

**MHSA-FINANCE Committee  
MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES  
January 19, 2017 – FINAL**

<b>Agenda Item / Discussion</b>	<b>Action / Follow-Up</b>
<p><b>I. Call to Order / Introductions</b> Chair, Lauren Rettagliata, called the meeting to order at 1:30pm.</p> <p><u>Commissioners Present:</u> Lauren Rettagliata, District II Sam Yoshioka, District IV Douglas Dunn, District III (arrived late @1:30pm)</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;"><u>Commissioners Absent:</u> Duane Chapman, District I Diana MaKieve, District II</p> <p><u>Other Attendees:</u> Dr. Jon Whalen, <i>interim</i> Medical Director Matthew Luu, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health Dr. Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Adult/Older Adult Program Chief Dr. Steve Blum, <i>former</i> MH Coordinator Supportive Housing Stephanie Chenard, Program Manager Adam Down, Behavioral Health Administrative Manager Jill Ray, Field Representative, District II Robert Thigpen, Adult Family Services Coordinator Liza A. Molina-Huntley, MHC Executive Assistant</p>	<p>Executive Assistant:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transfer recording to computer.</li> <li>• Update Committee attendance</li> </ul>
<p><b>II. Public comments:</b> None</p>	
<p><b>III. Commissioners comments:</b> None</p>	
<p><b>IV. Chair comments:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would like information regarding a grant given for the “Mentor on Discharge Program and inquired why the Mental Health Commission (MHC), nor MHSA/Finance committee was not informed?</li> <li>• Commissioner Duane Chapman is not present because he is representing the county of Contra Costa at a MHC conference.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>V. Approval of the November 17, 2016, Minutes.</b>  Noted corrections as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strike attendance of Jill Ray, from District II, was not present.</li> <li>• Sam moved to motion, seconded by Doug, to approve the November 17, 2016, meeting minutes.</li> <li>• The motion passed by a vote of 3-0-0.</li> </ul> <p>Vote:  Ayes: Lauren, Doug, Sam Meghan, Gina  Nays: None.  Abstain: None.  Absent: Duane, Diana</p>	
<p><b>VI. DISCUSS recruitment of Psychiatrists- with Dr. Jon Whalen, <i>interim Medical Director – and other Mental Health, Behavioral Health, supporting staff</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is a need for integrated care in health care</li> <li>• There is an increased need for Mental Health Care</li> <li>• National rates show a steady decline in graduating Psychiatrists, (approximately 20% to 30% less graduates per year), one reason may be due to additional years of education required and added costs for the required education and increased responsibilities.</li> <li>• Due to the elevated need, salary rates have heightened throughout other counties, both in the public and private sectors.</li> <li>• Neighboring counties have increased their salary rates, although benefit packages are unknown, offering competitive rates</li> <li>• Current salary rates, for Psychiatrists vary from, over \$200,000 to over \$400,000, per year with varied benefit packages.</li> <li>• Contra Costa County, (CCC), has a shortage of Psychiatrists</li> <li>• CCC has not raised pay rates, for Psychiatrists, in the past 6 to 7 years leaving a deficit of 21% to 25% substandard pay rate.</li> <li>• There are 14 to 15, full time positions (FTE), available for Psychiatrists, in Contra Costa County</li> <li>• At present, there are four, full time, county Psychiatrists</li> <li>• A student loan reimbursement program called WET (Workforce, Education and Training) fund provides \$1 million dollars, divided over the next three years, (approximately \$300,000 per year), to provide student loan relief to attract more Psychiatrists to CCC</li> <li>• Presently, CCC does not have a comparable salary, (to neighboring counties), to offer Psychiatrists</li> <li>• Most Psychiatrist are on a 2-3 work day schedule, due to the current county salary</li> <li>• CCC needs to be in a position to be able to attract more Psychiatrists, in order to fill the 14-15 FTE positions.</li> </ul>	<p>Dr. Jon Whalen will inform in April-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay rate increase for doctors</li> <li>• Recruitment of Psychiatrists</li> <li>• Progression of filling FTE vacancies</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue was discussed with Dr. Walker, Director of Contra Costa Health Services, who acknowledges the need for a competitive salary rate and agrees to elevate the current rate.</li> <li>• Labor negotiations will be during February and March, of the current year, to help resolve the issue and add to the current</li> <li>• Dr. Whalen has made favorable changes and standardized a minimum requirement for Psychiatrists to work at least three days a week, working two days a week is no longer acceptable. He would like to fill the available positions, so that CCC will be able to meet the needs of the county population.</li> <li>• Dr. Whalen will continue to be pertinacious in his endeavor to recruit Psychiatrists to Contra Costa County</li> <li>• The goal is to continue to provide adequate care for the community to which we serve and increase efforts to replenish the staff that is needed in order to meet the needs of the population.</li> <li>• The Deputy Director, Matthew Luu, announced, Meghan Rice, has been hired as the new EPIC Manager. After she has acclimated to her position, she will be introduced to the Commission.</li> <li>• Commissioners of the committee fully support the increase in salary and are eager to be informed of the outcome of the union labor negotiations, regarding the Psychiatrists rate increase, when they conclude sometime in March.</li> <li>• The Chair, Commissioners and attendees thank and appreciate the time Dr. Whalen took to attend and update the committee regarding this issue.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>VII. REVIEW MHSA Program –Augmented Board and Care With Dr. Steve Blum, former Supportive Housing Coordinator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review regarding the Family Courtyard (FC) facility located in West County, specifically next to Salesian High School and within proximity to Ford Elementary School</li> <li>• The FC facility holds 61 county beds</li> <li>• Several complaints were made by parents and the neighboring schools, in regards to the Courtyard’s residents and public drug use</li> <li>• Several conversations have occurred with the principles of both schools, more so, with the principle of Salesian HS in regards to past issues of the Courtyards residents and drug use in public areas</li> <li>• Both medical and non-medical cannabis use is utilized by some residents</li> <li>• Some residents have substance abuse issues and use other drugs, while at the facility, in public view of students and others</li> <li>• Some residents are not abiding by regulations and are trespassing on to the school property, which is not allowed</li> </ul>	<p>Dr. Steve Blum will forward information regarding, board and care rates, to EA for MHC</p>

