

Lake County MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD Minutes May 12, 2022, Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was convened at 3:01 p.m. by Chair Julie Colfax and a quorum was established. Members in attendance included Julie Colfax, Chelsea Newton, Bonnie Blumenthal, Trish Turner, and Michelle Young. Member Sheila Roseneau joined the meeting at 3:29 p.m.; member Camille Cummins was absent. Lake County Behavioral Health Services (LCBHS) Director Todd Metcalf (non-voting member) was present.

Stakeholders present included Zoe Taylor-Ploog (CALBHB/C), Thomas Brown (Circle of Native Minds), Patricia Santos (Circle of Native Minds), Danny Medina (CAMHPRO), Melody Day (MotherWise), Amber Madero (LCBHS Staff Services Analyst), Laura Tencelski (LCBHS Client Support Assistant), Laura Sullivan (Redwood Community Services' Lake County Program Director), Frank Smithwaters (Patients' Rights Advocate), Carrie Manning (LCBHS MHSA Team Lead), Janet Taylor (Konocti Senior Peers), and Chloe Karl (KPFZ Radio). Recording Secretary Betsy Cawn was absent.

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

3. The proposed agenda was approved (motion, Trish Turner; second, Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by roll call vote.

4. Minutes of the April 14, 2022, meeting were approved (motion, Trish Turner; second, Michelle Young; motion carried by roll call vote.

5. LCBHS Director's report: Director Metcalf reported completion of three major department audits by the Department of Health Care Services and EQRO, which have consumed a lot of administrative attention since last December.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month and the department is sponsoring an event on Saturday, May 14 (from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) at Library Park in Lakeport. Carrie Manning added that main organizers of the event have been Kendra Boyce and Michael Mos. This is the first outdoor "live" event since the beginning of the pandemic in 2020, at least 32 organizations will be present, including the Redbud Audubon Society. Carrie noted that Adventist Health is sponsoring a "Blue Zones" event in the city of Clearlake on the same day; many invited guests will visit both locations during the day. MHAB Chair Colfax indicated that she will be representing the LCMHAB at the LCBHS event.

Carrie described the newly recruited outreach and prevention specialists who have been recently hired to provide specialized Older Adult services, working with the community organizations such as senior centers. These positions are entirely new and can be adapted to the needs of the community as their new programs are developed.

Director Metcalf attended the grand re-opening of the Circle of Native Minds at their new location in Lakeport last month, and the event was well attended (including two county Supervisors).

The department is working on a presentation for the Board of Supervisors on the topic of the new [Cal-AIM](#) program ("California Advancing and Innovating MediCal"), which is a "long-term commitment to transform and strengthen Medi-Cal, offering Californians a more equitable, coordinated, and person-centered approach to maximizing their health and life trajectory." Staff has been working with CalMHSA to navigate some of the program changes that began in January 2022.

The department has been chosen to inaugurate a pilot program for implementation of the new Electronic Health Record System (EHRS) that CalMHSA has facilitated, for which the selected vendor is a company called Streamline. They are aiming to "go live" with the new system on January 1, 2023, in anticipation of the end of the Anasazi software contract on June 30, 2023.

The Collier Avenue housing project "lurched forward" at last week's meeting of the Board of Supervisors, when a miraculous recovery of previously lost transaction records were put in the hands of the County Chief Administrative Officer, Susan Parker, by CDD Administrative Technician Trish Turner, enabling the resolution of uncertainties holding up the approval of the Redevelopment Agency successor agency. Director Metcalf conferred with Community Development Director Mary Darby, who is supporting the department's objective of breaking ground as early as March 2023. The project provides a significant missing piece in the system for supporting recovery and rehabilitation of clients who are provided entry-level assistance from agencies such as Elijah House and Hope Center.

Director Metcalf will invite the Chief Executive Officer of the Collier Avenue project's development agency, [Rural Community Housing Development Corporation](#), Ryan LaRue, to join the Mental Health Advisory Board meeting next month to describe in greater detail how the project will proceed. Chair Colfax added that she will include the visit on the upcoming agenda.

Chair Colfax reported that the Lake County Board of Supervisors completed the adoption of a new administration program for AOD/SUD services, the "Organized Delivery System," which will be coordinated by Partnership Health Plan using their regional system already in place. Director Metcalf thanked Chair Colfax for her support to facilitate the process of stakeholder participation in choosing the new system, providing a foundation of neutrality and integrity to the examination of complex options and potential impacts. The department is already in communication with Partnership Health Plan on developing the system and will keep the MHAB informed of their progress as they develop the new process.

6. MHAB Chair's report: The MHAB management work group will be focusing on meeting approved goals, including an update of the Bylaws and responding to the

2022 request for input to the Data Notebook. Chair Colfax will review the previous year's Data Notebook to identify the sources of information needed to support this year's input but will also consider skipping the Board's response to the outstanding request for participation so that the current efforts address the new solicitation.

New Bylaws will require expansion of contents to include the incorporation of the Alcohol & Other Drugs Services (AODS) and Substance Use Disorder Services (SUDS) to the MHAB functions, for which Chair Colfax has assembled Bylaws from other county mental and behavioral health boards of directors. The process for updating Lake County's MHAB Bylaws will entail coordination of stakeholder meetings following review of draft contents by the MHAB management workgroup assigned to the task.

The next MHAB management workgroup meeting will be held on May 28, for the purpose of setting the agenda for the next Regular meeting. For purposes of stakeholder outreach, the contact information for several advisory groups and educational resources are listed on the current agenda, and that section will become a standard element of the document for future distribution.

Public comment: Danny Medina, the Lake County liaison from [CAMHPRO](#) (California Mental Health Peer-Run Organizations, the primary contractor for implementing the CalMHSA development of the new "Peer Support Specialist" certification program in Northern California) described the opportunity for participation in the development process by "Subject Matter Experts" with lived experience, who are not planning to become certified, who can contribute to the development of testing requirements for state certification, and CAMHPRO's approach to development of peer support specialists who are prepared to meet any kind of crisis that presents itself.

7. The next regular meeting of the MHAB will be on June 9, 2022, at 3 p.m. Chair Colfax suggested changing the regular meeting start time from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m., which will provide greater access to Board members with competing tasks and will request input on that at the next meeting.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m. by Chair Colfax.