

**EL DORADO COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH JOINT COMMISSION
Minutes: November 20, 2013**

TIME: 5:00 PM

**PLACE: In person and councils connected via tele/video-conferencing:
Western Slope – Mental Health Offices
768 Pleasant Valley Road, Suite 201
Diamond Springs, CA 95619

South Lake Tahoe – Public Health/Mental Health Offices
1360 Johnson Blvd., #103
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150**

- I. Call to order; Roll Call; Introductions
Members: Jim Abram, Claudia Ball, Denise Burke, R.S. Lynn, Bonnie McLane, Guadalupe Medrano, Jan Melnicoe, Maria Quintero, Craig Therkildsen, Linn Williamson
Guests: Stephen Clavere, Steven Mannheim, Sue Saia, Lorrie Wick
HHS Staff: Don Ashton, Patricia Charles-Heathers, Dennis Plunkett, Brandi Reid, Ren Scammon, Janet Stevens, Jan Walker-Conroy, Laura Walny
Other County Staff: Brenda Bailey, Lt. Jackie Noren, Captain Randy Peshon
- II. Approval of Agenda
 - Agenda approved
- III. Approval of Minutes (September and October 2013)
 - Minutes Approved
- IV. Public Comment (15 minutes)
 - Lorrie Wick announced that this Saturday November 23, 2013, there will be a dialogue sponsored by CalMHSA about breaking mental health stigma. There will be a movie, snacks and discussion. All are encouraged to attend.
- V. Questions/comments regarding the Mental Health Division Monthly Report
 - A written update of Mental Health Department news was distributed. Departmental updates are also included as an appendix to this document [Appendix A].
 - Update on South Lake Tahoe lease negotiations: Don Ashton stated that negotiations are ongoing and that things are moving along nicely. The lease will stay in place even if the ownership of the building changes.
 - Don Ashton reported that last Tuesday the Board of Supervisors approved a substantial increase to the psychiatrist salaries from \$16K to \$21K per month. He really appreciates the Board's support since this has been a difficult to fill position in the past.
 - Jan Melnicoe asked what the process will be for the transition of children's services. Patricia Charles-Heathers advised that Jamie Samboceti will be coordinating the transition. Some children will remain with the Agency, but most will be transitioned to contract providers for services.

- Jim Abram asked what the status of the bus stop is. Ren Scammon stated that while the bus stop was supposed to be completed this past Monday, the weather has caused a delay. It should be completed by the end of the week.
- Jim Abram stated that he was happy to see the awards had been given for the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the children's PIP program. He was glad to see that the three providers selected were geographically spread out and it seems that the distribution was fair.
- Jan Melnicoe stated that she has spent several hours this week at the Wellness Center. People seem to be settling in nicely and the space is beautiful. The clients are very thankful and happy.

VI. New Business

- a. Presentation on El Dorado County Jail Inmate Medication Policy and Procedures by Captain Randy Peshon, El Dorado County Sheriff's Office (EDSO)

According to Captain Peshon, approximately 18% of inmates have a serious mental illness. There are presently 67 people with a serious mental illness incarcerated for whom the jails treat and provide medication. The jail currently contracts through California Forensic Medical Group (CFMG) for medical, dental, vision and mental health services for all jail inmates.

The current process when someone comes into custody is that they are seen by the nurse for both a physical health and a mental health screening and assessment. The staff will request medical records in order to provide the best care. A psychiatric evaluation is completed if needed and most mental health clients are already known. The jail accepts medications that are brought in. The psychiatrist will evaluate and reset medications if necessary by adjusting dosages. Often times, clients want medications that will mimic the effects of their illegal drug use. When medications are delivered, they are verified by the jail staff. Similar to managed care provider, the jail has limited money with which to provide services and will sometimes provide a comparable drug or prescribe a generic.

The jail has received an influx of inmates from prison due to the passage of AB 109, 2011 Public Safety Realignment, which allows non-violent, non-serious, and non-sex offenders to serve their sentence in a county jail instead of state prisons. Mental health clients who commit lower end crimes usually stay for three to six months. Referrals are made to Behavioral Health Court by the jail medical staff and correction officers.

With the creation of the Community Corrections Center (CCC) in Shingle Springs, inmates will be able to see their probation officer, mental health clinicians and their case manager. The two CCC transitional case managers have both been hired; one has already started and the other will start working in January. This team will work collaboratively to make sure that clients follow up with appointments, take their medications, etc. While we don't always get cooperation from the inmates, the staff keeps working with them to encourage continued engagement and participation. The transitional case managers will follow up to ensure that no one falls through the cracks. The AB 109 funds provide flexibility to try something different to avoid recidivism.

