

**MINUTES – APPROVED**  
**July 15, 2021**

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

June 17, 2021

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 207, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**Present:** Antonio Rivas, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

**Absent:** Catherine Willis

1. Public Comments

- Ludmila Boiko – daughter evicted because she has mental health issues. Requesting to schedule meeting to talk about information.

2. Approved meeting minutes for May 20, 2021.

Motion by Antonio Rivas to approve May 20, 2021 MHAB minutes. Second by Serg Kagno.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Catherine Willis

3. Secretary's Report

- Reminder – each board member needs to complete 4 hours training/year. All completed trainings should be reported to Secretary and Recorder for tracking purposes.
- CALBHB/C training next Friday on peer provider certification process.

4. Standing Board of Supervisors (BOS) Report, Supervisor Greg Caput

- Funding for the homeless living in the Veterans Buildings good until October 1<sup>st</sup>. Working on the details for future plans.
- Purchased West Marine building in Watsonville for \$16 million, about 91,000 square feet of office space, 30,000 square feet warehouse space. 491 parking spaces already built. Plan is to move services in Watsonville – Planning, Public Works, other County departments.
- Markers on the levee - the levee is marked every quarter mile. The goal is to add exercise equipment (pull up bars, sit up bench, etc.) in the future.
- Purchased 38 acres located by Fairgrounds – about 20 acres in flood plain will remain protected. Everything done on the property will be kept in ag zoning which includes grass soccer fields, gravel/dirt parking - no asphalt.
- Status of passenger rail from Aptos to Watsonville - Mid-county against it, Scotts Valley against it, Santa Cruz for it. Failed because of 6-6 vote of the Regional Transportation Commission. Biggest argument is over the money.

5. Behavioral Health Director's Report – Erik G. Riera, Behavioral Health Director
- The BH Director's Briefing includes the following topics: BH Budget, Jail Behavioral Health Services, Legislative Advocacy, Assisted Outpatient Treatment, and Proposed Crisis Diversion Program. [Click here to view the Director's Briefing.](#)
  - Shelter at the Red Roof Inn in Watsonville - Behavioral Health does not provide any oversight or services at the shelters. Shelters fall under Dr. Robert Ratner in the Human Services Department.
  - AB451 – County opposes this legislation because it would take away capacity from the County. The 16-bed psychiatric health facility is staffed to serve our local community, and our most at-risk residents who have Medi-cal. If we were required to serve people with commercial insurance in that program, we would potentially lose all capacity in our local program for our local residents and have to send people away out of County at our own expense. We have made it clear to our legislative delegation that if they want to build capacity to serve additional people on a local level, there needs to be funding not only to construct additional capacity, but also to staff capacity.

Motion to write a letter of support agreeing with the Behavioral Health Director to oppose AB 451 made by Erika Miranda-Bartlett. Second by Antonio Rivas.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Catherine Willis

6. Standing Reports
- a. MHSА Advisory Committee (Members: Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Antonio Rivas)
    - No report.
  - b. Site Visit Committee – (Members: Serg Kagno, Hugh McCormick, Valerie Webb)
    - No report.
  - c. SUDSC/MHAB Merger Committee (Members: Xaloc Cabanes, Jennifer Wells Kaupp)
    - The wording of the proposed bylaws is missing information that is required by the State. Need to edit to include what is mandated by the State.
  - d. Community Engagement Committee – (Members: Valerie Webb, Catherine Willis)
    - No report.
    - Annual calendar – highlight special dates/events.
  - e. Law Enforcement and Mental Health Committee (Members: Hugh McCormick, Serg Kagno, Catherine Willis, Jennifer Wells Kaupp)
    - Jail guide done – includes visitation, commissary information, forms available to inmates in jail, community resources. Breaks down the jail experience for friends and family members of incarcerated individuals.
    - South County CAHOOTS-type working group doing better than North County. Will continue efforts to speak to Andy Mills.

7. Patients' Rights Reports – by George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate
  - View the May Report below.
  
8. Presentation: Mental Health – Youth Perspective by Marlize Velasco
  - Why this is important – reality is that educators are not medical professionals. Small communities, clubs and organizations are needed.
  - Personal experience – involved in leadership programs and non-profit organizations. Currently a part of Salud Y Carino.
  - Salud Y Carino Program Outcomes for the first five years: 1) 62.5% report an increase in positive body image; 2) 75% report an increase in self-efficacy; 3) 100% report they were not engaging in self-harm.
  - Homeless Youth Data – 95% of the 569 youth ages 15-24 reported being unsheltered in 2019. 1/3 of all homeless individuals reported having mental and emotional needs, drug and alcohol use and PTSD.
  - [Click here to view the presentation.](#)
  - [Click here to view the article written by Marlize Velasco.](#)
  
9. New Business
  - a. Laura's Law – reviewed during Behavioral Health Director's presentation.
  - b. BH Objectives for the Operational Plan – will be presented at budget hearings. The Board will have an opportunity to provide comments or recommendations at the public hearings.
  - c. MHSA Report Feedback – Health Services Agency submits a high-level budget narrative for changes in the budget. A line-by-line description of changes is not provided.
  - d. San Andreas Regional Center – concerns include problems due to lack of communication and leadership within the regional center. Clarification from BH Director that the County does not provide any funding or oversight of the San Andreas Regional Center. They are a separate service system and funded through the State. County relationship with them is limited to referrals they may make for their clients who may have a mental health need such as psychiatry services or have a serious mental illness on top of a developmental disability. The center provides services for people with developmental disabilities.
  - e. Herrera Health Group received grant for toxic stress - received clarification that they are not one of the County's providers and does not receive funding from Behavioral Health.
  
