

Behavioral Health Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 01.21.2010
 Start Time: 3:00
 Adjournment: 5:00
 Location: Chico Veterans Memorial Hall, Chico, CA

Present:

Board Members: Coach Tom LeBlanc, Salvador Ventura, Supervisor Kim Yamaguchi, Lieutenant Andy Duch, Eric Almquist, Patricia Krause, Robert Preston, Nancy Bryant, Keven Partridge, Barbara Foy

Staff: Lisa Cox, Elizabeth Gowan, Julie Bartel, Scott Kennelly, Danelle Campbell, Amanda Montgomery, Cary Yasuhara, Jeremy Wilson, Ernest Krantz, Jr., Linnea Weston, Francine Kalso, Scott Palmer, Butch Hastaran, Claire Hunt, Emilio Muniz, Jr., Trisha Ott, Geoff Davis

Visitors: Pat Kragar, Melba Riggs, Kristina Kaufman, Linda Lagorio, Mary Knight, Gail E. Smith, Bruce Gilstrap, Janet Taylor, Judy Metz, Thomas Hood, Rebecca Winton, Brian Kramer (It should be noted that many members of the public did not sign the voluntary sign-in sheet; the total number of visitors was significantly higher than what is indicated by those listed here.)

Absent: Lafayette Clarke

Agenda Item/Issue:	Discussion Summary:	Result/Action/Next Steps-Person Assigned/Due Date
1) Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quorum Present 	Called to order at 3:00
2) Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of the 12.17.2009 Minutes 	Minutes were approved as written. Minutes will be posted on the Department website.

