

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE

MINUTES ■ Wednesday, October 9, 2019

**Members Present**

Denise Nielsen, Committee Chair  
 Gina Petrus, BHAB  
 Martie Miles, Aspiranet  
 Marika Collins, Casa Pacifica  
 Joelle Vessels, Interface  
 Yanka Ricklefts, SELPA  
 Danielle Shaw, M.D.

**Others Present**

Savanna Eden, Kids & Families Together  
 Sharon Elmensdorp, First 5  
 Bianca Lopez, Santa Paula Unified School District  
 Danny Bakst, Gold Coast Health Plan

**Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Managers/Staff Present**

Dina Olivas, Youth & Family Division Interim Chief  
 Hilary Carson, MHSA  
 Edith Pham, BHAB Assistant

**NEXT MEETING:**

**Wednesday, November 13, 2019, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 pm**

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)  
 1911 Williams Drive, Lake Tahoe Room (second floor), Oxnard

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.	<b>Call to Order</b> Chair Nielsen called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.		
II.	<b>Approval of the Agenda</b> Ms. Nielsen asked the Committee to review and approve today's agenda. Gina Petrus moved to approve, Yanka Ricklefts seconded. Ms. Nielsen noted that the presenter could not attend and will reschedule her presentation. The motion carried unanimously.	The agenda was approved as amended. <b>M/S/C</b>	
III.	<b>Approval of the Minutes</b> Ms. Nielsen asked the committee to review and approve the minutes of the September 2019 meeting. Joelle Vessels moved to approve, Martie Miles seconded. The motion carried unanimously.	The minutes were approved as written. <b>M/S/C</b>	
IV.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Ms. Nielsen welcomed everyone and asked for introductions.		
V.	<b>Chair Announcements</b> Ms. Nielsen noted that today is Yom Kippur, and we should be grateful for our Jewish friends.		
VI.	<b>Public Comments</b> None.		
VII.	<b>Presentation</b> The presentation did not take place as the presenter was unable to attend.		
VIII.	<b>New Business</b> A. December schedule After a brief discussion, Gina Petrus moved to go dark in December, Ms. Miles seconded. The motion carried unanimously.	Go dark in December <b>M/S/C</b>	
IX.	<b>Old Business</b> A. Finalize 2018-19 Annual Report The committee reviewed Draft 2 of its Annual Report. The committee discussed and made changes to its FY 2019-20 Objectives. Ms. Vessels moved to approve the FY 2018-19 Annual Report as amended, Marika Collins seconded. The motion carried unanimously.	Approve Annual Report as amended <b>M/S/C</b>	
X.	<b>Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Youth &amp; Family Division Updates</b> A. Youth & Family Division – Dina Olivas 1. As part of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR), VCBH is reviewing proposals for mental health applications for two Short-Term Residential Treatment Programs (STRTP). There are currently two STRTPs in the county. 2. Under Children's Accelerated Access to Treatment and Services (CAATS), children are assessed within 3 to 4 days.		

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. VCBH attends Children and Family Team (CFT) meetings with the Human Services Agency when requested. VCBH is working on a system improvement project related to CFTs.</li> <li>4. Agency partners are doing a great job with CFTs. The cooperation between agencies shows that a culture shift has happened.</li> <li>5. A training on human trafficking of males took place recently. It was a powerful event that provided information on trafficking as related to sex, labor and drugs.</li> <li>6. VCBH has been meeting with school Superintendents to explain the Educationally Related Social Emotional Services (ERSES) and the full array of available services. In Santa Paula, staff mapped out the agency staff who come on campus.</li> <li>7. A Request for Proposal (RFP) went out for a respite program and a parent partner program. Questions about the RFPs must be directed to VCBH Contracts.</li> </ol> <p>B. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) – Hilary Carson</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prevention &amp; Early Intervention (PEI) funds are going to be used to expand Logrando Bienestar and additional approaches to outreach, especially through the schools. A Full Service Partnership (FSP) is in the process. There are no additional funds for this; rather, VCBH is working on streamlining resources.</li> <li>2. The MHSA team is working on its 3-year Plan.</li> </ol>		
<p>XI.</p>	<p><b>Committee Members’ and Participants’ Comments, Activities, Updates</b></p> <p>Dr. Shaw noted that she has started a pediatric mental health collaborative with local pediatricians, psychiatrists and psychologists to break down the silos and identify gaps in services. She will continue to reach out to pediatricians in the community. A psychologist has shared her desire to start a group for children who are expelled from preschool. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) is gaining recognition in the field of pediatrics.</p> <p>Ms. Collins noted that on October 28 there will be a Forum in Los Angeles, called Strength in Partnership – Addressing Children’s Mental Health Needs in Schools.</p> <p>Ms. Ricklefs noted that the implementation of ERSES is probably one of the most powerful and positive things that happened in schools for students and families.</p>		
<p>XII.</p>	<p><b>Items for the Next Meeting Agenda</b></p> <p>Not discussed.</p>		
<p>XIII.</p>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.</p>		

