



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION



Salud Mental y
Tratamiento del Uso
de Sustancias

**MINUTES – Approved
October 17, 2024**

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

SEPTEMBER 19, 2024, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

500 WESTRIDGE, COMMUNITY ROOM, WATSONVILLE

NO VIRTUAL OPTION AVAILABLE, IN-PERSON MEETING ONLY.

Present: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Michael Neidig, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Felipe Hernandez, Stella Peuse

Absent: Dean Kashino, Hugh McCormick

Staff: Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Andrea Turnbull, Jane Batoon-Kurovski

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- I. Roll Call – Quorum present. Meeting called to order at 3:06p.m. by Chair Xaloc Cabanes.
 - II. Public Comments
 - Three people addressed the MHAB: Diane Dutton, Becky Steinbruner, Tyler Starkman
 - 1 written correspondence from Nancy Sondel was read aloud
 - III. Board Member Announcements
 - New MHCAN Director – Tyler Starkman
 - Becky Steinbruner hosts a radio program called Community Matters to discuss topics of interest to the Santa Cruz Community
 - Chair received confirmation that the Sheriff's Office does not do sweeps, only done by the city police
 - Saturday, September 28th – Santa Cruz County Out of the Darkness Community Walk at Skypark, Scotts Valley
 - Laura Chatham no longer on the board
 - Stella Peuse leaving the MHAB to attend college
 - IV. Business / Action Items
 - A. Approve August 15, 2024 Minutes
Motion/Second: Supervisor Hernandez / Antonio Rivas

Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Michael Neidig, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Hernandez

Nays: None

Motion passed.

- B. Approve August 16, 2024 Minutes with changes as discussed (one TAY from Districts 1, 2, 4 and one TAY from Districts 3, 5).

Motion/Second: Supervisor Hernandez / Antonio Rivas

Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Michael Neidig, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Hernandez

Nays: None

Motion passed.

V. Reports

A. Secretary's Report

- Informed the board members that Celeste, Antonio and Jeffrey have completed their 2- hour training requirement for the year.
- Ethics training – Xaloc and Valerie upcoming due dates.
- CALBHBC has an October 18th meeting and October 19th training
- Crisis Jam 988 on YouTube every Wednesday morning for an hour
- NAMI online and in-person trainings

VI. Standing Reports

- A. August Patients' Rights Report – George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate
The August report was provided. George did not attend the meeting.

B. Board of Supervisors Report – Supervisor Felipe Hernandez

- Confirmed that the Sheriff's Office does not participate in any of the sweeps
- Announced that the Board of Supervisors adopted the resolution to address homelessness in a compassionate and comprehensive manner.

C. Behavioral Health Director's Report – Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Director of Behavioral Health

- Update on the roll out of the 24/7/365 Mobile Crisis Response
 - Coverage has expanded to 7 days/week by the MERT team, 8am-6pm North and South County.
 - Family Services Agency (FSA) is providing triage and additional coverage for mobile crisis response up to 12am.
 - There are 15 counties in CA that have not been able to fully implement the 24/7/365 mandate.
- Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan, Andrea Turnbull, BH Program Manager
Andrea stated that the Suicide Prevention Strategic Plan Update is closing. They received 11 comments which will be taken to the Suicide

Awareness Team to discuss how to integrate comments and make changes. The plan will go to the Board of Supervisors in the month of October.

D. Crisis Now Academy Update

- Innovation project funded by the state, MHSA and federal grants to improve BH crisis systems in Santa Cruz County, 3-year budget \$5.2M, MHSA funding. Model focuses on crisis call centers, 24/7 mobile crisis teams and facility-based crisis centers that rely on evidence-based practices and peer support specialists. Ten 1.5-hour sessions. Participants included County BH, MHAB, Family Services, law enforcement, fire, NAMI, Monarch Services, Front Street, Encompass, Salud Para La Gente, Santa Cruz City Schools, Volunteer Center.
- Meetings focused on 988 crisis call centers and mobile crisis response, facility-based crisis services, funding approaches, core principles and practices, stakeholder relationships and workforce training, key performance indicators, law enforcement collaboration.
- MHAB requests quantifiable data of the mental health needs in Santa Cruz County for all populations, which will enable the MHAB to advocate to elected officials.

VII. New Agenda Items

A. Youth Report – Stella Peuse

- Scotts Valley High School and Scotts Valley Middle School Hope Squads kicked off the first 2 weeks of school this year.
- San Lorenzo Valley is bringing in a Hope Squad program or equivalent to their school this year.
- Recommendations for the MHAB:
 - Provide youth representatives an orientation before their first meeting
 - Allow youth to have more involvement with committees and site visits
 - Do outreach at high schools, presentations of what the MHAB does
 - Bonding retreats for the board members
 - Provide incentives for youth such as community services hours, stipend for gas

B. Formation of Committees (frequency, day, time) – To be discussed at the next meeting.

C. Discuss and vote on new day/time/frequency of regular meetings – to be discussed at the next meeting.

D. Letter of Recommendation – HR8575 Request to all Behavioral Health Boards

- Intent is to contact each of the 58 counties of California with this letter. The bill is to expand the IMD's from 16 beds to 36 beds.

Approve reaching out to other counties and send the letter to the 58 counties.

Motion/Second: Jeffrey Arlt / Mike Neidig

Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells
Kaupp, Michael Neidig, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor
Hernandez

Nays: None

Motion passed.

Board members to disseminate letters – Jennifer, Celeste and Jeffrey.

VIII. Future Agenda Items

- Data Notebook 2024

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.