



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING – County of Santa Cruz
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

MAY 16, 2024 ♦ 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

1400 EMELINE AVENUE, BLDG K, ROOMS 206-207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN THE MEETING BY CALLING (831) 454-2222, CONFERENCE ID 543 382 292#

Xaloc Cabanes Chair 1 st District	Valerie Webb Member 2 nd District	Michael Neidig Co-Chair 3 rd District	Antonio Rivas Member 4 th District	Jennifer Wells Kaupp Member 5 th District
Laura Chatham Member 1 st District	Dean Shoji Kashino Member 2 nd District	Hugh McCormick Member 3 rd District	Celeste Gutierrez Member 4 th District	Jeffrey Arlt Secretary 5 th District

Felipe Hernandez Board of Supervisor Member	
Tiffany Cantrell-Warren Director, County Behavioral Health	Karen Kern Deputy Director, County Behavioral Health
Stella Peuse – Youth Representative	

**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, Bldg K, Rooms 206-207, Santa Cruz. Individuals may click here to [Join the meeting now](#) or may participate by telephone by calling (831) 454-2222, Conference ID 543 382 292#. 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.

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA

ID	Time	3:00 Regular Business
1	15 Min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roll Call • Public Comment (No action or discussion will be undertaken today on any item raised during Public Comment period except that Mental Health Board Members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Limited to 3 minutes each) • Board Member Announcements • <i>Approval of April 18, 2024 minutes*</i> • Secretary's Report
		3:15 Presentation
2	30 Min	Advocacy, Inc. – George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate Davi Schill, Patients' Rights Advocate
		3:45 Standing Reports
3	10 Min	April Patients' Rights Report – George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate for Advocacy, Inc.
4	15 Min	Board of Supervisors Report – Supervisor Felipe Hernandez
5	15 Min	Behavioral Health Report – Tiffany Cantrell-Warren Director, County Behavioral Health
6	5 Min	Crisis Now Academy Update – Jeffrey Arlt and Antonio Rivas
		4:30 New Agenda Items
7	20 Min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Letter to Board of Supervisors supporting the 2024-2025 Behavioral Health Budget*</i> • Discussion on requesting the Board of Supervisors to direct the BH Dept to work with Police Dept to reduce the traumatic way the Raids ("sweeps") are conducted on the unhoused folks
		4:50 Future Agenda Items
8	10 Min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation from Cypress High School
		5:00 Adjourn

*Italicized items with * indicate action items for board approval.*

NEXT MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING IS ON:
JUNE 20, 2024 ♦ 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
SHERIFF'S HEADQUARTERS
COMMUNITY ROOM
5200 SOQUEL AVENUE
SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

MINUTES – Draft

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

APRIL 18, 2024 ♦ 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM

1400 EMELINE, ROOMS 206-207, SANTA CRUZ

Microsoft Teams (831) 454-2222, Conference ID 113 995 654#

Present: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Dean Kashino, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Xaloc Cabanes, Stella Peuse
Excused: Hugh McCormick, Valerie Webb, Supervisor Hernandez
Staff: Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Karen Kern, Jane Batoon-Kurovski

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- I. Roll Call – Quorum present. Meeting called to order at 3:05p.m. by Chair Xaloc Cabanes.
 - II. Public Comments
 - Richard Gallo – disappointed in the passing of Prop 1. He stated this is dismantling MHSA funds, and the workforce does not look good when it comes to peer workers working in peer programs throughout the state. He said that the counties can't afford to pay without the MHSA dollars that will be taken away in 2026 when the bucket gets reduced. He added that the peer programs with NAMI Santa Cruz, MHCAN and other related services and programs that is currently being offered will not be offered in 2026.
 - III. Board Member Announcements
 - Jeffrey and Antonio will be representing the MHAB at the Crisis Now Academy meetings. They will provide monthly updates to the MHAB.
 - IV. Business / Action Items
 - A. Approve March 21, 2024 Minutes.

Motion/Second: Antonio Rivas / Dean Kashino
Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Dean Kashino, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Michael Neidig, Xaloc Cabanes
Nays: None
Abstain: Laura Chatham*
Motion passed.
 - B. Accept the draft Santa Cruz County Code Chapter 2.104 with amendment of TAY age group to 16-25.

Motion/Second: Antonio Rivas / Celeste Gutierrez
Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Celeste Gutierrez, Dean Kashino, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Michael Neidig, Xaloc Cabanes
Nays: None
Abstain: Laura Chatham*
Motion passed.

*Laura Chatham did not complete her Oath of Office prior to this meeting.

V. Reports

A. Secretary's Report

- April is the start of the 2024-2025 year. Jeffrey will forward training announcements to all as they come up from SAMHSA, CalBHBC, NAMI, National Council for Mental Health Well Being, National Institute for the Clinical Application of Behavioral Health Medicine, CIT, RI, etc.

B. Patients' Rights Report – George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate

The March report was provided. George was present at the meeting and addressed the following:

- Clarified that Telecare is not a step down; people step down from Telecare.
- Advocacy, Inc. has been communicating with Telecare and has a target date of April 29th for in-person hearings.

