



BEHAVIORAL  
HEALTH & RECOVERY  
SERVICES

KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, June 27, 2022

5:30 p.m.

Zoom

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Charles Collom – Chair:

Sonia Silva (Dist. 1) – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair

Stephanie Hermeston (Dist. 1) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: *Excused*

David Kessler (Dist. 3) – Parliamentarian:

John Antonaros – BOS Appointee: *Absent*

Deborah Fabos (Dist. 2): *Excused*

Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3)

Traco Matthews (Dist. 4): *Excused*

Nancy Solis (Dist. 5):

Dian Schneider (Dist. 2)

Lorre Webb (Dist. 2)

Flossie White (Dist. 4)

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1)

Tracy Lynch – BHB Coordinator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Michael Bryant

Mesha Muwanga

Marisa Trebizo

Ron Lerma

**KERNBHRS STAFF:**

Stacy Kuwahara – Director

Lynn Corse

Heather Hornibrook

Martha Juarez

Evan McFaddin

Michelle Culy

Eric Moss

Robin Taylor

Eva Rodriguez

Lourdes Garcia

**1. Welcome and Introductions:** Charles Collom welcomed all in attendance.

**2. Establish Quorum:** 9 present 3 excused 1 absent; Quorum established.

**3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for May 23, 2022:** MOTION by Dian Schneider to approve minutes as amended (adding In Person and Teams to those who attended) and seconded by Jeff Burdick; NINE AYES; Motion passed.

**4. Presentation by Diana Najera, Lourdes Garcia, and Martha Juarez, “Wellness, Independence and Senior Enrichment (WISE) and Volunteer Senior Outreach Program (VSOP)”**

Shared a presentation via PowerPoint on WISE and VSOP with Program Overview, Services, Data, and Activities. Time allowed for *Questions and Answers*.

**Presentation by Evan McFaddin and Stacy Kuwahara, “Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Housing”**

Shared a presentation via PowerPoint on MHSA Housing with The Housing Continuum, Home to Stay (services, community impact), Types of Housing, Adult Residential Facilities, Sober Living Homes, Unlicensed Room and Boards, Residential Care for the Elderly, Quality Standard Program and Providers, Basic Housing Qualifications, No Place Like Home (NPLH) and Community Housing Resources. Time allowed for *Questions and Answers*.



**5. Public Comment:** None

**6. Unfinished Business:** None

**7. New Business:**

**A. BHB August 22, 2022, Meeting:** In Person or Virtual. MOTION by Dian Schneider to have August 22, 2022, meeting held virtual via Zoom and seconded by Lorre Webb, ALL AYES. Motion passed.

**8. Chair Report:**

**A. Strategic Planning Training:** Postponing to August 2022. Stacy will be sending out an email for available dates, probably on a Saturday. Lunch will be provided, and a brief training will be included for Board members. Lorre, Dian, and Flossie volunteered to assist with the planning.

**9. Adult Clinical Services Report Heather Hornibrook, Interim Deputy Director:**

- Leadership and Succession Planning:
  - Close to 1,000 staff in our department. Leadership training was provided to Administrators and Executive staff and a condensed version to our supervisors.
  - Recently, there has been several Supervisor positions open at different levels. Recent promotions at Kern Linkage Division: Tishawna Mims, Supervisor for No Place Like Home and Connie Sedano, BH Program Supervisor for Correctional Behavioral Health.
- Individual Placement Support (IPS):
  - Supportive employment program.
  - 32 clients have participated, 19 of those are with the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Team and 13 are with Adult Transition Team (ATT) and Homeless Adult Team (HAT).
  - Monthly graduations. This past Friday we had 2 more graduates (1 TAY and 1 ATT).
- Statewide Medi-Cal Peer Support Training and Certification Update:
  - Partnering with California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA). Once Peer Support Specialists (PSS) achieve certification they will be able to bill Medi-Cal for select PSS services.
  - Continuing to work on getting our PSS certified and providing services.

**10. Specialty Clinical Services Report – Robin Taylor, Deputy Director**

- Beautiful Bakersfield Awards:
  - Ellen Eggert, Hotline and Survivor Outreach Team Supervisor was awarded the Harvey L Hall Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Crisis Services:
  - 988 was designated by Congress in 2020 to operate through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline's Network of over 200 locally operated and funded Crisis Centers across the Country. KernBHRS operates one of these 200 call centers.
  - On July 16, 2022, the United States will transition to using 988 dialing code.
  - KernBHRS is part of the implementation team in the State of California.
  - Our local suicide prevention hotline number: 1-800-991-5272 will stay in operation in addition to 988. Estimating that call volume will increase 30%.
- Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Coordination:
  - MHSA Annual Plan was submitted to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).
  - In Partnership with the Kern County Superintendent of Schools (KCSOS), KernBHRS submitted an application for the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) Round 3 grant opportunity.

**11. Department Report – Stacy Kuwahara, Director**

- COVID: Has hit the Department, mostly leadership team.
- Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Triennial Audit: Was last week for 3 days and went really well.
- Care Court: Moved through the Judiciary Committee and continues to move through Legislation.
- MHSA Spending: Being advised on how we spend our MHSA funding year to year to avoid having money taken away at the State level and being applied for other areas decided upon by lawmakers.
- Data Notebook: Received information earlier than normal this year. This year the 2-part survey is on the impact of COVID on Behavioral Health services and Residential facilities, homelessness, and child welfare services. BHB will be meeting on August 15 @ 5 PM via Zoom to present proposed responses.
- July Wellness Month: For staff appreciation to promote self-care and wellness. Will be emailing out tips, ideas, and stories about how we take care of ourselves. Encouraging staff to take a lunch away from the office. Approached local businesses and they'll be offering staff discounts through July. Marley's Mutts will be at one of sites and bringing puppies. Will share resources with the BHB.

**12. Board Member Item:**

- Dian Schneider: Would like to do something for the seniors at Christmas. This will be brought to the August BHB Executive Meeting to discuss ideas.

**13. Committee Reports:**

- A. Adult Treatment & Recovery Services – Lorre Webb: Lynn reported that a meeting was held and had a presentation on the Early Psychosis Program.
- B. Children's Treatment & Recovery Services – Dian Schneider and Jeff Burdick: Meets quarterly, next meeting is scheduled for July 14<sup>th</sup>.
- C. System Quality Improvement Committee –David Kessler: Met today and had a presentation on Treatment Perception Surveys (TPS).

**14. Announcements to the Public:**

- David Kessler: Our Joint Evaluation Team for the County Sheriff's Office started this last week. We now have a Co-Response Team for 911 calls with Mobile Evaluation Team (MET) staff and Deputy riding in same car.
- Dian Schneider: I run a small non-profit and our primary target is foster kids that are getting close to aging out. We are having a yard sale and fundraiser in August. If anyone would like to donate or come to the yard sale to help us out, please let me know. We are raising money to help pay for speakers and giveaways. Dian will send fliers to Tracy to send out.

**15. Adjourn:** MOTION by Sonia Silva to adjourn to the next regular meeting via Zoom on August 22, 2022, and seconded by Dian Schneider. ALL AYES. Motion passed. Adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB Meeting Schedule 2022

BHB Agenda for June 27, 2022

Meeting Minutes (Draft) from May 23, 2022

<https://www.kernbhhs.org/behavioral-health-board>