

**Sacramento County
Mental Health Board (MHB) General Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2021**

Meeting Location

In compliance with County, State, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention directives related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, this meeting was held remotely via Zoom and Conference Call.

Attendance			
MHB Members			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Loran Sheley, <i>Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Bradley Lueth	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Silvia Rodriguez, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Corrine McIntosh Sako	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Laura Bemis, <i>Secretary</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Lourdes Santana-Sanchez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Ann Arneill	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent	Maria Padilla-Castro	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
William Cho	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Theresa Riviera	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Ryan Gallant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Paul Wagstaffe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Supervisor Patrick Kennedy	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent		
County Staff to MHB			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Jason Richards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Janice Snyder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent

Agenda Item	Discussion
I. Welcome and Introductions	<p>Chair Loran Sheley called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and introductions were made.</p> <p>New member Lourdes Santana-Sanchez introduced herself and discussed her background as a family member representative.</p>
II. Comfort Agreement	Ms. Laura Bemis read the MHB Comfort Agreement.
III. Approval of Minutes	Chair Sheley moved to approve the minutes and Dr. Corrine McIntosh Sako seconded the motion. Motion carried.
IV. System Partner Updates	<p>Advocacy Update</p> <p>CalVoices advocates announced the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peer Support certification is upcoming in California. CalVoices is having a meeting to discuss this topic on September 12th. Ms. Ramos shared a link to the meeting in the chat (https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_b2iPI-wUSw-RxL9ZY1p-MA). Ms. Ramos discussed ongoing unmet mental health needs projected for Children, based on challenges during the pandemic (https://lhc.ca.gov/sites/lhc.ca.gov/files/Reports/262/Report262.pdf). Ms. Ramos briefed the MHB on upcoming AOT/Laura's Law eligibility requirements (https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billAnalysisClient.xhtml).

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Ramos discussed the role of Peer Support professionals in mental health treatment. • Ms. Ramos discussed the SacMap program, located at www.calvoices.org/sacmap • Ms. Angelina Woodberry discussed the role of respite care in mental health treatment. <p>Association of Behavioral Health Contractors Ms. Diane White reminded MHB members about workforce challenges in the Behavioral Health system. Ms. White discussed the impact of providers potentially losing employees due to their refusal to get vaccinated in compliance with State requirements by September 30th.</p>
<p>V. Mental Health Board Business</p>	<p>Liaison Reports Liaisons reported on the Alcohol & Drug Advisory Board, Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee, National Alliance on Mental Illness, and Older Adult Coalition.</p> <p>Standing Committee Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult System of Care (ASOC) Committee: Dr. Corrine McIntosh Sako reported that the ASOC Committee met on August 24th and accomplished the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reviewed the MHB letters sent to the Board of Supervisors regarding homelessness over the last year. ○ Reviewed the City of Sacramento’s siting plan for homelessness. ○ Reviewed Sacramento County’s weekly homelessness progress report. ○ BHS managers will present on mental health services for the homeless at the next ASOC Committee meeting. ○ Dr. McIntosh Sako was elected as the committee’s Chairperson and Ms. Bemis was elected as the Vice Chairperson. ○ Dr. McIntosh Sako thanked Dr. Ann Arneill for serving as the interim Chairperson. ○ Ms. Padilla-Castro discussed a Sacramento Bee article on homelessness, highlighting continued challenges. • Children’s System of Care Committee: Ms. Silvia Rodriguez reported that the CSOC Committee’s report on School-Based Mental Health is currently being written and will be completed by the end of the year. Ms. Rodriguez also discussed the topic of homelessness, encouraging members to reach out to cities as well as unincorporated areas to support continued coordination. <p>Mental Health Board Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Sheley announced that the MHB Executive Committee met on August 24th and is currently working on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Creating a way to track progress regarding MHB recommendations.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Documentation of expectations and duties of MHB members. ○ A list of core values, which would guide MHB actions and be available to the public.
<p>VI. Update on Behavioral Health Services Wellness Crisis Call Center and Response (formerly Alternatives to 911 for Mental Health) Community Stakeholder Workgroup</p>	<p>Jenine Spotnitz, Human Services Program Planner, provided an update on the BHS Wellness Crisis Call Center and Response (formerly Alternatives to 911 for Mental Health) Community Stakeholder Workgroups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 meetings were held, with attendance of about 50-100 people per meeting. • Ms. Spotnitz discussed preliminary feedback from community members received at the meetings. Some highlighted themes were the inclusion of specific populations (e.g., unhoused, incarcerated, disabled individuals, survivors of trauma), participants with work experience in behavioral health and other fields, participants from other commissions and advisory boards, and demographics representative of Sacramento County at large. • Ms. Padilla-Castro asked how Advisory Committee members would be selected. Ms. Spotnitz clarified that this is yet to be determined. • Ms. Padilla-Castro affirmed the importance of inclusion of participants' preferred languages as well as demographic identities.
<p>VII. Update on Behavioral Health Services Assisted Outpatient Treatment Community Input Sessions</p>	<p>Monica Rocha-Wyatt, Human Services Program Planner, and Geoff Twitchell, Human Services Division Manager, provided an update on BHS's Assisted Outpatient Treatment/Laura's Law Community Input Sessions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community input sessions were held between March and April, which resulted in the majority of the community recommending the implementation of AOT/Laura's Law. • The Board of Supervisors voted to implement AOT/Laura's Law on May 18, 2021. • BHS hosted a community planning process for program implementation to address concerns about AOT/Laura's Law on August 17, 2021. • Examples of concerns included equity barriers, criminalization/stigmatization of those dealing with mental illness, training logistics (e.g., who, what, where, when), transparency about program operations, and support/education for families and support persons of AOT/Laura's Law participants. • Feedback is tentatively scheduled to go to the Board of Supervisors in October.
<p>VIII. Mental Health Board Discussion Item</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for County Budget Priorities – Survey sent to Mental Health 	<p>Chair Sheley discussed the Board of Supervisors' request for input regarding Budget Priorities. A survey was sent to MHB members last week and results have been provided to Chair Sheley. These results will be voted on for submission to the Board of Supervisors at the Special Meeting on September 8th.</p>

