

# Summary

## Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Ongoing Planning Council

February 15, 2018  
9:00am  
Mental Health Facility  
1137 B Street, Merced

### Present:

Monica Adrian, Rubinpreet Awesome, Amy Hang, Nancy Reding, Brenda Geary, Caitlin Haygood, Alfred Rivera, Fernando Granados, Cindy Mattox, Sharon Mendonca, Rebecca Wood, Irvin Guzman Gutierrez, Rhonda Prater, Jenna Nunes, Donna Dennerlein, Ka Her, San Saelee, Andrea Cruthird-Mays, Paul Thao, Anthony Vieira, Chris Bobbitt, Sharon Jones, Andrea Tovar

### Presentation and Discussion:

*All Members*

#### I. Call to Order / Roll Call

#### II. Approval of Minutes

The approval of minutes for January 18, 2018 was motioned/seconded (Nancy Reding/Fernando Granados) and carried.

#### III. Update Planning Council Contact List

Sharon Jones of the Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services stated that the contact list is updated when everyone signs in.

#### IV. Notice to the Public

No Notice to the Public

#### V. Chair's Report

Sharon Jones acting as Chair; no Chair Report

#### VI. Director's Report

Yvonnia Brown not present. Sharon Mendonca, Assistant Director of BHRS, reported that the landscape for the new BHRS building is near completion and the overall project to moving forward quickly. Sharon Mendonca also reported that the target date to move into the new building has been delayed from the first week of April to late April. Sharon Mendonca stated that invitations for the Opening Ceremony will go out once a date has been established; tours will also be offered during the event. Additional information to be shared at a later date.

#### VII. MHSA Program Update

Sharon Jones informed the council that MHSA is currently in the process of preparing for a MHSA Program Update. Focus groups and key informant interviews are currently being scheduled.

#### VIII. Focus Groups

Sharon Jones asked the council to assist with focus groups in order to collect feedback. She asked all the think of different sites to hold focus groups; she also asked for recommendations and contact information. Sharon Jones informed the council that focus group flyers have recently been sent out to all stakeholders via email.

#### IX. Prevention and Early Intervention Information Notice

Sharon Jones informed all that an information notice was received from the State pertaining to PEI funds that were subject to revision; funds were recently reallocated back to the counties. Sharon Jones stated that a plan must be developed for

the reallocated funds. The funds will be discussed during future focus groups. A PowerPoint will be created to further explain information notice and to share gathered information from focus groups. Nancy Reding, community member, asked for the amount of the reallocated funds; Sharon Jones stated a few million dollars. Sharon Jones stated that she will continue to update the council.

#### **X. Suicide Prevention Hotline**

Sharon Jones distributed Suicide Prevention Hotline reports for the months of November 2017 and December 2017. She asked all members to review the reports and stated that questions would be forwarded to the Hotline. Nancy Reding voiced concern in regards to the lack of responses pertaining to sexual orientation. Sharon Jones informed the council that BHRS funds the Suicide Prevention Hotline with \$55,000 per year. Fernando Granados of Sierra Vista asked if it would be possible to request a report tailored to Merced County. Cindy Mattox of BHRS stated that a report is published annually that is specific to Merced County; monthly reports are for all participating counties. Sharon Jones stated that she would locate the annual report so that it could serve as a baseline; it is to be sent out to all. Nancy Reding would like to see Others be classified. Attendee would like Unknown to be clarified. Monica Adrian of Caring Kids suggested asking what kinds of questions are being asked. Amy Hang of Project Prevention Coalition expressed her concerns related to the lack of information pertaining to the Hmong population. Sharon Jones discussed the possible issues related to individuals not disclosing personal information. The council discussed the possibility of requesting a presentation so that members can have an opportunity to ask their various questions and state their concerns.

#### **XI. Selection of Chair/Vice Chair**

Sharon Jones announced to the council the results of the electronic voting; Fernando Granados for Chair and Nancy Reding for Vice Chair of the Ongoing Planning Council. Sharon Jones asked the council if there was any discussion related to the results. Sharon Jones stated that she would like to propose several additional committees for Consumers and Family members with the nominees over seeing them. Sharon Jones stated that she would be developing the committee names for both the client and consumer committee, a family member committee and perhaps an underserved community committee. Sharon stated that she will have the list ready for next month's meeting and have identified individuals who are willing to spearhead the various committees. Meetings are to be scheduled with the Director, Chair and Vice Chair to discuss strategies for 2018/2019 and updating Bylaws.

#### **XII. May is Mental Health Awareness Month**

Sharon Jones informed the council that the Atwater Community Center has been identified as a possible venue for the May is Mental Health Awareness Month event. The program should run similar to last year's program, from 9:30am to 1:00pm on May 16, 2018. All MHSA programs should be present to share their information. Sharon Jones asked the council to assist in seeking out willing participants to share their talents during the event. Sharon Jones is also seeking out speakers who can share their recovery journey. Sharon Jones informed the council that she recently received notification from CalMHSA via email that mini-grants will be offered to schools to host mental health awareness events. Sharon Jones to forward to all.

#### **XIII. Peer Specialist Certification**

Sharon Jones informed the council that an assembly bill sponsored by the Steinberg Institute is reintroducing the Peer Specialist Certification (SB906) for the state of California. Sharon Jones gave a brief overview of what the Peer Specialist Certification would consist of.

#### **XIV. CalMHSA**

Sharon Jones informed the council that CalMHSA had requested 3% to 4% of total PEI funding; this council determined that the funds would be better suited at the local level. The recommendation was accepted by the Behavioral Health Board. The next steps will consist of key informant interviews and focus groups to identify the needs as they pertain to prevention and early intervention; with the upcoming Program Update, directions and steps will be identified to meet the needs of the community.

#### **XV. Possibilities and Success Stories**

**XVI. Next Steps**

Andrea Cruthird-Mays of MCOE distributed informational Save-the-Date flyers to the council pertaining to the State of Quality Early Education and Training Institute: "Children and Families Experiences Matter," which is scheduled for June 11-16, 2018. Attendee suggested a partnership with Merced Lao Family. Nancy Reding, Community Member, distributed a half flyer for "Moving Forward Together" Information and Awareness Fair scheduled for Saturday, April 28, 2018 from 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Wesley Hall in the United Methodist Church. Sharon Jones informed all that an email will be sent out to all once a date in April has been established for April's Ongoing Planning Council meeting. Schedule meetings with the elected Chair and Vice Chair to work on updating the Bylaws and future strategies for 2018/2019. Items to be emailed: CalMHSA mini-grants, PEI Information Notice, annual Suicide Prevention Hotline report and information pertaining to Peer Specialist Certification

**XVII. Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 9:53am; motioned/seconded (Fernando Granados/Ka Her).