

## **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

### **Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Committee Meeting Minutes**

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)

1911 Williams Dr, Training Room (first floor) · Oxnard, CA 93036

### **IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM**

Wednesday, December 21, 2022, 3:30PM – 5PM

#### **Members Present:**

Elizabeth R. Stone, Chair – FIND: A Friend Indeed

Juliana Cervantes – Interface Children Family Services

Carole Shelton – Family Member

#### **Guests:**

Priscila Hazrun, Spanish Interpreter

#### **Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Staff Present:**

John Schipper, Adult Services Division Chief

Nancy Springer, Behavioral Health Manager – Transitions/VCPOP and East County

Susan White Wood, Behavioral Health Manager – Housing

Greg Bergan, Program Administrator – MHSA

Eileen Corona, Clinic Administrator – Oxnard Substance Use Treatment Services

Jakeline De Leon, BHAB Management Assistant / Zoom Engineer

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 3:36PM by Chair Stone.
- II. **Welcome and Introductions** – Everyone who joined the meeting introduced themselves. Priscila Hazrun, the interpreter for Spanish speakers, introduced herself and provided instruction on the interpretation services available for this meeting.

- III. **Roll Call** – Dr. Schipper conducted the roll call, a quorum of the board members was not present, and it was decided to proceed without taking any actions.
- IV. **Public Comments** – None.
- V. **Approval of the Agenda** – The approval of the agenda was tabled for the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.
- VI. **Approval of the October 19, 2022, Minutes** – The Behavioral Health Advisory Board Transitional Age Youth (TAY) committee minutes for October 19, 2022, were tabled for the next meeting due to the lack of a quorum.
- VII. **Update on the Continuum of Care Initiatives** – No report was provided.
- VIII. **Updates on the DEI Initiatives** – No report was provided.
- IX. **Updates on the Young People in Education Systems Who Are Homeless** – No report was provided.
- X. **Facilitated Discussion: Priorities for 2023** – No discussion.
- XI. **VCBH Updates**
  - A. **Mental Health Services for TAY Persons and their Families** – Ms. Springer, Behavioral Health Manager – Transitions/VCPOP and East County, provided an update on the Mobile Crisis Outreach Team (MCOT). A clinician has begun working, and a Peer Support Specialist and Community Services coordinator have been hired with starts expected in early January. The goal is to be fully operational by the end of January. Initially, the team will respond to crisis during regular business hours, along with providing follow up and outreach. Chair Stone stated she believes the operational hours for the crisis team should be later in the day and should have more available hours. Chair Stone requested Ms. Springer to give a presentation with updated information. Ms. Springer agreed to do so the next meeting in February. Ms. White Wood shared that the TAY housing grant remains ongoing and provides financial assistance to individuals in this age group. In 2023, *Move On*, a Many Mansions program, will aim to offer older residents a voucher to a new housing development being built in Oxnard.

**B. Substance Use Services** – Ms. Corona, Clinic Administrator – Oxnard Substance Use Treatment Services, provided an update. The Oxnard Clinic for Substance Use Treatment Services has begun using an intervention curriculum called *Teen Intervene*, a shortened version of treatment services. When youth are referred from school settings or the community who do not meet admission criteria for outpatient or inpatient services, they are able to attend *Teen Intervene*. Wellness Centers have been established at different high schools and will include substance use services representatives.

**C. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)** – Mr. Bergan provided an update for the Mental Health Services Act division. Ms. De Leon shared her screen to display a flyer for an upcoming MHSA Community Planning Process event. The event will take place Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> from 6PM to 7:30PM in Filmore, CA at the Mountain Vista Elementary School located at 918 5<sup>th</sup> Street. The public can register on the website at <https://mhsa-fillmore.eventbrite.com>. Registration is not mandatory. If individuals are not able to join in person, they are able to share feedback via the vcbh.org website or the wellness everyday website. The PowerPoint presentation will be posted on the website where additional information and data are available, as well.

