



FRESNO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

Wednesday, **April 17th**, 2024 at 3:30pm

1925 E. Dakota Fresno, CA 93726

Minutes

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH</u>	<u>MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC</u>
Brooke Frost Manuel Piceno MaryLou Brauti-Minkler Carolyn Evans Debbie Xiong Alan Faulks David Thorne Elizabeth Kus	Susan Holt, <i>Director</i> Ahmad Bahrami Lisa Crossley Jeannette Dominguez	Jessica Underwood Gage Nishi Elizabeth Escoto Linda Conway Ana Monreal Fidel Garibay Jacqui Cavallaro Cynthia Burton Adriana Zaragoza Rondy Earl Packard Carmen Zamora Lali Witrago
<u>MEMBERS ABSENT</u> Angel Lopez		
<u>BOARD OF SUPERVISORS</u> Sal Quintero, <i>Supervisor</i> – present		

I. **Welcome**

Behavioral Health Board (BHB) Chair, Brooke Frost called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

II. **Approval of March 20, 2024 Behavioral Health Board (BHB) meeting minutes**

The draft March 20th meeting minutes were approved

III. **Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) Update; Director, Susan Holt**

Director Susan Holt began the Department Presentation with some routine acknowledgements that included the Department Mission, traditional land territory and many nationally recognized dates in April.

Mentioned were two upcoming events in the community that the Department will participate in. the first one begins during the week of April 21 – 27 as Crime Victims Week and the Department will take part in the Honor Walk and Resource Fair at the Fresno County Ballroom on April 23rd. The second event is the annual NAMI Walks on Saturday May 4th at 9:00 a.m. at Woodward Park Group Activity area. More information can be found at <https://www.namiwalks.org/fresno>

A. General Updates: DBH Events, Board of Supervisors (BOS) items and legislation

Board of Supervisors Select Items of note

- April 9th – On behalf of the Behavioral Health Board, Chair Brooke Frost presented the Annual Report to the BOS
- April 23rd - amendment to agreements with Heritage Oaks Hospital and Sacramento Behavioral Healthcare Hospital
- Amendment to the performance agreement with the California Department of Healthcare Services to extend the term for an additional year.
- Program funding agreement with the HORNE LLP for Community Care Expansion

Legislative Updates – Items of interest

- Proposition 1 – Passed - 50.2% voted yes and 49.8% voted no
 - Prop 1 was a two-bill package – Senate Bill 326 and Assembly Bill 531
 - Transforms the Mental Health Services Act into the Behavioral Health Services Act and all the efforts to implement Prop 1 will be known as the Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT)
- On April 29 DBH will hold a Community Stakeholder Forum to provide a high-level overview that will mainly focus on the Behavioral Health Services Act components

Data for Fresno County Deaths by Suicide

- 8 individuals died by suicide in the month of March 2024
- Lower than the previous year and the previous month in 2024

B. Overview and Outcomes for Exceptional Parents Unlimited (EPU) (March Site Visit)

An overview and outcomes report was given on the Bright Beginnings for Families, a program of the contracted provider of EPU

- The program is a Full-Service Partnership (FSP) for younger children ages 0 – 10 that meet the criteria for Specialty Mental Health Services
- The program works collaboratively with Pacific Clinics and Comprehensive Youth Services
- In September 2023 the program was amended to create the Continuum of Care that broadened options beyond only FSP, to now include Intensive Case Management and Traditional Outpatient lower levels of care
- Referrals are received from DBH, schools, individual, other agencies or self-referred
- All FSP level of care is required to go through the DBH approval process
- The program uses evidence-based practices for the therapy and services provided
- The Annual Outcome Budget Report is from FY 22 – 23 pre-payment reform and before the contract agreement was amended in September 2023
- The funding sources were through County Match/MHSA-CSS Funds and Medi-Cal Reimbursement
- An actual budget of \$1,402,770.08, average cost per person of 8,300.41 and a count of 169 unique persons served

Demographics	Intake Data
Children admitted	76
Children discharged	112
Total served	169
Children active as of 6/30/2023	57

C. Community Survey findings

The Department set out to conduct a community driven needs assessment as part of a Innovations Community Planning Plan unique to the needs of the underserved community to help establish future projects and strategies from gaps, needs and perspectives identified through the Needs Assessment. Ideas of strengthening working relationships with local organizations that may not provide specialty mental health services was also considered in the plan.

Some of the Needs Assessments completed to date:

- Spanish Speaking Parents
- Community Mental Health Organizing/ Advocacy
- LGBTQ Youth
- Punjabi Speakers
- Downtown Fresno

Some of the common themes identified in all the different assessments

- Timely Access
- Culturally Responsive Care
- Language Access
- Mental Health Literacy
- In-person care
- Treatments
- Stigma Peer to Peer
- Access

These results serve as a key source of information for efforts in reducing health disparities, planning for new initiatives and collaborating across sectors to address local community needs. The results also have been shared with many agencies and organizations and is available on the DBH Equity page www.DBHequity.com for the public.

IV. Public Comment

- Question from BHB Chair on who is conducting the participatory research
Answer is Jewel of Justice
- There was a suggestion from a BHB member on having an introductory to transportation of resources mapping out system to receive information
- A question about services for children was asked from a community member.
The individual was asked to stay after the conclusion of the meeting to address and a reminder of the formal grievance process was given

V. Old Business

- EPU March Site Visit Report
 - BHB member gave a brief overview of the completed report from the EPU site visit
 - A Program strength identified was the pipeline to many different community resources that the clients may connected with
 - Limitations the program has experienced are a limited budget and employee retention due to other higher paying opportunities
 - One reasonable wish the program has is to receive help in funding and space

VI. New Business

- April Site visit will be at Butterfly Gardens
- Announcement of the June BHB meeting being cancelled due to the Juneteenth holiday and is being rescheduled tentatively for June 26th

VII. Subcommittee Updates

- Adult Services Committee – Heard from Dreamcatchers program on April 8th and would like to hear from the DBH High Intensity Outpatient Program (HIOP) Team at the June 3rd meeting
- Children’s Services Committee – Will mee on Thursday April 25th and will hear from the Turning Point Dragon Fly program
- Forensics Services Committee – The next meeting is June 7th
- Substance Use Disorder Committee – Will meet again on June 13th

X. Public Comment

None

XI. Adjournment

4:37 PM

This meeting is open to the public under the Ralph M. Brown Act