

California Coalition for Mental Health

Wednesday September 16, 2020
10:00am – 12:00pm

MINUTES

Welcome, Introductions

Meeting was called to order at 10:00am by President Amanda Levy.

Approval of June 2020 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve made by Daphne Shaw and seconded by Randall Hagar. Motion approved.

Treasurer's Report

Carol Neidenberg provided a brief financial report. All membership dues for the year are paid. As of end of August, account has \$9,796.

Money Bail Referendum

Esteban Nunez, Coalition Director, End Predatory and Unfair Money Bail – Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Prop 25 is proposed on November ballot to undermine SB 10 which was passed by both houses of Legislature in 2018 and ended money bail. SB 10 replaced bail schedules with a system that is individualized and based on community/public safety not money. CA is the first state to prohibit economic-based bail release. Most individuals will be released within 12 hours. Additionally, since implementation, 95% have not reoffended and 99% show up for court date.

For mental health, when an individual is in jail, it is very isolating and can lead to increases in depression and anxiety symptoms. Thus, it is important to not keep people in jail while awaiting trial when there is no risk to public safety.

For more information, contact Esteban at esteban@duffywellman.com

Orange County Mental Health Jail

Sarah Kahn, Transforming Justice Orange County

Transforming Justice Orange County advocates to diminish the harm incarceration causes people with disabilities. The Orange County Board of Supervisors voted to buy and expand an old music school and turn it into a mental health jail. Those funds could have been used to support 900 beds in the community. The proposal for the facility does not include staffing for psychiatrists nor psychologists. Additionally, there has been no inclusion of

individuals, families, mental/behavioral health stakeholders nor community consultation. The only organizations involved in the development of the project are criminal justice orgs.

Alameda County and Los Angeles County are having similar issue. Although recently, Los Angeles cancelled the contract for the mental health jail and has put the funds into community supports. There seems to be a movement to expand the incarcerated system under the guise of psychiatric treatment.

Their organization is advocating for housing and care first model within community rather than incarceration with treatment.

Member Updates

Members' present provided updates on recent activities, upcoming events, and priority issues.

Discussion of Possible 2021 Meeting Dates

Tentative meeting dates for 2021 are:

Jan 13

March 10th

June 2nd (in afternoon)

Sept 22

Meeting Adjourn at 11:33am.

Meeting Attendees:

Curtis Paullins (MHAC) Theresa Comstock(CalBHBC) Erin McIntyre (OTA)
Daphne Shaw (CBHPC) Jen Alley (CAMFT) Jane Adcock (CBHPC) Nabil El-Ghoury
(CAMFT) Amanda Levy (CPA) Rebecca Gonzales (NASW) Andrew Le (NASW
intern) Madison Butcoff (NASW intern) Jennifer Cohen (NASW intern) Deborah
Son (NASW) Sheela Iviev (SF) Carol Neidenberg (LASSD) Chad Costello
(CASRA) Randall Hagar (CPA) Jessica Early (NUHW) Adrienne Shilton(CACFS)
Fred Seavey (NUHW)