- Claudia Ball expressed concern that CFMG is for profit and that mental health clients in jail are the most vulnerable and are often afraid to speak up.

- Captain Peshon stated that while CFMG is a for profit business, that doesn't mean that clients are receiving a lower level of care. The jail is inspected by nine different agencies and has always met or exceeded expectations in providing care. The correctional officers at the jail are trained to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illness and are sensitive to the needs of the inmates with mental health issues.
- b. Dr. Stephen Clavere was introduced as the new Associate Member of the Mental Health Commission. Dr. Clavere has been a licensed clinical psychologist for over 30 years, much of that time in the prison system. He is now retired from both the military and as a psychologist, and has lived in the El Dorado Hills area for 24 years.
- VII. Discussion of Mental Health Commission's Bylaws, page 3, Article IV G, Organizational Structure, South Lake Tahoe/West Slope member ratios.
- a. Linn Williamson expressed concerns brought up at the FY 13/14 MHSA Plan Public Hearing that there is underrepresentation from the El Dorado Hills area. Historically the Commission has had trouble getting quorums, although it is getting much better. The two councils currently meet jointly and it would be good to review the bylaws every so often to see if changes need to be made.
 - b. Denise Burke stated that it is difficult to stay on top of things and discuss when programs change so frequently. She stated that South Lake Tahoe had lost one member due to audio challenges and she would like to eventually get back to having individual rather than joint meetings, but it just doesn't make sense to do that now. She stated that it is really frustrating because it is often difficult to hear what is being said.
 - c. Claudia Ball stated that the Commission lost a consumer member in South Lake Tahoe due to the audio issues with the equipment.
 - d. Jim Abram advised that the bylaws state that the Commission must vote as a joint council, even if the meetings are held separately. He also referenced page 2, Section D, Commission Composition, of the bylaws which states: "The composition of El Dorado County [Mental Health Commission] shall, to the extent possible, reflect the demographic ethnic diversity of the population in the County. Fifty percent of the Board membership shall be consumers or the parents, spouse, sibling, or adult children of consumers, who are receiving or have received mental health services. At least twenty percent of the total membership shall be families of consumers and at least 20% of the total shall be consumers." Accordingly, there should be three consumers on the Mental Health Commission. However, per WIC 5604(f), the governing body may make substitutions if the seats are unable to be filled with consumers. He also stated that the Commission is supposed to represent the geographic demographics of the County.
 - e. Denise Burke said that the geographic split was set up like that a long time ago because the slopes have very different needs and issues.
 - f. Dr. Lynn stated that the ethnicity splits are very different between South Lake Tahoe and Placerville, and nearly one-third of the population in South Lake Tahoe is Hispanic.
 - g. Jim Abram stated that we currently have two Hispanic Commission members, Guadalupe Medrano and Maria Quintero, so we would just need one more Hispanic member on the Commission to have the appropriate ethnic representation.
 - h. Claudia Ball stated that she also has reached out to the Native American community for participation without success.

- i. Jim Abram stated that the Commission needs to look at updating the bylaws to bring them current and to address all the issues brought up at this meeting
 - j. Claudia Ball suggested that there should be a committee established to address the bylaws and asked if that should be held in South Lake Tahoe.
 - k. Linn Williamson stated that he would put a meeting together to be held in South Lake Tahoe.
- VIII. Mental Health Commission Nominating Committee report of slate officer nominees and members for the 2014 year
- a. Claudia Ball reported that she made a lot of calls regarding officer nominees and the recommendations received for the West Slope are: Chair - Jim Abram; Vice Chair - Jan Melnicoe and Guadalupe Medrano; Secretary - Linn Williamson. The recommendations received for South Lake Tahoe are: Chair – Denise Burke; Vice Chair – Dr. Lynn; Secretary – Steve Mannheim. Votes will be made at the next Mental Health Commission meeting.
 - b. Jim Abram reported that terms for the following Mental Health Commission members are expiring in January: Claudia Ball, Ron Briggs, Denise Burke, Jane de Feliz, and Guadalupe Medrano.
 - **MOTION:** A motion was made to reappoint Claudia Ball and Guadalupe Medrano to the Mental Health Commission as representatives for the West Slope Council and reappoint Denise Burke as representative for the South Lake Tahoe Council. Motion approved; recommendation will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review and final approval.
 - **MOTION:** A motion was made to nominate Steve Mannheim to join the Mental Health Commission as a representative for the South Lake Tahoe Council. Motion approved; recommendation will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for their review and final approval.
- IX. Old Business
- a. Update on Laura’s Law Committee meeting held November 15, 2013
 - Jim Abram reported that there were many stakeholders present at the meeting last Friday. Michael Heggarty and Turning Point both gave great presentations. The general feeling was that Laura’s Law will be very beneficial. The next step is to present a fiscally sound program.
- X. Commissioners Comments
- Bonnie McLane requested to be notified about upcoming MHSA Community Planning Process meetings.
 - Dr. Lynn would like a printed copy of the Mental Health organizational chart.
- XI. Determination of Mental Health Commission meeting date
- Don Ashton stated that the video conferencing equipment being used by the Commission is being moved from EMS to Briw Road since EMS is a leased space.
 - There will be no December meeting. The next regular meeting of the Mental Health Commission is scheduled for 5:00 PM on January 22, 2014.
- XII. Adjournment

