

Lake County

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes - October 13, 2022 Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was convened at 4:10 p.m. by Chair Julie Colfax and a quorum was established. Members in attendance included Bonnie Blumenthal, Camille Cummins, Sheila Roseneau, and Lee Zeledon; Michelle Young was absent. Lake County Behavioral Health Services Director Todd Metcalf was present and Lake County Supervisor Moke Simon (non-voting Members) was absent.

Stakeholders present included Danny Medina (CAMHPRO) and Betsy Cawn (Recording Secretary).

2. The proposed agenda was accepted without amendment or corrections by consensus of Board members present.

3. Minutes from September 15, 2022, regular meeting were adopted (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by roll call vote.

4. Chair Colfax announced current steps in the MHAB annual action plan, including the annual election of officers, and requested the nomination of a treasurer to keep track of Board member expenditures and reimbursements from an established budget. (Specific description of those responsibilities were briefly discussed, given the limited scope of the Board's operations budget, and will be provided for board consideration at the next meeting.) Nominations for officers (chair, vice-chair, secretary, and treasurer) are to be sent to Secretary Betsy Cawn for consideration at the November meeting.

Discussion about the appropriate method for completing expenditure reimbursement focused on as-yet-undefined procedures required by the Behavioral Health Services administration department. Director Metcalf agreed that the procedure needs to be defined by his staff and members of the MHAB in order to fulfill the Board's state-mandated functions.

The Data Notebook draft was distributed to all Board members with the agenda for today's meeting; the first 8 items require input from LCBHS (Patricia Russell) and when that information is received, Chair Colfax will complete the final edition of the document for submittal to the state. The proposed draft (sans the 8 answers) was approved (motion, Bonnie Blumenthal; second, Lee Zeledon; motion carried by roll call vote.

The next meetings of MHAB workgroups will be held on October 22, 2022: from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., the Annual Report project, and from 1-2:30 p.m. for the Bylaws Update project. Member Shiela Roseneau stated that she will be out of town that weekend, but if there is internet service where she is staying she will join the work-

group. The next meeting of the "management" workgroup (for preparation of the agenda for the upcoming regular meeting) will be held on October 29, at 10:30 a.m.

5. Director's Report: Director Metcalf provided updates on current state-sponsored initiatives, including the CARE Court program. Six counties in California, not including Lake, are working through the process of identifying procedures and possible outcomes at this time.

The department's staffing numbers are improving (down to a 14% vacancy rate), and they are using a more robust recruiting process by posting open positions on agency and professional association websites.

The Collier Avenue housing project (which will provide 20 units for LCBHS clients, 10 for Regional Center clients, 9 for income-eligible residents, and one unit for the property manager) will probably break ground next March. \$13M of available funding has been acquired by the staff at the Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation, which will be the lead agency for construction and management of the complex in Nice, California.

The Family Peer Support Center in Middletown has temporarily closed due to lack of utilization; consideration discussion about alternative users and service options ensued, with many suggestions provided to Director Metcalf for possible uses.

The Circle of Native Minds' manager Thomas Brown has retired; Director Metcalf will be recruiting for his replacement and support staff as soon as possible.

LCBHS administration has formed a management planning team to update the departmental mission and vision statements, which welcomes input from the MHAB as the process unfolds. Likewise, the involvement of MHAB members in reviewing contract proposals -- without increasing the already burdensome contracting process, will be appreciated as the department builds management capacity next year.

There is no new information available on the implementation of Cal-AIM programs; the situation has not changed significantly since Director Metcalf gave a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on June 21, 2022.

Lastly, the new Electronic Health Record System is set to Launch on February 1, 2023.

6. Danny Medina provided an update on the status of the state's "Medical Peer Support Certification" program: the option for "grandparenting" current, paid service providers has been extended to November 30. Danny will be starting a series of study groups for learning all the requirements of the state's curriculum proposals and exam strategies, and will email hyperlinks to group workshop dates to Chair Colfax. One of the most common situations where peer support counselors could be very valuable is when law enforcement is requested to intervene in a situation involving an adult who

is experiencing a mental health crisis (heavily armed law enforcement officers also need better training on de-escalation methods). Danny is currently focusing intently on Indigenous and Latino populations for developing peer support assistance resources.

Chair Colfax added that she is considering adding WRAP program certification to her repertoire of mental health skills, to increase options for delivery of support group facilitation services (and to train potential WRAP service providers). Julie has recently provided input on the proposed CARE Court legislation, and looks forward to having the opportunity to provide outreach and education on its poorly-understood benefits.

7. The meeting was adjourned at 5:13 p.m. by Chair Colfax. The next meeting of the Mental Health Advisory Board will be held on November 10, at 4 p.m.