



**MENDOCINO COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY
BOARD**

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

**November 17, 2021
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

Zoom Meeting:

<https://mendocinocounty.zoom.us/j/98557737710>

Call in:

+1(669) 900-9128 or +1(346) 248-7799

Webinar ID: 985 5773 7710

**Chairperson
Michelle Rich**

**Vice Chair
Julia Eagles**

**Secretary
Jo Bradley**

**Treasurer
Richard Towle**

**BOS Supervisor
Mo Mulheren**

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| 1ST DISTRICT: DENISE GORNY LOIS LOCKART RICHARD TOWLE | 2ND DISTRICT: MICHELLE RICH SERGIO FUENTES VACANT | 3RD DISTRICT: MILLS MATHESON JEFF SHIPP VACANT | 4TH DISTRICT: JULIA EAGLES VACANT VACANT | 5TH DISTRICT: FLINDA BEHRINGER JO BRADLEY MARTIN MARTINEZ |
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OUR MISSION: *"To be committed to consumers, their families, and the delivery of quality care with the goals of recovery, human dignity, and the opportunity for individuals to meet their full potential."*

| | Agenda Item / Description | Action |
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| 1. 3 minutes | Call to Order, Roll Call & Quorum Notice, Approve Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Chair Rich called the meeting to order at 10:12 AM. ○ Board members present: Behringer, Bradley, Lockart, Matheson, Shipp, Towle, and Chair Rich. Excused: Eagles, Fuentes, Gorny. Absent: Member Martinez. ○ Quorum met. ○ Agenda approved as presented. | Board Action: Motion made by Member Behringer, seconded by Member Bradley to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously. |
| 2. 2 minutes | Approval of Minutes from the November 4, 2021 BHAB Regular Meeting: <i>Review and Possible Board Action.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minutes approved as presented. | Board Action: Motion made by Member Lockart, seconded by Member Bradley to approve the 11/4/2021 BHAB meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously. |
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| <p>3. 10 minutes (Maximum)</p> | <p>Public Comments: <i>Members of the public wishing to make comments to the BHAB will be recognized at this time. Any additional comments can be provided through email to bhboard@mendocinocounty.org.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Member Lockart commented it would be a great idea to have local community agencies or churches hand out winter gear to the homeless population. BOS Supervisor Mulheren to reach out to Lois regarding places in Ukiah that offer this for the homeless so Member Lockart can refer people. | <p>Board Action: None.</p> |
| <p>4. 10 minutes</p> | <p>A. Resolution Authorizing Remote Behavioral Health Advisory Board Meetings: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Resolution approved for the next 30 days. <p>B. December BHAB Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The board agreed to hold December’s BHAB meeting virtually via Zoom. | <p>Board Action: Motion made by member Bradley, seconded by Member Behringer to approve the resolution to hold the December BHAB meeting via Zoom. Motion passed unanimously.</p> |
| <p>5. 5 minutes</p> | <p>Mendocino County Report: <i>Jenine Miller, BHRS Director</i></p> <p>A. Director Report Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Report included in agenda packet. Board members who wish to have other information added to the Director’s report should contact BHRS Director Miller. <p>B. Staffing Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BHRS recruitment efforts are continuous although the market is very competitive currently. <p>C. Whitmore Lane Facility Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ PHF Feasibility study going in front of the BOS in January. ○ The Crisis Residential Treatment (CRT) facility is close to being finalized. A grand opening date has been set for December 16th. BHRS will be releasing more information about the grand opening as the time nears. BHRS will be asking CHFFA for an extension due the impacts of COVID on the supply chain. ○ At yesterday’s BOS meeting it was recommended that the BHAB review the NaphCare contract before it goes to the BOS for approval of any increases or changes. BHRS will provide the contract to the Contracts Committee for review. BHRS is currently not involved and does not oversee the contract, but the BOS also recommended that BHRS be the quality assurance of this contract. BHRS Director Miller will be working with NaphCare and the Sheriff’s office to collect data to present to the BOS. Feedback has also been received from community members on what they would like to see included in the contract. ○ The BHAB would like NaphCare to provide quarterly reports. | <p>Board Action: None.</p> |
| <p>6. 10 minutes</p> | <p>RQMC Report: <i>Camille Schraeder, Redwood Quality Management Company</i></p> <p>A. Data Dashboard Questions</p> | <p>Board Action: None.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Included in agenda packet. <p>B. Services Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The children’s mental health system has not had much of a fiscal change over the last 7 years. Camille is grateful the board is taking some time to learn more about the children agencies. <p>C. Staffing Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ No report. | |
| <p>7. 20 minutes</p> | <p>Mendocino County Youth Project (MCYP) Services and Staffing Update – <i>Cecelia Gillespie, MCYP Executive Director</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cecelia Gillespie, MCYP Executive Director joined the meeting to provide an update on MCYP. ○ MCYP is one of the three children mental health providers in Mendocino County. MCYP offers counseling services, youth workers that are available at local schools, two TAY shelters, and a supervised visitation program for children who have Medi-Cal. They also have grant funds that allow them to serve non Medi-Cal clients if they qualify. ○ MCYP does not have a drug rehabilitation program, but they do have an AOD counselor who works with clients in need of AOD services. ○ Reports seeing the highest number of referrals ever, and the lowest number of therapists and staff. MCYP is working on recruitment and retention of staff. MCYP offers an internship program that has helped with recruitment. ○ Ms. Gillespie reports that MCYP is able to meet the needs of their current caseload. Problem occurs when they need to give assessments within 10 days, and currently families are waiting much longer than that due to of lack of staffing. They do not have a waitlist, but rather extended appointment times. MCYP does maintain contact with clients while they are waiting for their assessment appointment. Reports MCYP is seeing an increase in crisis referrals due to amount of time clients need to wait for an assessment. ○ Children providers stay in touch regarding referrals and they do refer clients to another agency when possible and to make sure all referrals get covered as best as possible. There is not a warm hand-off when clients are referred to another agency, but it’s a process that can be done. Referrals to local clinics are also an option especially for medication management. ○ Ms. Gillespie will bring back data on the number of clients MCYP is currently serving. | <p>Board Action: None.</p> |
| <p>8. 20 minutes</p> | <p>Tapestry Family Services (TFS) Services and Staffing Update – <i>Natalie Shepard, TFS Executive Director</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natalie Shepard, TFS Executive Director and Tony Christensen, TFS Clinical Director provided an update on Tapestry Family Services. ○ Tapestry reports they have a lot of referrals and have had extremely long wait lists that have prevented them from meeting timely needs. Meetings with other children agencies to adjust | <p>Board Action: None.</p> |

