

**CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions (CALBHB/C)****Friday, January 17, 2020, Holiday Inn San Diego Bayside - MINUTES****Governing Board Meeting (11:00 am) and Southern/LA Regional Meeting/Training (1:00 pm)****Governing Board Meeting (11:00 am – 12:30 pm)**

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by President Harriette Stevens, Ed.D.

**Attendance:** Governing Board Members: President Harriette Stevens (San Francisco), Vice President Benny Benavidez (Imperial), Secretary/Treasurer Mae Sherman (Lassen), Jerry Harris (Ventura), Stacy Dalglish, (Los Angeles). **Attendance by Zoom Teleconference:** Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono) and Kristine Haataja (Napa).

**Staff:** Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

**Minutes:** The minutes from the December 20, 2019 Governing Board teleconference meeting were presented for approval. Jerry Harris asked that the December minutes include his suggestion for CALBHB/C to advocate regarding, “Inappropriate use of emergency rooms during mental health crisis”. A motion to approve the minutes with the above addition was made by Benny Benavidez with a second by Stacy Dalglish. Mae Sherman and Supervisor Corless abstained as they were absent from that meeting. The motion carried.

**Finances:**

**Financial Reports:** A Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activity were presented by Executive Director Theresa Comstock. Equity as of January 11, 2020 was \$124,597.76. A motion to accept the financial reports as presented was made by Jerry Harris with a second by Stacy Dalglish. The motion carried unanimously.

**L.A. County SAACs:** Stacy Dalglish from Los Angeles County shared that there are 8 service areas with chairs and co-chairs who potentially would like to attend the CALBHB/C Southern meetings/trainings. She asked if it would be possible for CALBHB/C to reimburse travel and accommodations (as needed) for one co-chair from each of these service areas to attend Southern regional meetings/trainings. It was noted that CALBHB/C’s budget can support the attendance for one co-chair per SAAC to attend the June meeting/training in Riverside. Dues for L.A. County for the next fiscal year (FY20-21) might be increased. (L.A. County dues are currently at \$5,000.) Considerations of the FY 2020-21 dues schedule will take place in coming months.

**Dues:** Staff will soon send out the second reminder to those counties who haven’t paid their dues.

The Minutes and Financial Reports were sent electronically to Governing Board members prior to the meeting.

**Executive Director’s Report, Theresa Comstock:** Ms. Comstock shared the following items:

**1. Board & Cares (ARFs) for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness:**

**A)** The updated [CALBHB/C ARF Issue Brief](#) that includes a call for immediate and long-term solutions:

- 1) Immediate—Funding to prevent closures and increase offerings
- 2) Long-Term—Address key challenges:
  - Financial: Changes to current licensing structure to accommodate a tiered level of care system
  - Staff Support: Technical assistance, training and support for staff and owners to:
    - a) Successfully work with this complex population; b) Maintain fiscal stability; c) Sustain licensing.
  - NIMBY: Advocacy toolkit to increase understanding of mental illness and the effective use of ARFs/RCFEs in order to overcome NIMBY (Not in My Backyard) opposition.

**B)** The Governor’s proposed budget for behavioral health included \$750 million for a “CA Access to Housing and Services Fund”. This includes “bolstering board and care homes”.

**C)** [“CBHDA and Steinberg Institute Board and Care Ask”](#), calling for:

- 1) One-time rate enhancement – Investment of \$500 million
- 2) Regulation Changes (Consideration)
- 3) Federal Waiver Opportunities (Exploration)

**2. Peer Support Specialist Certification:** SB 803 (Beall) is the new bill regarding Peer Support Specialist Certification. Last year’s Peer Support Specialist Certification bill, SB 10, was not signed by Governor Newsom. Although supported in concept, the Governor noted a need for budget consideration ([see letter](#).)

**3. Performance Outcome Data:**

- a. Advocating for a set of standardized data points – Currently every county/jurisdiction reports differently on MHSA program performance outcome data.
- b. Comstock reviewed the performance outcome data that can be found on our web page at: [www.calbhbc.org/performance](http://www.calbhbc.org/performance) . Per the request of the Governing

**Support for Budget & Legislative Items:**

A motion to support the \$500 million budget ask for board & cares, was made by Jerry Harris, and seconded by Stacy Dagleish. Motion carried unanimously. A letter of support will be drafted and signed by Stevens and Comstock. Comstock will also plan to provide in-person support at related hearings at the Capitol, and provide a sample letter of support for potential use by individuals on local mental/behavioral health boards and commissions and their local governing bodies.

Another motion to support SB 803 (Beall) was made by Stacy Dalgleish with a second by Benny Benavidez. The motion carried unanimously. A letter of support will be drafted and signed by Stevens and Comstock. Comstock will also plan to provide in-person support at related hearings at the Capitol, and provide a sample letter of support for potential use by individuals on local mental/behavioral health boards and commissions and their local governing bodies.

**2020 Goals:** The 2020 goals had been updated to reflect the discussion at the December Governing Board meeting. After discussion, Jerry Harris made a motion to approve the 2020 Goals, with a second from Benny Benavidez. The motion carried unanimously.

**Upcoming Meetings & Trainings:**

January 17, 2020 – CALBHB/C Governing Board Meeting in San Diego

April 17, 2020 – CALBHB/C Governing Board Meeting in Oakland

April 18, 2020 – Bay Area Region Meeting/Training

June 19, 2020 – CALBHB/C Governing Board Meeting in Riverside

June 20, 2020 – Southern Region Meeting/Training in Riverside

Find Meetings/Trainings on: [www.calbhbc.org](http://www.calbhbc.org)

The Governing Board meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

**Southern /L. A. Regional Meeting & Training  
January 17, 2020, 1:00pm – 6:00pm**

**1:00pm: Southern /L. A. Region Meeting & Training -- See attachment A for attendance**

President Harriette Stevens and Executive Director Theresa Comstock welcomed attendees and introductions were made. Local and statewide mental/behavioral issues were discussed.

