



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

of Mariposa County
Post Office Box 784
Mariposa, California 95338
(209) 966-3222

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September 4, 2024

12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Mariposa County Health & Human Services – Mariposa Conference Room
5362 Lemee Lane, Mariposa, California 95338

To attend via telephone, call 1-669-900-6833, then at the prompts enter the following:
Meeting ID 985-9834-5239, participant ID #, passcode 123456

Members Present: Paul Brickett, Olga Leonard, Ellie McQuarrie, Rosemarie Smallcombe, Loretta Milne, Dana Hallett

Members Excused: Eva Adams

Members Absent: Mike Charman

Guests Present: Jesse Salcedo, Donna Ragel, Summerlynn Marquez, Brandon Stump

Staff Present: Sheila Baker, Dina Garrett, Kristina Keheley

Quorum: Yes

Mission Statement: The mission statement was read by Loretta Milne.

- I. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** Meeting started approximately 12:32pm by Paul Brickett, Chair. Roll call and introductions were made.
- II. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2024 (attachment)** - Ellie made a motion to approve minutes, Loretta 2nd the motion. All members present voted “aye”, none opposed, with Rosemarie abstaining. August meeting minutes approved.
- III. **Public Comments:** None
- IV. **Agenda Items:**
 - A. **Announcements:** Congratulations to Kristina Keheley, she is now the Permanent Director of HHSA. Dina explained the mileage form. Anyone who receives money will have to complete the on-line ethics training.
 - B. **Staff Reports:**
 1. **Director of HHSA:** Kristina Keheley reported that the HHSA booth at the fair was very successful. Huge thanks to all the staff. A really popular service we provide is the wood smoke program, changing your wood stove to be more efficient. Many people had no idea that we offered that as well as other efficient energy programs. People took the applications for these programs. Paul asked if we received any complaints, Kristina answered, as far as she knows there were no complaints. Dana asked if there any protocols for the people that work upfront on assisting people with disabilities. Kristina answered no we don't have anything in writing that

we are aware of. Dana explained that her friend didn't have her purse, and she couldn't get services because she didn't have her ID, and they wouldn't go get her purse from her car and nobody offered to get her purse. - Kristina answered there could be some liability in doing that. We provide accommodations as written in ADA. As far as retrieving her personal belongings from her car is not something that would be good for HHSA to do. Maybe a case manager/social worker could help her. HHSA will look into it and make sure she is connected appropriately. Dana said she is connected very well with HHSA team.

2. **Director of Health Services:** No report
3. **Deputy Director of BHRS:** Sheila Baker – Yesterday at the Board of Supervisor meeting a proclamation for Behavioral Health Suicide Prevention Awareness month was approved. A mailer will be going out this week. Everyone in the county will be receiving one in the mail. On one side of the flyer there are a number of QR codes that link people to different information, including BH services, 988 suicide and crisis lifeline, the Friendship line for anyone feeling isolated, and Know the Signs that suicide is preventable. There are PSAs on the TVs in Pioneer and Stage Stop that have mental health messaging from our department on them. Sheila spoke on the SPOT(Suicide Prevention Outreach Team) team, that it started during COVID, and it is a team of people that work on different projects for suicide prevention, e.g., flyers, and coffee sleeves given out at local coffeehouses. Pony Espresso has been really great and love using the coffee sleeves and about partnering with our department regarding suicide awareness. If any of you know anyone that is in crisis, please call the 209-966-7000 which is the local crisis line or the 988 number which is national. Also, the North County HHSA facility did lose funding as previously reported. There is a good lead about a new grant opportunity and HHSA will submit as soon as possible. Also, we received an email regarding the Data Notebook 2024, and the survey questions were distributed at the meeting. The topic of the Data Notebook this year is “homelessness and the public behavioral health system.” Paul said he would work with HHSA Quality Assurance to try to have a draft for review at the next BHB meeting.
4. **Financial:** No report
5. **Quality Assurance:** No report