JUNTA ASESORA DE SALUD DEL COMPORTAMIENTO

**COMITÉ DE JUVENTUD Y FAMILIA**

**MINUTOS ■ Miércoles 9 de octubre de 2019**

<p><b><u>Miembros presentes</u></b>                  Denise Nielsen , Presidenta del Comité                  Gina Petrus, BHAB                  Martie Miles, Aspiranet                  Marika Collins, Casa Pacifica                  Joelle Vessels, Interfaz                  Yanka Ricklefts , SELPA                  Danielle Shaw, MD</p> <p><b><u>Otros presentes</u></b>                  Savanna Eden, niños y familias juntas                  Sharon Elmensdorp, primeros 5                  Bianca López, Distrito Escolar Unificado de Santa Paula                  Danny Bakst, Plan de salud de Gold Coast</p>	<p><b><u>Gerentes / personal presente de Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)</u></b>                  Dina Olivas , Jefa interina de la División Juventud y Familia                  Hilary Carson , MHSA                  Edith Pham, Asistente BHAB</p> <p><b>SIGUIENTE JUNTA:</b>  <b>Cerrado miércoles , 13 de noviembre de , 2019 , 10 : 00 a.m. - 12: 00 pm</b></p> <p>Salud conductual del condado de Ventura (VCBH)                  1911 Williams Drive , Lake Tahoe Room ( segundo piso) , Oxnard</p>
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Nota: El comité aún no ha aprobado estas actas. Puede haber adiciones / eliminaciones o correcciones antes de que las actas se acepten en forma final.

	DISCUSIÓN / CONCLUSIONES	RECOMENDACIONES / COMPORTAMIENTO	RESPONSABLE
YO.	<b>Llama para ordenar</b> El presidente Nielsen dio por terminada la reunión a las 10:10 a.m.		
II	<b>Aprobación de la agenda</b> La Sra. Nielsen le pidió al Comité que revisara y aprobara la agenda de hoy. Gina Petrus se movió para aprobar, Yanka Ricklefts la secundó . La Sra. Nielsen señaló que la presentadora no pudo asistir y reprogramará su presentación. La moción fue aprobada por unanimidad.	El orden del día fue aprobado en su forma enmendada . M / S / C	
III.	<b>Aprobación del acta</b> Nielsen le pidió al comité que revisara y aprobara el acta de la reunión de septiembre de 2019 . Joelle Vessels hizo la moción para aprobar, Martie Miles lo secundó. La moción fue aprobada por unanimidad.	Las actas fueron aprobadas tal como están escritas. M / S / C	
IV.	<b>Bienvenida y Presentaciones</b> La Sra. Nielsen dio la bienvenida a todos y pidió presentaciones.		
V.	<b>Anuncios de la presidencia</b> La Sra. Nielsen señaló que hoy es Yom Kippur, y deberíamos estar agradecidos por nuestros amigos judíos.		
VI.	<b>Comentarios públicos</b> Ninguna.		
VII.	<b>Presentación</b> La presentación no tuvo lugar ya que el presentador no pudo asistir.		
VI II.	<b>Nuevo negocio</b> A. Calendario de diciembre Después de una breve discusión, Gina Petrus se movió para oscurecer en diciembre, la Sra. Miles la secundó. La moción fue aprobada por unanimidad.	Oscurecer en diciembre M / S / C	
IX .	<b>Viejo negocio</b> A. Finalizar el Informe anual 2018-19 El comité revisó el Borrador 2 de su Informe Anual . El comité discutió e hizo cambios a sus objetivos para el año fiscal 2019-20. La Sra. Vessels hizo la moción de aprobar el Informe Anual FY 2018-19 en su forma enmendada, Marika Collins secundó. La moción fue aprobada por unanimidad.	Aprobar el Informe Anual enmendado M / S / C	
X .	<b>Actualizaciones de la División de Juventud y Familia de Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)</b> A. División Juventud y Familia - Dina Olivas		

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Como parte de la Reforma del Cuidado Continuo (CCR), VCBH está revisando propuestas para aplicaciones de salud mental para dos Programas de Tratamiento Residencial a Corto Plazo (STRTP). Actualmente hay dos STRTP en el condado.</li> <li>2. Bajo el Acceso Acelerado para Niños a Tratamiento y Servicios (CAATS) , los niños son evaluados dentro de 3 a 4 días.</li> <li>3. VCBH asiste a las reuniones del Equipo de Niños y Familias (CFT) con la Agencia de Servicios Humanos cuando se le solicita. VCBH está trabajando en un proyecto de mejora del sistema relacionado con CFT.</li> <li>4. Los socios de la agencia están haciendo un gran trabajo con los CFT . La cooperación entre agencias muestra que ha ocurrido un cambio cultural.</li> <li>5. Recientemente se realizó una capacitación sobre la trata de personas de hombres. Fue un evento poderoso que proporcionó información sobre el tráfico en relación con el sexo, el trabajo y las drogas.</li> <li>6. VCBH se ha estado reuniendo con los Superintendentes escolares para explicar los Servicios Sociales Emocionales Relacionados con la Educación (ERSES) y la gama completa de servicios disponibles . En Santa Paula, el personal identificó el personal de la agencia que viene al campus.</li> <li>7. Se envió una Solicitud de propuesta (RFP) para un programa de relevo y un programa para padres y socios. Las preguntas sobre las RFP deben dirigirse a los contratos de VCBH.</li> </ol> <p>B. Ley de Servicios de Salud Mental (MHSA) - Hilary Carson</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Los fondos de Prevención e Intervención Temprana (PEI) se utilizarán para expandir Logrando Bienestar y enfoques adicionales de divulgación , especialmente a través de las escuelas. Una asociación de servicio completo ( FSP ) está en proceso. No hay ninguna adicionales fondos para este ; más bien , VCBH está trabajando en la racionalización de recursos.</li> <li>2. El equipo de MHSA está trabajando en su Plan de 3 años.</li> </ol>		
<p>XI .</p>	<p><b>Comentarios , actividades, actualizaciones de los miembros y participantes de los comités</b></p> <p>La Dra. Shaw señaló que ha comenzado una colaboración en salud mental pediátrica con pediatras, psiquiatras y psicólogos locales para romper los silos e identificar las brechas en los servicios. Ella continuará a llegar a los pediatras de la comunidad. Una psicóloga ha compartido su deseo de comenzar un grupo para niños que son expulsados del preescolar. Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) está ganando reconocimiento en el campo de la pediatría.</p> <p>La Sra. Collins señaló que el 28 de octubre habrá un Foro en Los Ángeles , llamado Fortaleza en el arte P - Abordar las necesidades de salud mental de los niños en las escuelas .</p> <p>La Sra. Ricklefts señaló que la implementación de ERSES es probablemente una de las cosas más poderosas y positivas que ocurrieron en las escuelas para estudiantes y familias.</p>		
<p>X II</p>	<p><b>Artículos para la agenda de la próxima reunión</b></p> <p>No discutido</p>		
<p>X II I.</p>	<p><b>Aplazar</b></p> <p>Se levanta la sesión a las 11:45 a.m.</p>		

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD  
YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE  
2018-19 Annual Report**

Submitted by Denise Nielsen, Chair

**Committee members**

Denise Nielsen, Committee Chair

Jamie Banker, BHAB

Irene Pinkard, BHAB

Gina Petrus, BHAB

Marlen Torres, BHAB

Martie Miles, Aspiranet

Marika Collins, Casa Pacifica

Ken McDermott, Children's Family Services

Heather Davidson, First 5 Ventura County

Joelle Vessels, Interface

Crystal Cummings, Kids & Families Together

Scott Abeson, Ventura County Probation

Laurie Jordan, Rainbow Connection

Carole Shelton, Rainbow Connection

Yanka Ricklefts, SELPA

Tyler Baker-Wilkinson, Seneca

Ariann Bulger, Seneca

Dr. Steven Graff, Tri-Counties Regional Center

Lori Litel, United Parents

Danielle Shaw, M.D.

**Participants**

Ventura County Behavioral Health

Scott Walker, Crisis Intervention Team

**MISSION**

The BHAB Youth & Family Committee advocates for the continuum of care and development in the delivery of services for youth and their families, believing that addressing the unique needs of minors and their caregivers is essential to the health of the community.