**CHBPC Update on Committee & Advocacy Projects:** Executive Officer for the California Behavioral Health Planning Council, Jane Adcock, gave a report on what the Planning Council Committees are addressing.

**Legislative Committee:** Advocating for peer certification (SB 803), and concerns regarding efforts to refocus MHSA, with MHSA dollars potentially limited to addressing: Children & Youth, Criminal Justice, and Homelessness. Adcock mentioned a concern regarding the impact of shifting MHSA dollars that currently leverage Medi-

Cal funding.

**Housing & Homeless:** (1) Concerns regarding “Housing First” policy; (2) Board & Cares (Adult Residential Facilities) are an essential piece of the housing continuum.

**Workforce & Employment:** Calif. Office of Statewide Planning & Development (OSHPD) 5 year MHSAs Workforce Education and Training (WET) plan, which includes regional partnerships.

**Patients’ Rights:** (1) On-line training requirements are being implemented for Patients’ Rights Advocates per new legislation; (2) Whistle-Blower Protection for Patients Rights Advocates was enacted through AB-333 in 2019. (3) The committee is interested in surveying counties (asking the local mental health boards and commissions to help) to learn more about the local role of Patients’ Rights Advocates.

**Performance Outcome:** A compilation of the 2018 Data Notebook should be ready by the end of January. The Planning Council would like more counties to complete the 2019 Data Notebook. The next Data Notebook may be on employment for those with psychiatric disabilities, programs & outcomes, and possibly also on peer support specialists.

**MHSOAC Update on Policy Projects:** In the absence of representatives from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Committee, CALBHB/C Executive Director Theresa Comstock shared:

- 1) Information regarding the Mental Health Student Services Act Grant Request for Application: <https://mhsaac.ca.gov/what-we-do/request-proposal/mhssa-rfa>
- 2) Information on the MHSOAC Web Site providing local MHSAs program information: <http://transparency.mhsaac.ca.gov/searchpage>

**Mental Health America CA, Heidi Strunk, President & CEO, Coalition Advocacy Issues:**

- May 20<sup>th</sup> is Mental Health Matters Day at the Capitol in Sacramento
- Legislative Priorities include:
  - 1) SB-803 (Beall) re: Peer Certification
  - 2) Parity & Access, SB 854 (Beall), SB 855 (Wiener)
  - 3) AB-1383 (Chu) re: Pupil attendance: excused absences: behavioral health
  - 4) AB-1844 (Chu) re: Paid sick leave: behavioral health conditions
  - 5) Mental Health Services Act – Preserving the integrity of the Act.

**CAYEN --- Youth Empowerment Network --Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Advocates; Marisol Beas, Project Coordinator:** For the TAY population, (ages 15-26), voices are missing where decisions and policy is being made. CAYEN is organizing TAY in different parts of the states in order to increase the TAY voice in State & Local Policy, to add input and increased access and provision of mental health programs in areas such as:

- Foster Youth
- Criminal Justice
- The Public Mental Health System
- Wellness Centers on Campus
- Transportation
- Peer Programs
- TAY Homelessness.

TAY need to be on local and state boards with voting power.

**Review Update to CA WIC 5604 & 5848 regarding MH/BH Boards/Commissions – CALBHB/C** Executive Director, Theresa Comstock provided a PowerPoint presentation and [printed copy of updated code](#). Ms. Comstock explained the changes in the bylaws, duties, expenses, and membership.

**Cal Voices (An Affiliate of Mental Health America), Access CA Program, Andrea Crook, NCPS, Director of Advocacy for Access CA:** Ms. Crook facilitated a training on MHSA community program planning, ensuring community input.

**The meeting/training adjourned at 6:00pm**

## ATTACHMENT A

### Attendance – CALBHB/C Southern/LA Region Meeting Training, January 17, 2020, 1 – 6pm

Acuna, Carlos	Imperial County
Adcock, Jane	CA Behavioral Health Planning Council
Ainsworth, Philip	San Diego County
Alegria, Dolores	San Diego County
Beas, Marisol	CA Youth Empowerment Network
Benavidez, Benny	CALBHB/C Vice President, Imperial County
Boyd, Debra	Santa Clara County (Staff)
Caffey, Monica	San Bernardino County
Comstock, Theresa	CALBHB/C Executive Director, Napa County
Crook, Andrea	Cal Voices, Access California
Dagleish, Stacy	Los Angeles County (and CALBHB/C Governing Board Member)
Hall, Jerry	San Diego County
Harris, Jean	Los Angeles County Service Area Advisory Committee
Harris, Jerry	Ventura County (and CALBHB/C Governing Board Member)
Holzmann, Matt	Orange County
King Kondos, Victoria	Santa Barbara County
Levy, Mark	Orange County
Marsden, Laurie	San Bernardino County
Matthews, Michael	San Diego County
McNally, Steve	Orange County
Mendel, Jenifer	San Diego County
Pettiford, Kimberly	San Diego County
Sherman, Mae	CALBHB/C Secretary/Treasurer, Lassen County
Stevens, Harriette	CALBHB/C President, San Francisco County
Strunk, Heidi	Mental Health America, CA
Weirick, Clint	San Luis Obispo County