C. BH Director's Report – Karen Kern, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health

1. Final Report on Healing the Streets

- Improved workflows developed across providers serving the unhoused community.
- Improved outreach and engagement in treatment with BH Street Medicine Team.
- Identified barriers to meaningful connection with the Housing Continuum.
- Total of 359 unique individuals out of 648 referrals (55%) were formally enrolled in HTS for services to address their needs.
- Demographics that were enrolled: 55% identify as male, 32% identify as Hispanic, 70% identify as heterosexual, 68% experienced homelessness in the past month.
- 3,492 individual direct services were provided to 346 clients.
- 59% of clients were initially engaged in Santa Cruz, and 41% in Watsonville
- Average length of service -168 days (5-6 months)
- 11% of clients (40) received 288 individual therapy sessions.
- 46% showed a decrease in psychological distress.
- Homelessness among clients decreased by 6%.

2. Development of Integrated Housing and Recovery Team (iHART)

- Sustaining services to people experiencing homelessness with SMI
- County BH Full-Service Partnership Team
- Embedded Housing for Health staff
- Services in North and South County
- Enhanced Care Management (ECM) to support whole care
- Designed from learnings from the HTS project to sustain services.
- Seamless coordination with Coordinated Entry and the Housing Continuum of Care – people and systems
- Small caseload, intensive level of service
- Follow clients from homelessness to housing until stable
 - Low Barrier Navigation Center, Shelter
 - No Place Like Home (NPLH)
 - Scattered site housing with vouchers

3. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Project

- \$10.2 million to develop temporary housing for people experiencing homelessness and serious mental illness or co-occurring disorders and \$2.6 million from Whole Person Care dollars requiring a housing focus
- Priority placement for CARE Act Participants; 24/7 On-site Resident Services and BH services will be provided by the iHART team; low barrier navigation center (LBNC) Temporary Housing; joint project with Housing for Health

4. No Place Like Home Update

- Made available through MHSA dollars which allows developers who are building housing for people with mental illness to get more favorable loan terms if BH promises to house people that are experiencing mental illness and/or substance use disorders and ensure that the services will happen. It is permanent supportive housing with behavioral health services that are

provided. BH writes the application with the developer and then promise there are services there for the people and then house the people in the units permanently.

- Leasing locations are at Bienestar (Live Oak) and Tabasa Gardens (Watsonville)
- In progress: Miles Lane (Watsonville), Jesse Street (Ocean) and Harvey West Studios

D. Update on committees – will focus at the retreat later this year.

VI. New Agenda Items

A. School District Update – Stella Peuse

- Four Wellness Centers opening in the fall and hiring Wellness coaches (only need a bachelor's or associate degree in psychology, social work, or related field). Opening it up to students and making it easier for local people and the community to get involved.
- There is a fee schedule that allows schools who are doing these programs to bill the State for the cost of hiring the Wellness coaches. The County Office of Education (COE) applied to have 46 Wellness coach positions total in the entire district, and all will be billed to the state, not the COE.
- The Wellness Coaches are going to be similar to a paraprofessional or an aide or student liaison and may be assigned to a specific student and meet with them once a week, not full time. Some coaches may come in every 2 weeks, which makes it good for young people just getting into this field.
- April 19th is the Central Coast Foster and Homeless Education Summit from 9am to 3:30pm. It is a free event that is a Tri-County collaboration between Monterey, Santa Benito and Santa Cruz County Office of Education. It is for educators, foster youth, students, families, anyone experiencing homelessness, future teachers, social workers. It is an open conversation about homelessness and foster care in the Bay Area.
- Scotts Valley Middle School and Scotts Valley High School have HOPE week planned for the next couple of weeks.

B. Discussion and vote on revised Santa Cruz County Code 2.104

- Changes include changing the name to the Behavioral Health Board and increasing the number of board members to 21. The board discussed changing the minimum age of Transitional Age Youth from 18 to 16.

See Section IV.B for votes.

C. Letter of recommendation regarding the Santa Cruz County budget for FY24-25

- Received clarification and determined the draft letter is not required, as it does not benefit a submission to the BOS. The change of -36.8 FTE positions was expected and does not adversely affect the Behavioral Health department.

VII. Future Agenda Items

- Retreat – board members to start thinking about dates.
- Letter of support to Board of Supervisors to approve the proposed BH Budget.
- Field trip to new housing.
- Invite Dr. Robert Ratner to a future MHAB meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Summary

This is an April 2024 Patients' Rights Advocate Report from the Patients' Rights Advocacy program. It includes the following: telephone calls, reports, and emails. It includes a breakdown of the number of certified clients, the number of hearings, and the number of contested hearings. It also includes a breakdown of Reise Hearing activity, including the number of Riese Hearings filed, the number of Riese conducted, and the number that were lost.

