

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
ADULT SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES ▪ Thursday, February 2, 2017

<p>Present Karyn Bates, Co-Chair Nancy Borchard, Co-Chair Gane Brooking, BHAB Ratan Bhavnani, BHAB Sid White, BHAB Tamara Lemalo, Aegis Treatment Centers Mark Stadler, CIT Jennifer Goble, Pacific Clinics Larry Berent, Telecare Shana Burns, Telecare Kalie Matisek, Turning Point Foundation Mark Schumacher, Turning Point Foundation Dana Secor, Turning Point Foundation</p>	<p>VCBH Managers/Staff Present John Schipper, Adult Division Chief Peter Schreiner, Older Adults Services Clinic Administrator Mike Rodriguez, Older Adults/Ventura/Sta Paula/Benefits Manager Ana Flores, ADP Pam Roach, Transformational Liaison Edith Pham, BHAB Assistant</p> <p>NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 2, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm</p> <p>Ventura County Behavioral Health 1911 Williams Drive, Training Room, Oxnard</p>
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Note: The committee has not yet approved these minutes. There may be additions/deletions or corrections before the minutes are accepted in final form.

	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE
I.	Call to Order Co-Chair Nancy Borchard called the meeting to order at 10:10.		
II.	Approval of the Agenda Ms. Borchard asked the Committee to review and approve today's agenda.	The agenda was approved as written. M/S/C	
III.	Approval of the Minutes Ms. Borchard asked the committee to review and approve the minutes of the January 5, 2017 meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Larry Berent noted that on page 3, item VIII.F. Cameron Wardlaw's name was misspelled. 	The minutes were approved as amended. M/S/C	
IV.	Welcome and Introductions Ms. Borchard welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.		
V.	Chair Announcements Ms. Bates shared the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. On February 1st the Ventura Star published an editorial titled "Laura's Law gives hope to mentally ill." See attached. B. On February 9 Project Understanding will host its awards night. C. On February 10 the Client Network will present a workshop on loneliness and compassion. D. A new smoking cessation group has formed, headed by Dr. Brian Taylor, VCBH Medical Director, and Patti Yoshida, VCBH Pharmacist. The group is called Smoking Intervention Network (SIN). Ventura County Public Health is offering eight-session classes on smoking cessation and four-hour training for staff. E. The City of Ventura social services task force met on February 1st and discussed the warming shelter and its funding challenges. F. On March 8 at 6:00 p.m. the Ventura planning commission will meet at city hall. G. On March 20 at 6:00 p.m. the City of Ventura will hold a meeting regarding approving zoning "overlays" in order to establish a permanent homeless shelter with wrap-around services. H. The homeless count took place on January 24. 	Information	

	<p>I. From now until February 24-26 various local churches are issuing their newly-created video regarding homelessness called Finding a New Way Home.</p> <p>J. The Board of Supervisors is considering funding beds for homeless people who have had surgery and need recuperative care.</p> <p>K. Due to a fire and code violations, 35 people at the Leewood Motel and 25 people from a low-income residential property on Wall Street (both in Ventura) have been displaced. Mike Rodriguez noted that six of the people who had to move from the Leewood Motel are VCBH clients. Some are now staying with relatives while others are staying in motels.</p> <p>Ms. Borchard noted that VCBH has opened its Children’s Crisis Stabilization Unit in Oxnard. The ribbon-cutting ceremony took place on January 26.</p>		
VI.	<p>Public Comments None.</p>		
VII.	<p>Presentation: VCBH Older Adult Program – Peter Schreiner, Clinic Administrator, and Michael Rodriguez, Manager</p> <p>A. The Older Adult Program serves clients ages 60 and above who are unserved/underserved and have a serious mental illness and/or addiction challenge. A team approach is used to support and treat them.</p> <p>B. The program includes psychiatrists, registered nurses, licensed clinicians, case managers, and Pacific Clinics recovery coaches. Staff make house calls.</p> <p>C. Services include medical support, therapy, case manager, rehabilitation, crisis intervention, financial and housing monitoring and advocacy, and WRAP.</p> <p>D. To break their social isolation, the clients can participate in groups at the Ventura and Conejo clinics and at the Hickory House in Camarillo. Events are also offered throughout the year at the Ventura office; they are attended by clients living throughout the county.</p> <p>E. The program capacity is 90 clients, but the current census is 97.</p> <p>F. Referrals are made through RISE/STAR or from VCBH clinics.</p> <p>G. The Older Adult Program partners include Adult Protective Services, Public Guardian, Area Agency on Aging, Public Health, Senior Ombudsman, Ambulatory Care and the District Attorney’s Office.</p> <p>See attached presentation for details.</p>	Information	
VIII.	<p>Members Comments</p> <p>A. Mark Stadler noted that a CIT class took place last week. On February 7 at the Board of Supervisors he will give a presentation on CIT. On February 27 at its General Meeting the BHAB will recognize the CIT Officer of the Year and the nominees. Some police departments now have an app on their officers’ smart phone which allows them to bring up information on people who have had contact with CIT; only the sheriff’s office can enter the information found on the CIT cards into the database. Mr. Stadler was asked to become an advisory board member for the California Crisis Intervention Training Association. He will present at the association’s conference in Costa Mesa on August 23-24, in conjunction with the NAMI California conference.</p> <p>B. Larry Berent noted that Horizon View is full. The AOT program is moving forward.</p>		

	<p>C. Tamara Lemalo noted that the Ventura Aegis clinic can provide Vivitrol, an injection that is used to treat opioid addiction.</p> <p>D. Jennifer Goble confirmed that she will present in March on the Peer Recovery services.</p>	Present in March	J. Goble
IX.	<p>Update: Behavioral Health Adult Division – Dr. John Schipper</p> <p>A. Dr. Schipper distributed a handout on Assist, the county AOT (Assisted Outpatient Treatment) program. It has received eight referrals from RISE, which does the initial screening before referring to Telecare when appropriate. Training to the ACT (Assertive Community Treatment) model will be provided.</p> <p>B. VCBH has been chosen to give an Above and Beyond presentation to the Board of Supervisors on February 7. It will highlight the work of case managers who helped a severely mentally ill woman transition from long-term homelessness to a room in a Board & Care facility.</p>	Information	
X.	<p>Update: Behavioral Health Substance Use Disorders – Anna Flores</p> <p>A. A lot of changes are happening in ADP.</p> <p>B. ADP is recruiting for clinic administrators for two clinics.</p> <p>C. Prototype is now Medi-Cal certified.</p> <p>D. Although there are waiting lists for public housing, there are openings in Meiners Oaks. Applicants do not have to currently reside in that city.</p>	Information	
XI.	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>The meeting adjourned at noon.</p>		

VC Star 2-1-17

Opinion

Editorial

Laura's Law gives hope to mentally ill

Fifteen years after it was enacted by the state Legislature, Laura's Law finally became a reality this week in Ventura County. And while it certainly won't solve our growing need for mental health services, we believe it will be an important tool in helping a significant segment of our mentally ill population.

Laura's Law allows judges to order outpatient treatment for mentally ill people who have refused it in the past. The patients must have a "substantially deteriorating" condition and a history of violence or involuntary hospitalization, and a clinical specialist must determine they need supervision to safely live in the community.

They do not, however, need to be a danger to themselves or others — conditions that allow them to be held against their will for up to 72 hours in a psychiatric hospital.

Family members, roommates, mental health care providers or police can refer them to the program. Counselors first try to get the patients to voluntarily accept help, but if needed, a judge can now order it. The judge cannot force the person to take medication, but the "black-robe effect" can entice him or her to enter and stick with an outpatient treatment plan, advocates say.

The law is named after Laura Wilcox, a 19-year-old woman shot to death in 2001 by a mentally ill man in Nevada County. The state enacted the law in 2002, but with no funding attached.

Proposition 63, an initiative to tax California's millionaires to pay for mental health programs, was approved by voters in 2004, but it was not until 2013 that Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill expressly allowing that revenue to be used for Laura's Law programs.

The Ventura County Board of Supervisors voted last March to get on board, allocating \$600,000 for a program to serve about 20 patients. The county later received a \$4 million federal grant — \$1 million a year for four years — for the program, allowing it to triple the number of potential clients.

The new program, called Assist, began Monday.

The county will evaluate the effort in 18 months to see how well it is working — a sound, measured approach. Too many health and social service programs funded by the billions of dollars raised from voter-approved propositions or special state charges lack accountability. The Little Hoover Commission investigated Prop. 63 spending and found state and local agencies had few answers on how \$17 billion in revenue was spent, who was helped and how effective the programs were.