C. Committees/Community Partner Reports:

1. **Mariposa Heritage House:** Summerlyn Marquez – we had an eventful month saw more individuals than we usually see for this time of year. It coincides with back to school and people coming in for the air conditioning and cold water during the heat. We had 1199 meals that were served, that's meals and emergency food boxes. Do expect to go down considerably for this month and going forward because as of August 30th We will not have transportation for bringing people to their medical appointments, bringing them to HHSA unless it's for specifically for SUD appointments, we can no longer drive anyone around town unless it's for people who are under or on probation as we have a contract with them and to clients that are in Drug Court due to no longer having financing for this. The number of people being able to access services will go down drastically. We pulled data for our grantor about 15% of the population of Mariposa was utilizing our transportation. That's from All age groups, demographics, hopefully we can have this up and running again soon. The transportation was for a number of different reasons, to go into town, the market, doctors appts etc. We have members of families that only have one vehicle and need to get someplace when they don't have their vehicle available. Many people from Idle Wheels and Creekside apartments, and tourists also jumped on and took a little tour of the town. We don't do North County unless it's pre-arranged. Hopefully we can get it up and running again or something similar. Our first 3 days of this month we've had very low numbers because we haven't had the ability for people to get in and that includes Connections, they are



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not coming into eat, not coming in for any services. It is because most of them can't walk the distance even though it is close. If they get one place, how will they get back. We have reached out to Hal to see if they would drive them back and forth. CMSP lichen it started as medical; to help eliminate the amount of people using the ER as their clinic & primary care but we had enough money for people to get around town to help them. It was primarily for medical as far as Modesto, Merced, clovis when they didn't have the transportation. We coordinated with people for Stanford, but it had to be an overnight because of our 8-hour timeframe. It was a 2-2.5-hour range. You were doing both the town shuttle and medical appts. That was on the same grant? Yes, it was. The reason we were able to do the route was to be able to keep them connected to the community. We received \$105,000 a year for the transportation around town and our 1 full time driver, gas etc. We actually wanted to have 2 full time drivers, but the funding just wasn't there for that. As a whole the Alliance makes a bit more than what they want a small non-profit to make. So, the few that we thought we would qualify for we were priced out of by less than \$500,000. Does the senior center still run a bus. The transportation services that are here now are through HHSA. When we consolidated the senior center came under our umbrella. It's County wide for anyone, Mari-Go. Do you have to qualify to use it. It depends on what the travel is for. HHSA is inundated we cannot keep up with the demand. There is a lot of need in Mariposa County. What is the message for the people receiving the free transport and meals? Do they just want everything for free and not work for everything/anything? We just make it available to them, a lot of the young people are working and going to school but not getting by. We are there to help them with a few meals. It's a hand up not a handout. One of the new grants applied thru probation will help the transitional young people to help them get to their job or school in Merced, Oakhurst, etc. - Rosemarie – send out an email, Margareta King, Rosemarie and Dana from the school are trying to pull together a group for primarily kids and food insecurity but haven't met yet.

2. **Mariposa Minds Matter:** No Report
3. **Connections:** No report
4. **Probation:** No Report
5. **Native Solutions:** No Report
6. **Mariposa Safe Families:** No Report
7. **Ethos:** No Report
8. **Family Resource Center:** No Report
9. **Casa:** No report
10. **Mountain Crisis:** No Report
11. **Miwumati Family Healing Center:** No report
12. **Veteran Representative:** Jesse Salcedo – Coulterville to post information on the bulletin boards, after last meeting it to be posted on those boards. They were not posted, i understand they were going to send to the NC office to post them. Hopefully the Friendly Visitor Program was one of the items on the boards, they are a little bigger than business cards. There are several free boards, Post office, little deli, consignment center has a board. These places get a lot of people. Greeley hill

is another area that have a need for all of these items, and they seem to be forgotten. The same things apply over in NC, the people probably don't know about Mari-Go, we have quite a lot of people that use the transportation from us in North County. We (HHSA) will make sure that items get posted in North County, Coulterville Cafe, Fieldings Trading post. In Greeley hill – library, Copper pot cafe. For farmers market there are fruit and veggie pickups for North County people. There are recesses in our board meetings that we didn't used to have where when we get done with our business, our public business Supervisor Poe goes out and meets with Jeanne-Ann Pine and transfers a container of fresh fruit and veggies from her car to his so Poe can take to NC. People with Medi-Cal can get free weekly boxes of fruit and veggies delivered directly to each person's home. Since HHSA has a salaried position in North County can we get the person that works in the North County office to keep the communication up on the boards. Can Stephen connect with Jesse about where the boards are and where to post. The wellness center meets in the library it's not just for BH clients that is open to anyone over 18. They meet from 11-2 on Fridays, it is ongoing. Is there a brochure? The activities change every Friday, Luis sends it out and Stephen gets it. We will reach out to him today.