**XII. Information Sharing / Upcoming Events and News** – Ms. Cervantes provided an overview of the services for young people ages 12-24 offered by Interface Children and Family Services. These include housing assessments and needs assessments; distributing hygiene products and meal cards; and transportation. Interface is currently providing hotel vouchers for some Transitional Age Youth (ages 18-24). Interested individuals can call the 24/7 outreach number: (805) 469-5882. Interface also provides mental health services with connections to their domestic violence and human trafficking programs. Ms. Cervantes will share flyers providing information on their services. Ms. Shelton shared that Adelante had held a recent holiday event with over 200 participants where, fifty children were given an opportunity to select a toy and all families were able to collect stocking stuffers. Rainbow Connection just had their toy event and received over 500 donated toys. At SELPA, there will be a Crisis Prevention Intervention (CPI) training for parents on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. More information can be obtained through their email listing. Chair Stone shared she is currently teaching adaptive swimming at the Ventura YMCA and in the middle of January, they will begin a creative music and movement class for children aged 5-12 with special needs. The teacher to student ratio will be 1 to 4. There will be a gentle group and a dynamic group as well as a teen group on Friday nights, from 6:30 – 7:15PM

with a 1 to 6 ratio. Ms. Shelton then shared there is an opportunity for the Regional Center to help pay for places such as the Ventura YMCA through vendorization.

**XIII. Contracts Review (September & October 2022) – No comments.**

**XIV. Final Public Comments – No comments.**

**XV. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 4:42PM by Chair Stone.**

# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS

Come and hear what the community has to say about mental health. We welcome you to participate in the Community Planning Process and will be reviewing the results of the Ventura County Community Needs Assessment.

**JOIN US IN-PERSON**

**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21  
6:00PM – 7:30PM**

*Mountain Vista Elementary School  
918 5th St., Fillmore CA 93015*



**Register at: <https://mhsa-fillmore.eventbrite.com>**

**Or to register by email: [mhsa@ventura.org](mailto:mhsa@ventura.org)**

Interpretation and childcare available upon request.



**Ventura County Behavioral Health**  
**Board Letter Summary of Contracts for September 2022**

Board Date	Contractor	Amount	Term	Description
9/13/2022	California Health and Human Services Agency	\$0	Effective January 31, 2023	<b>Data Sharing Agreement with the California Health and Human Services Agency.</b> The California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Behavioral Health Quality Improvement Program (BHQIP) is a California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) incentive payment program to support Mental Health Plans (MHP), Managed Care Plans (MCP), Drug Medi-Cal State Plans (DMC), and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery Systems (DMC-ODS) to prepare for changes to the delivery and payment of mental health and related services as part of the implementation of the CalAIM initiative and other Newsom Administration priorities. Under the CalAIM BHQIP, VCBH is eligible for a portion of the incentive payments provided that VCBH achieves certain milestones related to its ability to exchange client and patient data for the implementation of CalAIM. In order to receive 100% of the available CalAIM BHQIP incentive funds, VCBH must demonstrate that it has begun to improve its data exchange capabilities by September 30, 2022, specifically by preparing and executing a data sharing agreement that commits VCBH to sharing certain records and information through an electronic health record system that meets certain operability standards. In recent communication with DHCS regarding how to fulfill the requirements of this milestone, DHCS informed VCBH that it must specifically sign the Data Exchange Framework DSA established by CalHHS. The Data Exchange Framework DSA was developed by CalHHS, DHCS, and other stakeholders in response to state legislation requiring, among other things, improved data exchange between MHPs, MCPs, DMCs, and DMC-ODSs. The DSA is intended to facilitate data exchange between the participants in compliance with applicable federal, state, and local health privacy laws and regulations, including but not limited to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), federal law governing the confidentiality of substance use disorder records, and Welfare and Institutions Code section 5328. The goal is to prepare a single data sharing agreement that establishes a common set of policies and procedures that governs the exchange of health information among California MHPs, MCPs, DMCs, and DMC-ODSs for the implementation of CalAIM. There is no fiscal impact for this Agreement.