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<p>4) Review of Board Goals</p>	<p>to fill the co-Chair position, with the election to be held at the regular February meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keven Partridge and Eric Almquist were nominated by Patricia Krause and Salvador Ventura, respectively. • Interviewed Pat Kragar, former Department of Employment and Social Services Director, and Janet Taylor, former Probation Officer for openings on the Board. • Tom encouraged people with passion to apply for Board membership. • The Board currently has a youth member and alternate youth member opening. • The Board will have its annual retreat on February 6, from 12-4. • Tom reviewed the primary goals from last year's retreat: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Better educated 2. Think Gray 3. Improving Board Effectiveness 4. Mental Health Awareness Event 5. Consumer-focused • Tom placed emphasis on the importance of consumer involvement with the Board. • Consumers should be present at each meeting to tell their stories. The Board needs to feel the passion of what is transpiring in the lives of the consumers the Department and the Board are here to serve. • The positive effect of Edward Walker's tenure as Interim Director was noted. • Patricia Krause went over the purpose of the subcommittee to look into the Department's budget and to increase the Board's understanding of how the budget works and is decided upon. • Patricia noted that the filling of the newly created Medical Director position will be helpful towards that 	<p>February 18 meeting.</p> <p>Pat Kragar and Janet Taylor will be recommended for membership at the February 18 meeting.</p>
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<p>5) NAMI Report -Robert Preston</p>	<p>ongoing goal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patricia stressed her commitment to make sure that the Department makes the most out of each dollar it has towards providing services. She pointed out that the Governor’s proposed budget would eliminate CalWORKS and the In-House Supportive Services program. • Thomas Hood, a member of the public, commented on the wonderful experience he had at last year’s consumer-focused camping trip (Mental Health Awareness Event Board Goal). • He said that the trip was the “best thing that ever happened to Behavioral Health.” • In general discussion, the positive of impact of developing MHSA services was noted, as well as the importance of awareness of patient’s rights. • Towards the goal of patient’s rights, Patricia shared her efforts to make sure that patient’s rights information is posted at each facility. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Robert thanked the Board for excusing him early at the December meeting. • Expressed gratitude on behalf of NAMI for the Department’s \$7,500 contribution towards the upcoming NAMI Walk. • The NAMI Walk is in need of more sponsors. • Robert has been the NAMI Membership Chair for one year, and helps to troubleshoot for consumers. • Robert noted that membership recruitment was a little difficult due to the holiday season. • NAMI will meet tonight from 6-9 at the Chico branch of the Butte County Library. • Starting in February, NAMI will be 	
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<p>6) C.I.T. -Lieutenant Andy Duch</p>	<p>meeting twice a month as it gears up for the Walk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAMI needs volunteers to provide water, and transportation for the Walk. • The Walk will be on Saturday, April 24, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., and will be held at the Chico Downtown City Plaza. • There will be no charge to set up booths for mental health service providers, but donations are welcome from those who do set up booths. • T-shirts will recognize sponsors of the event. • The NAMI Website is continually being fine-tuned. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lieutenant Duch briefed the public on Crisis Intervention Training, which is a collaborative effort among law enforcement, first responders, mental health service providers, and dispatch. • C.I.T 's purpose is to minimize escalation of situations involving consumers and law enforcement, for the protection of consumers and members of law enforcement. • Students at the upcoming Academy will receive training on crisis services, civil and legal issues, and education on developmental/cognitive disorders as well as P.O.S.T. law enforcement guidelines. • C.I.T. will also have a round table discussion/summary. • Graduates of the Academy will wear a specially designed pin to indicate C.I.T. training status. • Consumers will be educated on the pin's meaning so that they may readily 	<p>Robert will keep the Board apprised on the development of the NAMI walk and other NAMI-related events and issues.</p>
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<p>7) MHSA Prudent Reserve Recommendation Public Hearing -Elizabeth Gowan, MHSA Program Manager</p>	<p>identify who best to communicate with on the situation at hand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andy explained how better immediate service and follow through will result in a better treatment plan for the consumer following a crisis situation. • It took a considerable amount of time for C.I.T. to become established in Butte County. • C.I.T. has the full support of the Butte County Sheriff's Department, and also benefits from the support of other law enforcement agencies such as the police departments of Chico, Oroville, and Gridley. • The Academy will take place the week of February 8-11, 7:30-4:30, and is open for consumers and family members to attend the first two days. • The media will be present on the first and last day of the Academy. • C.I.T. is a "win-win" for Behavioral Health and Law Enforcement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHSA requires all counties to have a prudent reserve of 50% of the most recent annual approved MHSA CSS & PEI funding level by 07/01/2011. • Butte County's most recently approved annual funding level is \$6,735,100.00, meaning the prudent reserve level must be \$3,368,050. • The Department's current prudent reserve funding level is at \$3,176,300. • The Department has \$47,127 in unspent planning funds from fiscal year 2007-2008. • The Department is requesting that these funds be transferred to the prudent reserve fund to avoid that money from being reverted back to the State Department of Mental Health (DMH) for redistribution. 	
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<p>Public Comment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Behavioral Health Board MHSA Advisory Subcommittee has approved this recommendation to go before the Behavioral Health Board. • Contingent upon the Board’s official recommendation, the prudent reserve recommendation will go the Butte County Board of Supervisors for final approval. • It was asked what the \$47,127 will be spent on, to which Elizabeth replied that the money would be utilized for MHSA programs. • Elizabeth reviewed the five components of MHSA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Services and Support 2. Prevention/Early Intervention 3. Innovation 4. Capital/Information Technology 5. Housing • It was explained that the money resulted from unspent planning funds. • The prudent reserve is for future use to maintain existing MHSA funds in low funding years. • The idea is to be able to maintain the current level of services provided even when revenue is down. • The prudent reserve is analogous to a “rainy day” fund. • When funding increases in good budget years, the prudent reserve is then replenished as feasible in anticipation of bad budget years to come. • Keven Partridge questioned the public comment/review process, expressing concerns that the Board was expected to act as a “rubber stamp.” • Elizabeth explained that the surplus was identified in October, 2009, and was brought forward to the BHB MHSA Advisory Committee, after 	
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	<p>which it was posted 30 days prior to the meeting for public review/comment. Further, the money will in future be used exclusively for MHSA services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keven observed that transparency is necessary for the Board to make an informed decision, and Elizabeth agreed that the existing process could be improved. • The act of recommending the money to go to the prudent reserve by the Behavioral Health Board will insure that money will stay with the County to serve the local community. • Salvador Ventura reminded the Board that it is an advisory board, and encouraged active participation by its members and the public within that context. • Tom put a motion on the floor for the Board to recommend that the prudent reserve recommendation go to the Butte County Board of Supervisors for review/approval. 	<p>The Board recommended that the Prudent Reserve Recommendation to the Butte County Board of Supervisors for review/approval.</p>
<p>8) Townhall Public Forum</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tom shared his personal and professional life with the Board and the public in attendance. • It was his firsthand witnessing of the effects of mental illness and addiction on family life that propelled Tom to action. • As a coach, administrator, and most recently the teacher of at-risk youth, Tom has applied the principles of interpersonal relationships to achieve success. • As a Behavioral Health Board member for the past five years, he has helped steer the Department towards the implementation of the recovery model in all aspects of its service delivery and philosophy. • More work needs to be done to fully 	