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<p>Board members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Based on Survey Results – Action item to approve responses or Special Meeting to be held to finalize feedback 	
<p>IX. Division of Behavioral Health Services</p>	<p>Dr. Ryan Quist, Behavioral Health Director, provided a written report on the status of Behavioral Health Services (BHS). He also provided verbal updates and answered questions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ann Edwards was appointed by the Board of Supervisors as the County Executive. Covid cases in Sacramento County remain high, but have also begun to plateau as a result of mitigation efforts. Vaccinations remain the most effective means of combatting Covid, and are available to community members. The previous behavioral health workforce shortage has continued to progress into a workforce crisis, as a result of Covid challenges along with associated vaccination requirements. BHS is collaborating with DHA on a homeless encampment team, including proactive outreach to work with individuals experiencing homelessness to connect them to community resources (https://sacramentostepsforward.org/sacramento-encampment-pilot-project-workshop/) The Behavioral Health Racial Equity Collaborative continues its work on racial equity. The El Hogar forensic behavioral health innovation project was approved by the Board of Supervisors. The Urgent Care Center's hours of operation were expanded to 24/7. August 31, 2021, was proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors as International Overdose Awareness Day. The week of September 5th was proclaimed as National Suicide Prevention Week, a time in which individuals, organizations, and communities around the country join together to amplify the message that suicide can be prevented. September was proclaimed as National Recovery Month. Our local celebration, Recovery Happens, was held on the West Steps of the California State Capitol earlier on the day of this meeting. September 20th was proclaimed as National Addiction Professionals Day. This day was established to commemorate the hard work that addiction professionals do on a daily basis. Sacramento County continues to collaborate with the City of Sacramento regarding homelessness services, including homeless encampment team efforts. Dr. McIntosh Sako highlighted that AB 988 has stalled in the Senate and is likely to become a two year bill. In response, Dr. Quist discussed the existing budget request for crisis services Sacramento County, as separate and in addition to AB 988.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Lori Miller, Human Services Division Manager, discussed recent challenges regarding an increase in fentanyl overdoses in Sacramento County. The Opioid Coalition continues its efforts to educate the community to promote awareness of this important issue.
X. Public Comment	<p>Public Comment 1: Community member advocated for the inclusion of demographics representative of the community in advisory groups, including LGBTQ+ and other minority individuals.</p> <p>Public Comment 2: Community member discussed an upcoming meeting between the African American/Black Community and Law Enforcement.</p> <p>Public Comment 3: Community member advocated for the importance of infant, toddler, and young child mental health and psychosocial support.</p> <p>Public Comment 4: Community member discussed support for AOT/Laura’s Law bringing support to community members who need it, including addressing stigma, implicit bias, and training.</p>
XI. Adjournment	Chair Sheley adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.