

# LASSEN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

## APPROVED MINUTES

Monday February 14, 2022

- Advisory Board Members Present:** Curtis Bortle – Member – Via Zoom  
Gary Bridges – Member - Via Zoom  
Brady Reed – Member – Via Zoom  
Michael Hoenig – Member – Via Zoom  
Angela Reed – Member – Via Zoom
- Advisory Board Members Absent:** Chris Gallagher – Member  
Cheryl Swetland – Member  
Ronnie Tripp – Member
- Staff:** Tiffany Armstrong – BH Director – Via Zoom  
Barbara Longo – HSS Director – Via Zoom  
Sarah Bustamante–Admin Assistant – Via Zoom
- Members of the Press:** None
- Other:** Ed Mussen- Via Zoom  
Grace Poor–Housing–Lassen County- Via Zoom  
Mike Bollinger – Susanville PD – Via Zoom  
Cathy Martinez – Judy’s House – Via Zoom  
Andrea Wagner – CAMHPRO – Via Zoom  
Mike Hernandez – Judy’s House – Via Zoom  
Andrea Hernandez – Judy’s House – Via Zoom  
John McGarva–Lassen County Sheriffs Dept. -  
Via Zoom
- 1. Call to Order:** Behavioral Health Advisory Board called to order at 5:34 pm
  - 2. Approval of the Agenda – Action:** Motion- Gary Bridges — Second- Michael Hoenig – All in favor – motion carried
  - 3. Approval of the Minutes: January 2022:** – Motion – Curtis Bortle – Second – Gary Bridges – All in favor – motion carried
  - 4. Public Comment:**
    - a. Gary Bridges – Trainings/meetings available for board members. Data Notebook very informative, recommend attending if you have the opportunity.

**5. COVID – 19: Barbara Longo**

- a. Cases have dropped significantly – down to 119 cases
- b. Deaths increased to 63
- c. 1/3 of active cases have been fully vaccinated – 0% of hospitalized individuals have been vaccinated
- d. Many mask mandates will be lifted tomorrow 2-15-22.
  - i. Public indoors – vaccinated going from required to strongly recommended.
  - ii. Health care, schools and child care all still required to wear masks
  - iii. Long term care, jails and prisons still required to wear a mask.
- e. Schools – will continue to require masks
  - i. Will reassess on Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>

**6. Department Report: Tiffany Armstrong**

- a. Passing of case manager Josh Neubert
  - i. Received news today – been very difficult for staff
- b. Audits
  - i. SAPTG – documents will be uploaded this Friday
    - 1. Received a two-week extension
  - ii. Partnership Health Plan
    - 1. Working with 8 other counties in the collaborative
    - 2. Working on one policy and procedure that will work for all counties
  - iii. EQRO
    - 1. Will be held in May
    - 2. Documents will be uploaded in April
- c. Wellness Center
  - i. Westwood Peer Support will start next week
  - ii. Training to start next week
  - iii. Hiring for Peer Support in Herlong and Big Valley
- d. Barbara Longo –
  - i. Received letter from State that Lassen County owed over 7 million dollars – over 10-year time span.
  - ii. Tiffany and Barbara reached out to the State
    - 1. State came back today stating they made an error
      - a. Currently balance owed is \$192,000

**7. Cultural Competence: Tiffany Armstrong**

- a. Will schedule a meeting once the Data Notebook gets completed

**8. Housing – Grace Poor**

- a. Point in time count
  - i. Conducted in January
    - 1. Individual who are experiencing homelessness
  - ii. Street count
    - 1. Worked with services agencies and shelter

- iii. 93 individuals surveyed
  - 1. 59 Households
    - a. 79 adults / 22 children
  - 2. Number have not been verified yet
  - 3. Formal report will be presented

**9. Judy's House – Cathy Martinez**

- a. Currently has a strong staff
  - i. Added a few more employees
- b. January Totals
  - i. 136 individuals
  - ii. 3 new individuals
  - iii. 1 phone contact
  - iv. 305 total hours
- c. Contact with Susanville PD, Sheriff's Department and Banner
- d. Continue with outreach
  - i. Flyers and business cards
- e. Introductions of Mike and Andrea Hernandez
  - i. Mike Hernandez – go to for things needed at Judy's House
- f. All staff will be certified peer counselors
  - i. Trainings will be attended this spring
- g. Concern
  - i. Identified a need to assist elderly individuals in the community
  - ii. Tiffany Armstrong – stakeholders meeting – elderly need to be advocated for during these meetings

