phase II - Consumer Defined Engagement & Recovery Metrics – timeline October 2023 – September 2024. Discuss what “engagement” means specific to the iCARE project: how this is defined throughout the course of the project, the goal(s) of engagement, and phased engagement throughout the continuum of care.
 - Phase III - Project Impact & Continuous Improvement Planning – timeline October 2024 – May 2025. Create stakeholder engagement criteria and plan. Facilitate stakeholder engagement on iCare project, including staff, family members, and

consumers. Synthesize findings and draft final reports. Develop continuous improvement plan.

- Stakeholder engagement completed last two weeks of August 2023. Facilitated focus groups. Conducted one-on-one interviews with six different individuals and one family member.
- One outcome of report - success is helping the individual as they discover, identify, and engage with services/activities that are supportive to them. Successful interactions are any type of interactions because that is still a type of engagement.
- Next steps 1) identify individuals for sample analysis, 2) pull service utilization data for sample, and 3) conduct data analysis.
- Next update will be provided November 2024.

7. Behavioral Health Director's Report – Rick Bingham, Assistant Director/BH Director. Mr. Bingham reported on the following:

- Payment Reform Revenue Issues – State is paying Medi-Cal billing differently as of July 1, 2023. With this change and the implementation of the new electronic health record system for Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health, which also had billing issues, billing for July was just remitted in December. The State believes they have now worked out their issues and the electronic health record vendor also believes they have worked out the billing issues; billing may be caught up in April 2024. This has been a statewide issue.
- Bi-County Structure Evaluation – Yuba County has contracted with a vendor to evaluate if the Bi-County structure continues to be the best structure to serve both Yuba and Sutter County residents. Over the many years, since 1972, that the behavioral health Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) has been in place, there have been numerous occasions that both counties desired to take a fresh look at the Bi-County structure to determine if updates were required to the JPA, and as a best practice, ensure that the needs of both counties were being met. With the amount of population growth in our Bi-County region and significant state policy changes over the past several years related to Behavioral Health, this effort will be key to planning for the future behavioral health needs of the Bi-County region.

8. New Business

- a. Select Program Presentation for October
 - Suggestion was to have someone from Sutter County Jail due to the medical budget of the jail increasing significantly. Jail medical is funded through Health & Human Services. Ms. Hopper will contact WellPath to see if they can present February 2024.
 - SYBH Budget Overview can also be a presentation – this will be scheduled for March 2024.
 - Request for a presentation on LPS Conservatorships – will schedule in either April or May 2024.

9. Old Business

- a. Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee Draft Report
 - Goal of the report was to assist with identifying barriers to care for homelessness.
 - Report will be added to the agenda again next month.

10. Other Announcements/Correspondence

- None addressed.

11. Adjournment - There being no further business brought forward Chair Esemann thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.