- Family Courtyard did move the smoking area in the front has been closed and moved to the back of the facility
- Increased screening and investigation of the residents of the facility have been made to insure less residents with prior drug use, due to the sensitivity of the neighboring schools
- Candidates with potential to create issues are no longer admitted at the facility and some residents have been moved to maintain a protective environment for the students
- It was suggested for school staff, to take pictures of the perpetrators with their cell phones to identify and sanction the person not following regulations.
- There is also concern, for the residents of the facility, due to speed of the drivers going to the school
- Police departments are cautious and reluctant regarding custody of 51/50 residents
- Staff members have been better at addressing crisis situations, although additional training is needed
- Precautionary measures might need to be taken, speed bumps will be suggested to the Principle of Salesian High School
- An offer was made to discuss Mental Health with seniors at the high school, no response has been received, although the offer still stands
- Ideally, a Case Manager, when additional staff is authorized and acquired, to have an office at the facility. This would allow better accessibility to care and would be more productive in general. This is an ideal concept
- Commissioners have made visits to the site and others, on several occasions
- There are various concerns regarding the residents engaging in illegal drug use within the surrounding areas of the facility
- Another issue is neighboring counties, specifically San Francisco County, transferring their Mental Health patients to Contra Costa County facilities. At least 10 of the residents, at FC, are from SFC.
- It is difficult to acquire additional board and care facilities for patients due to rising costs. The augmented care pay rate has increased but Contra Costa County has not increased the amount that is paid per patient, to the facilities
- Board and Care facilities are paid more money by other counties and by Regional Centers
- It is a difficult situation, currently the priority is to maintain the current bids to maintain the available space for patients
- Commissioners will investigate the matter further regarding the legislation- suggested for Commissioners to look into a tracker

<p>institution, by lobbyist, which demonstrates the local lobbyist position regarding mental health.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steve committed to contacting the Director of East Bay community Care Licensing, to inquire regarding current local rates for board and care facilities</li> <li>• Step-down Committee discusses steps to graduate patients out of board and care facilities, developing a plan for re-engagement to becoming independent. There is overcrowding, at some facilities, this process will help with the lack of available space</li> <li>• Housing is an ongoing dilemma. There is continuous search for other possible available spaces for those in need</li> <li>• Chair proposes if MHSA funding can be used for creating or finding more available space?</li> <li>• A mobile crisis program is being developed, in hopes to assist with the ongoing needs of the community</li> <li>• Medical drug waiver will assist those patients with dual diagnosis</li> <li>• The Committee and Commissioners would like to be informed of Dr. Blum’s successor</li> </ul>	
<p><b>VIII. REVIEW of Central County Family Partner position- Robert Thigpen, Family Services Coordinator</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pleased to announce the approval, to hire a Family Partner for Central County that will be working at the Concord Adult Mental Health at 1420 Willow Pass in Concord</li> <li>• The third position had been removed and has recently been authorized to be filled</li> <li>• The West County Family Partner position is filled by Gloria Menjivar, is a Spanish bilingual, who works at the Adult clinic at Al Portal</li> <li>• Susan Waters is the Family Partner for East County and works at the Pittsburg clinic</li> <li>• The new position is vital to the Central County population to build the relationships and be a point of contact for those who are seeking services in that location</li> <li>• There are 58 counties in the State of California and the counties, comparable to Contra Costa County, have 11 to 18 Family Partners on Staff. CCC will soon have 3 Family Partners. This is not adequate but it is a start.</li> <li>• There is a lack of representation of family assistance at the local and state levels from CCC</li> <li>• Some ideas, to better serve family needs, would be to have more Family Partners at key locations, such as: two in Central County, at 4C, probably two at the Miller Wellness Center, Forensics, two at PES, one with the Hearing Officer(s), Psychiatric Emergency, Hope</li> </ul>	<p>Schedule a visit , for Duane Chapman and Lauren Rettagliata to Riverside House</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To hold Edon Housing Corporation accountable to committing to improving conditions</li> </ul> <p>Forward information to EA-LMH to inform Chair and Lauren</p>

<p>House (crisis residential)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of space for residential care is crucial. It was observed that some patients were sleeping on the floor due to the lack of beds and space</li> <li>• Acknowledgment that more Family Support Workers need to be added throughout the county and offers support for an additional three more positions being approved for the incoming year, 2018</li> </ul>	
<p><b>IX. REVIEW and ACCEPT MHSA/FINANCE YEAREND REPORT FOR 2016</b>  Doug moves to motion, to accept the report and future addendums, to be reviewed, added and submitted by Sam and Doug, by 1/30/17 no later than 3pm. Sam seconds the motion.  All in favor to accept report  VOTE: 3-0-0  Attendees: Doug, Lauren and Sam  Absent: Duane and Diana</p>	
<p><b>X. Adjourned at 3:09pm</b></p>	

Respectfully submitted,  
Liza Molina-Huntley  
Executive Assistant to the Mental Health Commission  
CCHS Behavioral Health Administration  
Minutes approved on 2/16/17