

County of Del Norte,  
Department of Health and Human Services  
**Behavioral Health Branch**



**Local Behavioral Health Board  
Annual Report  
2020**

## Del Norte County Local Behavioral Health Board Membership for 2019

Chairperson: Clarke Moore  
Active Since: 1994

Board Member: Lori Cowan  
Active Since: 2017

Vice-Chairperson: Valerie Guilmette  
Active Since: 2018

Board Member: Dawn McCovey  
Active Since: 2014

Board Member: Rose Corcoran  
Active Since: 2019

Board Member: Bill Steven  
Active Since: 2019

Board Member: Patrick Tracy  
Active Since: 2018

### Duties and Responsibilities

The mission of the Board is to inform and educate the public on alcohol, drug and mental health issues as well as to advise the Del Norte County Mental Health Plan on program development, availability of services and planning efforts as established by Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5604.2. This includes the following responsibilities:

Mental Health – Under the provisions of Welfare and Institutions Code Sections 5604 et seq. concerning mental health programs, the Board shall:

1. Review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, services, facilities, and special problems.
2. Review any County agreements entered into pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5650.
3. Advise the Board of Supervisors and the Behavioral Health Director (hereinafter referred to as "Director") as to any aspect of the local mental health program.
4. Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.
5. Submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the County's mental health system.
6. Review and make recommendations on applicants for the appointment of Director of Mental Health Services. The Behavioral Health Board shall be included in the selection process prior to employment of the Director.
7. Review and comment on the County's performance outcome data and communicate its findings to the State Mental Health Commission (the California Mental Health Planning Council).
8. Assess the impact of the realignment services from the State to the County on services delivered to clients and on the local community.

## **Overview**

The following Del Norte County Local Behavioral Health Board Annual Report 2020 reflects the actions of the Local Behavioral Health Board over course of 2019. This report is a requirement based on Welfare and Institutions Code Section 5604.2(a)(5). During that year, board members were engaged, on a bi-monthly basis, with DHHS-Behavioral Health Branch staff, and community stakeholders, to determine the crucial mental health needs of Del Norte County. They consistently interacted with Behavioral Health Branch staff, consumers, and community partners, in order to review and evaluate the services that the Behavioral Health Branch provides. This report is submitted as an overview the Local Behavioral Health Board's work during the 2019 calendar year.

<b>Local Behavioral Health Board Member Meeting Attendance</b>						
	<b>February 2019</b>	<b>April 2019</b>	<b>June 2019</b>	<b>August 2019</b>	<b>October 2019</b>	<b>December 2019</b>
Clarke Moore	X	X	X	X	X	X
Valerie Guillmette	X	X	X	X	X	X
Rose Corcoran				X	X	X
Lori Cowan	X	X	X		X	
Dawn McCovey-Fakier		X	X		X	
Bill Steven	X	X	X	X	X	X
Patrick Tracy		X				

*X = board member was present at the meeting.*

## **Meetings: Action Items and Presentations**

### **February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

#### **Action Items:**

- The Behavioral Health Board unanimously approved the minutes from the 12/3/2018 meeting.

#### **Discussion:**

- Board members discussed the upcoming Mental Health Service Act community stakeholder meeting to be held on 3/20/2019. The board members suggested potential venues for this meeting, and gave suggestions for how best to advertise the event.
- Board members discussed the upcoming submission of the 2018 Data Notebook, to be submitted to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council. Board members asked that a draft be given to them prior to final submission.
- DHHS-Behavioral Health Branch staff engaged in discussion with staff from Sutter Coast Hospital over the recruitment of a Psychiatrist.
- A board member discussed the recent meeting of the DHHS-BHB consumer council meeting.

### **April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019**

#### **Action Items:**

- The Behavioral Health Board unanimously approved the minutes from the 2/4/2019 meeting.
- The Board members unanimously approved the 2018 Data Notebook for submission to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council.

#### **Discussion:**

- Attendees discussed the issue of Sutter Coast Hospital attempting to recruit an in-person psychiatrist.
- DHHS Director Heather Snow presented a draft copy of the *Goals and Strategies to Reduce Homelessness* plan.
- An update on the state of the Behavioral Health Branch was given. The board members were notified that Clinical Services Manager Jack Breazeal resigned. Board members were also notified that the position was open for recruitment.
- Board members were notified that the Department of Health and Human Services-Behavioral Health Branch and United Indian Health Services were developing a Memorandum of Understanding.
- Board members were notified that the mandated Patient's Rights Advocate position was vacated by the previous advocate, Melodee Fugate.

## **June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### Action Items:

- The Behavioral Health Board unanimously approved the minutes from the 4/1/2019 meeting.
- Board members unanimously voted to approve the Mental Health Service Act fiscal year 2019-2020 annual update.
- The board members unanimously approved the meeting schedule for the fiscal year 2019-2020.

### Discussion:

- A public hearing was held for the Mental Health Service Act fiscal year 2019-2020 annual update.
- An update was given on the ongoing recruitment of a Psychiatrist at Sutter Coast Hospital.
- DHHS Director Heather Snow gave an update on Homeless Plan.
- Director Heather Snow gave an update on the recruitment for a Clinical Service Manager.
- An update was given to board members on the ongoing work to establish a collaboration between United Indian Health Services and the Behavioral Health Branch.
- DHHS Assistant Director Ranell Brown gave an update on the recent External Quality Review that took place on 5/22/2019.

## **August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### Action Items:

- The Behavioral Health Board unanimously approved the minutes from the 8/5/2019 meeting.
- Board members voted to, and approved of the name change of the board from the Local Mental Health Board, to the Local Behavioral Health Board.

### Discussion:

- DHHS Director Heather Snow introduced the new Behavioral Health Branch Program Manager Jon Kirwan.
- Staff members from *Our Daily Bread* gave a presentation on the services that are offered at their facility.
- Board member Vice Chair Person Valerie Guilmette, discussed a proposal for creating an exercise group at the Service Center.
- Board members discussed the 2019 data notebook. They requested that a completed copy is given to them by 9/23/2019, before the 10/15/2019 due date.
- DHHS Director Ranell Brown gave an update on the Sequential Mapping Workshop that took place on 8/15/2019 and 8/16/2019.

## **October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

### Action Items:

- The Behavioral Health Board unanimously approved the minutes from the 8/5/2019 meeting.
- Board members unanimously approved the 2019 Data Notebook for submission to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council.

### Discussion:

- The Behavioral Health Board members were informed of the resignation of the Program Manager Jon Kirwin.
- DHHS Assistant Director Ranell Brown introduced Shiann Hogan as the new Interim Behavioral Health Branch Program Manager.
- Board members discussed updating the bylaws to reflect the name change from the Local Mental Health Board to the Local Behavioral Health Board.
- Board member Valerie Guilmette gave an update of the most recent Service Center Consumer Council meeting.
- An update was given on the Sequential Mapping workshop that recently took place. The workshop was facilitated by SAMSHA.
- An update was given on the Behavioral Health Branch meeting with the Department of State Hospitals about the diversion grant application.
- An update was given on the Behavioral Health Branch's work on its jail renovation project.

## **December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**

### Action Items:

- The Behavioral Health Board unanimously approved the minutes from the 10/7/2019 meeting

### Discussion:

- Board members discussed the annual report required by the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- Board members were given an update on the vacant positions within the Behavioral Health Branch.
- Shiann Hogan was introduced as the new Program Manager for the Behavioral Health Branch.
- Branch staff gave an update on a revision to the 2019 Data Notebook.