

Special Meeting of the SUTTER-YUBA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

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

MINUTES

Thursday, March 3, 2005
4:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Laurie Dennis at 4:25 p.m., and she welcomed everyone to the meeting, including staff and the guests present. The purpose of this special meeting, she said, was to review background information on the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and to go through the draft planning process. Subsequently, self-introductions were offered.

2. Roll Call

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

Chairperson Laurie Dennis, Board Members Alma Amaya, Keith Pinckney, Margery Hubbard, Nick Sohrakoff, Yuba County Supervisor John Nicoletti and Sutter County Supervisor Jim Whiteaker. Board Member Teri Jackson arrived subsequent to the roll call.

The following Board Members were excused:

Charles Clement, Janice DiCola and Patricia Stutte

The following Board Member was absent:

Terry Single

3. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

The Chair called upon the Mental Health Director who announced that this meeting represented Sutter-Yuba Mental Health's major "Kick-Off" planning activity for the MHSA. One of the requirements in the Act, Ms. Hoss said, was to describe the structure of how SYMHS will go through the planning process. Part of this structure creates a Leadership Committee, which is composed of all members of the Mental Health Board including members from Sutter and Yuba County Boards of Supervisors, all co-chairs of the Children, Transitional-Aged Youth (TAY), Adult and Older Adult Committees, the Director of Mental Health, a representative from the Mental Health Cultural Competence Committee, Parent Partners/Family representation, Consumer/Self-Help representation and representatives from Ethnically/Linguistically Diverse Communities. In this regard, Ms. Hoss announced that Supervisor Nicoletti and Supervisor Whiteaker had agreed to co-chair the Leadership

Committee; Alma Amaya, and Sue Shaffer will co-chair the Older Adult Committee, Margery Hubbard and Laura DiBartolo will co-chair the Adult Services Committee, Teri Jackson and Jackie Stanfill will co-chair the TAY Committee and Nick Sohrakoff and Lynn Tarrant will co-chair the Children's Committee.

Introducing MSW intern, DJ Dixon, Ms. Hoss said he had agreed to join staff as an extra hire staff person to assist with engaging consumer and family members in the process and to work closely with NAMI. She also noted that Lynn Tarrant, Beverly Griffith, Donna Thompson, Laurie Desmond and Sue Shaffer were responsible for developing the initial draft of the "Plan-To-Plan" document. Donna Thompson, Ms. Hoss said, had been designated to coordinate and to handle logistical features of the collective planning process, while Laurie Desmond would be providing facilitation at various community meetings and facilitation training. Beverly Griffith, representing the Cultural Competence Committee, would be responsible for assisting staff to identify underserved populations.

In addition to learning about the MHSA, Ms. Hoss asked the Board to help staff refine the training activities that would precede brainstorming sessions. Subsequently, utilizing a series of slides in a PowerPoint presentation, Ms. Hoss reviewed the vision of the MHSA, its purpose, anticipated goals and outcomes objectives, system values, philosophy, as well as the essential elements for plan development. (Copies of the slide presentation provided).

Afterward, Ms. Hoss asked for feedback regarding the presentation format. Supervisor Whiteaker said it was too long (about one hour) and he suggested cutting the presentation to about 15 minutes. Subsequently, there was considerable discussion about how best to communicate the MHSA's planning process. Supervisor Nicoletti suggested that this presentation be followed by a shorter presentation at a follow-up meeting.

Continuing, Ms. Hoss reviewed with the Board the "Plan-to-Plan" document drafted by staff, (copy provided) which included a draft budget worksheet. Because the "Plan-to-Plan" document and Funding Requests were due March 15, 2005, Ms. Hoss said there was not sufficient time to include the Board's comments in the document at this time.

Hearing no objections, Ms. Hoss referenced the Board's attention to the Draft Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan and the Community Services and Supports Draft Plan developed by the Department of Mental Health. (Copy provided). It was envisioned, she said, that Mental Health's final document for submission would be modeled on these specific requirements.

Lynn Tarrant said there were a number of MHSA Stakeholder Meetings related to the implementation of the MHSA scheduled to be held in Sacramento as well as a number of conference calls and all members of the Board were invited to participate. Upcoming meetings were planned for March 7 and March 23. Ms. Hoss said certain staff would participate in these meetings as well as the conference calls. (Copies of the Stakeholder Meeting schedule were previously provided.)

Referencing Section 4 in the manual Ms. Hoss suggested members of the Leadership Committee review the Final Report of the President's New Freedom Commission on Mental Health, entitled: "Achieving the Promise: Transforming Mental Health Care in America".

Continuing with the business at hand, Ms. Hoss said before the Work Groups could convene, the Leadership Committee would need to ratify values and goals. Supervisor Nicoletti said the MHSA objectives and outcomes were fairly prescriptive and suggested that this information direct the planning. Ms. Hoss said there was room to expand and directed the Board's attention to the additional values developed in Section 3 of the manual. Referencing the DMH Draft in Section 4 of the manual, Ms. Tarrant said that beginning on page 19, the essential elements and outcomes and structural strategies by age group were clearly defined. As information is solicited from the community regarding proposed new services, Supervisor Nicoletti voiced concerns (i.e., TAY services) about creating service expectations that could not be met at this time.

In terms of goals, Ms. Hoss suggested and it was agreed that the sample outcomes from the MHSA be adopted and that the goals and values be expanded as referenced in Sutter-Yuba Mental Health's Values as noted in Section 3 of the manual.

Another area that was agreed upon was to use evidence based practices when possible in any new service offered and to look at interventions that reduce risks and costs. There was also general agreement to involve foster family agencies, adolescents from group homes and the schools when developing and facilitating stakeholder involvement in the work groups. Whatever format is chosen, Supervisor Nicoletti suggested that it be open-ended to allow the ability to change direction as needed.

There was considerable discussion about how to publicize what Mental Health is and what it does by using Public Service Announcements on television and the radio and to include information in billing statements.

To begin the roll-out process, Ms. Hoss suggested that the co-chairs consider meeting to decide what types of focus groups to participate in and identify how many town hall meetings could be scheduled. This would need to be decided so that information can be communicated to inform and invite participation from partner agencies, consumers and the general public.

Following discussion about how often the Leadership Group would meet, it was suggested and agreed to convene this group following abbreviated Mental Health Board meetings on the third Thursday each month except for March, which will be on March 24. With regard to the smaller work groups, Ms. Hoss said that ideally, these groups would meet individually and often with progress reports being presented to the Leadership Committee monthly.

In response to a question posed, Ms. Hoss said there was approximately \$117,000 available for planning activities, but there was no funding for services until the plan was approved by the State.

In response to a question, it was noted that reports from the Committees will go back to the Leadership Committee by July or August with a target date of November to the Board of Supervisors.

Last but not least, Ms. Hoss said that Donna Thompson has been identified as the point of contact for the various co-chairs for technical assistance and support.

Adjournment

There being no further business brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m. p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Stump
Executive Secretary