9/20/2022	DHCS	\$0	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027	<b>Standard Agreement with DHCS for the Provision of Specialty Mental Health Services to Medi-Cal Beneficiaries.</b> VCBH is designated as Ventura County's local mental health plan (MHP) administrator by DHCS and is responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of specialty mental health services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Ventura County. The Standard Agreement with DHCS specifies the federal and state requirements that VCBH must meet to participate as a MHP and be reimbursed for all medically necessary covered services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The Standard Agreement includes terms and conditions related to: (1) scope of services, (2) financial requirements, (3) management information systems, (4) quality improvement system, (5) utilization management program, (6) access and availability of resources, (7) provider network, (8) documentation requirements, (9) coordination of continuity of care, (10) information requirements, (11) beneficiary problem resolution, (12) program integrity, (13) reporting requirements, (14) peer support services, (15) budget and payment provisions, and (16) other general terms and conditions related to the services. New terms and conditions incorporated into the Standard Agreement include: (1) criteria for beneficiaries to access specialty mental health services, (2) provisions and guidelines for the delivery of Medi-Cal peer support services, (3) MEDSLITE Access account and data management requirements, and (4) additional electronic and IT accessibility non-discrimination requirements. There is no change to the amount of the Standard Agreement; it remains at zero dollars. DHCS determined that this amount made the most sense because the funding that is used to pay for specialty mental health services flows through different payment mechanisms (realignment distributions and estimated total cost of the Federal Financial Participation); the Standard Agreement is not the method by which those funds are paid to counties. In addition, the zero dollar amount eliminates the need for future amendments to change funding amounts based on actual or estimated expenditures. There is no fiscal impact for this Agreement.
9/20/2022	Dennis M. Giroux & Associates, Inc. (DMG)	\$466,924	July 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023	<b>Eighth Amendment to the Agreement with DMG for the Provision of DMC-ODS Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services.</b> DMG provides outpatient DMC-ODS SUD treatment services to adults involved in the criminal justice system at various locations in Ventura County, including Oxnard, Ventura, and the Todd Road County Jail as well as in the Juvenile Justice Facility. DMG is also completing contingency management pilot program start up services for VCBH for Medi-Cal beneficiaries with stimulant use disorder. DMG uses the following evidence-based practices: matrix, seeking safety, and moral reconnection therapy. In April 2022, VCBH conducted a site review audit of DMG to review their FY 2021-22 program, utilization review, fiscal, staffing, and physical plant operations. The site review process, designed to ensure that DMG is in compliance with the requirements specified in the contract and all applicable Federal, State, and local regulations, resulted DMG being issued a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) that identified various issues that require remediation. Because of these issues, VCBH limited its FY 2022-23 extension of its contract with DMG to a three-month term, specifically July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, pending review and finalization of the site review audit CAP. VCBH requires additional time to complete its review and finalize the DMG site review audit CAP process. The Eighth Amendment extends the agreement with DMG at existing terms for an additional four months ending January 31, 2023 and increases the maximum agreement amount accordingly to allow VCBH to complete its review and audit process. This agreement is funded by Drug Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (DMC FFP), Realignment, AB 109 funds and DHCS BHQIP funds.

