



**COUNTY OF ORANGE
HEALTH CARE AGENCY**

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
ADVISORY BOARD**

Alan V. Albright, LMFT
CHAIR

Fred Williams, LMFT
VICE CHAIR

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405 W. 5th Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701

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

Wednesday, June 14, 2023

9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

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

Members Present: Alan Albright, Susan Emerson, Steve McNally, Kristen Pankratz, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham, Frederick Williams

Members Absent: Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento's Office, Karyl Dupee, Matthew Holzmann

County Staff: Annette Mugrditchian, Karla Perez, Julia Rinaldi, Michelle Smith, Alicia Lemire, Linda Molina, Teresa Renteria, John Crump, Ian Kemmer, Anthony Padilla

I. Welcome and Introductions for MH SOC:

- Alan Albright called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Members of the committee introduced themselves via roll call.

II. System of Care Shared Items:

- Community Events:
 - Steve McNally attended the CalOptima meeting for providers. He also went to the Recovery Education Institute and provided information on trainings for Peers as well as numbers for Peers in Orange County and other nearby Counties. Susan Emerson questioned the peer certification process for Orange County. She would like an update on Peer Certification to include data on those who are currently in the workforce either working for a county program or county contracted. Steve also requested a management report on this topic. Alan Albright requested to schedule a future presentation on this matter and if possible, have a quarterly update on the tracking of Peers and the department's vision for Peers.

- Alan Albright confirmed that the BHAB will have a table at the Pride Festival taking place on 6/24 in Downtown Santa Ana.
- Steve requested to get a copy of the CEO Activity Sheet/ calendar so that BHAB can plan out where to go outreach in the Community. Annette suggested providing the calendar of events for MHRs.
- Substance Use Disorder Update: (Mark Lawrenz)
 - Mark provided an update on SUD prevention efforts in the community. He informed the BHAB of the forums focusing on the opioid crisis in which have partnered with school districts, police departments, and cities, Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Sheriff's department (OCSD). There are big forums planned for in June 20th in Rancho Santa Margarita, July 20th in Orange and August in Stanton. The forums include a panel discussion, Narcan training and distribution, messaging, and resources. In addition to the forums, there will be fixed sites that will provide training and distribute Narcan.
 - Susan Emerson suggested reaching out to Uber as it is known to get overdoses in these transportation cars.
 - Mark mentioned a new project that is rolling in partnership with OCSD, to have Narcan vending machines at Theo Lacy and the Intake and Release Center. He also provided an update on the "Fentanyl is forever" campaign which will be launching soon.
 - In addition, in May the BOS approved a Master Agreement for 6 adult drug medical residential beds and added a new a new provider that will provide 22 co-ed beds in Laguna Beach.
 - Furthermore, California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is implementing a pilot on contingency management and using Medi-Cal to cover that benefit and Orange County is part of that pilot. This treatment is for individuals with stimulate use disorders.
 - Fred Williams provided information on an opioid reversal kit provided by Facing Fentanyl. Alan also commented to include Fire Departments in the Narcan vending machine project.
- Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Follow-Up: (Anthony Padilla)
 - Antony provided an update on Bridge Housing. DHCS released \$1.5 billion in February of 2023 to go towards bridge housing settings. In March, HCA received the first RFA which was \$907 million to go toward all Behavioral Health Agencies. County of Orange received \$31.7 million that would be put towards the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing settings. HCA reached out to providers and received 7 proposals from community providers and submitted them to the State by April 28th. He included information on the two buckets that were part of this funding, one of them is operational and the other was towards infrastructure. One proposal in Costa Mesa included taking an already existing facility and turn it into a 50-bed emergency shelter, bridge housing facility. The funding is focused on Bridge Housing for those that are experiencing homelessness and have a serious behavioral health condition which could include serious mental illness or substance use

disorder. The funding would go through June of 2027, which also means the provider that gets contracted would be locked in until then as well. There will be additional rounds coming soon, they have not all been released from the state. Each of those rounds will include \$250 million.

- Children and Youth Services Contract Expansion Follow-up:
 - Alicia Lemire provided an update on the productivity standards and outcome measures for the Children and Youth Services (CYS) Behavioral Health Outpatient Contracts. She included information on the performance outcomes they currently have in place for outpatient children's clinics. The request for proposals (RFP) must include the CANS/PSC- 35, the Adolescent Needs Scale, and the Pediatric Symptom Checklist and must be included their contract as well as how they plan to use the PSC and the data, as well as having a plan developed for analyzing at a system and individual level. In addition, included in their language in the contract is the need to complete a client satisfaction survey that is provided from the State. Alicia provided a detailed overview of each of the outcome measure tools. She also included information on the productivity standards, which is another form of measure.
- Site Visits Update:
 - Alan reminded the board members of the site visit to Project RENEW on June 19th. He urged the board members to send in their preference requests for sites they would like to visit. Karyl has identified some sites for the Older Adult committee, it is Alan's hope to drive the board's action items.

III. MHSA Update:

- Michelle Smith thanked the BHAB members for supporting the MHSA Plan during the BOS meeting on June 6th. The MHSA office has received the revocation documents from BOS and the final plan will be posted soon online. She also updated the board on Care Court, there will be a many educational meetings for folks to talk about Care Court. Moreover, under workforce, HCA has a financial incentive program with 42 individuals that have been identified as being eligible for loan repayment and getting \$10,000. In addition, MHRS is looking to hire a contractor for leadership development. In hopes that they do an assessment and help build the infrastructure to develop a curriculum to create opportunities for staff. MHRS also started some preliminary work in creating and expanding their infrastructure program to have a centralized internship program across different discipline areas. Lastly, Michelle informed the members about the upcoming community engagement meeting that is set for next Monday from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m., where she will provide information about kicking off the MHSA Planning Advisory Committee. This committee will be a combination of in-person and online meetings, changing the dates from Mondays to the third Thursday of the month in the morning or afternoon. Her staff is also working on cleaning up their e-lists.
- Steve McNally requested the housing report.

IV. Public Comment:

- Michael Arnot:
Mr. Arnot suggested considering responsive funding for the special projects.

V. Public Comments Received:

- Alan Albright commented on Public Comments in general, he welcomes the public to provide public comments. For those comments that are concerns with program providers, they should refer them to patients' rights office. Annette mentioned that the previous public comments which stated concerns with specific providers were resolved.

VI. Announcements:

- Alan mentioned the NEW Follow-up items list, the members will be getting this list monthly to review.

VII. Adjournment: Meeting ended at 11:02 a.m.