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| | <p>service needs to be more timely have helped but the referrals continue to be high.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ TFS reports that staffing shortages have really impacted the agency. TFS is currently down 11 positions and have 6 therapists one of whom is part time. Carrying around 20 cases each. BH services are provided by rehab specialists. The 1st quarter of the past 2 fiscal years, TFS' unduplicated services are the highest they've been, and the count per services is high as well. ○ TFS is currently averaging 5-7 assessments per week to try to meet the required deadlines. Once assessment is complete, they inform clients that they cannot provide services they normally would to due impact of staffing. TFS have had to adjust their services and currently provide more behavioral health services with components of family therapy. Historically, they have provided a lot of individual family therapy and some behavioral work but now the emphasis is behavioral work (provided by rehab specialists) as that is the staff they currently have. They have 6 therapists, one of whom is part time. Each therapist has around a 20 client case load currently. ○ TFS has received feedback that it is clinically appropriate to reduce individual therapy; they are reducing that and increasing the rehab services (if appropriate). So far it seems to be working appropriately. ○ TFS has sober groups, groups that take kids out to the community to learn life skills, etc., transitional age groups, coping skills groups, art based groups, and groups to help children with meditation practices. Also provide parent child interaction therapy services, services at schools, and provide direct care to the special education department. ○ TFS also has an internship program for therapists and are hoping to reach out to Northern California colleges to grow the program. ○ TFS is hoping to open a STRTP (Short Term Residential Treatment Program) facility early in January 2022. | |
| <p>9. 20 minutes</p> | <p>Redwood Community Services (RCS) Services and Staffing Update – Victoria Kelly, RCS CEO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RCS has a number of different providers and programs including outpatient services, STRTPs, foster care, school services, and are available both inland and on the coast. ○ RCS has 11 clinicians for children, 1 in school, 1 in the STRTP, 2 in the coast, 2 in Willits, and 4 inland. Have clinical assessors that focus on getting assessments done in a timely manner to meet standards. They also have 4 crisis clinicians (2 in the coast and 2 inland). ○ Current vacancies: 1 clinician on the coast, 1 rehab specialist in their Ranch Program, a school based clinician, an SUD counselor in their Arbor program, and 3 crisis worker vacancies for both inland and the coast. ○ RCS focuses mainly on how many client service hours providers are providing to clients on a weekly basis. Focus on 28 hours of service for full time staff. | <p>Board Action: None.</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RCS is currently seeing 100 more clients than they did last year. Seeing the impacts of COVID now, but services are not slowing down but rather are increasing. ○ Average of 18 new clients per month that get through assessment process and need to be assigned. 10-12 referrals on a weekly basis. Currently have 24 children that are awaiting clinician assignment. They do engage clients with rehab services while they are awaiting clinician assessment. ○ Currently also have 26 referrals awaiting assessment. On average see about 214 outpatients a month (does not include school based services). In adults, they see about 20 average new clients per month. Have 20 adult clients awaiting clinician assignment, and 14 waiting assessment. ○ Approximately 200 monthly crisis line contacts, 180 crisis assessments a month, and about 40 hospitalizations a month. ○ RCS meet on a weekly basis with the ASO and the 2 other children agencies. They all come to the table to brainstorm and talk about specific clients, review referrals, discuss challenges, etc. ○ How can the BHAB help? Victoria would like advocacy around new funding, and how to get people together to talk about the needs and gaps in behavioral health. ○ Camille commented that the problem with Partnership Health Plan and Beacon is that the payment is less than the SMH provider payment. ○ Victoria advised it is best to go through RQMC to get help for children in need. RQMC disseminates referrals to the proper agency. ○ Discussion on possible regular updates from the children providers, every six months at a minimum. | |
