

## Public Health Advisory Board

### Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2022 12-1:30PM

### Meeting Location

Zoom Meeting (Open to the Public)

**Moderator:** Farla Kaufman

**Scribes:** Cynthia Dossman

**Meeting Opened:** 12:01 PM

### Board Members:

Category	Name	Attendance
Community Member	Stephen Heath	Yes
Community Member	Barbara Law	Yes
Community Member	Jofil Borja	Yes
Community Member	Elisabeth Abbott	Yes
Community Member	Phillip Summers	Yes
Public Health Professional	Farla Kaufman	Yes
Public Health/Health	Ashley Sterlin	
Public Health/Health	Sonal Patel	Yes
Community Member	Chase Smith	Yes
Public Health/Health	Bekalu Amare	Yes
Public Health/Health	Sara Bowsky	Yes
Public Health Professional	Vacant	
Public Health/Health	Vacant	
Community	Vacant	
Community	George Meyer	Yes
County Staff	Dr. Olivia Kasirye (Ex-officio)	Yes
County Staff	Sandy Damiano (Ex-officio)	Excused

**Other County Leadership:** Lori Miller

**Review of Minutes:** November minutes approved.

**YouTube link for the minutes:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzz6SC2OnKQ>

### Farla Update

Introductions from attendees

Are there any amendments to the November meeting minutes? Hearing none. Is there a motion to approve the minutes? Yes.

I would like to say that our PHAB membership is changing at the end of December, and Jofil,

Steve, and Barbie and Farla will be terming out and I will like to take this opportunity first to Thank Barbie, Jofil, and Steve for their wonderful membership on this committee. You have offered many wonderful opinions and interesting observations. You've done work to help the activities for this board including Jofil and Annie who is no longer with us, you were instrumental in providing opportunities for the Youth and Ambassadors, and producing a masking campaign at the very beginning of Covid. Thank all of you for all your hard work.

### **Public Health Division Updates – Dr. Kasirye**

- Disease du jour is a new disease called Tripleemic, and we just got the update on Covid and our numbers are starting to climb pretty quickly now. It's gone to nineteen per hundred thousand this week. We're also seeing an increase in flu cases we're in the medium transmission range according to the State and for Covid we've moved from low to a medium community transmission. So we had to send out a reminder this morning about the CDPH masking mandate which does require that when a county goes into either medium or high community transmission that certain facilities including homeless shelters and jails have to reinstate the universal masking mandate. For the general public it's strongly recommended to wear a mask, but we are not planning to issue any additional Health officers orders.
- RSV is still going up though there might be some early signs of it tapering off, but still a huge impact on hospitals, Pediatric ICUs, especially because Sacramento County provides services not only for Sacramento residents, but also actually provides pediatric services for almost the whole Northern California because a lot of the smaller counties don't even have pediatric units. Medical directors has been working to find ways of being to assist by providing assistance through Telehealth to other hospitals as well as extending hours and as well as asking the adult side to take on some of the older children, but now the adult side is being hit by the flu as well and it's been quite an impact and we're not even at Christmas yet we've just gone through Thanksgiving.  
Thank you to the members who are terming off.

**Q:** I'm currently working in Nevada in Grass Valley, and we do not have pediatric capacity and there has been a lot of challenges with transferring pediatric patients to our pediatric hospitals in Sacramento and other places in this state. Are there any plans to bring in additional nursing staff or any other kind of emergency planning on that front?

**A:** There's been meetings on the regular basis discussing the issues, we've also been meeting with the state. Unfortunately there are no additional nurses to bring in. Pediatric nurses I'm finding out they are very rare. Because this is hitting the entire state that everybody is scrambling for the same group of nurses and it's been very difficult to get any additional staffing. Unfortunately, no additional staffing.

### **Primary Health Division Updates – Andrew Mendonsa**

The link below is some information on our most recent numbers for what we are seeing over at the health center, recently we were the recipient of a variety of grants from HRSA the federal Agency that oversees us. Click on link for more information.

[Sacramento County Health Center Overview.pdf \(saccounty.gov\)](#)

### **Substance Use Prevention and Treatment Update – Lori Miller**

- I have just a few updates around substance use prevention and treatment work here in our County the first is that we continue to try to expand capacity around withdrawal

management, residential treatment bed capacity and in the last year we've been able to add around 50 beds between three providers and we continue to need residential beds, we are putting all of our efforts out there in the community to trying to find new providers to enter our service network and we will continue in those efforts in updating everyone as we get more providers coming on board.

