



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING – County of Santa Cruz
IDEAL CRISIS SYSTEM (ICS) COMMITTEE of the
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2022 ♦ 3:30 PM-5:00 PM

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

1400 EMELINE AVENUE, BLDG K, ROOM 207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN THE MEETING BY CALLING (831) 454-2222, CONFERENCE ID 936 978 774#

ICS COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Jeffrey Arlt, Chair, 5th District | Jennifer Wells-Kaupp, 5th District
Laura Chatham, 1st District | Michael Neidig, 3rd District | Serg Kagno, 4th District

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN THE
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

The public may attend the meeting at the Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 207, Santa Cruz. All individuals attending the meeting at the Health Services Agency will be required to use face coverings regardless of vaccination status. Individuals interested in joining virtually may click on this link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) or may participate by telephone by calling (831) 454-2222, Conference ID 936 978 774#. All participants are muted upon entry to prevent echoing and minimize any unintended disruption of background sounds. This meeting will be recorded and posted on the Mental Health Advisory Board website.

If you are a person with a special need, or if interpreting services (English/Spanish or sign language) are needed, please call 454-4611 (Hearing Impaired TDD/TTY: 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format.

Si usted es una persona con una discapacidad o necesita servicios de interpretación (inglés/español o Lenguaje de señas), por favor llame al (831) 454-4611 (Personas con Discapacidad Auditiva TDD/TTY: 711) con 72 horas de anticipación a la junta para hacer arreglos. Personas con discapacidades pueden pedir una copia de la agenda en una forma alternativa.

AGENDA

- 3:30 Roll Call
- 3:35 Public Comment
(No action or discussion will be undertaken *today* on any item raised during this Public Comment period except that Mental Health Board Members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Limited to 3 minutes each)
- 3:45 Adoption of AB361 – Resolution Authorizing Teleconference Meetings
- 3:50 Approve August 12, 2022 Minutes
- 3:55 Decide on panel presentation theme, objectives, format and participants
- 4:40 Recommendations to Mental Health Advisory Board
- 4:55 New Business
- 5:00 Adjournment

**NEXT ICS COMMITTEE MEETING IS ON:
OCTOBER 14, 2022 ♦ 3:30 PM – 5:00 PM
HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY**

**1400 EMELINE AVENUE, BLDG K, ROOM 207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060
TELEPHONE CALL-IN NUMBER (831) 454-2222; CONFERENCE ID # - TO BE ANNOUNCED**

MINUTES – Draft

**IDEAL CRISIS SYSTEMS COMMITTEE
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

AUGUST 12, 2022 ♦ 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM
1400 EMELINE AVE, ROOMS 206-207, SANTA CRUZ
Microsoft Teams Meeting (831) 454-2222, Conference 562 118 743#

Present: Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Serg Kagno
Staff: Jane Batoon-Kurovski

- I. Roll Call. Meeting called to order at 3:32 p.m. by Jeffrey Arlt.
- II. Public Comments – none
- III. Adoption of AB361 – Resolution Authorizing Teleconference Meetings
Motion/Second: Michael Neidig / Serg Kagno
Passed unanimously.
- IV. Approve July 8, 2022 Minutes
Motion/Second: Serg Kagno / Michael Neidig
Passed unanimously.
- V. Adjust goal from “Create Plan” to “Create recommendation to Board of Supervisors”
 - The committee agreed that it would be appropriate to make recommendations to the entire MHAB, who would vote to make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. The goals of the ICS Committee are within the Mission Statement:
 1. To invite collaboration with community partners to evaluate our current crisis services
 2. Educate the community on the “Roadmap to the Ideal Crisis System” and on potential programs from other parts of the country
 3. Recommend next steps for supporting, improving, and adding to our current services including short-term and long-term solutions.Motion to accept the three goals: Laura Chatham
Second: Michael Neidig
Passed unanimously.
- VI. Approve schedule for Town Hall presentations
 - The committee’s role is to facilitate a panel discussion for 90 minutes which includes different stakeholders including service providers, people with lived experience, professionals in behavioral health, emergency services, and law enforcement. The focus will be on the evaluation of the current crisis services and suggestions on how to improve current programs. The plan is to see what is happening after the Criminal Justice Council releases their behavioral health study report in December. Timeline of panel discussion is January/February.
 1. September – Elise Hemple, Director from Petaluma, and overseeing the SAFE program which is their mobile crisis response modeled after CAHOOTS.

2. October – Dr. Margie Balfour, co-author of the Roadmap – presentation topic on Crisis Response Centers.

VII. Report Card Exercise: Identify Gaps

The exercise is a tool the committee members can complete now as a pre-test and to be completed in the future to see how responses have changed.

VIII. New Business – none

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

30-AUG2022

Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County **DRAFT**

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: (831) 454-220

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to take meaningful action by appointing a "Behavioral Health Crisis System Coordinator".

To Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

The Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County strongly recommends that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors take meaningful action by appointing a "Behavioral Health Crisis System Coordinator".

The crisis coordinator oversees, delineates and continually improves the policies, procedures, protocols and services that govern how the individual elements of the crisis system work together to ensure high quality and seamless response for individuals and families. This responsibility has appropriate authority to review quality metrics and recommend quality improvement interventions to the Accountable Entity and is written into all relevant provider and payer contracts.

The crisis coordinator position is a clearly identified role and may be a staff person in the Accountable Entity (e.g., county, managing entity) or a staff person associated with a lead crisis provider.

The crisis coordinator and the accountable entity hold a regular crisis coordination meeting at least monthly, attended by representatives of first responders, crisis continuum providers, human service agencies, ambulatory service providers, housing providers, funders and advocates. Attendance is mandated for contracted providers. Each meeting has formal minutes and identifies specific action steps for follow-up monitored by the crisis coordinator with support from the Accountable Entity.

Again, the Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County strongly recommends that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors take meaningful action by appointing a "Behavioral Health Crisis System Coordinator".

Please do not hesitate to contact Xaloc Cabanes, chair of MHAB, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County

25-JUL-2022

Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County **DRAFT**

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: (831) 454-220

Re: Letter of Recommendation for Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to take meaningful action by appointing an Accountable Entity for the behavioral health crisis system performance for Santa Cruz County and that also has the role of providing funding and/or coordinating multiple funding sources to support the crisis continuum.

To Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

The Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County strongly recommends that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors take meaningful action by creating an Accountable Entity for the Behavioral Health Crisis System performance for Santa Cruz County. This entity also has the role of providing funding and/or coordinating multiple funding sources to support the behavioral health crisis continuum.

The first job of the Accountable Entity is to be responsible for maintaining core organizational values and incorporating them into all organizational processes, including contracting, incentives, data collection, quality improvement and outcomes. Priorities must include person and family driven values, such as welcoming, safe, accessible, recovery-oriented, resiliency enhancing and trauma informed care, emphasizing cultural humility and maximizing engagement, hope and empowerment and minimizing involuntary interventions to those situations where they are clearly needed to promote safety and well-being¹.

The Accountable Entity is also responsible for integrated care². Designing and coordinating funding for a continuum that meets the needs of the whole population of Santa Cruz County, emphasizing those that are more vulnerable and complex, as well as those with special needs or at risk of experiencing disparities in care. The Accountable Entity must proceed to design all services and processes in a collaborative quality improvement partnership that monitors indicators of all important values in service delivery, but is flexible enough to engage providers as partners and support creativity and variability in how the services are provided.

Again, the Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County strongly recommends that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors take meaningful action by appointing an Accountable Entity for the Behavioral Health Crisis System performance for Santa Cruz County.

Please do not hesitate to contact Xaloc Cabanes, chair of MHAB, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County

¹ National Council for Mental Wellbeing: Roadmap to the Ideal Crisis System
https://www.thenationalcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/042721_GAP_CrisisReport.pdf

² California Health Care Foundation: Behavioral Health Integration in Medi-Cal
<https://www.chcf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/BehavioralHealthIntegrationBlueprint.pdf>

30-AUG2022

ICS Committee of the Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County **DRAFT**

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors
701 Ocean Street, Room 500
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: (831) 454-220

Re: Letter of Recommendation to the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors to draft and pass a resolution to implement Laura's Law in Santa Cruz County.

To Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors,

The Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County strongly recommends that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors take immediate action to draft and pass a resolution to implement Laura's Law in Santa Cruz County.

Assembly Bill (A.B.) 1421, commonly known as Laura's Law, took effect on January 1, 2003. Laura's Law was modeled on a New York Statute referred to as Kendra's Law. Forty-four states have enacted similar laws.

California legislation, AB 1976 requires counties to participate in Laura's Law unless they opt out. 31 of the 58 California counties participate in Laura's Law. Laura's Law does not force individuals to take medication; it is an Assisted Outpatient Treatment program pursuant to section 5346 or 5347 of AB1421, Laura's Law.

Nevada county, in 2008, enrolled 19 individuals and 17 participants remained in the program. After 2 years these individuals had reduced hospitalizations by 38%, reduced Incarcerations by 29%. They had increased engagement in services and adherence to prescribed medication. Nevada County Behavioral Health Department saved an estimated \$503,000 over a 2 year 7 month period.

Again, the Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County strongly recommends that the Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors draft and pass a resolution to implement Laura's Law in Santa Cruz County.

Please do not hesitate to contact Xaloc Cabanes, chair of MHAB, should you have any questions.

Sincerely,
Mental Health Advisory Board of Santa Cruz County