



**COUNTY OF ORANGE
HEALTH CARE AGENCY**

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
ADVISORY BOARD**

Alan V. Albright, LMFT
CHAIR

Fred Williams, LMFT
VICE CHAIR

MAILING ADDRESS:
405 W. 5th Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**Mental Health and Substance
Use Disorder System of Care
Meeting Notes**

Wednesday, May 10, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

**601 N. Ross St. MPR room,
Santa Ana, CA 92701**

Members Present: Alan Albright, Karyl Dupee, Matthew Holzmann, Steve McNally, Kristen Pankratz, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento's Office, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham, Frederick Williams

Members Absent: Susan Emerson,

County Staff Present: Annette Mugrditchian, Karla Perez, Julia Rinaldi, Michelle Smith

I. Welcome and Introductions for MH SOC:

- Alan Albright called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m. Members of the committee introduced themselves via roll call.

II. MHSA Update:

- Michelle Smith updated the BHAB on an internal HCA meeting that took place to look at different scenarios to be able to restructure Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) if needed. Currently, HCA is working on internal planning, however, it is important to point out that the Governor's MHSA modernization plan is still not final and may not make it on to the ballot for 2024. However, changes may still occur to the percentages for MHSA. Should this be on the ballot for 2024 the infrastructure would be provided approximately in July of 2025. In addition, Michelle provided information on some of the thoughts behind Medi-Cal and what services would not be compensated and supported by that account and how that would affect some of the services.
- Steve McNally requested that Michelle send the links to the State Assembly Meetings. He also expressed concern for PEI and how the restructuring would affect PEI. He would like a list of all PEI Providers.

- Alan Albright inquired regarding the next steps post the MHSA Public Hearing. Michelle shared that the BHAB has the opportunity to provide substantive recommendations. This does not have to happen prior to when the MHSA Plan gets submitted to the Board of Supervisors (BOS), but really it is mostly recommendations for the following year in future planning. Michelle will follow up with an email with an exact understanding of what is written in statute.
- Alan reviewed all 51 public comments submitted during the 30-day Public Comment period for the MHSA as well as the public comments made during the MHSA Public hearing. He will use that information to put together a draft letter to the BOS and MHRS Director and include substantive recommendations for MHSA. This draft letter will be emailed to the members to review/ comment prior to the meeting and will be voted on at the next General Meeting.
- Michelle informed the board on an upcoming MHSA Community Engagement meeting in which will include a review of the Community Program Planning process. A flyer of this upcoming event will be shared with the members.

III. System of Care Shared Items:

- Community Events:
 - Swallows Parade- Matthew Holzmann attended this event and provided a variety of resources along with distributing Narcan. It was very well attended. He mentioned a request for an additional table cover for BHAB events.
 - Santa Ana Recourse Fair- Alan and Fred attended this event, it was well attended and enjoyed engaging with the Latino community.
 - Fred will be at a car show concert to promote resources and promote BHAB on May 13, 2023.
 - Meeting of the Minds- that was also a great turn out with many in attendance and they were able to get rid of all items.
 - Steve informed the BHAB of the upcoming fentanyl townhall in Mission Viejo.
- Committee Structure of BHAB:
 - Alan Albright reviewed the current committee list for BHAB during the last SOC meeting and expressed his vision in restructuring the committees to where the BHAB has subcommittees in which would funnel all site visits via these committees.
 - Kristen already started to process in getting a site visit scheduled for Project RENEW.
 - Fred suggested going back to a perinatal SUD residential location.
- Site Visits Procedure:
 - Alan provided a link to a list of programs that could serve as options to conduct site visits. Please do send an email to Karla Perez when you have identified a site visit location and she will coordinate.
 - Chase Wickersham would like an update on the Be Well Dashboard that

was talked about during the site visit. This update would have an update on facility beds. It would be great to have a mid-year update.

- **Care Court:**
 - Annette provided an update on Care Court. HCA is still expected to go live on October 1st. All Cohort One Counties will be moving forward. HCA will get the positions in June at the Budget Hearing and start to hire staff beginning of July. There will be 11 new positions, the program will be modeled after AOT. The positions will include 2-psychologists, outreach workers, and clinicians. She also explained the referral process and filing fees for the petitioners. MHRS is working with NAMI and other districts to have a fact sheet on Care Court for the families.
 - Alan asked if anyone is working with the Cal States to prepare the social workers for the workforce upon graduation. Duan provided information on a partnership with CalOptima; as stipend program that will boost up the workforce in mental health. This contract is \$5 million for up to 5 years.

IV. Public Comment:

- **Michael Arnot:**

Mr. Arnot provided a comment on the efforts going on to coordinate in terms of advocacy to save MHSA PEI funds in terms of the MHSA Modernization. There are a few associations in Orange County that are starting to reach out to their counter parts at the state level. They plan to connect together and build a platform at the State level and advocate to the legislature and the Governor. He encourages committees of the BHAB interface with these groups, as well as take action in making recommendations to the BOS. Lastly, he pointed out MHSA underspending and suggested being more transparent as well as keeping track of the spending.

V. Items to discuss at next meeting:

- Alan suggested having an update on the Be Well new provider for the SUD residential. Would like this update being provided at the next General meeting by Dr. Kelley.
- Matthew Holzmann would like an update on the fentanyl prevention efforts.

VI. Announcements:

- Mental Health Town Hall at 6pm at the Oceans Institute in Dana Point taking place tonight.

VII. Adjournment: Meeting ended at 10:45 a.m.