- Secondly I wanted to provide some data which I typically do around meth and Fentanyl, but the data is getting scary and the numbers are increasing and it's a huge concern here in Sacramento County with regard to methamphetamine and Fentanyl. From January to November of 2022 our most recent data that we received is that we've had 214 meth related deaths and 137 fentanyl deaths now these numbers are increased from last year, because last year we had a 116 fentanyl deaths and last year we had 205 meth involved deaths and we're already up to 214. This is a concern we have a lot of services and programs and initiatives in place to address meth, opioids and Fentanyl, but we still have work ahead of us obviously because the numbers are rising and again these numbers are more than homicides and homicides with a gun here in our county so huge concerns in our office and partnership certainly with Public Health, Primary Health and other departments are working toward addressing both of these substances. We will continue to provide reports to you moving forward on those numbers.
- Thirdly here's an update to the PHAB on the ODMAP project we were able to hold a stakeholder meeting on November 29<sup>th</sup>, with over 65 people in attendance providing their feedback, comments, concerns, frustrations and fears around overdose mapping here to Sacramento County and our office is still compiling that data, so that we can get back to some of the attendees and their questions as well.
- A Quick update around the fentanyl education, awareness project in the schools and some national attention around that so again we will continue our efforts in Middle Schools and High Schools we are currently scheduled in all of the school districts right now and we meet with the parents, we have a parent Q&A prior to any school assemblies I'm talking about the dangers of Fentanyl and counterfeit pills the fact that fentanyl is in most illicit drugs here in our community pills and powders are also being seen in marijuana and vape products as well according to our district attorney's office.

**Farla Kaufman – Potential Vote on Change in By-laws for:  
Co-Chair positions  
Non-consecutive terms**

We're addressing some potential changes in the Bylaws for Feb. We have bylaws that were updated a year or two ago and I'm in contact with Rick Heyer, who's our County Counsel, in advising me as to how this needs to take place. What we did a couple of years ago was change the number of members on the executive committee approved that as a board and it was implemented we changed the bylaws.

1<sup>st</sup> proposed change:

*No member shall serve more than 2 consecutive terms. However, members can apply for re-appointment after being off the Public Health Advisory Board for a period of at least one year.*

2<sup>nd</sup> proposed change:

*The Executive Committee will consist of the Chair, Vice-Chair, or two Co-Chairs, and three at-large members who are elected annually*

**Votes on change in bylaws: 8 members voting in the affirmative- Change is accepted**

Click link for information on proposed changes.

[Proposed Changes to PHAB Bylaws 12-2022.pdf \(saccounty.gov\)](#)

**Farla Kaufman – Vote on Officers for the Board and Executive Committee in 2023:  
Co-Chair Nominees- Sonal Patel and Libby Abbott  
Executive Member Nominee – Bekalu Amare**

Now that we know that we can have 2 co-chairs we can now vote on the nominees for those positions. The persons are nominated and now we can vote on their nomination: Libby and Sonal nominees enough votes in the affirmative you are now the incoming co-chairs of PHAB. **Libby and Sonal are the new co-chairs of PHAB.**

The nomination of the remaining third executive member **Bekalu Amare** has accepted the nomination. Now let's vote: We have a unanimous vote Bekalu Amare congratulations you will now join the ranks of the executive committee.

**Farla Kaufman – Vote to Support the Recommendations by the Mental Health Board –  
Regarding Behavioral Health Services Provided to individuals Detained in Sacramento  
County Jails:**

Is there a motion to accept these for PHAB to endorse as a board? Okay we are unanimous. I will convey this to Corrine and if she hasn't presented yet, and I don't think she has, she can let the Board of Supervisors know that PHAB endorses these recommendations.

[MHB Recommendations Regarding Behavioral Health Services Provided to Individuals Detained in Sacramento County Jails.pdf \(saccounty.gov\)](#)

**Question to Dr. Kasirye:**

Funding from CDC. 1 ½ years ago Sac County received funding from CDC for addressing health disparities. The recent infrastructure bill gave \$15 million over 5 years Sac County Public Health. "Future of Public Health" is funding from the State which is \$7 million per year to the County ongoing with no end date.

Re Accreditation: Public Health has submitted intent to apply for State Public Health Accreditation. Public Health now has a team, 4 people are dedicated to effort for accreditation. Public Health will bring to PHAB an update on this possibly in June 2023.

**Public Comment**

Any public comments?

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03PM.

Submitted by Cynthia Dossman, scribe