Meeting Minutes:

**Mono County Behavioral Health (MCBH)**

**Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) Meeting**

**Monday August 12, 2024 from 3:00-4:30 pm**

In-person locations (required for BHAB members):

Mono County Civic Center   
Dana Room (2nd floor – across from restrooms)   
1290 Tavern Road Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Bridgeport Memorial Hall  
73 North School Street Bridgeport, CA 93517

Hybrid Zoom Option:<https://monocounty.zoom.us/j/7609242222>  
Call in: +1 669 900 6833  
Meeting ID: 760 924 2222

BHAB Attendees: Stacy Corless, Lois Klein, Lynda Salcido, Dirk Addis, Rolf Knutson, Ingrid Braun, Stacey Powell

1. Public Comment – no public comment
2. Approval of minutes from June 10, 2024 (Action) – First: Lois Second: Dirk, unanimously approved
3. Behavioral Health Department Updates
   1. Community Programming
      1. Update on summer programming
      2. One of our wellness associates left the department at the end of June. We’ve conducted interviews and have selected a candidate that is going through the Human Resources (HR) process now. Onboarding to be determined.
      3. Betty, wellness associate in Walker, went to part time in July.
      4. Rebranded Circulo De Mujeres (Spanish women’s support group) to Convivio en Familia (family game night). It is on Wednesday evenings from 5:00-6:30.
      5. Community Garden in Walker is thriving! A bit touch and go this season at the beginning and then the rain really helped the garden to take off this year. We do have some empty beds this year, first year in a while,  and David is working to promote the garden more throughout the community.
      6. Kama is getting regular attendance at her Kid’s art program on Thursday afternoons.
      7. Betty’s chair yoga and trauma yoga continue to be well attended and appreciated.
      8. David and Tajia hiking programs are also well attended and attendees are learning about mindful hiking.
      9. Clubhouse Live summer has been all over Mono County exploring different recreational areas like Yosemite, June Lake, Devils Postpile and the Lakes Basin. Continues to grow and Esme and Jake have worked really hard to establish a safe and secure relationship with these kids and that seems to be communicated throughout the community. Both middle school and high school attendees. Esme has taken on the bulk of the administrative duties for this which is much more complex in the summer and is doing a wonderful job.
      10. Continue to have yoga in mammoth 2x per week, and stretching and pilates in Crowley 2x per week with regular attendance.
   2. Events
      1. Attended Kutzedikaa Days at the end of June with the Mono Lake Tribe
      2. In honor of International Overdose Awareness Day we are partnering with Crossroads Recovery Center to host a Substance Use Disorder Summit: Cultivating a Community of Healing. August 26-27, 2024. 8:00-5:00 pm. Wanaaha Casino.
      3. Suicide Prevention and Awareness Event in partnership with Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation. Sept 21, 2024, 10:00-1:00pm. Community Recreation Center.
      4. Latin Heritage Month Celebration  - TBD – working with school on facility availability
      5. Mental Health First Aid – working with Suzie for fall dates.
   3. Fall Programming
      1. Reaching out to schools to re-establish kidding around yoga and mindfulness classes Lee Vining, Bridgeport, and Coleville. Heard back from Superintendent Torrix and she gave us the green light to work with sites directly which we will be doing in the next couple of weeks. Always takes some time to settle into a new school year and build this program.
      2. Scoping out programming opportunities at The Sawyer. May start with weekly casual check ins with residents to build support and community. Lots of potential here!
      3. Reaching out to individual school sites for support needs (counseling, psychoeducational classes and/or group needs) and Life Skills schedule for 24-25 school year.
      4. Looking to re-establish Senior Doughnut Drop In with new wellness associate.
   4. Sawyer Update
      1. Challenges with moving in clients with phase 2. About 5 clients have moved in with phase 1. Waiting on Buckingham updated agenda.
      2. Challenges playing rent, facility requests, etc. causing a bit of anxiety of clients.
      3. Most clients anxious about living in a nice place and losing housing.
      4. Try to be in constant contact to reduce client anxiety and navigate questions.
      5. Two offices on site. Projected staff on site 5 days a week.
      6. Possible opportunity for HHS to be on site too.
      7. Discussion on public roll out.
      8. Discussion on media representation and resources here in the Eastern Sierra.
      9. Discussion about other housing initiatives – Airbnb status, lease to locals program.
