

**MINUTES APPROVED –  
October 17, 2019**

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD RETREAT**

September 18, 2019

1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Agriculture Extension, 1430 Freedom Blvd, Suite E, Watsonville, CA

**Present:** Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Serge Kagno, Antonio Rivas, Kate Avraham, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

**Excused Absence:** Hugh McCormick, Lynda Kaufmann

**Unexcused Absence:** Bek Phillips

1. Public Comments – no public comments.
  
2. Required Reports
  1. Data Notebook – completed yearly
  2. Biennial Report – Xaloc Cabanes and Rebekah Mills to create a form with sections to be completed on an ongoing basis so when the report is due, the information is readily available.
  
3. 2020 Goals and Objectives
  - To become knowledgeable of all the programs that the Board is responsible for, including facilities, resources (organizational chart of Mental Health Services), budget (direct staff funding, money for staff trainings), populations served.
  - Create peers eye view of programming in this County (Peer Program Directory), so that concerned family members of children and adults with behavioral health issues can easily access resources (e.g. programs that are accessible with public funds; programs in the County that take Medi-Cal, etc). Suggestion is to invite peers from MHCAN, etc. and have them engage with the Mental Health Advisory Board.
  - More Community Engagement: influence the community; input from community; outreach to Board of Psychologists, County employees, Cabrillo and UCSC. More visibility and presence/co-presence at various events in the community.
  - MHSA Stakeholder Committee to become a separate committee from the Mental Health Advisory Board.
  - More regular site visits - promotes accountability at the program level and education for the Mental Health Advisory Board. Strengthen the site visits to include talking to people who participate in the programs for feedback of their experiences.
  - Involve Houseless voices.
  - Higher attendance at Board meetings from the public and the Board (location, time). Goal is to fill all Board member positions and both At-Large Member positions and ensure there is a smooth on-boarding process. Possible transportation options for the public so they can attend the meetings – offer rides and bus passes.
  - Continue jail/criminal justice committee. Work on identifying more needs. The Jail Committee is a voice for incarcerated individuals, and for the friends and family members of those individuals.
  
4. Description/Clarification of Ad Hoc and Standing Committees:
  - a. Jail Committee Report – Chair: Rebekah Mills
    - Report will be provided what the committee has done and recommendations for the future.
    - “Jail Committee” won’t exist in 2020, but future ad hoc committees will be formed to address short term, specific issues.

- b. Community Engagement Committee Report – Chair: Kate Avraham
  - Behavioral Health Open House
  - Twin Lakes Mental Health Event
  - Event before the Holiday season
  - Project Connect at Veteran’s Memorial Building in Watsonville
  
- c. MHSA Advisory Committee
  - Santa Cruz County MHSA Steering Committee dissolved in 2010
  - Ad Hoc Committee of the Mental Health Advisory Board for 1 year
  - Goal is to launch a community stakeholder steering committee
  
- d. Membership Committee
  - 2 Board Member vacancies
  - 2 At-Large Member vacancies
  
- e. Site Visit Committee
  - Any 2 Board members can do a site visit
  
- 5. California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions
  - Several trainings per year
  - CALBHB/C will reimburse Board members
  - Encourage Board members to attend
  
- 6. Team Building Exercise – Adverse Childhood Events (ACE) Score

Motion to adjourn made by Rebekah Mills. Second by Erika Miranda-Bartlett.  
Meeting adjourned at 4:23 p.m.