13. Discuss Policy/Legislative Issues Relevant to BHB (Action Plan – Goal A4)

Rosemarie Smallcombe: Have scheduled a meeting with Kristina one of the things I'll be talking to her about is there is some fairly significant tension between the governor's office and at least the counties. I was at the California state of associations of counties board of directors meeting in Sacramento last week the woman who was responsible for providing the report on progress of legislation on health & human services spoke a lot about of SB1400, I had not heard of SB1400 and essentially CSAC I assume they were in coordination with CBHDA. The legislation session ended 8/31/24 and whatever has been passed has now moved to the governor's desk. Early that week this piece of legislation introduces that Imposes Reporting requirements on the implementation of the CARE act and there was no consultation with anyone at CBHDA or CSAC. CSAC has a lot of expertise when it comes to behavioral health issues, and they coordinate with CBHDA and other organizations. Part of their role is to push back on legislators and the governor's office and tell them they can't keep piling on requirements on county's some of which don't make sense in the first place and then they compete with other requirements you need to consult with county governments and with the functions within county govt's that are most directly impacted with its aging population services or mental health services. This piece of legislature passed and it's symptomatic it exemplifies the lack of communication that has developed between this administration and county government. A letter that came out on a weekend about 4 weeks ago from the governor's office that was essentially blasting county's because they had not moved fast enough on the implementation on SB43, changing the definition of gravely disabled. He never gave us a chance he didn't come out to the counties and say through CSAC through your relevant professional associations telling me what you are doing and what can we do together to move faster. He came out and said you all are holding up the intent of the legislation and executive branch. It's not a good or productive relationship. Prop 1 things are moving forward, this is a couple pieces of legislation that came together under the last legislative session and part of it was to move away from the mental health services act and become behavioral health services act and to combine mental health services for substance use disorders. The state has followed suit in combining the services. Part of the question is the adequacy of the funding on the Behavioral health services act relative to the mental health services act. Another legislation that talked about a bond issuance essentially it approved issuance of bonds for constructions of



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facilities, and that is moving forward it's about 3 billion dollars. We are not optimist about us seeing any of that money coming to Mariposa County but having said that and I'll leave it to these folks having more beds available will be a good Statewide. You need to get your applications in for funding by the end of this year. They are looking at Bond issuances in the early part of next year. There are 2 points at which they will issue bonds and then the revenues begin after they have been sold. And the revenues come in then those will be available for the projects that are envisioned under that part of it.

The Care act – there are working groups that are going on, there was one in late August and this one is the one where there are severe forms of mental illness, psychotic type diagnosis. There is a process to put those people into service. There are 7 counties part of a pilot project, we all have to convert over by Dec. 1, 2024. The majority of petitions so far are from family members over 50%. We are having to set up a lot of procedures for a limited amount of people who will use this service without funding. Dana asked are you talking about the people who need conservatorship? In a way you are taking away somebody's liberty because they may be a danger to themselves or others. Because of the diagnosis, what Sheila was talking about all the work obviously that is a big deal for something like that to happen. The question is what are the processes that we need to put in place so that those people who are truly a potential harm to themselves are put through this process. Also, it is also viewed as a preventative prior to conservatorship. Some if they don't stabilize and even with the care court process which can include up to a weekly court meeting with the judge ours will be Fridays. If it doesn't stabilize then conservatorship is an option. In that regard it can go in the opposite direction you have someone that is conserved and coming back out of an institution maybe back into the population it could go where they are cc individual that way to help bring them back into the community and reacclimate with the judge. If that level is appropriate, it's a pretty severe level of involvement. Care court hasn't been implemented as of yet in Mariposa County. It will be implemented December 1. DA – Wall said care court is a big issue for the county.

Next month or November can do a presentation on Care court

D. Old Business

E. New Business

- V. Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned approximately at 2:02 PM.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held in the Mariposa County Health & Human Services Mariposa Conference Room and via Teleconference, October 2, 2024, from 12:30p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Submitted,

Dina Garrett, Recording Secretary