El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency
Mental Health Division Update
Mental Health Commission
November 20, 2013 Meeting

Assistant Director Update (Patricia Charles-Heathers)

- We moved and are now working out of the Victory Mine Building. Thanks to everyone who contributed in making this move and transition seem like an effortless process for our clients and our staff!!
- Meeting weekly and working closely with the Managers and Program Coordinators as we continue to improve our service delivery.
- Recruited a Locum Tenens Psychiatrist for WS Outpatient Services, who lives in the County and is excited about working with us. Continuing to work with Dr. Price on recruiting Psychiatrists to provide services to children on both slopes and adults in SLT.

Outpatient Services (Dennis Plunkett)

WS Children's Outpatient Services:

- Jamie Samboceti (Acting Manager of Mental Health Programs) continues to work with the children's team to transition all children's cases to the appropriate Contract Provider.
- Katie A implementation has begun, EDC MH facilitating necessary assessments for CPS referrals.
- With the transition of Children's Services to Contract Providers, current children's staff will be reassigned to other areas in which their skills/qualifications will be utilized best.

WS Adult Outpatient Services:

- The big news this month – after much anticipated wait, we have finally moved into our new building at 768 Pleasant Valley Rd.
 - The internal shuttle is working great; averaging approximately 45-50 total pick-ups and drop-offs per week. Scheduled stops are being tracked and will be evaluated to ensure we are using our resources wisely.
 - The parking lot addition is in full swing – the following scheduled is contingent on weather conditions:

Parking Lot

- Paving - Nov. 18 or 19
- Pouring Curbs - Nov. 21 or 22
- Stripping - Nov. 23

Bus Stop

- Set Forms - Nov. 14
- Call for Inspection - Nov. 14
- Pour Concrete - Nov. 15

Clinician Hiring Process is in full swing - 4 Clinicians are slated to begin Nov. 18; 3 WS, & 1 SLT

- Emma Curtis – WS Outpatient Services
- Mary Gough – ADP Team, Co-Occurring Program
- Lorena Elliott – WS UR Team
- Trina Brown – SLT ICM Team
- The remaining 6 Clinicians (5 WS & 1 SLT) are in various stages of the process and are expected to be on board within the next few weeks
- Dr. Moghaddas, Adult Psychiatrist, joined WS Outpatient Services and will work Mon-Fri. He will also cover SLT via Telemed on Fridays, beginning Nov. 22
- Kim Dillion, Mental Health Aide for WS ICM Team, beginning Nov. 18
- Mental Health Worker II, Robert Kamena has accepted a position with the ADP Team. His position will be recruited for as soon as possible.
- Holiday planning is underway for client activities. EDC MH will take advantage of the kitchen in the new Wellness Center to prepare Thanksgiving Dinner for our clients on Tuesday, November 26 from 1 pm to 3 pm..
- Continuing to evaluate the feasibility of offering evening and/or weekend groups as the staffing is being hired to support the ICM Team.
- Transition Group continues with strong attendance (15-20) average attendance. This group is required for clients who reside in our Transition Houses. ****Note**** This group would welcome community participation (NAMI and/or Mental Health Commission) for Life-Skills Training or Guest Speakers/Topics if appropriate. Please contact Ken Jones at 530-621-6178 if you are interested in providing support for clients in Transitional Housing.
- Collaborative Project Team continues to review all areas of Outpatient Services to increase efficiency, improve quality, access to service, and integrate evidence based groups targeted to our client demographic. Recent changes include strengthening

the Utilization Review Team, which will focus on all new assessments, reassessments, and service eligibility.