**10. Action Item – Elections – Board Vacancy – Board Chair**

- a. **Nominations made last meeting:**
  - i. **Brady Reed**
  - ii. **Curtis Bortle**
- b. **Vote – Motion Gary Bridges – Second – Michael Hoenig**
  - i. **Brady Reed – 7 votes**
  - ii. **Curtis Bortle – 0 votes**
- c. **Brady Reed voted in as new Chair**
- d. **Vice Chair position now vacant**
  - i. **Action item next meeting for Vice Chair nominations**

**11. Board Report:**

- a. **Board Recruitment:**
  - i. Cheryl Swetland has resigned
  - ii. Applications must be completed and forwarded to County Clerks office to be placed on the Board of Supervisor agenda
  - iii. Board requirements – category criteria – members needed from each category
  - iv. Application and category information will be sent out to board members.
- b. **Sub-Committees**

- i. Legislation** – No update
  - c. Data Notebook** –
    - i.** Meetings have been held to complete Data Notebook
    - ii.** Should be completed by next meeting
    - iii.** Can be presented at the meeting once completed

**12. Lassen Community College: Brady Reed**

- a. Crisis Counselor left end of summer but stayed as on call for the college
  - i.** Has now left the area entirely
  - ii.** Position (Behavioral Health Manager) will be flown
    - 1. Utilized for crisis services
    - 2. Looking to implement full program with prevention activities/ destigmatizing activities
- b. College receiving money from the State
  - i.** Mental Health
    - 1. \$150,000 was received
    - 2. Suppose to be ongoing funding
  - ii.** Also receiving money from program called Basic Needs
    - 1. Assists students with food and housing
    - 2. Could fund a coordinator and its own center
    - 3. \$129,000 received
- c. Chancellor did a tour of colleges including Lassen Community College
  - i.** Conducted Listening Sessions with Students
    - 1. Mental Health was a main item students identified as needing more support
- d. Partnering with vendor – Timely MD – resource for students
  - i.** College paying for program for the students
    - 1. Students can get – online medical and mental health appointments
    - 2. Can access through an app or though the website
    - 3. Launching this month

**13. Suicide Prevention: Tiffany Armstrong**

- a. Lost a youth in Plumas County due to suicide
- b. Lassen County continues to get awareness out to the community
  - i.** Resources for youth and families

**14. Access California – Andrea Wagner**

- a. Virtual events coming up for peer support
  - i.** Emailed to Sarah and will be forwarded out
  - ii.** Two trainings for the Superior Regions
    - 1. March 23<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>
  - iii.** Share peer supervision conference
    - 1. Train peer supervisors
    - 2. April 27<sup>th</sup>
  - iv.** Update meeting – SB803
    - 1. February 16<sup>th</sup>

- v. Townhall Public Meeting – LEAD program
  - 1. Topic - Peer Respite
  - 2. February 3<sup>rd</sup>
- vi. Peer State Conference
  - 1. June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>
  - 2. Hybrid – In person and online
  - 3. Save the flyers going out
- b. Sub-committees
  - i. Assist with policy creation for peer certification
- c. RFP's – coming out from DHCS
  - i. Funding available within that can be used for peer programs
- d. Community Whole Health Alliance
  - i. New non-profit forming in Butte Co.
  - ii. Plan to offer local peer training – suited to rural peer support
  - iii. 5 county training to include Lassen
- e. Training entity for peer certification has not been decided on yet
  - i. CAL-Mesa agency representing counties to DHCS
  - ii. Majority of counties have signed on with Cal-Mesa – One county has signed up with Cal-Voices

**15. Susanville Police Department – No Report**

**16. Lassen County Sheriff's Department – John McGarva**

- a. MAT program is up and running
  - i. No clients in program yet
- b. Beginnings of complying with CAL-AIM project
  - i. Evaluations for medical, Behavioral Health and prescriptions
  - ii. 90-day outreach
  - iii. Still in contract with Well Path – LMFT on staff
- c. DHS integrate evaluations at local level instead of sending to State
  - i. State to pay local for time and space to do tele-psych evaluations

**17. Consideration of Future Agenda Items:**

- a. Action Item – Nominations for Board Vice-Chair

**18. Next Meeting Date and Time: March 14, 2022 at 5:30pm**

**19. Adjournment: 6:59 pm**