

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION  
MINUTES – AUGUST 28, 2008**

<p>I.      <b>CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS</b>  The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairperson Jacque McLaughlin at 4:33 p.m.</p> <p><u>Commissioners Present:</u>  David Evans, District V  Art Honegger, District V  Dave Kahler, District IV  Jacque McLaughlin, District II  Teresa Pasquini, District I  Connie Tolleson, District V</p> <p><u>Attendees:</u>  Brenda Crawford, MH Consumer Concerns  Karyn Cornell, Supv. Piepho’s Office  Judith Gailliard, Public Defender’s Office  John Gragnani, Local 1, MH Coalition  Anne Heavey, NAMI, MHSA Family Steering Committee  Suzette Madrid, Supv. Bonilla’s Office  Peter Mantas, Guest  Kimberly Mayer, CCC Mental Health Project Manager  Colette O’Keeffe, MHC Applicant  Annis Pereyra, MHC Applicant  Dorothy Sansoe, CAO’s Office  Karen Shuler, MHC Staff  Joty Sikand, The Hume Center  Suzanne Tavano, CCC Deputy Director of Mental Health  Tomi Van de Brooke, Chief of Staff, Supv. Piepho’s Office  Vern Wallace, Children/Adolescent MH Program Chief  Donna Wigand, CCC Mental Health Director  Janet Marshall Wilson, JD, MHCC Patients’ Rights</p>	<p><u>Commissioners Absent:</u>  Supv. Susan Bonilla  Cynthia Miller</p>
<p>II.     <b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>  Flyers were distributed about:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contra Costa County’s “Project Homeless Connect 3,” to be held Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> in Antioch at the fairgrounds.</li> <li>• The 2008 Literacy Conference, to be held Monday, September 29<sup>th</sup> at the Concord Hilton.</li> <li>• The Early Childhood Mental Health Program.</li> </ul>	
<p>III.    <b>APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM JULY 24, 2008</b>  A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.</p>	<p><b>M-Kahler; S-Evans. Carried.</b></p>
<p>IV.     <b>CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS – Jacque McLaughlin</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In introducing herself as the newly-elected Chair, Jacque stated she is committed to working hard to help organize the Commission to be as effective as possible. She proposed Friday September 26<sup>th</sup> as a date for the</li> </ul>	

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<p>Commission Retreat. Commissioners present agreed to that date. She said the purpose of the Retreat would be to develop a protocol for how we want to work as a Commission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jacque requested suggestions for “topics of interest” to be covered in depth at the monthly Commission meetings. In September, Steven Hahn-Smith will be presenting a report on the annual Customer Satisfactory Surveys and Quality of Life Measures, and David Cassell will give a report on Quality Improvements. Future featured topics could include discussions on LPS/5150’s, conservatorship, what services are available in different parts of the County, etc. Teresa asked what the guidelines were and Jacque replied there were no limitations. Art mentioned he considered the bed reductions and the proposed PHF be addressed, along with any other major changes. Jacque said she wants to bring in the source experts to help point out what statistics the Commission should be looking at.</li> </ul>	
<p>V. REVIEW CONFLICT OF INTEREST CODE Required biennial review. A copy of the MHC’s Conflict of Interest Code was distributed and a brief explanation given to the Commissioners. A motion was made to send the review to the Clerk of the Board with no amendments.</p>	<p><b>M-Pasquini; S-Tolleson. Carried.</b></p>
<p>VI. REPORT FROM THE MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR – Donna Wigand, LCSW</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suzanne Tavano, BSN, PhD, Deputy Director of Mental Health, stated the 10% reduction in Medi-Cal pharmacy benefits discussed at last month’s MHC meeting is in limbo. The California Mental Health Director’s Association suggests advocating to legislators. Suzanne distributed Legislator Contact Information. Contra Costa Health Plan is in contact with the pharmacies. Teresa mentioned that NAMI has taken this on as well.</li> <li>• Update on Performance Improvement Projects (PIP) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hospital Recidivism Suzanne reported that David Cassell, Quality Improvement Coordinator, is taking the lead with Steve Hahn-Smith, Coordinator, Research and Evaluation, with representatives from family members, consumers and providers. It is in the formative stages. It is date-driven and includes adults as well as children, but mainly children.</li> <li>○ Most effective treatment for youth This concerns a state-wide mandated program for EPSDT children. A data base has been developed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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to identify children who are at the top 5% of expenditures per month.

- Vern Wallace, Children/Adolescent MH Program Chief, reported the budget cuts have had an impact on children's services.

On the positive side, he reported that Chris Adams Center for Girls has been given a verbal go-ahead to be certified as a County run group home. This should occur by the end of December. We will have 18 girls there. This will allow us to access AFDC/FC monies. This will only be the 2<sup>nd</sup> of its kind group home in the state.

The budget reductions have resulted in out-of-home placements increasing. With the previous full wrap-around teams in place, there were 19-22 out-of-home placements over a 2-1/2 year period. With the current reduced wrap-around teams, there have been 52 out-of-home placements. Vern distributed a graph that showed the trend in increased out-of-home placements with each budget reduction. Jacque asked for a cost comparison. Vern responded that with wrap-around teams in place, the cost per child is \$50,000. Placing kids in group homes can cost as much as \$195,000/year per child. There is a direct correlation between staff reductions and the out-of-home placement rate increasing. Jacque asked what the reaction of the Board of Supervisors has been. John Gragnani, representing Local I and the Mental Health Coalition, responded that Supv. Bonilla has stated the cuts seem short-sighted. Vern further stated that only 40% of the kids are Medi-Cal eligible so we're covering the costs of their day treatment.

