



# **Mental Health Services Act**

**Leadership Committee**  
**Sutter-Yuba Mental Health Services**  
**Valley Oak/Gold Rush Conference Room**  
1965 Live Oak Blvd  
Yuba City, CA 95991

*Minutes*  
*Thursday, July 21, 2005*  
**6:00 p.m.**

**Facilitators:**

**Sutter County Supervisor Jim Whiteaker and Yuba County Supervisor John Nicoletti**

**Committee Members:**

**Alma Amaya**  
**Janet Amaya**  
**Charles Clement**  
**Rupi Dail**  
**Laurie Dennis**  
**Laura DiBartolo**

**Janice DiCola**  
**Beverly Griffith**  
**Joan Hoss**  
**Teri Jackson**  
**Joan Hoss**  
**Paul Moua**  
**Keith Pinckney**

**Sue Shaffer**  
**Nick Sohrakoff**  
**Jackie Stanfill**  
**Patricia Stutte**  
**Lynn Tarrant**  
**Donna Thompson**  
**Wa Cha Xiong**

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m., by Sutter County Supervisor Jim Whiteaker and he welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**2. Roll Call**

In the absence of Donna Thompson, the Executive Secretary Jean Stump called the roll and the following Committee Members were present:

Sutter County Supervisor Jim Whiteaker, Yuba County Supervisor Nicoletti, Committee Members Alma Amaya, Dr. Charles Clement, Margery Hubbard, Patricia Stutte, Laurie Dennis, Teri Jackson, Keith Pinckney, Nick Sohrakoff, Jackie Stanfill, Beverly Griffith, Sue Shaffer, Lynn Tarrant, Joan Hoss and Janet Amaya.

There were no Committee Members absent.

The following Committee Members were excused: Janice DiCola, Rupi Dail, Laura DiBartolo and Donna Thompson.

### **3. Approval of Minutes**

*Committee Member Laurie Dennis moved to approve the meeting of June 16, 2005. The motion was seconded by Margery Hubbard and carried by a unanimous voice vote of the members present.*

### **4. Project Management Update**

Lynn Tarrant was called upon to provide the Project Management Update. Referencing the aggressive timeline for completing the Community Services and Support (CSS) Plan by January, she said all workgroups have been tasked to develop summaries of workgroup activities and recommendations by the end of August. Based on the recommendations to be submitted, Ms. Tarrant said the Leadership Committee would then be charged with prioritizing the needs by age. Yuba County Supervisor Nicoletti suggested devoting a full day toward this effort. In response to comments posed, Ms. Hoss said the summaries would include the input from the MHSA surveys.

Following considerable discussion, it was suggested and agreed that two, half-day workshops of the Leadership Committee be scheduled to prioritize the recommendations offered, namely: Thursday, September 1, 2005 from 3:30 pm to 7:00.p.m., and Wednesday, September 7, from 3:30 pm to 7:00 pm. In light of this hasten schedule, it was agreed to cancel the regularly scheduled meeting of the Leadership Committee on August 18, 2005. Due to the length of the special meetings in September, arrangements will be made to provide dinner, Ms. Hoss said.

Ms. Tarrant said staff was presently soliciting more consumer and/or ethnic representation on the Leadership Committee. In response to a question posed by Supervisor Nicoletti, Ms. Tarrant said new members to the committee would receive training and be brought up speed.

On a related matter, it was reported that in anticipation of the Public Hearing to be scheduled in early November, the Leadership Committee would be trained in how to conduct a Public Hearing. Ms. Tarrant said she would contact CHMDA to schedule this training at the October 20, 2005 meeting of the Leadership Committee.

Referencing the Town Hall Meeting schedule, Ms. Tarrant announced that the Wheatland Town Hall meeting had been held yesterday, (July 20, 2005) and called upon Nick Sohrakoff to provide a brief overview of the meeting. He noted that some of the concerns raised at the meeting was the lack of transportation, education and awareness. Suggestions for improving services in this area were to have a physical presence in the Wheatland.

Janet Amaya was then called upon to update the Committee on her activities working the consumers and the training on how to conduct a "Focus Group". She also reported that the Leadership Committee was invited to the BBQ schedule for July 22, 2005 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. on the west front lawn at SYMHS. The BBQ will feature guest speakers and provide an opportunity for staff and consumers to circulate and collect completed surveys.

Additionally, it was reported that Ms. Amaya would be conducting the first monthly “Family Informational Group” on Wednesday, July 27, 2005 from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm. This activity will support the families who have a family member afflicted with a mental disorder and provide them with or refer them to resources where needed.

## **5. Committee Updates**

Children’s Workgroup - Referencing the workgroup held earlier in the day, Committee Member Nick Sohrakoff said there was discussion at this meeting about the Town Hall Meeting held in Live Oak on July 18<sup>th</sup>, specifically the lack of participation by the public especially the Hispanic population. There was discussion about conducting additional focus groups to reach the residents of Live Oak or to schedule more than one Town Hall Meeting in other rural areas, like Olivehurst, Rio Oso, Pleasant Grove, Sutter, Meridian, Browns Valley, etc. Ms. Hoss said that although the numbers at the Town Hall Meetings were somewhat disappointing, there have been many Focus Groups. In an effort to garner more attendance, it was suggested and agreed that future published announcements eliminate the “pre-registration” statement for Town Hall Meetings.

Following comments offered by Supervisor Nicoletti, it was noted that staff distributes the surveys at the Town Hall Meetings and at Focus Groups. The MHSA Survey is offered in English and Spanish and there is information how to complete and where to send the survey when completed. Ms. Hoss said, in response to a request, staff will look into re-configuring the survey so that it can include a return mailing address, be folded and sealed so that it could be mailed directly to SYMHS. Additionally, Ms. Hoss said that staff had arranged for a booth at the Yuba-Sutter County Fair to take advantage of the number of people visiting the fair to distribute and collect the surveys.

Transitioned Aged Youth (TAY) Workgroup - Jackie Stanfill said the workgroup was scheduled to meet tomorrow (July 22). Discussion at this meeting, she said, will focus on how many more meetings would be needed to pull together the recommendations and priorities prior to the Leadership Meeting scheduled on September 1, 2005. Presently, Focus Groups have been planned for Salvation Army, Options for Change and START, the adolescent substance abuse treatment program. Ms. Stanfill said that so far, the major issues identified for this age group was the need for neighborhood centers, career development, job training and associated geographic transportation issues. Lynn suggested developing a writing team at each workgroup to capture the suggestions for new services and programs. Supervisor Nicoletti suggested this work group include links to employers and suggested bringing them to the table to help develop the recommendations. He also suggested this workgroup consider developing a similar work readiness training program that was supported by the Yuba County Chamber of Commerce at one time. This program he said was very successful in providing education and the tools and training necessary to acquire a job. Ms. Hoss said that funding from the MHSA could certainly pay for supported employment and a full service program model including links to vocational training.

Adult Workgroup - Representing the Adult Workgroup, Margery Hubbard, at the outset announced the distribution of the surveys at local medical facilities including Fremont and Rideout Hospitals by members of the workgroup.

Some of the needs addressed included a drop-in center, homeless supports and transitional housing. In conclusion, it was noted that 15 Focus Group by the workgroup have been conducted.

Older Adult Workgroup - Sue Shaffer reported that this group has distributed and collected surveys and that eight Focus Groups have been conducted. The group she said, have gone out into the community to find out the needs of this aged group, some of which included easier access to services, community based services in outlying areas and pre-psych emergency services.

Ethnic Outreach Activities - Joan Hoss reported that she convened a group of staff to begin targeting unserved or underserved ethnic populations in the bi-county community, specifically the Latino, Hmong and Asian Indian. This group has divided into three sub-committees to plan for and conduct Focus Groups. She also reported that Emerita Banuelos was chairing the Latino Group and that she had scheduled meetings with the Asian Indian and the Hmong Groups. Ms. Hoss said that other Mental Health staff have been instrumental getting input from the African American Community, namely LaShelle Poe, Janice King, Rhonda Williams; and Jackie Stanfill has agreed to conduct a Focus Group with Yuba-City PRIDE, the Gay and Lesbian organization. Other contacts have been made with the Punjabi American Heritage Society, the Sikh Temple, and OSHA, a women's group focusing on domestic violence and substance abuse issues. In conclusion, she said this group was still gathering members.

## **6. Other Business/Public Comment**

Referencing the recent award by the State of California to the affected flood residents of the Yuba County, Supervisor Nicoletti suggested the Older Adult Committee when meeting with senior groups in Yuba County to seek assistance from Jerry Crippen a CPA in Marysville to help them with monetary awards.

### Adjournment

There being no further business, Supervisor Whiteaker moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Stump  
Executive Secretary