**Ventura County Behavioral Health**  
**Board Letter Summary of Contracts for October 2022**

Board Date	Contractor	Amount	Term	Description
10/4/2022	Telecare Corporation (Telecare)	\$833,245	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	<b>Sixth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare for Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Services (Vista/XP2/XP3 Program).</b> Telecare provides ACT program services to Ventura Innovative Services Telecare ACT (VISTA) (XP2/XP3) adult consumers who have been released from local jails. These individuals receive community-based support to ensure independent living and wellness. ACT services include: mental health treatment, psychiatric care and management, medication education, alcohol and other substance abuse treatment, life skills training, vocational training and counseling, advocacy regarding criminal justice, social services, social security issues, and linkage with peer support programs, wellness and recovery centers, and housing supports. The FY 2022-23 Sixth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare increases the maximum contract amount by \$33,312 to a new not to exceed amount of \$833,245. This increase is due to the addition of a Peer Support Specialist (.48 Full Time Equivalent (FTE)) and a Medical Records Technician (.24 FTE). Peer Support Services have been approved by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for Medi-Cal reimbursement and are being incorporated into this agreement to align with the Full-Service Partnership (FSP) model. This agreement is funded with Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and Short Doyle/Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (SD/MC FFP) funding.
10/4/2022	Telecare	\$902,976	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	<b>Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare for ACT Services (Voice/AB109 ACT Program).</b> Telecare provides ACT services to Assembly Bill (AB) 109 parolee consumers who have significant mental health and/or alcohol and drug issues that require treatment in order to live safely and productively in the community and reduce recidivism. ACT services include: mental health treatment, psychiatric care and management, medication education, alcohol and other substance abuse treatment, life skills training, vocational training and counseling, advocacy regarding criminal justice, social services, and social security issues, and linkage with peer support programs, wellness and recovery centers, and housing supports. Treatment needs fall into two main categories. The first category includes individuals who require high intensity ACT model wrap around support services, such as intensive case management, medication, crisis intervention, and housing/life skills support. These services are available 24/7 and 365 days per year using a "whatever it takes" approach. The second category includes individuals who require low intensity services (ACT-lite), such as case management and medication management. The FY 2022-23 Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare increases the maximum contract amount by \$36,888 to a new not to exceed amount of \$902,976. This increase is due to the addition of a Peer Support Specialist (.52 FTE) and a Medical Records Technician (.26 FTE). Peer Support Services were recently approved by DHCS for Medi-Cal reimbursement and are being incorporated into this agreement to align with the FSP model. This agreement is funded with AB 109 and SD/MC FFP funding.
10/4/2022	Ventura County Local Education Agencies (LEA) (Various)	\$0	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	<b>Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Template Between Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) and Various LEA for Educationally Related Social Emotional Services (ERSES).</b> On June 30, 2011, Assembly Bill No. 114 (2010-2011 Reg. Sess.) was signed into law. Under AB 114, several sections of Chapter 26.5 of the California Government Code were amended or rendered inoperative. This ended the state mandate on county mental health agencies to provide mental health services to students with disabilities. These services were provided to special education students via the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process, and may have included such things as individual or small group counseling, collateral services, medication monitoring, case management, and residential care. Since that time, school districts and the Ventura County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) have been solely responsible for ensuring that students with disabilities receive the special education and related services needed to address their social, emotional, and behavioral needs, in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and pursuant to Education Code sections 56195 et seq. and 56205. VCOE SELPA was designated for direct receipt and distribution of funds, provision of administrative support, and coordination of implementation of the local special education plan, pursuant to Education Code section 56195.1(c)(2). Because it was designated the local agency responsible for special education and related services, during this time VCOE SELPA contracted directly with VCBH for the provision of ERSES to students with an IEP in the various LEAs (schools and school districts) within Ventura County. ERSES services may include, but are not limited to, assessments, individual therapy, group therapy, collateral services, case management, and other mental health services. Due to a recent change in law, VCOE SELPA is no longer the local agency that directly receives funding from the State for the provision of ERSES to students. Funding for these services is now channeled directly to each LEA in Ventura County. The MOU template will be used to contract with each LEA moving forward to facilitate the provision of ERSES and invoice the LEAs for costs not covered by SD/MC FFP or other insurance coverage. The MOU delineates the roles and responsibilities of each party to the MOU and clarifies processes such as invoicing and payment. All LEAs served under these MOU's will have access to bilingual and bicultural staff to meet the needs of the client population served. The source of funding for these MOU's is SD/MC FFP and LEA funding.
10/11/2022	Turning Point Foundation (TPF)	\$476,112	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	<b>Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with TPF Thompson Place for Augmented Board and Care Services.</b> The TPF Thompson Place facility provides augmented board and care services for adults ages 18 to 59 with serious and persistent mental illness that has resulted in significant functional impairments requiring 24-hour care and supervision. In July 2022, VCBH negotiated a three-month extension (July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022) of the TPF Thompson Place Agreement to allow VCBH additional time to review and analyze the TPF Thompson Place budget and to negotiate with TPF a more complete extension of the Agreement. The Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with TPF Thompson Place: (1) extends the term of the agreement through June 30, 2023, (2) increases the number of beds from of 20 to 26 beds for VCBH clients, (3) adds two (2.0) full time equivalent (FTE) Care and Supervisor Techs, (4) increases the rate per client/per month from \$1,305 to \$1,526 for augmented board and care services, and (5) increases the maximum contract amount from \$345,200 to \$476,112 (an increase of \$130,912) for the service period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The source of funding for this Agreement is Tobacco Settlement, 1991 Realignment (Trust N520-717C), and MHSA funds.
10/11/2022	Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC)	\$7,619,314	September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2026	<b>Second Amendment to the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) Round Three Grant Agreement with the MHSOAC.</b> On June 17, 2022, VCBH submitted an application to the MHSOAC for \$11,623,393 in additional MHSSA Round Three grant funding to fund the expansion of Wellness Centers to several school locations within Ventura County, using the VCOE Wellness Center model. The additional funding would have allowed VCOE, through an existing MOA with VCBH, to expand existing services within all their Wellness Centers, add high school Wellness Centers, hire additional staff, and expand into two (2) new School Districts (Conejo Valley and Oak Park). On July 6, 2022, the MHSOAC approved VCBH's grant application and awarded VCBH \$1,619,384 in additional Wellness Center funding. The Second Amendment to the MHSSA grant Agreement with the MHSOAC provides VCBH with \$1,619,384 in additional Wellness Center services funding increasing the existing agreement amount from \$5,999,930 to \$7,619,314 and extends the effective date of the existing MHSSA grant agreement an additional one year and four months, for a new term of September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2026. The source of funding for this Agreement is the MHSSA Grant.