   5. Staffing Update
      1. California State Association of Counties (CSAC) Challenge Awards – innovation awards – highest retention rate of all of BH departments in the state. Crafting a narrative around culture and staff development. Manage burnout. Vacation. Connection. Due in September. Stacy Corless and BHAB members willing to help edit and craft. Discussion about support, discussion about retention.
      2. Janelle Clark, joining on Monday, August 19, extensive working in various county settings working with severe mental health. Clinical Supervisor.
   6. Audits/reviews:
      1. Upcoming mega-audit
         1. Variety of new and updated policies and procedures
         2. Department of Health Care Services
         3. We undergo about 6 audits per year. Those audits do not talk to each other.
         4. One audit every three years – entire MediCal system, conducted by Department of Health Care Services (DHCS).
            1. Unknown date – about 30 days notice
            2. Collate data and submit to specific mailboxes – some vagueness to navigate.
         5. BHAB – if you can explain how remote we are to others. Discussion on examples of remoteness.
   7. Upcoming or recent MCBH items before the Mono County Board of Supervisors (BOS)
      1. Robin: budget update
      2. No discussion on budget for FY 24-25 at Budget Meeting
      3. Budget to be adopted mid-September.
4. Quality Improvement Discussion Topic: Overview of SB (State Bill) 43 and Prop 1 Bond facility funding: Robin
   1. Discussion of possibly partnering with other Counties
      1. SB 43 – change in LPS (Lanterman-Petris-Short) Act – allows us to take away a person’s rights if they cannot take care of themselves due to a mental health (MH) issue. 5150 or conserve up to a year. LPS historically only for MH disorders. Newsom added substance use disorder (SUD) into that act. Right and requirement to take peoples rights away for SUD. No place for placement for SUD conditions. SUD generally have physical comorbidities – no facility has a medical site attached to them. Opt out for 2 years (Mono). 2 counties opted in. Some counties starting in 2025. We contract with Kern County. Kern is building new facilities for this LPS change. We are in negotiation with Kern for 2026 and beyond. Newsome wrote to 56 counties. Robin to present to the Board how MCBH is positioning itself for a 2026 SB 43 launch. County Counsel will need to navigate and define when rights can be taken away. Discussion on government processes between State and Counties.
      2. Prop 1 – energy to get exempt and seeking guidance from the state on how small counties are navigating.
5. Board Member Reports
   1. Lois – Mono County Office of Education staff changes. Tammy new superintendent. Sept 1 first day.
   2. Lynda- working on budget. CSAC conference in Pasadena. Legislative updates. Fiscal review. Newsom pressure to clear homelessness is generating a lot of conversation. Vanlife SafePlace not ready to launch this year.
   3. Stacey – grief open mic night, to send email about funding. Would like to do a monthly thing moving forward. Question about generational trauma and epigenetics.
   4. Dirk – resigned from MCBH. Full-time position elsewhere. Misses the Senior Doughnut Drop In.
   5. Rolf – learning a lot about housing crunch past couple of days. Renting a space. Discussion about housing crisis.
   6. Ingrid – death of 3 month old in Walker. Coordinated response was astounding. Support in aftermath was impressive and reassuring. We have a good team.
   7. Discussion around community trauma and crisis and small county response. Discussion on information exchange in small rural areas.
   8. Stacy – Mammoth Mountain Community Foundation partnering of suicide event in September. Possible funding for grief discussion group. Sierra Bourne starting a first responder trauma support initiative.
6. Future items
   1. New BHAB Membership requirements, CARE Act, BH-CONNECT, Justice-Involved Initiative
7. Confirm meeting schedule for 2024 and adjourn to next meeting
   1. **October 21, 2024 (note this is the 3rd Monday due to Indigenous People’s Day): 3:00 – 4:30pm**
   2. **2024 Calendar: April 8, 2024; June 10, 2024; August 12, 2024; October 21, 2024 (note this is the 3rd Monday due to Indigenous People’s Day); December 9, 2024**

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In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, anyone who needs special assistance to attend this meeting can contact the Behavioral Health Department at 760-924-1740 within 48 hours prior to the meeting in order to ensure accessibility (see 42 USCS 12132, 28CFR 35.130). MONO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT P. O. BOX 2619 MAMMOTH LAKES, CA 93546 (760) 924-1740 FAX: (760) 924-174