Regarding AB3632 funding, Donna said she and Vern spoke to school superintendents who are grateful for receiving the information about reductions in services, but due to their own financial straits, are unable to assist. Health Services was told we have a liability problem because of the long waiting lists. As a result, the Health Services Administration allowed us to have 6 project managers funded through AB3632.

- Response to Prop 63 Audit (related editorial in Sacramento Bee)

Kimberly Mayer, CCC Mental Health Project Manager, addressed the editorial that was critical of the State's handling of the MHSA funding. She stated that we agree – a majority of the money still has not been distributed. The process has been disorganized. Kimberly emphasized that "we" can't fix the problem. It's a legislative issue.

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<p>There's a concern that the money owed the counties will be taken away. Only 26% of MHSA money has been distributed. Sacramento is sitting on \$2,000,000,000. They've released about \$7,000,000. Art asked who made the decision that the money could only be used for new programs. Donna responded that the State Department of Mental Health is making the decisions. The State Department of Finance has stated in a recent audit that the DMH is not distributing the money in an efficient or timely manner. But there has been no apparent follow-up. Dorothy suggested that each Commissioner can go to their appointing Supervisor and educate them on MHSA and ask them to take the matter to CSAC at the State level. A legislative platform should be created. Donna said the money being held should be here helping our kids.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Donna reported we still have no State budget, and more budget cuts are expected once it comes out. Dorothy announced that on August 12<sup>th</sup>, a second round of cuts will be necessary. Each department is being asked to make cuts. Donna has gone on record as stating she has no other areas where she can make cuts. The Board of Supervisors Finance Committee meets September 15<sup>th</sup>. Donna gave a brief recap of the mental health budget cuts over the past 7 years.</li> <li>• Donna also announced the new CAO will be taking office in September.</li> <li>• Donna regrettably announced that Kimberly Mayer will be leaving her County employment to work for CIMH to do MHSA Workforce Development in the Bay Area Region.</li> </ul>	
<p>VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS</p> <p><u>Interview Ad Hoc Committee</u> – David Evans, Chair Receive recommendations for appointments to the Mental Health Commission.</p> <p>David reported that 12 applicants from various districts were interviewed over a two-day period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A motion was made to forward a recommendation to District II Supervisor Gayle Uilkema that she appoint Annis Pereyra to fill the vacant Consumer Representative seat.</li> <li>• A motion was made to forward a recommendation to District IV Supervisor Susan Bonilla that she appoint Colette O'Keeffe to fill the vacant Consumer Representative seat, and that she appoint Clare E. Beckner to fill the vacant Family Member seat.</li> </ul> <p>If the above recommendations are accepted, remaining vacant seats are:</p>	<p><b>M-Evans; S-Kahler. Carried.</b></p> <p><b>M-Evans; S-Honegger. Carried.</b></p>

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<p>District I (Gioia) – Consumer Representative, Member-at-Large          District II (Uilkema) -- None          District III (Piepho) – Consumer Representative, Family Member, Member-at-Large          District IV (Bonilla) – None          District V (Glover) – None.</p>	
<p>VIII. REPORTS: ANCILLARY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• California Association of Local Mental Health Boards/Commissions (CALMHB/C)              Appoint a representative from the Commission.              Staff reported that there is a reorganization going on within CIMH and CALMHB/C and there was no information available on upcoming conference. The decision was made to wait until they're heard from and then appoint a representative.</li> <li>• California Institute for Mental Health CIMH)              Staff reported there are no upcoming trainings.</li> <li>• Mental Health Coalition – Teresa Pasquini              They did not meet. They normally meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month, but will be having a meeting September 9<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>• Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee – Connie Tolleson              Connie reported that the committee is continuing to hold discussions on how best to serve the community. She said the closing of the Antioch Children's Clinic is under review. Services are still reduced. Regarding foster kids – private therapists are being asked to volunteer to take on 1 foster child.</li> </ul>	
<p>IX. PUBLIC COMMENT</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Janet Marshall Wilson, JD, MHCC Patients' Rights spoke of concerns regarding mental health treatment for her sister and brother and asked the Commission to keep them in their thoughts. Donna praised Janet for her strength and Jacque said the Commission would definitely remember them.</li> <li>2) Judith Gailliard, Public Defender's Office, stated there are ongoing interviews for Conservatorship for the Public Defender's Office.</li> <li>3) Brenda Crawford was introduced as the new Acting Director for Mental Health Consumer Concerns. It was suggested that Brenda be invited back to give a report to the Commission about the services MNCC provides.</li> <li>4) Peter Mantas distributed a flyer about a Mental Health Discussion put on by Ascension Cathedral's Mental</li> </ol>	

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<p style="text-align: center;">Health Committee on Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. Stephen Hinshaw, PhD will speak on the topic “Overcoming the Stigma of Mental Illness.”</p>	
<p>X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Mental Health Director’s Report:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Continued updates on Performance Improvement Projects (PIP)</li> <li>b. Update on most recent round of budget cuts</li> </ol> </li> <li>2) Steve Hahn-Smith reporting on the Consumer Satisfactory Surveys and Quality of Life Measures</li> <li>3) David Cassell reporting on Quality Improvements</li> <li>4) Standing Committee meeting recess (ACTION ITEM)</li> <li>5) Brenda Crawford to report on the work of Mental Health Consumer Concerns</li> <li>6) Update on Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF)</li> <li>7) Discussion of 5150 process</li> <li>8) Implementation of AB1421</li> </ol>	
<p>XI. ADJOURN MEETING. The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">The next meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be Thursday, September 25, 2008.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Shuler, Executive Assistant  
Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission