



Behavioral Wellness Commission Special Meeting

Wednesday, May 15, 2017

3:30 PM to 5:00 PM

Santa Barbara BOS Conf Room

Santa Maria BOS Conf Room

Special Meeting Minutes

Meeting Facilitator: Sharon Byrne, 4th District, Behavioral Wellness Commission Chair.

Department of Behavioral Wellness Staff: Alice Gleghorn, PhD, Director; John Doyel, Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator; Karen Campos, Behavioral Wellness Commission Program Administrator; Celeste Andersen, Chief of Compliance.

Roll Call: Commission Members Present: Jan Winter, 1st District; Rod Pearson, 1st District; Sharon Rumberger, 2nd District; Judy Blue, 2nd District; Tom Franklin, 3rd District; Mary Richardson, 3rd District; Sharon Byrne, 4th District, Chair; Das Williams, 1st District Supervisor

Commission Members Absent: Wayne Mellinger, 1st District; Jeffery Moore, 1st District; Alicia Journey, 2nd District; Ruth Ackerman, 2nd District (excused); Ciara Wong, 3rd District (excused); Edwin Weaver, 4th District (excused); John Truman, 5th District; Ann Eldridge, 5th District; Charles Huffines, 5th District (excused).

Establish Quorum: no quorum at this meeting.

Welcome and Introductions Chair Byrne welcomed everyone followed by self-introductions.

1. **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three Year Plan Update (Attachment 1a)** – Celeste Andersen, Chief of Compliance provided a high level overview of the draft plan presented which contains detailed information on the following: MHSA Background; FY 2016-17 MHSA Planning Process; Santa Barbara County Demographics; Program Updates on all Programs under Community Services and Supports (CSS): Full Service Partnerships, S.B. 82 Enhanced Crisis Services, Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI), Innovation, Housing, Workforce Education and Training (WET), Capital Facilities and Technological Needs (CF/TN) and the 4 New Proposals for this Three- Year Plan along with Supporting Materials.

Dr. Gleghorn addressed the request to the Department from the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) to contribute \$168,000 in Statewide prevention efforts, such as suicide awareness campaigns and stigma reduction initiatives. As Director of Behavioral Wellness, Dr. Gleghorn's role is to obtain approval from the community/stakeholders to contribute \$168,000 to CalMHSA which funds would need to come out of current programs budgeted under the MHSA plan. Dr. Gleghorn asked for input from public/stakeholders as there would need to be further discussion to amend the MHSA plan to reflect the change before it is presented to the Board of Supervisors.

After discussion, the popular consensus was that the funds should be invested in the current programs they are already assigned to under the MHSA plan as those programs need to be the basis for addressing suicide risk and stigma prevention as well as assist the homeless or incarcerated mentally ill. Money would be well spent reaching people at the early stages.

2. **General Public Comment:**

- A program is needed that focuses on mentally ill homeless who reside in the Downtown Santa Barbara area and on Milpas St.
- Clarification was requested on the indicated 5 levels of care and on using the Recovery Learning Centers as part of the continuum of care.
- As the Department begins to collect quality data, the next obvious step (since resources are tight) would be to determine how to use that data to make decisions.
- A suggestion was made that the system needs access to more caseworkers who stay involved in a client's life once they are placed in housing and/or other services.

Feedback from Commission Members:

- As the RISE program becomes a collaborative effort, the hope is that those collaborating also contribute to the funding of this effort as the MHSA Plan funding is limited and it's an urgent need in our community.
- Juvenile Justice as an FSP sounds appropriate.
- Crisis services for Transition Age Youth (TAY) needs to be expanded.
- The Justice Alliance Program needs to focus on linking clients to services.
- Can Santa Barbara County consider a sales tax to benefit the homeless?

3. **Adjournment** - meeting adjourned 5:00 pm