

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL  
SERVICES



SOLANO  
COUNTY

**Mental Health Advisory Board General Board Meeting - MINUTES**  
**January 21, 2020 – 4:30 – 6:30 pm**  
**2101 Courage Drive, Multi-Purpose Room, Fairfield, CA 94533**

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 PM by Chair, Heather Theaux-Venezio. Attained quorum.

**MHAB Members Present**

1. Menlo Avestro
2. Monica Brown
3. Denise Coleman
4. J.D. Hatchett
5. Rachelle Jackson
6. Heather Theaux-Venezio (Chair)
7. Michael Wright

**Behavioral Health Staff Present:**

1. Tracy Lacey
2. Sandra Sinz (BH Director)

II. ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Items from the public on matters not listed on the Agenda are listed below.

Steven Juhnke, Amir Development requesting an update on the New Residential Program. Specifically, around grant funding, traffic analysis, and site map/rendering.

Sandra Sinz provided brief update but will also be schedule a meeting with Mr. Juhnke et. al. around the end of March 2020 to go over new developments.

III. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 10, 2019 MINUTES

Heather Theaux-Venezio motioned to approve the December 10, 2019 MINUTES. The motion was properly moved and seconded. Ordered by a vote of 7-0.

IV. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 21, 2020 AGENDA

Heather Theaux-Venezio motioned to approve the January 21, 2020 AGENDA. The motion was properly moved and seconded. Ordered by a vote of 7-0.

V. PRESENTATION

No presentation for the month of January.

VI. SCHEDULED CALENDAR

a. Routine Business

i. Laura's Law Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Referrals

Sandra Sinz provided an update regarding AOT referrals. Approximately six referrals since December 9, 2019. 45 clients referred to Diversion.

b. MH Related Legislation

- i. Sandra Sinz presented the Press Release on Senate Bill 803, the Peer Certification bill that was vetoed. She proposed that the MHAB members send letters to Senator Beall as a Board in support of the SB803. On our Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) sits three Peers. Heather Theaux-Venezio motioned to approve consideration of writing letters as a Board in support of Senate Bill 803 to certify Peers to Senator Beall. The motion was properly moved and seconded. Ordered by a unanimous vote of 7-0.
- ii. LPS/PES Meeting Discussion

Heather Theaux-Venezio provided few brief updates from the last LPS/PES meeting.

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- Vacaville Police Department regarding hospital staff calling excessively about 5150's which is putting a strain on VPD. They are requesting that the Emergency Department appropriately use Police Department resources.
- Will add Medic Ambulance to the next LPS/PES Meeting. Heather Theaux-Venezio will ask Emery Cowan to invite Jimmy Pierson, Medic Ambulance to address some of the concerns that have come up.

c. New Business

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments on matters listed on the Agenda.

VIII. STAFF REPORTS

a. Director's Report

Sandra Sinz provided handouts of the Director's Report and went over highlights from the report.

Adventist Health St. Helena Hospital in Napa will be closing their Psychiatric Unit in July 2020 so there will be a reduction of psychiatric beds.

b. MHA Report

- Tracy Lacey provided MHA updates related to suicide death data and will be sending information to MHAB in approximately one to two weeks.
- Applying for Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission Grant from the State for Students' Mental Health Services in partnership with Solano County Office of Education in all six school districts. Stakeholder meetings with the schools will be taking place next week to get their input.
- She also discussed proposed changes at the State level. Many politicians are proposing changes to the MHA Act and the way funds are allocated. Tracy will keep MHAB apprised.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Executive Board - none

b. Membership

i. Review Applications & Vote on Membership

- Lesli Caldwell-Houston
- Daniel Cotton
- J.D. Hatchett motioned to approve applications for Lesli Houston & Daniel Cotton if they meet qualifications to join as Mental Health Advisory Board members and move forward to the Board of Supervisors for formal approval. This motion was voted on and approved.

c. Outreach and Education - none

d. Ad hoc committee (if applicable) - none

X. BOARD DISCUSSION OR ACTION

a. Executive Board Goals

MHAB agreed to focus on the following goals: Mobile Crisis, Awareness, Education, Outreach with County Clinicians and Outreach with Homeless. Diversion may also be a focus.

Heather Theaux-Venezio motioned to approve MHAB goals above. The motion was properly moved and seconded. Ordered by a vote of 6-0.

XI. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16PM by Heather Theaux-Venezio.

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**DEBBIE VAUGHN**  
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## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & SOCIAL SERVICES



# SOLANO COUNTY

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Sandra Sinz, Deputy Director  
Behavioral Health Director  
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## Memorandum

To: Local Mental Health Board, Solano County  
From: Sandra Sinz, LCSW, Behavioral Health Director  
Date: January 21, 2020  
RE: Monthly report of significant issues

- Department State Hospital Felony Diversion allocation** – At this point we have withdrawn our proposal to DSH to receive these funds, intended to reduce the number of clients charged with felonies who are found incompetent to stand trial and are referred to State Hospital. DSH is hoping that we will develop an alternate plan and move forward with this program implementation and has scheduled weekly “touch base” calls on this topic. Services to this population are challenging given the limited safe and stable housing resources in the community.
- CHFFA Community infrastructure grant** – With the assistance of a grant writing consultant, we delivered a \$6.8M proposal to fund a 16-bed residential treatment board and care on the Beck campus. We expect to hear on this grant in March. There are other grants on the horizon that may help to fund this project which is estimated to cost about \$14M to launch.
- JAG Grant** – Receipt of the grant was approved at the Board of Supervisors in November 2019. Because we decided to run this service contract as an amendment to the Sheriff contract with Caminar, it will go to BOS again in February to approve that contract amendment and the MOU between H&SS and Sheriff that describes roles/responsibilities in this collaboration. This partnership makes sense because the Caminar staff in MIOCR are embedded in the jail where many of the diversion clients are awaiting pre-trial arraignment while they are in jail.
- JAG Advisory Group + Prop 47 Advisory Group = Council on Re-Entry Solutions** – We have combined these two advisory committees to a single advisory forum to for a comprehensive approach. We are also seeking to have this group endorsed as a subcommittee of the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP). This is an opportunity to look at a systems approach for one program that is MH (JAG) and one that is SUD (Prop 47).
- Adventist Health St. Helena Hospital in Napa** – Adventist notified us last week that they are closing their psychiatric unit in July 2020. While that particular facility did not take many of our client referrals, the reduction of psychiatric beds in the region has an effect on bed access for all.
- HHAP grant** – We are working with the same grant writer from the CHFFA application to submit a proposal for funds for housing the homeless. This is about \$1.2M and a similar amount that the Housing Continuum of Care must apply for – both applications in coordination with each other. For more information: <https://BCSH.ca.gov>