

**Mental Health Services Act
Steering Committee Meeting**

Monday, February 6, 2017

1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Delhi Community Center

505 E. Central Ave.

Santa Ana, 92707

MINUTES

Item I Call to Order/Welcome

- At 1:06 p.m. by Luis Martinez.
- Sharon Browning, the longtime facilitator has resigned her duties related to the MHSA Steering Committee meetings.
- Steering Committee members introduced themselves to the other members and the public.

Item II State Update

Mary Hale, Behavioral Health Director

- Mary discussed Orange County opting into the Drug Medi-Cal (DMC) Organized Delivery System (ODS), which will expand Substance Use Disorder (SUD) services to include medication services, residential services, and intensive outpatient services. Orange County's DMC ODS implementation plan has been approved by the State's Department of Health Care Services, and the County is working on determining rates for service and other details. It will then be submitted to the Federal government for approval and be brought forth to the County Board of Supervisors.
- Mary also discussed the Co-Located Services project, a strategic priority for mental health and SUD services based off San Antonio's "Haven for Hope" integrated campus model. It will bring services that are currently lacking throughout Orange County into one centralized location. She mentioned that no location has been identified at this time and mentioned the possibility of a supportive housing piece to the idea. While much of the services will be funded by MHSA, the SUD services will be made possible through opting into DMC ODS.

Item III Local Update

Dr. Jeff Nagel, BHS Director of Operations

- Dr. Nagel shared that the contract for evaluation of MHSA funded services in Orange County will soon be brought forth to the Board of Supervisors. The first part will be a Community Needs Assessment to identify needs and gaps,

involving focus groups with different populations, from different geographic areas, and speaking different threshold languages. The second part will be a Cost-benefit Analysis looking at CSS and PEI programs to see the economic return on investment.

- Dr. Nagel mentioned the *Stepping Up Initiative*, a national initiative aimed at reducing the number of individuals with mental illness in our correctional system, with Orange County having representation in all the different groups of the local planning body. He also mentioned *Proposition 47*, a California initiative to reduce classification of certain crimes from felony to a misdemeanor, which creates savings that are to be granted to counties. Orange County is hoping to receive those savings. He also briefly mentioned *Whole Person Care*, an integrative care approach for health and behavioral health, it would not, however involve MHSA dollars.
- Finally, Dr. Nagel discussed the *No Place Like Home* initiative, which will collect \$2 billion out of statewide allocation over 20 years of MHSA dollars for housing. A majority of the dollars will be up for competitive bids and a grant coordinator has recently been hired to oversee our participation in the initiative and to maximize the amount of funding we can apply for, and hopefully receive.

Item IV Community Action Advisory Committee Update

Denise Cuellar, CAAC President

- Denise shared that CAAC has continued conducting MHSA Program Surveys and recently planned and scheduled activities for 2017. She raised a concern regarding housing, where some individuals with severe mental illness are unable to secure housing even with a voucher. Mary Hale offered to connect her with someone who may be able to come and discuss the housing issues with CAAC.

Item V Strong Families, Strong Children: Behavioral Health Services for Military Families

Lori Pack, Larisa Owen, Elizabeth Andrade and Judy Rose, Strong Families, Strong Children Collaborative

- Representatives from the agencies partnering for the Innovation project *Strong Families, Strong Children* (Child Guidance Center, Human Options, Families Forward, Veterans Legal Institute, and Children and Family Futures) gave a presentation on their program and shared outcomes from their first year of program implementation.

Item VI MHSA Update

Dr. Sharon Ishikawa, MHSA Coordinator

- Dr. Ishikawa made an announcement encouraging members to participate in RFP Panels. Anyone interested can email the MHSA Office at mhsa@ochca.com.

- Dr. Ishikawa proposed budget amendments for three CSS programs. Children’s Crisis Residential program is seeking additional \$170,000 for each of FY 17-18, FY 18-19, and FY 19-20, citing that the RFP process identified more funding needs, mainly to secure child psychiatry across the three sites. Wellness Centers program, in particular Wellness Center West saw greater than anticipated membership and attendance, leading to the need for increased funding. Additional \$200,000 was requested for each of FY 17-18, FY 18-19, and FY 19-20. Integrated Community Services program requested \$500,000 for FY 17-18, in order to account for staff pay as the program transitioned from INN to CSS.

Item VII Action item: Approve MHSA Budget Revisions for the MHSA 3-Year Plan

- A motion to approve was made and the budget adjustments were approved by consensus.

Item VII Steering Committee Comments/Questions

- A Steering Committee member made a comment regarding the upcoming study on evaluation of MHSA funded services and how it could help the committee with their responsibility of ensuring that MHSA funding is being spent wisely to address the needs of the community. She asked a question of how many homeless individuals with severe and persistent mental illness are being reached and how much MHSA funds we are spending for them.
- A Steering Committee member asked about where the money for the budget amendments comes from, to which an answer of unspent funds was provided. Another question regarding level of prudent reserve was asked, to which an answer of \$71 million was provided.

Item VIII Public Comments

- A public comment was made by a two representatives from Goodwill EmploymentWORKS program. They highlighted their success in the community and spoke about the importance of employment in recovery. They thanked the County and MHSA for helping people integrate back into the community.
- A public comment was made in regards to why the *Whole Person Care* funding for Orange County is very little compared to other counties. He called for greater coordination and collaboration between the homelessness, mental health, and substance use silos.

3:40 p.m. Adjourned