

Lake County
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes - February 10, 2022 Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was convened at 3:07 p.m. by Chair Julie Colfax and a quorum was established. Members in attendance included Julie Colfax, Sheila Roseneau, Chelsea Newton, Camille Monae, and Bonnie Blumenthal. Members Trish Turner and Michelle Young were absent. Lake County Behavioral Health Services (LCBHS) Director Todd Metcalf and District 4 Supervisor Tina Scott (non-voting members) were present.

Stakeholders present included Dr. Robert Gardner, Linda Hatfield, Frank and Bill Smithwaters, Kimbralee Guerra, Kim Lamantree, Kendra Cramer, Thomas Brown, Suzan Starke, and Betsy Cawn (Recording Secretary).

2. Chair Julie Colfax read the meeting conduct agreement to provide orientation to new stakeholders present.

3. The proposed agenda was approved (motion, Camille Monae; second, Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by roll call vote, all in favor.

4. Minutes of the January 13, 2022, meeting were approved (motion, Camille Monae; second, Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by roll call vote, all in favor.

5. LCBHS Director's report: Director Metcalf reported major efforts under way to fill staffing positions, working with county Human Resources and partnering with the local community colleges. Some open positions require a minimum of a four-year degree, so they are also reaching out to regional universities, but the situation is not unique to Lake County, with nearly a 40% vacancy rate for the department.

An application has been submitted for a \$2M grant to repair and upgrade the clinic in Clearlake. Funding allocated to the Mental Health Services Act programs was expended to replace the roof and purchase/install a backup generator for the facility, which still needs new flooring, interior paint, and new furniture.

Staff is working with the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) on development of the new Electronic Health Record system, as one of 20 counties in the state combining EHR for data driven analysis (the new system will replace the existing Anasazi software which is scheduled to become obsolete in the next year and a half).

A stakeholder meeting for the proposed Organized Delivery System was conducted on January 28, 2022, and staff is in the process of finalizing a Survey Monkey to solicit feedback based on meeting attendance, requesting more information from stakeholders before making their presentation to the Board of Supervisors.

The Board of Supervisors discussed the financing options for the Collier Avenue project with the CEO of Rural Communities Housing Development Corporation (RCHDC) at their regular meeting on February 8, reaching no conclusion at that time. Staff has also applied for additional "No Place Like Home" funding.

Dr. Gardner asked about the option of using the "1115 Waiver" for improving access to mental health care providers. Chair Julie Colfax stated that the MHAB will be conducting stakeholder discussions in the near future, for the purpose of developing the Board's recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

6. Public Input: Kim Lamantree introduced herself as the new intern working with the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions, explaining that she will be facilitating their meetings and providing regular newsletters.

Chelsea Newton acknowledged colleagues from Redwood Community Services (RCS), Suzan Starke, Kimbralee Guerra, and Kendra Cramer, and noted that there are significant bullying problems on local school campuses. Bonnie Blumenthal suggested inviting a high school senior to join the MHAB as a community member. Suzan Starke agreed with the problem described by Chelsea Newton. Bonnie Blumenthal described the friendly environment at the Cobb Elementary School, where Principal David Leonard created a "friendship bench" for students who felt the need for peer companionship, and the positive messaging of hallway and classroom signage. Chelsea Newton agreed, and added that teachers and administrators also need support to help facilitate supportive environments, including help needed from parents and classroom aides.

Julie Colfax noted that the Lake County Office of Education (LCOE) is hiring eight clinicians for supporting high-risk students in schools.

Kimbralee Guerra described the RCS programs at the Harbor on Main in Lakeport for Transition Aged Youth, and their extensive outreach to schools, partnering with Hope Rising, for development of a youth government council for the City of Lakeport. They have identified a need for incentives to engage the active students who in some cases are also working to earn a living while in school, in that there needs to be a tangible outcome of their participation that rewards their efforts, such as the creation of beneficial projects and programs focusing on the needs they experience as they age out of foster care, for example.

Julie Colfax has worked with LCBHS to provide Mental Health First Aid classes to junior and senior year students, for supporting fellow students, and encouraging them to consider careers in mental health services.

Kendra Cramer noted that there are many resources in the county working on Substance Use Disorder Services for adults and youth, including the Children's Planning

Council, First Five, Tribal Health, and Lake Family Resource Center's home visiting programs. Julie Colfax stated that she is collaborating with most of the groups already, in collaboration with the Children's Council coordinator, Ana Santana.

Camille Monae expressed the need for Community Health Worker (CHW) program information to reach out to schools, with targeted outreach material for young children and older students to introduce CHW options through peer support.

LCBHS Director Metcalf suggested bringing staff to the next meeting to address these needs, along with an invitation to Lake Family Resource Center staff to discuss the subject of sexual aggression. Bonnie Blumenthal noted that a significant problem at the Middletown High School is created by teenage girls impregnated by their fathers.

Kendra Cramer described a program available from Lake County Tribal Health, peer support for fathers coordinated by a social worker that Julie Colfax works with, and suggested participation in the Sheriff's youth activities league (where there are fathers who might be willing to help).

Betsy Cawn suggested that, in addition to having an informal discussion about the issues, the MHAB may want to address the subject in a future roundtable or special meeting with a wide range of stakeholders involved.

7. The proposed 2022 Annual Task List and Meeting Calendar was approved (motion, Camille Monae; second Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by roll call vote).
8. The proposed 2021-2023 Annual Goals List update was approved (motion, Camille Monae; second Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by roll call vote).
9. The proposed template for establishing annual goals was approved (motion, Camille Monae; second, Sheila Roseneau; motion carried by roll call vote).
10. Ad hoc workgroup report, Management & Data Collection: Julie Colfax led the discussion of new priorities for MHAB action planning, for which the completion of the Data Notebook input takes a lower priority than supporting the decision-making process associated with the proposed Organized Delivery System (ODS). Planning for review of the ODS proposal by LCBHS staff includes conducting a one- or two-time stakeholder meeting for development of the MHAB recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

The ad hoc Management & Data Collection workgroup will meet on February 12, to review the recorded January 28 stakeholder meeting for the proposed Organized Delivery System coordination options, with members in attendance agreeing to form the ODS workgroup using the approved template for workgroup formation (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Camille Monae; motion carried by roll

call vote, unanimous, except that Bonnie Blumenthal's internet connection failed just before the vote).

Formation of a separate ad hoc workgroup was approved for completion of the Data Notebook content requests (motion, Camille Monae; second, Sheila Roseneau; motion carried by roll call vote without participation from Bonnie Blumenthal). The workgroup will consist of Julie Colfax, Sheila Roseneau, and Camille Monae (not more than three appointed board members may be present in an ad hoc workgroup session). The subject of concern in this year's Data Notebook is equity of services for insuring that behavioral health programs are reaching all cultural components of the community; workgroup meetings will be scheduled for upcoming Saturdays, with reports provided to the next regular meeting of the MHAB.

11. Announcements: There will be free training available from the CALBHBC's website on February 12 and 19.

12. Meeting adjourned by Chair Julie Colfax at 4:40 p.m. The next regular meeting of the MHAB will be held on March 10, 2022 at 3 p.m.