

California Coalition for Mental Health

Wednesday March 11, 2020
10:00am – 3:00pm
California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions
2125 19th Street, Sacramento, CA 95818

MINUTES

Welcome, Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 10:10am by President Amanda Levy. She welcomed all.

Approval of January 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve made by Theresa Comstock and seconded by Joseph Robinson. Motion approved with abstention by Chad Costello.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Neidenberg reviewed a short financial report included in the meeting packet. The report shows \$8,176.21 in paid membership dues received as of last week. Cash on hand is \$11,261. Total liabilities \$15,952. See Carol for inquiry of organizations with outstanding dues.

Mental Health Matters Day

Heidi Strunk asks \$7500 sponsorship for MHMD from CCMH. Discussion centered on amount expected from outstanding dues, Carol reported another \$3432 is expected to come in.

Question regarding coronavirus and how much money is fronted and could be lost if canceled. Have min 30 day cancel policy with no penalty. In case of cancelation, sponsorship monies will be returned after all efforts to reschedule the event are exhausted.

Motion made by Joseph Robinson and seconded by Randall Hagar to sponsor the event with \$7500, if event is still scheduled as of end of March. Motion passes.

Reconsideration of motion is requested by Carol to consider additional 2 weeks for decision date.

Motion made by Carol Neidenberg and seconded by Randall Hagar to sponsor MHMD at \$7500 if, as of April 15th, the event is still on. Motion passes unanimously.

Legislative Update

In reference to a presentation made during the January CCMH meeting, members were informed that no bill regarding solitary confinement will be proposed this year. There will be a meeting with the sponsors in May to discuss a future plan. Contact Alex Binfield at TGI Justice Project for more information.

At January meeting a number of bills were mentioned to be discussed/voted on during the March meeting:

AB 1838 Chu re: Excused absences for mental health needs. Motion to support, approved.

AB 1844 Chu/Gonzales re: Paid sick leave for mental illness. Motion to support, approved.

AB 1938 Eggman re: Use of MHSA funds for inpatient treatment in IMD. Motion to support, failed.

AB 2339 Muratsuchi re: 3 county pilot to create program of deferred entry of judgement when arrested for disorderly/public disturbance when have MH/SUD. Professionals work in collaboration to develop programs for diversion including treatment, housing, etc. Length of stay in program not to exceed sentence time for offense, voluntary participation. No vote due to lack of unanimous position.

SB 665 Umberg re: Use of MHSA funds for services in jails. Motion to oppose, passed.

SB 854 Beall re: Health care coverage for SUD, Medication Assisted Treatment available w/o prior authorization. Motion to support, approved.

SB 855 Wiener re: Parity for mental health and SUD. Opens to entire DSM dx and criteria for medical necessity standards and private right of action for individuals denied or delayed. Imposes penalties. Motion to support, approved.

SB 803 Beall re: Peer Certification. No vote due to lack of unanimous position.

Budget review

Trailer bill language to cap use of \$750M for Adult Residential Facilities to 15% approx. \$110M. Will be heard in Senate Budget committee 1 next week.

CBHDA \$500M ask for Adult Residential Facilities will be heard in Senate Budget committee 1 on 3/25.

Scholarships for primary care psychiatry fellowships. Last year's monies used within 2 months. Program grew from 34 to 270. Propose \$10.5M this year.

CBHA sponsoring request for \$4.7M of SGF allocated for WET 5-Yr Plan to address SUD workforce needs. Co-sponsored by CAADPE.

Youth MH First Aid \$3-4M SGF to establish training in specific counties.

New workgroup opportunity for foster care models, joint effort between CDSS and DHCS, applications due 3/22.

Report out from CCMH De-Criminalization Workgroup

Met on Feb 28th by phone. Discussion focused on legislation to develop a short bill list to monitor. Discussion of AB 2339. Next meeting will be April 24th at 9am.

Report from CCMH Parity Workgroup

This workgroup has no formal meeting time. Two important bills to discuss, SB 854/855.

NUHW has focused on Kaiser. Membership interested in looking thru lens of parity. What they see as access issues for mental health seems to parallel medical necessity on physical health side. Idea to engage with health plans to educate on history of parity, what means on mh/sud side.

Randall to set up line of communication with members interested in parity issues

Considering develop a bill to address disparity in reimbursement for mental health in comparison to equivalent physical health rates. Data suggests that psychiatrists receive 20-30% less than counterparts with specialty training. Often use same code but receive differing reimbursement rates.

Originally, the CalAim proposed changes in billing and documentation but now backing off. If DHCS doesn't make the needed changes, could make parity argument since mental health documentation is excessively more than physical health plan requirements.

Prevalence of Mental Illness in California Jails

David Panush, President, CA Health Policy Strategies and former legislative staffer.

Konrad Franco, researcher, grad student working for CAHPS.

Study question: Are we doing a better or worse job at stemming the flow of people with SMI in jail? Even with all the programs in place, the answer has been, don't know.

Governor calling for transparency, looking into policies/procedures as jail can be punishing environment for persons with SMI. Jails struggle to provide necessary care.

BSCC does monthly survey and publishes data online. We went back to 2009.

How can we benchmark the numbers to know where we are? Surveyed...

mh cases open on last day month

new mh cases opened during month

inmates receiving psychotropic meds on last day of month

Average # inmates, needing and assigned to mental health beds on last day of month

Most jails perform screenings but there is no standard definition of mental health so results can differ jail to jail.

Looked at number of mental health cases 19%-31% and number of psychotropic med prescriptions (2009-2019).

2009 15.5k open mh cases 72k jail adp

2019 22k open mh cases 80k jail adp

No uniform definition across jails for what counts as an open mental health case nor as psychotropic medication.

Recommendations to BSCC:

- 1) Improve uniformity of reporting
- 2) Increase consistency of reporting
- 3) Enhance the accuracy of reporting
- 4) Publish an annual report about CA jails using the JPS data

What kinds of alternatives can be done to meet mh needs of persons in jail when we know that jail is not conducive to mh services/tx ? Where would we put our resources, in something doesn't work or something new? Need numbers to measure trends to make determinations.

Member announcements

Directing Change film competition, 60-second psa contest. There will be an award ceremony May 22nd in LA with celebrities, red carpet, etc. Seeking more judges.

Four categories: culture, Spanish language, suicide and stigma. These films live online, orgs have incorporated them in waiting rooms, prior to movie trailers, in church services, etc. so if can find more ways to show.

Call went out to students thru Monica Nepomuceno for MHMD t-shirt logo design. Received over 70 entries. Active Minds scored and selected final 3. MHMD planning committee selected winning logo. Shirts now available.

Next meeting June 3rd. Adjourn 1:55pm.

Attendees:

Amanda Levy, Psychological Association

Kai Magee, NASW

Theresa Comstock, CalBHBC

Percy Howard, CIBHS

Jane Adcock, CBHPC

Joseph Robinson, EMM

Carol Neidenberg, MHA, San Diego

Randall Hagar, CA Psychiatric Association, Kennedy Forum, Steinberg Inst.

Heidi Strunk, MHAC

Jessica Early, NUHW

Sheron Wright, CCJBH

Simon Vue, CCBHA

Daphne Shaw, CBHPC

Chad Costello, MHALA, CASRA