

SUTTER-YUBA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Gold Rush/Valley Oak Conference Rooms
1965 Live Oak Boulevard
Yuba City, CA 95991
(530) 822-7200

MINUTES

Thursday, November 17, 2005
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Margery Hubbard at 5:32 p.m., and she welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the guest speaker, Hardeep Cloty.

2. Roll Call

Board Secretary Alma Amaya called the roll and the following members were present:

Chairperson Margery Hubbard, Yuba County Supervisor John Nicoletti, Board Members Alma Amaya, Charles Clement, Laurie Dennis, Teri Jackson and Janice DiCola.

The following Board Members were excused:

Sutter County Supervisor Jim Whiteaker, Board Members Patricia Stutte, and Keith Pinckney

Also present were the Mental Health Director Joan Hoss and the Executive Secretary Jean Stump.

3. Action Items

a. Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2005 - Board Member Dennis moved to approve the minutes of October 20, 2005 as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member DiCola and carried by a unanimous voice vote of the members present.

4. Program Update: Community Support Services, Hardeep Cloty, Supervisor

Introducing the guest speaker, the Mental Health Director said Mr. Cloty came to Mental Health's Community Support Services Department from India in 1980 with a master's degree in Neuro Psychology. Subsequently Mr. Cloty was called upon to present his report.

At the outset, Mr. Cloty said the Community Support Services' (CSS) mission was to provide case management services to persistently and severely mentally ill adults from Yuba and Sutter Counties. Case management services are provided to clients in various levels of care, i.e., Napa State Hospital, skilled nursing homes, family care homes and independent living settings, with the objective to help them manage their care in the least restrictive setting possible, and to help clients maximize their potential for living independently. Case Management staff arranges and assists clients with appropriate placement and follow-up care to ensure basic treatment and the needs of the clients are adequately met and their rights are protected.

With a case load of approximately 200 clients, Mr. Hardeep said CSS has four case managers and two mental health workers. Laura Ruble is the Program Manager.

The majority of referrals received, Mr. Cloty said, come from Inpatient with a smaller number from the Adult Outpatient Program. All referrals are reviewed either by him or Laura Ruble. Once a client is approved for CSS services, the client is assigned to a Case Manager who performs a needs assessment and then assists the client to reach their goals.

Case Managers provide education to help clients understand their illness. They also provide education in life skills and problem solving, as well as assist the client to access other services, such as medical and dental services, vocational, legal, entitlement programs, and housing assistance, as well as helping them shop for food and clothing.

Case Managers also provide placement follow-up services at various placement settings including Cooper Commons which is an independent living facility. Thereafter, staff will continue to interface with other agencies and programs on behalf of the client for needed services.

Following a period of question and answer, the Board thanked Mr. Cloty for a fine presentation.

5. Mental Health Director's Report

Medicare Part D - Prescription Drug Benefits - Ms. Hoss reported that beginning January 1, 2006, Medicare will begin to offer insurance coverage to help people pay for prescriptions. Everyone on Medicare is eligible, no matter the age, income, health condition, disabilities or medications presently taken. Clients who are considered Medi-Medi (who have Medi-Cal in addition to Medicare) will lose their Medi-Cal prescription drug coverage on December 31, 2005 and will be automatically enrolled in a Medicare prescription drug plan. However, Ms. Hoss said, there were some psychotropic medications that would not be covered by Medicare such as anti-anxiety medications. SYMHS has approximately 400 clients who are Medi-Medi and staff is working to assist those people in our system. Ms. Hoss said these new regulations have the potential to create significant additional costs to SYMHS not previously anticipated.

EPSDT Audit - Commenting on an earlier report made to the Board about being in total compliance with an EPSDT Audit for the period April through June 2004 that was held in May 2005, Ms Hoss said she had been informed that there were some technical areas where SYMHS was found to be out of compliance. As a result, DMH will recoup approximately \$12,000.

Audit of Cost Report submitted for FY 00-01 - On a related matter, Ms. Hoss reported that following an audit of the Cost Report staff submitted for FY 00-01, there were some technical areas in the report that were being disallowed. As a result, an adjustment of approximately \$300,000 will be made toward future funding.

Maintenance Program on the Inpatient Unit - In anticipation of the pending remodel on the PHF, Ms. Hoss said that staff has entered into a maintenance program to start on December 12, 2005 to ready the area for renovation.

In response to a question posed, Ms. Hoss said the color scheme on the PHF will be the same as it is in the rest of the facility

Alta California Regional Center - Ms. Hoss briefly reported Alta California Regional Center has hired a new full-time Supervisor, Terry Rhoades. Following several meetings with Ms. Rhoades, SYMHS had re-entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Alta California Regional Center to work together toward serving our dually diagnosed mentally ill disabled clients more successfully.

Retirements - Ms. Hoss said that four long-term staff, who collectively has more than 100 years of service with SYMHS, will be retiring at the end of December, 2005. Further, it was noted that Lynn Tarrant, Program Chief will assume the PHF/PES Program Manger position following Dale McBride's retirement. The recruitments for the other positions soon to be vacated are going well. In response to a question posed, Ms. Hoss said it is anticipated to revise the Program Chief's position and qualifications to that of Deputy Director in light of the Mental Health Director's planned retirement in December 2007.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

7. Old Business

The Chair announced that she and Board Member Amaya had attended the Cultural Competence Summit held in Fresno earlier in the month which was most informative.

The Mental Health Director briefly described some of the communication recently distributed that publicized the upcoming MHSA Public Hearing. She said Supervisor Whiteaker and Supervisor Nicoletti will facilitate the Public Hearing. Noting the time that the Public Hearing started, Ms. Hoss said she would post a volunteer at the front entrance to allow access to the meeting by the public.

Additionally, she said unless there were substantive recommendations offered by the public it was anticipated that the Plan would be recommended to the Board of Supervisors.

7. New Business

Invoice for Dues from California Association of Local Mental Health Boards & Commissions (CALMHB/C) - It was agreed to put this item on the January 2006 MHB Agenda.

CALMHB/C Training Opportunities - Referencing communication received from CIMH, it was reported that unless the Board felt it was necessary to conduct an individualized training, CIMH will again be conducting regional trainings in the coming months.

Client Holiday Party - Ms. Hoss invited members of the Board to attend the upcoming December 15, 2005 Client Christmas Party being held at the Veterans Hall.

8.. Adjournment

There being no further business, Board Member Dennis moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Board Secretary Amaya and at 6:35 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Stump
Executive Secretary