One of the chief ideas behind Laura's Law is providing another option for the mentally ill besides jail, short-term hospitalization or chronic homelessness. We hope Ventura County's program will successfully provide that option and be expanded in the future if the need merits it.



February 2, 2017

OLDER ADULT PROGRAM UPDATE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Mike Rodriguez, PsyD Behavioral Health Manager
Peter Schreiner, LCSW Clinic Administrator

Older Adults Program

The Older Adults Program provides mental health services to unserved and underserved seriously mentally ill individuals ages 60 and over in Ventura County

- As a result of serious mental illness, compounded by medical issues often facing the elderly, the Older Adult clients often have a reduction in personal or community functioning
- Special priority is given to those with persistent mental illness and to those who are homebound, homeless and/or in crisis and who require the intensive services of a Full Service Partnership (FSP). This population is often unable to access more traditional outpatient services



Older Adults Program

Groups:

- In addition to the community based services, the Older Adult Program has an intensive socialization program, providing an opportunity for isolated older adult clients to interact with their peers in regularly scheduled Wellness and Recovery groups facilitated by Recovery Coaches.
- Rehabilitation and psychotherapy groups facilitated by Behavioral Health Clinicians held each Friday from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM in West County and group in East County called Senior Sippers.
- Additionally rehabilitation groups are offered weekly in one of our largest Board and Cares.



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Older Adults Program

Events:

- There are events that take place in the clinic that include a Thanksgiving Dinner, A Holiday Event with dinner, and several other social events that are scheduled throughout the year.
- Seniors from around the entire county come to the main clinic on Ralston in Ventura and participate in a group meal and multiple group activities. Karaoke is one of the favorites!
- Events have included "high tea," group birthday celebration, a luau, and a hoedown. The meaning of these events/groups to the clients has been profound, providing an opportunity to engage with others and to decrease social isolation



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Older Adults Program

Community Partnerships

- Collaboration with our partnering agencies to share on referrals
- Partners include the Ventura County Area Agency on Aging (AAA), Adult Protective Services (APS), Senior Ombudsman, Public Guardian, Public Health, Ambulatory Care and the District Attorney's Office.
- It is our hope and intent to increase our collaboration with our partners, sharing resources and expertise



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Older Adults Program

Outreach: Rapid Response Team (RRT)

- The Rapid Response Team meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. This Team includes staff from the District Attorneys Office, Area Agency on Aging, Adult Protective Services, Senior Ombudsman, Public Guardian's Office, Public Health, the Sheriff's Department and Tri Counties. The purpose of this Team is to respond to clients' needs in a collaborative manner.
- The new Clinic Administrator, Peter Schreiner, LCSW, is currently attending the RRT.



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Older Adults Program

Older Adult Staffing:

- BH Manager- Mike Rodriguez, PsyD
- BH Clinic Administrator, Peter Schreiner, LCSW
- BH Licensed Clinicians (3)
- Registered Nurses (2)
- Licensed Psych Technicians (2)
- Psychiatrists (2 part time)
- Case Manager3 (3) (1-Spanish Speaking)
- Office Assistant (1)
- Pacific Clinics Recovery Coaches (2)
(embedded peer support specialists)



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Older Adults Program

Types of Services:

- Medication Support
- Individual Therapy
- Group Therapy
- Case Management
- Rehabilitation
- Crisis Intervention
- Financial Monitoring and Advocacy
- Housing Monitoring and Advocacy
- WRAP (Wellness Recovery Action Plan)



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Older Adults Program

Types of Services: (continued)

- Care provider Monitoring Support and Education
- Medical Advocacy and Liaison with Primary Care Providers
- Transportation to medical appointments
- Placement Assessment and Planning
- Referral to Adult Protective Services
- Linkage to Outside Agencies



Older Adults Program

The Older Adults Population:

- In addition to mental health impairments, the clients in this program are significantly impacted by medical challenges.
- These are compounded by a lack of resources to access services
- Challenges with ambulation or mobility
- Medical crises often pre-empt other needs
- The Older Adults staff are committed to addressing the whole person, and often attend to, or assist our clients in accessing other resources



Older Adults Program

Current Census: 97

- Program Capacity - 90 clients
- FSP provides intensive services; staff has a lower caseload, average caseload of 13 clients
- Utilize a team approach, often served by more than one staff, depending upon expertise of staff and needs of the client
- 68 clients served by the West County Team
- 29 clients currently served by the East County Team
- There is no waiting list



