SUTTER-YUBA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

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

MINUTES
Thursday, November 16, 2006
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Nick Sohrakoff and he welcomed everyone to the meeting including the guest speaker, Wanda Short.

2. Roll Call

In the absence of the Board Secretary, the Executive Secretary called the roll. The following Board Members were present:

Yuba County Supervisor John Nicoletti, Chairperson Nick Sohrakoff, Vice Chair David Markland, Dr. Charles Clement, Margery Hubbard, Patricia Stutte, Joginder Pardesi Cheema and Marc Myers

The following Board Members were excused:

Sutter County Supervisor Jim Whiteaker, Board Secretary Alma Amaya and Ardythe Price.

Also present was Joan Hoss, Director of Mental Health, Thomas Sherry, Deputy Mental Health Director and Jean Stump, Executive Secretary

3. Action Items

a. Approve County Performance Contract for FY 2006-07. *Dr. Charles Clement moved to adopt the FY 2006-07 Performance Contract. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Nicoletti and carried by a unanimous voice vote of the members present*.

b. Approve September 21, 2006 Meeting Minutes. *Dr. Charles Clement moved to approve the meeting minutes of September 21, 2006 as presented. The motion was seconded by Supervisor Nicoletti and carried by a unanimous vote of the members present.*

c. Approve October 19, 2006 Meeting Minutes. *Supervisor Nicoletti moved to approve the meeting minutes of October 19, 2006 as presented. The motion was seconded by Board Member Stutte and carried by a unanimous voice vote of the members present.*

4. Program Presentation

Wanda Short, the Adult Day Treatment Coordinator was called upon to present her report. Distributing informational materials developed for this meeting, Ms. Short said the Adult Day Treatment program provides services to adults that have been diagnosed with a major mental illness. Adult Day Treatment provides about four hours of programming four days a week. On Monday, Tuesday and Wednesdays, the program consists of structured treatment groups with Friday being reserved for outings and large group activities. The program is time-limited and focuses on offering opportunities for clients to acquire life management skills, social skills and education regarding mental health disorders.

Continuing, Ms. Short said referrals received come from the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF), IMD's, probation, psychiatrists, and therapists. Although she has had as many as 60 clients in the program at any given time, Ms. Short said currently, there are 34 in the program, with five admitted this week and another 15 referrals requesting admittance into the program.

There are three phases of the program which culminates with graduation. Subsequently, Ms. Short reviewed, in detail, the elements of each phase including the Goal Agreement which must be signed by the client.

Continuing, Ms. Short provided a brief overview of the activities scheduled including Pre-Voc activities, noting that on Mondays and Wednesdays PreVoc offers writing classes, and on Tuesdays, independent living skills are taught.

In response to a question posed, Ms. Short said Pre-Voc was an educational program supported through an agreement to provide adult education through the Marysville Joint Unified School District. Ms. Hoss said Nadine Phillips is the instructor and encouraged the Board to talk with her if they wanted to refer someone to her program.

On a related matter and in response to a question posed, Ms. Hoss said the facility being offered to the homeless to take showers and clean-up was a church and community sponsored activity for the homeless.

Following a brief period of question and answer, Ms. Short invited the Board the annual Client Holiday Party scheduled from 4:00 pm to 8:00 pm on December 7, 2006 to be held at the Veterans Hall in Yuba City.

5. Mental Health Director's Report

In advance of the Mental Health Director's Report, Board Member Stutte questioned what was the nature and purpose of the survey recently held in waiting room. In response, Ms. Hoss said it was a state survey being conducted by consumer staff to solicit input from clients coming in for services. Board Member Stutte said she was told that she could not participate. Ms. Hoss said Board Member Stutte should have been given a survey to complete and said she will follow-up with consumer staff to instruct them on the proper processes.

In other business, Ms. Hoss provided a brief overview of the Great Performance recently held that show-cased the talent of staff and consumers. This is an annual event and encouraged the Board to attend the event next year.

On a related matter, Ms. Hoss said the Consumer Activity Group, which is comprised of a select group of consumer staff; own several vending machines in the building. The money earned from these vending machines supports the Client Holiday party each year as well as a number of other functions throughout the year including no interest small loans to consumers in need.

Last week, a brunch was held at the Plaza Room (located in the Hillcrest Plaza) in honor of these clients.

In other business, Ms. Hoss said she recently hired Dr. Kazi Rahman who is now providing inpatient and adult outpatient services. The remaining vacant outpatient psychiatrist position is being covered by a Locum Tenan until a permanent replacement if found.

In other business, Ms. Hoss said the Sutter County Housing Authority has conceptually agreed to enter into a MOU with Mental Health to assist in buying affordable housing using MHSA funding set aside for this purpose.

On a related matter, Ms. Hoss said an agreement has been reached with Del Norte Clinics to provide office space for SYMHS staff to provide outreach activities to the underserved ethnic populations in Yuba and Sutter counties. Ms. Hoss said staff was continuing to work with Salvation Army to house some of the new program elements at that site.

Ms. Hoss said staff was continuing to recruit for a variety of positions and said these efforts were going well.

6. Public Comment

In response to comments made regarding a pharmacy clinical trial "(a bipolar study), that had been advertised in the news media to recruit volunteers, Ms. Hoss said the policy of Sutter-Yuba Mental Health does not allow participation in this type of research activity.

7. Old Business

There was no old business brought before the Board.

8. New Business

There was no new business brought before the Board.

9. Announcements/Correspondence

Vice Chair Markland addressed the Board and provided an overview of the Mental Health Planning Council meeting he recently attended. Of significance he said was information regarding the additional MHSA funding that would be available in May 2007. In response, Ms. Hoss said in order to apply for this additional funding, it would be necessary to reconvene the Leadership Committee and possibly the workgroups to discuss the priorities; whether to expand programs or develop new programming. She said she would bring forth this subject for the Board's information in January or February.

Vice Chair Markland, continuing his report said Dr. Steven Mayberg addressed the Planning Council and provided an overview of some of the problems facing the State Department of Mental Health, which including difficulties filling vacancies and the need for more training and housing. In conclusion, he referenced a copy of the Planning Council Agenda from the meeting and suggested that if anyone was interested in viewing the materials to let him know.

Chairperson Sohrakoff announced there would be no meeting in December.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Stump
Executive Secretary