South Lake Tahoe:

- Program Coordinator, Sabrina Owen-Balme continues to work with local Contract Providers in preparation for State Mandated 'Katie A' implementation.
- Trina Brown – SLT ICM Team - start date 11/18/13
- 1 - EX-Help MH Aide - start date 11/18/13
- 1 - EX-Help Driver- start date 11/18/13
- Potential relocation space identified; HHSA Facilities negotiations continue with building owner.
- Interviews underway to fill current Medical Office Assistant vacancy. First round interviews are complete.

Continuum of Care: Current Placement Statistics

LPS conserved clients

- 61 LPS conservatorships
- 2 Temporary Conservatorships pending

Placement - Transitional Houses/Cottage/Apartment

- 24 beds
- 23 active residents,
- Transitional Skills meeting/House meetings/daily activities
- Minimum of 4 check ins during week

Board and Care/IMDs/Secure Placements

- 70 out of county placements

Psychiatric Health Facility (Cheree Haffner)

- 16 Bed Expansion Update: Expansion is complete and the census is currently at 15. We have been able to serve all EDC Clientst since the expansion and offering service to our neighboring counties. Typically we have 2-4 out of county clients in the census.
- Staffing Update: We have two allocations for Mental Health Clinicians. Both have been selected. Maria Wiese, MFTI started on 11/6 and Jzeela Gheiser-Shahanian, MFTI will be joining us on 11/18. We are very excited about both of these energetic ladies. We are also in the process of hiring two RNs; we have been trying for over a

year to fill these positions and we were feel so fortunate to find two during this last recruitment. They are expected to join us the first part of December. At that point we are fully staffed, though we are low on Extra Help Mental health Workers and Psychiatric Technicians, so recruitments are in process.

- Program Development: Our two current areas of focus are consistent implementation of the Program Unit Schedule and reduction of seclusion and restraint through the implementation of the Pro-ACT principles. Both are very connected as we believe client engagement equals safety in many cases. Staff continues to work hard to address both of these areas of focus.

MHSA (Ren Scammon)

- The FY 13/14 MHSA Plan will go before the Board of Supervisors for adoption on December 10, 2013. Updates approved by the Mental Health Commission on October 30, 2013 are being incorporated into the Plan. New contracts and Request for Proposals will be developed as indicated in the FY 13/14 MHSA Plan once the Board has adopted the Plan.
- Award notification for the RFP for Children's PEI programs (Incredible Years, School-Based Early Intervention for referrals and the Primary Intervention Project) was posted by Procurements and Contracts on 11/5/13 and is scheduled for approval by the Board of Supervisors on December 10. The successful Proposers for the subject RFP are:

Proposer Program

El Dorado Hills Community Vision	Early Intervention for Youth
New Morning Youth and Family Services	Early Intervention for Youth
Black Oak Mine Union School District	Primary Intervention Project (PIP)
El Dorado Hills Community Vision	Primary Intervention Project (PIP)
Tahoe Youth and Family Services	Primary Intervention Project (PIP)
New Morning Youth and Family Services	Incredible Years

Behavioral Health Court (Shirley White)

- South Lake Tahoe Behavioral Health Court has 10 active participants, one client transferred to another county this month. Three new referrals are pending assessment. Group attendance and medication appointment attendance has been very good this last month. Next court date will be held on November 21 beginning at 1:30pm.
- Placerville Behavioral Health Court has 13 active participants, 8 participants were given positive recognition in court for their outstanding achievements over the past month. Check in group will resume at our Victory Mine location next Monday. Next court proceedings will be held on December 2 beginning at 1:30 pm.

Patients' Rights Advocate (Doris Jones)

- PHF: My office is now located right off of the PHF Lobby. This move has created a greater opportunity for me to be available to clients, their families and their support team members, to meet, answer questions and provide information, education, and resources. I am working closely with the PHF Staff, advocating for clients' needs, requests and preferences.
- Outreach: Friday, November 1: Site visit to Hangtown Haven; met with staff, volunteers and residents to introduce myself and to explain my role and the services that I provide for Mental Health Clients. Plan is to have ongoing periodic contact with Hangtown Haven.