

Agenda
Children's System of Care Committee
October 22, 2020 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Call-in: (669) 900-9128, Meeting ID: 919 3236 4341, Password: 317330

Members Present: Ann Arneill, Silvia Rodriguez, Caroline Lucas, Mark Hoover, Theresa Riviera (Jason Richards, staff)

Members Absent: Mike Nguy

4:00 p.m. Welcome and Introduction
Silvia Rodriguez, Chairperson

- *Chair Silvia Rodriguez convened the meeting at 4:02 p.m. and introductions were made.*
- *Chair Silvia Rodriguez reviewed Committee goals and summarized the content of previous meetings, in relation to the present agenda.*

4:05 p.m. Recommendations to Improve School-based Mental Health Services
Alex Briscoe, Principal
California's Children's Trust

- *Principal Alex Briscoe, of California Children's Trust, gave a presentation on Recommendations to Improve School-based Mental Health Services. The presentation identified difficulties in accessing mental health services for youth in California, particularly for children of color. Proposed solutions included reducing administrative burden, adding funding, and expanding services and outreach.*
- *Theresa Riviera (MHB) asked about preventative care for children in California. Mr. Briscoe clarified preventative care benefits are available to children under the age of 21, but that doesn't mean they can access it. Mr. Briscoe advocated for providers and government entities to work with managed care plans to ensure that services are being provided.*
- *Sandena Bader (CalVoices) provided feedback that the stakeholder and provider siloing does not work, and agreed with Mr. Briscoe's recommendation that entities need to work together to ensure that mental health services are available to all children.*

5:00 p.m. Recommendations to Improve School-based Mental Health Services
Toby Ewing, Executive Director
Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission

- *Toby Ewing, Executive Director of the Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHOAC), gave a presentation on Recommendations to Improve School-based Mental Health Services. Themes included an overview of the MHOAC's work, the importance of defining terms such as prevention and early intervention so that conversations can be productive, and focusing on the end goal (e.g., "every*

child who needs mental health services receives them in a culturally appropriate way") rather than focusing on resource scarcity.

- *Melissa Jacobs asked how the MHOAC is partnering with Art with Impact, a Sacramento-based organization that uses art to facilitate conversations around mental health. Mr. Ewing discussed the activities of Art with Impact and how MHSOAC support through funding and facilitating this project.*
- *Community member thanked Mr. Ewing for his presentation and agreed that these topics are important in the community.*
- *Community member asked Mr. Ewing about proposed solutions for school-based mental health besides providing more clinicians. Mr. Ewing discussed solutions provided by youth including such feedback as wanting more trust between students and teachers, needing a place to decompress, and facilitating a school-based space with music instead of silence.*
- *Community member asked about EPSDT services. Mr. Ewing discussed how the state standard, Bright Future, establishes frequency standards for behavioral screenings (1 year) and how items identified through the screening are eligible for Medi-Cal reimbursement.*
- *Community member asked about efforts to connect California Department of Education to behavioral health. Mr. Ewing discussed existing efforts, with the most robust systems currently coming from the special education programs. Efforts are ongoing to facilitate various Counties talking to one another to determine what is working in terms of collaboration between education and behavioral health.*
- *Community member asked about connections between current efforts by the California Surgeon General and school based behavioral health initiatives. Mr. Ewing discussed related initiatives that touch on abilities to include outcomes for youth people in schools (e.g., work on Adverse Childhood Experiences also known as ACES).*

5:50 p.m. Public Comment

- *Community member asked about the role of MHSOAC. Mr. Ewing clarified that the primary purposes of the MHOAC are to build trust and build political capital for support for behavioral health issues in the state.*
- *Other public comments and questions occurred during the presentations above and are listed at the points at which they occurred.*

6:00 p.m. Adjourn

- *Chair Rodriguez adjourned the meeting at 5:59 p.m.*