

Summary

Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Ongoing Planning Council

September 19, 2019

9:00am

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services Department

301 East 13th Street, Merced

Present:

Sharon Jones, Monica Adrian, Caitlin Haygood, Jenna Nunes, Fernando Granados, Kristine Larios, Sandra Sandoval, Rebecca McMullen, Anna Santos, Rubinpreet Awesome, Mai Ka Yang, Robert Hubbard, Adam Lane, Zac Coston, Jessica Wheeler, Christie Hendricks, Cindy Mattox, Marilyn Mochel, Griselda Vazquez, Vong Chang, Christopher Jensen, Sophia Ornelas, Anthony Vieira, Jen Ramos, Chris Bobbitt

Presentation and Discussion:

All Members

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes

The approval of minutes for August 15, 2019 was motioned/seconded (Anna Santos/Jenna Nunes) and carried.

III. Update Planning Council Contact List

Fernando Granados, Chair, encouraged all attendees to sign in to maintain an updated contact list.

IV. Notice to the Public

Sharon Jones, MHSA Coordinator, announced that the timeline to complete the MHSA FY 2019-2020 Annual Update to the Three-Year Plan will be extended. The report is still expected to be submitted prior to the deadline.

Cindy Mattox announced that Andrea Tovar is no longer with MHSA. Items should now be emailed to Caitlin Haygood, Maria Orozco-Cortez or Cindy Mattox. A new staff member is expected to begin as an Office Assistant III with MHSA on September 30, 2019. Fernando Granados asked who is currently sending MHSA related emails and who is the contact when sending questions/issues regarding the Ongoing Planning Council. Sharon Jones said Maria Orozco-Cortez is the current contact, but to also include Sharon in emails regarding the Ongoing Planning Council.

Adam Lane provided the planning council with comprehensive list of the current LGBTQ Alliance support and social groups. Adam said the list is okay to copy and includes contact information for the facilitators.

V. Chair's Report

Fernando Granados, Chair, thanked Sharon Jones and her staff for the emails that were sent during Suicide Prevention Week. The content of the emails were well received and were shared with members of his organization.

Fernando informed the planning council that he is now a board member for NAMI. He said he will recuse himself from the process if and when any decisions are made in regards to NAMI.

VI. Director's Report

The Director was not present. Sharon Jones announced that a letter from the Director, Yvonnia Brown, was sent out to all MHSA Providers regarding the MHSA Audit and thanking everyone for their hard work in regards to the audit. Sharon read the letter aloud.

VII. Program Presentation

Monica Adrian presented a PowerPoint about the Merced County Office of Education Caring Kids Program. Monica passed around different readings about the importance of early childhood mental health. The presentation provided information regarding specific program services that are offered to the community through Caring Kids and which programs are considered prevention and which are considered early intervention, target population (children 0-5 and their families), referral processes, cultural and linguistic competency, consumer and family-driven services, how consumers

and family members are integrated throughout the system, success stories, number of people served for FY 2018-2019, and smart goals and performance outcomes for FY 2018-2019. Program goals include reducing adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and increasing protective factors. Monica played a YouTube video called "Early Childhood Mental Health: A Level Foundation for Life."

Christopher Jensen asked if parents and families that are screened into the Caring Kids program are known to have a history of ACEs or if the goal is to prevent ACEs. Monica said that Caring Kids does not currently screen for ACEs, but the number one goal is to prevent ACEs in the children.

Christopher also asked what the length of time that any given family is involved in Caring Kids? Monica said that there are twenty-two total lessons, twenty consist of the social skills curriculum, and two lessons involve getting to know the children and the family better. The lessons can take six months to one year to complete. If the family still needs support, decisions can be made on a family to family basis.

Marilyn Mochel asked if school districts been approached through the LCAP process to expand the Caring Kids program in other areas in the county. Monica said that school districts have not been approached, but she is not opposed to it. They do work with many districts with their early education staff, but there has not been anything systematically put in place to expand this work. Monica said she would be happy to be part of those conversations.