| <p>10. 5 minutes</p> | <p>2021-22 California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C) Dues Invoice: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The board approved the CALBHB/C dues invoice for fiscal year 21-22. | <p>Board Action: Motion made by Member Towle, seconded by Member Shipp to approve the CALBHB/C FY 21-22 dues invoice. Motion passed unanimously.</p> |
| <p>11. 15 minutes</p> | <p>Board & Committee Reports: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <p>A. Chair – <i>Michelle Rich</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2021 BHAB Annual Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tabled for December meeting. ○ 2022 BHAB Calendar/Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tabled for December meeting. <p>B. Vice Chair – <i>Julia Eagles</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ BHAB Meetings and Social Media ○ Recruitment Ad Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absent. <p>C. Secretary – <i>Jo Bradley</i></p> | <p>Board Action:</p> |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. D. Treasurer – <i>Richard Towle</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reports no expenses to date. E. Advocacy & Legislation Committee – <i>Member Bradley, Chair Rich</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. F. Appreciation Committee – <i>Member Fuentes & Martinez</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Absent. G. Contracts Committee – <i>Member Fuentes, Vice Chair Eagles, Chair Rich</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. H. Membership Committee – <i>Member Behringer, Bradley, Eagles, Gorny, & Chair Rich</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o BHAB Application: Larann Henderson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The board voted to endorse Larann Henderson’s application to the BHAB third district vacant position. o 2022 Board Officers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 2022 BHAB slate of officers was approved and will be as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair: Michelle Rich - Vice Chair: Flinda Behringer. Member Eagles asked for a 2-month leave of absence and her request will be honored. - Secretary: Jo Bradley - Treasurer: Richard Towle I. Site Visit Committee - <i>Member Behringer, Fuentes, Martinez, & Towle</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Site Visit Committee visited the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center located in Fort Bragg. The hospitality center has a new Executive Director. The center used to have a lot of people but there has been a tremendous effect on the center due to COVID. Members were also able to speak to the therapists and they really appreciated the BHAB’s interest. They run all 3 facilities in Fort Bragg (the center, the house, and the facility for families). Members reported the facility is also facing staffing shortages as every other facility currently is. | <p>Motion made by Member Behringer, seconded by Member Towle to recommend the appointment of Larann Henderson to the BHAB. Motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Motion made by Member Matheson, seconded by Member Shipp to accept the slate of officers. Motion passed unanimously.</p> |
| <p>12. 5 Minutes</p> | <p>Member Comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o No member comments. | <p>Board Action: None.</p> |
| <p>13.</p> | <p>Adjournment: 12:09 PM</p> <p>Next meeting: December 15, 2021 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM</p> | <p>Motion made by Member Lockart, seconded by Member Matheson to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.</p> |

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANCE

The Mendocino County Behavioral Health Advisory Board complies with ADA requirements and upon request will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in appropriate alternative formats (pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.2). Anyone requiring reasonable accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact the Mendocino County Behavioral Health Administrative Office by calling (707) 472-2355 at least five days prior to the meeting.

BHAB CONTACT INFORMATION:

PHONE: (707) 472-2355 | FAX: (707) 472-2788

EMAIL THE BOARD: bhboard@mendocinocounty.org | WEBSITE: www.mendocinocounty.org/bhab

Michelle Rich

Michelle Rich, BHAB Chair

2/23/2022

Date

Lili Chavoya

Lili Chavoya, BHR\$ Admin Secretary

2/23/2022

Date