10. Future Agenda Items
  - a. Retreat – Board members to complete survey regarding availability for all day retreat.
  - b. Kalia Vasquez – youth presenting at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Antonio Rivas. Second by Jennifer Wells Kaupp. Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

PATIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE PROGRAM  
May 2021  
Fourth Quarter

1. Total number of unduplicated clients served this month : 17

2. Community based: 5

Facility based: 12

Number of clients represented at hearings: 41

3. Number of complaints addressed: 11

Right to Due Process

Right to prompt medical treatment-Unfounded

3 request to be released from designated 5150 facility-Resolved

Right to be treated with dignity (4 separate issues)-unfounded

Right to be free from harm (adequate hydration)-unfounded

Tenant Landord issues -unfounded

Local Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting:

This Advocate attended the Local mental Health advisory meeting due to the re-start of in-person facility monitoring

Number of Abuse Reports: 6

5 reports were generated by the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Facility. Resident to resident abuse .

1 Resident report was generated by Opal Cliffs Residential

6) No in-services provided during the month of May, 2021

7) The following facilities were monitored during the month of May, 2021

George monitored by phone contact:

Telecare PHF  
Telecare CSP  
Willowbrook  
Wheelock Residential  
Telos

In person – 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Facility  
Opal Cliffs Residential

MAA count for the Month of May 20-21

*MAA Count for May 2021-George*

*Monday, May 3rd 2021 –2 Person*  
*Tuesday, May 4th 2021 –5 persons*  
*Wednesday, May 5th – 3 Persons*  
*Thursday, May 6th – 2 Persons*  
*Friday, May 7th --1 person*  
*Monday, May 10th –Personal Time off*  
*Tuesday, May 11th –6 persons*  
*Wednesday May 12th 2 Persons*  
*Thursday, May 13th –2 persons*  
*Friday, May 14th –1 person*  
*Monday, May 17th – 0 persons*  
*Tuesday, May 18th – 7 Persons*

*Wednesday, May 19th – 3 Persons*  
*Thursday, May 20th – 1 Person*  
*Friday, May 21st – 2 Persons*  
*Monday May 24th ---2 Persons*  
*Tuesday May 25th –7Persons*  
*Wednesday May 26th –2 persons*  
*Thursday May 27th – 2 persons*  
*Friday May 28th – Personal Time Off*  
*May 31st – Holiday*

*MAA count for May 2021 –Davi*

*May 3<sup>rd</sup> -1 person*  
*May 4<sup>th</sup> – 3 persons*  
*May 5<sup>th</sup> 0 persons*  
*May 6<sup>th</sup> – 4 persons*  
*May 7<sup>th</sup> – 6 persons*  
*May 10<sup>th</sup> – 3 persons*  
*May 11<sup>th</sup> – 2 persons*  
*May 12<sup>th</sup> – 1 person*  
*May 13<sup>th</sup> - 2 persons*  
*May 14<sup>th</sup> – 5 persons*  
*May 17<sup>th</sup> – 2 persons*  
*May 18<sup>th</sup> – 2 persons*  
*May 19<sup>th</sup> - 1 person*  
*May 20<sup>th</sup> 4 persons*  
*May 21<sup>st</sup> 4 persons*  
*May 22<sup>nd</sup> PTO*  
*May 25<sup>th</sup> = 2 persons*  
*May 26<sup>th</sup> – 1 Person*  
*May 27<sup>th</sup> 3 persons*  
*May 28<sup>th</sup> 5 persons*  
*May 31<sup>st</sup> - Holiday*

ADVOCACY INC.  
TELECARE CLIENT CERTIFICATION AND REISE HEARING/PATIENTS' RIGHTS  
REPORT

May 2021  
Third Quarter

1. TOTAL NUMBER CERTIFIED	31
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS	31
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTESTED HEARINGS	20
4. NO CONTEST PROBABLE CAUSE	11
5. CONTESTED NO PROBABLE CAUSE	5
6. VOLUNTARY BEFORE CERTIFICATION HEARING	0
7. DISCHARGED BEFORE HEARING	0
8. WRITS	0
9. CONTESTED PROBABLE CAUSE	15
10. NON-REGULARLY SCHEDULED HEARINGS	N/A

Ombudsman Program & Patient Advocate Program shared 0 clients in this month (shared = skilled nursing resident (dementia) sent to behavioral health unit or mental health client placed in skilled nursing facility)

*\*The usual scheduled hearing days are Tuesdays and Fridays. Due to the pandemic and the shortage of bed availability throughout the state of California hearings can be scheduled throughout the week to accommodate legal requirements that hearings must occur no later than one week of hospitalization.*

The following is an account of activity May 1, 2021 through May 31, 2021 associated with providing representation to clients held at Telecare (Santa Cruz Psychiatric Health Facility) who are facing Reise Hearings.

Total number of Reise petitions filed: 10

Total number of Reise Hearings conducted: 10

Total number of Reise Hearings lost: 10

Total number of Reise Hearings won: 0

Total number of Reise Hearings withdrawn: 0

Hours spent on Reise Hearings Conducted: 20

Hours spent on all Reise Hearings: 20

Cross Over clients: 0 (Clients in common with the Long Term Ombudsman program)

- Note of explanation: before the Covid pandemic hearing days were set for Tuesday and Friday every week however, this has changed in that the Certification review hearings have breached the confines of the set days. Now, the Patients' Rights Advocacy program can be called upon, generally with a 24 hour notice to provide hearing representation when called upon by the Telecare staff.