VIII. MHSA Audit Feedback

Sharon Jones reported some of the feedback the auditors provided. Feedback included:

- Merced County had the best performance outcomes in the state;
- The auditors liked how the different programs leveraged resources;
- The auditors would like to see consistent program names across reports;
- BHRS should be able to gauge capacity throughout our process and know what areas are in need of support in terms of behavioral health care;
- Make sure that at all times we have enough bilingual providers;
- Breakdown of numbers served by groups in reporting;
- Auditors said our duty statements did a good job reflecting the work of MHSA.

Sharon asked if anyone wanted to speak about the site visits. Monica Adrian said she was not present during the Caring Kids site visit, but she heard it went well. Ker Thao, Cultural Broker at Merced Lao Family, was not present for the Merced Lao Family site visit, but heard it also went well and that the auditors enjoyed the Peer Support activities that were taking place during the site visit.

Ruby asked if the auditors wanted the numbers served by age group differently than how it is already reported in the demographics. Sharon said if it is already broken down in the demographics we should be on track.

IX. Issue Resolution Training for BHRS Staff, Contract Providers and the Community

Sharon Jones stated she will be more training on the MHSA Issues Resolution Process. The training will also be incorporated in the BHRS new employee orientation. Providers will receive a quarterly reminder with information about the Issues Resolution Process.

X. Workforce Education and Training Regional Strategies (Counties supply the 33 percent match of statewide funds that is required under law)

Sharon Jones reported that the state is talking about the five year workforce education and training plan. The state is asking for counties to provide \$32 million, or 33% of the match. The initial WET money was a one-time amount of money for ten years. Merced County originally received \$1.4 million. WET funds pay for CSU Stanislaus MSW Stipends, Psychosocial Rehabilitation collaboration with Merced College, Trilogy E-Learning Network of Care and staff development trainings. The conversation surrounding WET funds continues. Sharon believes that the state concluded the 58 counties will need to come up with 33% of the money on a regional basis.

XI. Workforce Needs Assessment

Sharon Jones said a timeframe will be set to look at the workforce needs throughout the year.

XII. Update on Community Planning Process

Sharon Jones provided an update on the current Community Planning Process. She said the previous day two focus groups were held. Common themes included more perinatal support, more post-partum mother support, and working on a collaborative team with Fresno and Madera on infant mental health. The themes of the NAMI focus group included Laura's Law, case management needs and linkage to treatment. Focus groups are continuing. If you have a key informant contact or would like to host a focus group contact Caitlin Haygood.

XIII. Administrative Updates and Changes

Sharon Jones announced that the Fiscal Year 2019-2020 MHSA Annual Update timeline has been extended, but is still on track to be completed on time.

XIV. Possibilities and Success Stories

Christopher Jensen gave an update on possibilities. He announced that his office is currently in the assessment phase of a strategic planning process that takes place every five years, which may determine potential program changes. He wanted to notify the committee that he may be coming to ask for approval on changes in the coming year depending on the outcome of the strategic planning process. Any changes within programs would begin with the director and then come to the planning committee. Future updates and changes can be announced under "administrative updates and changes."

Marilyn Mochel said that under the strategic planning process provided an overview of school data based on the California Healthy Kids Survey. It would be helpful for the group to take a look at the data. The survey was administered to 7th and 11th grade students. Some of the highest schools had a percentage of almost one out of every two students experienced chronic sadness and a sense of hopelessness and a percentage of 11th graders who seriously considered suicide. The survey should that about 30% of 7th graders experienced a sense of hopelessness and that number went up as high as 46% in some of the high schools. Marilyn mentioned LCAP as a potential funding source to supplement what is received through MHSA funding. NAMI is meeting with superintendents to talk about the data and about the programming NAMI can provide and they would like to highlight what other programs can provide. School districts are becoming very concerned about this data and their limitations to address it.

Zachery Coston shared a success story. Zachery heard wonderful feedback from attendees of support groups. Attendees take away a lot from the groups. The efforts that they are putting in are definitely working.

Sharon Jones said the MHSA audit was a success in that it gave the state a snapshot of the work that is being done.

Sharon Jones also shared that the Suicide Prevention Month Event will take place at BHRS from 3:00 pm – 7:00 pm on September 19, 2019 in room C219.

XV. Next Steps

Program presentation- Aspiranet WECAN.

XVI. Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 am.