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Older Adults Program

New Streamlined Referral System:

- We have clarified the admission criteria for the Older Adults Program
 - **60+**
 - **Meets medical necessity**
 - **Significant impairments in functioning (may be ambulation) such that could not access services at a traditional outpatient clinic**
- New Referral form with checklist
- Non-enrolled potential clients are referred through RISE/STAR Screening, Triage, Assessment and Referral team
- Inter-clinic referral form



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Older Adults Program

Supporting the Team

- Implemented monthly team building and regular training meetings
- Debriefing/supervision, heal the healer.....recognizing the difficulty of this work, and that our clients are faced with end of life issues, including death of clients
- Facilitate getting Handicapped Placards, obtain disability bus passes....simple things...to make it easier for the clients and the staff
- Positive, upbeat team that works well together!



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Older Adults Program

Consumer Comments Made During Thanksgiving Event:

- "I am very thankful for this program because a year ago at this time, I wanted to be dead"
- "Staff is like a second family"
- "My case manager is a miracle worker"
- "I was living on a back porch and now I have my own place"



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Older Adults Program

Successful Outcomes:

- Through its group program and a rich event calendar that provides socialization and connection with others, the Older Adult Program has successfully engaged clients who had been home bound and isolated.
- In regards to group or socialization events, clients have said, "I woke up today and said I must go, this is a commitment." "Group has helped me get out of the house." "I met people that have the same problem". "It's very helpful with getting support and help with my depression." "Older Adults has been like a second family for me".

Older Adults Program

Stories:

A client came to us in a living situation that first appeared ok; the client required intensive case management, regular therapy, and psychiatric services. As her story unfolded, it became apparent that she had been living with relatives for a very long period of time as a victim of severe emotional and financial abuse.

This client had a long history of extreme trauma, going from one abusive relationship (two marriages) to another. The client became isolated in her living situation, having little joy or interaction with the outside world; the client was sullen, affect was flat and often cried. The client had difficulty discussing feelings and relationships, and she had little self worth...

Older Adults Program

Stories: (continued)

As the client began working with our team, she began to realize her situation was not good. With the help of our team, the client moved out to live independently for the first time in her life. Since the move, the client has blossomed into a vibrant, happy, expressive person who is beginning to understand just how much her life is worth!

-Megan Low, Case manager



Assist

Ventura County's Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program

What is Assist?

Assist is Ventura County Behavioral Health's joint venture with Telecare Corporation to provide Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), sometimes referred to as "Laura's Law." AOT is outpatient mental health services intended for adults who are suffering from serious mental illness, yet are reluctant to accept the treatment they clearly need.

First and foremost, Assist employs a client-centered approach to outreach and engagement in the hope of gaining their voluntary acceptance of mental health services, however, there is the *potential* for court-ordered treatment when circumstances warrant. It is the goal of the Assist program to promote wellness and recovery in the least restrictive environment and reduce the cycle of hospitalizations and incarcerations that commonly are associated with a reluctance to accept mental health treatment.

Who can make referrals?

Referral sources are limited to:

1. Parents
2. Spouses
3. Siblings
4. Children who is 18 years or older
5. Adults who reside with the individual
6. The director of agency/facility providing residential mental health treatment
7. The director of a hospital in which the individual is hospitalized
8. A licensed, outpatient, mental health treatment provider treating the individual
9. A peace officer, parole officer, or probation officer assigned to supervise the individual

How to make a referral?

Contact VCBH's RISE program and ask for an "Assist screening":

- Regular business hours: **(805) 981-4233**
- After hours and weekend crisis number: **(866) 998-2243**

What are the criteria?

Participants must meet the following AOT criteria:

1. 18 years of age or older
2. Suffering from a serious mental illness
3. Unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision
4. Non-compliant treatment history where at least one of the following is true:
 - A. Two psychiatric hospitalizations within the last 36 months; OR received mental health services in correctional facility
 - B. One incident of violent behavior within the last 48 months
5. Voluntary treatment and services offered and declined
6. The person's condition is substantially deteriorating
7. Participation in the AOT program would be the least restrictive environment
8. AOT treatment would prevent a relapse or deterioration as defined in W&IC 5150
9. The person will likely benefit from AOT

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