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	<p>implement the recovery model approach to treatment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tom's service-as well as all other Board members-is voluntary.• As Chair, the all-volunteer Board will be guided by certain key criteria:<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Always and foremost-how will the actions of the Board affect the consumer?2. Without consumers, there is no Board or Behavioral Health Department.3. Consumer services are to be consumer-driven.4. Improvement and expansion of mental health services in Butte County.5. Interpersonal relationships will be valued.6. The load of responsibility must be shared, and everyone must be made to feel important.7. Each person is important and welcome; furthermore, everyone has something to offer.8. "It's not you, it's not me, it's us."• In reference to "The Soloist" and "11 Seconds," Tom illustrated how it was the interpersonal relationship that made the difference in overcoming the adversity of stigma and inaction.• In addition to serving on the Board, Tom shared that he is also participating in the "Lunch With Us" program in Paradise on Thursdays.• To see those being served being treated with dignity is a gratifying experience.• Before opening up the forum to the public, Tom reminded the Board and general public that it can be easy to focus on the negative.• Positive outcomes should be recognized as well as the negative	
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	<p>situations that might come to light during the course of the public forum.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All concerns and issues will be recorded; not all situations may be addressed or remedied directly during the course of the forum, but follow through will happen. • What follows are the questions/concerns of the general public of Butte County: • What will be done to address the cutback of services at the Chico Adult Services facility? • What is the due process for switching case managers? Concerns were raised about delays in the transfer process as well as budgetary issues that cause the reallocation of staff to other programs. • The importance of television for educational purposes at the Iversen Center was discussed at length as well as ways to fund the cable service required. There was concern voiced that if an individual donated money to the County for that purpose, that it might be diverted. • Lisa Cox clarified that money donated for a specific purpose is expressly used for that purpose. Donations would first have to be approved by the Butte County Board of Supervisors. • Advertisement venues for Iversen Center activities and support groups were discussed. It was suggested that billboards would be an effective way for the community to become more aware of what the Center has to offer. • The January Event Calendar was distributed at this time. • In addition to the advertisement of existing services, concerns were raised about the availability of services during weekends and holidays. • The possibility of consumers manning the Center during such times was 	
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	<p>explored; Lisa Cox said while it is an option, such an approach would require Butte County Board of Supervisors approval.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Patricia Krause shared that in the past, when she oversaw the Drop-In Center, that staff simply volunteered their time to maintain a welcoming environment.• Brad Montgomery, Executive Director of the Torres Shelter, spoke about the mentally ill who receive services at his facility.• Behavioral Health services are greatly needed; currently, the way that services are obtained is when a consumer reaches a crisis level that warrants a 5150 hold.• Brad spoke highly of the services offered at the In-Patient, and said that Behavioral Health Department staff have always been compassionate and competent, but limited in the scope of what they can offer at the Shelter.• More information on the Torres Shelter can be found online at chicosshelter.org or by calling 530/891-9048.• Cary Yasuhara, a Livespot Supervisor, thanked the Behavioral Health Board for today's public forum, and appreciated the passion and volunteer spirit it is sparking.• Cary advised the group that there is a dire need to continue the different Prevention Unit programs, both for the immediate good they do and for the long-term benefits of preventative services.• Cary noted that for every one dollar spent on prevention, three dollars on treatment is saved.• The Livespot program is now in Gridley, and currently serves 25-30 youth, and has the potential to serve even more.• With proper funding and	
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	<p>implementation, Cary envisions the Livespot program providing complete wraparound services to local youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• One consumer commented on the quality care he received at the Iversen Center, reporting that due to the Center, he will begin attending Butte Community College on Monday. He was amazed at the benevolence of the community.• Thomas Hood said that Janine Cuellar, Clinical Supervisor, is “sorely missed” at the Iversen Center. Janine had been reassigned to provide clinical supervision at the Chico Adult Services facility, under the supervision of Julie Bartel, Clinical Program Manager.• Jon McMahan, a mental health services provider, said that real answers are needed for real people, adding that he supports the Department’s efforts to provide services.• Brian Kramer shared information on P.F.L.A.G. (Parents and friends of gays and lesbians); they currently meet on the first Monday of every month, at the Stonewall Alliance Center, 2889 Cohasset Rd., Chico, CA , 7-9 p.m.• Melba Riggs stated that she was proud of all of the consumers who came from the Iversen Center to attend today’s meeting.• Melba reiterated Tom’s call for a group effort to create positive change.• Scott Kennelly, Sr. Clinical Program Manager, talked about the Transitional Age Youth (T.A.Y.) program, which services youth ages 16-24 who are at risk of having their first psychotic episode or “break.”• Scott said these services are available throughout the County, and offered the Chico Community Counseling Center phone number, 891-2945, as a good starting point for this service.	
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	<p>available for Melba and others to provide service.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salvador Ventura cited the sixth item in the Welfare and Institutions Code 5604.2 (the statutory basis for the Behavioral Health Board) which states that the Board will actively participate in the recruitment process for the mental health director. • Lisa Cox told the Board that the Butte County Human Resources Director, Laura Brunson, is aware of this statutory requirement. • Supervisor Kim Yamaguchi asked that Tom write a letter on behalf of the Board to the Board of Supervisors reminding them of the Board’s mandated involvement in the recruitment and selection process. • Keven Partridge talked about the level of consumer involvement when he was a Board member two years ago; consumer involvement needs improvement, but is better than it used to be. • Keven noted that “seat maintenance” by consumer members is crucial. • Keven further observed that it is consumers and family members of consumers’ sharing of experiences that drives and informs the Board. • Additionally, there is much value in the medical staff being involved at meetings. • It is important for the Board to cultivate its relationship with the public. • Lieutenant Duch encouraged Lisa Cox to have Department program presentations continue. • Youth membership is also crucial to the Board’s effectiveness; therefore, both the youth member and alternate member should attend meetings concurrently. 	<p>Tom LeBlanc will draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors to remind them of the mandated involvement of the Behavioral Health Board in the recruitment/selection process of the next full time Behavioral Health Director.</p> <p>Department program presentations will continue to be on the Board agenda.</p>
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9) Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting was adjourned with the enjoinder, “It is not you, it is not me, it is us, and keep coming back” at 5:00.	The Board will meet at the Administrative Support Division Conference Room at 109 Parmac Rd., Ste. 1, Chico, CA, 3-5 p.m.
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