Patients' Rights Advocate Report *April 2024*

7th Avenue Center

On April 9, 2024, this writer received a phone call from a parent of a resident of the 7th Avenue center. The caller was upset about his daughter's lack of access to the phone and her stolen property. He also complained that the facility failed to post the correct phone number for the licensing oversight department. This writer assured the family member that I would speak with his daughter in a couple of days. I inquired about her stolen property. The client informed me that this item was stolen two years ago. I inquired whether she had access to a locking drawer. The resident said that she had access but left her property lying around. She further added that she had sufficient funds to buy a replacement. The resident did confirm that the patients' pay phone had been out for about a week and that she spoke to her mental health worker about the problem. This writer received permission to speak with her father and her mental health worker. I returned a call to the mental health worker who confirmed that the phone had not been working for a couple of weeks. As of this date (5/7/24). This phone is non-operational for making phone calls out however, calls can be made into that number which is especially important for family members. Mr. Burke informed me that he will direct staff to call me from the phone when it is finally repaired. The company did not provide a date or timeline for the repair. Mr. Burke, the clinical director, assured this writer that the residents still have access to other available phones, both to receive and make confidential calls.

7th Avenue Center

On April 19, 2024, this writer received an SOC report from the 7th Avenue center. A male resident was punched in the face when he reportedly slept walked i the room the alleged perpetrator. This writer interviewed the reported victim. He was informed of his right to press charges but declined. The resident reported that he may have startled the the alleged perpetrator since he also was wearing a portion of the CPAP apparatus. This writer also attempted to alleged perpetrator, however this resident abruptly left after I introduced myself to him. The reported victim informed this writer that he was medically cleared by a nurse and that he did not have any lingering concerns or questions.

Opal Cliffs

On April 13, 2024, this writer* received an SOC report from the staff at the Opal Residential facility. Staff responded to the reported victim when staff heard the resident cry after being struck by another resident. Staff intervened and contacted local law enforcement and a case number assigned. The alleged perpetrator was given a three-day eviction notice.

*Ms. Davi Schill

April 2024

Fourth Quarter

1. TOTAL NUMBER CERTIFIED	26
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS	23
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTESTED HEARINGS	11
4. NO CONTEST PROBABLE CAUSE	12
5. CONTESTED NO PROBABLE CAUSE	4
6. VOLUNTARY BEFORE CERTIFICATION HEARING	
7. DISCHARGED BEFORE HEARING	3
8. WRITS	
9. CONTESTED PROBABLE CAUSE	8
10. NON-REGULARLY SCHEDULED HEARINGS	

*One hearing uncontested but released due to facility error

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 at Telecare (Santa Cruz Psychiatric Health Facility)

Reise Hearings. /Capacity Hearings

Total number of Reise petitions filed by the Telecare treating psychiatrist: 3

Total number of Reise Hearings conducted: 3

Total number of Reise Hearings lost: 3

Total number of Reise Hearings won: 0

Total number of Reise Hearings withdrawn: 0

Hours spent on conducted hearing representation: One hour and thirty minutes

House spent on all Reise hearings: 1 hour and thirty minutes. Reise appeal: 0

Respectfully: Davi Schill PRA, George Carvalho, PRA

16MAY2024

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

701 Ocean Street, Room 500

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Re: The submitted budget request from the Health Services Agency

To: Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

The Santa Cruz County Mental Health Advisory Board strongly recommends approval of the submitted 2024-2025-budget request from the Santa Cruz County Health Services Agency. We feel that the Health Services Agency should be commended for providing life changing and lifesaving behavioral health services for our community, commensurate with their limited resources. Their current budget request seems very reasonable to our Board and seems to be necessary for them to maintain their services.

Please do not hesitate to contact Xaloc Cabanes, Chair of the Mental Health Advisory Board, should you have any questions.


Respectfully submitted,

Santa Cruz Mental Health Advisory Board

ADVOCACY INC.
PATIENT RIGHT ADVOCATE
PROGRAM SERVICES

WHAT WE DO

Ensure that the recipients of mental health services in Santa Cruz and San Benito Counties are notified of their rights.



PRA SERVICES

Monitor mental health facilities, services and programs for compliance with statutory and regulatory patients rights provisions.



PRA SERVICES

Receive, investigate and take actions to resolve complaints from or on behalf of recipients of mental health services regarding abuse, unreasonable denial or punitive withholding of rights.



PRA SERVICES

Act as an advocate for the interests and concerns of mental health clients. In particular, serve as a voice for those persons who are unable to speak for themselves.



PRA SERVICES

Represent involuntarily committed residents of acute mental health facilities in administrative due process hearings.



ADVOCACY

At Advocacy Inc. we are committed to the principle and concept of advocacy. We believe that advocacy is necessary to protect the legal, civil and human rights of individuals who are particularly vulnerable to abuse, neglect and denial of rights.

Advocacy is not a neutral position. It is based on an individuals wishes or actions rather than clinical or personal judgments. We exist to ensure that the voices of the people we serve are heard, that their needs and concerns are articulated.



ADVOCACY

Our mission is to protect the rights of facility placed, dependent adults and individuals with mental health needs through advocacy, education, support and intervention.



ADVOCACY INC.

Any questions?