**2018-19 OBJECTIVES OF THE BHAB YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE**

- 1. Continuum of Care**
  - a. Follow and evaluate the implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR). Identify further needs or gaps in services to children in foster care.
  - b. Monitor the Crisis Stabilization Unit. Identify remaining gaps in the continuum of crisis services for both children covered by Medi-Cal and children with private insurance.
  - c. Advocate for the availability of psychiatric hospital beds in the county for the pediatric population. Ensure communication and care coordination of medical information between care providers.
  
- 2. Community and Parent Outreach**
  - a. Engage community agencies to schedule presentations regarding the role and activities of this Committee.
  - b. Recruit community members to serve on the Committee, and inform families about mental health services available.
  - c. Create innovative strategies to learn about parents/caregivers' needs and concerns.
  - d. Raise awareness of alcohol and drug use information. Actively disseminate alcohol and drug use prevention information to the community partners, including community-based organizations (CBOs), law enforcement, and school districts.
  - e. Maintain the availability of relevant materials on the Ventura County Behavioral Health's wellnesseveryday/saludsiempre website.
  - f. Continue to oversee the development of the family resource app.

- g. Raise awareness of services for children ages 0-5 and access to those services.

## **INTRODUCTION**

The BHAB Youth & Family Committee meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 10:00 to noon at the Ventura County Behavioral Health Administration building in Oxnard. Attendance and participation are open to the families of youth receiving mental health services from Ventura County Behavioral Health, service providers, Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) members, and anyone with an interest in the children and youth residing in Ventura County. The Youth and Family Committee is responsible to look into the needs, programs and services for children and youth, and to report to the BHAB on these matters.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS**

1. The committee received regular updates on the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR), its successes and challenges.
2. The number of children and youth placed outside the home, either in foster care or Juvenile Justice, has been reduced thanks to early intervention and Trauma-Informed Care.
3. The Children's Crisis Stabilization Unit has prevented the hospitalization of about half the children and youth who were assessed. The CSU is often running at capacity. CSU staff provided information on its services and how to access them.
4. The reopening of Vista del Mar Psychiatric Hospital has been helpful for youth ages 12 to 17.
5. The need for hospitalization of children ages 0 to 5 has been reduced thanks to staff awareness and education.
6. VCBH and providers provided outreach and engagement in psychoeducation to help parents learn to describe what their children are experiencing and to help reduce stigma.
7. Dr. Shaw and Dr. Acosta reached out to primary care physicians (PCPs) to increase their awareness of the mental health services available. Dr. Shaw planned to provide a training on collaborative care to empower PCPs.
8. The Safety Plan was updated/revised.
9. Support was provided to the community following the Borderline shooting and Woolsey Fire.
10. Ongoing collaboration between various agencies and VCBH continues to improve the services available.
11. The committee was instrumental in the development of an eating disorders program within the VCBH Youth & Family clinics.
12. The continuum of crisis care has been strengthened.

## **2018-19 PRESENTATIONS**

September 2018: Youth and Cannabis, presented by Dan Hicks and David Tovar, VCBH Alcohol & Drug Program.

October 2018: Results of the Parent/Caregiver Survey, presented by Lori Litel, United Parents.

April 2019: Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC), presented by Lydia Lopez and Jessica Valenzuela, Health Care Agency READY Program.

May 2019: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)-funded Youth & Family Programs, presented by Clara Barron, MHSA.

June 2019: Gold Coast Health Plan and Beacon Health Options, presented by Jennifer Claros and Elizabeth Theis.

## **CHALLENGES**

1. Barriers exist in the process of placing youth coming from outside Ventura County.
2. Additional foster families are needed.
3. Reunification for children and youth in foster care or group homes is problematic.
4. Respite care for parents and caregivers is desperately needed.
5. A Children's CSU is needed in the East County.

6. Law enforcement and clinicians in private practice need to be educated about the Children's CSU, a more appropriate resource than the local emergency department for children and youth in crisis.
7. Increasing the number of parent partners is needed.
8. There is a lack of communication with the local private psychiatric hospital and with out-of-county hospitals.

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

1. Funding will become available during the next couple of years to implement new Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Innovations projects.
2. A psychiatrist working with VCBH has moved and is now working at Vista del Mar Psychiatric Hospital in Ventura. It is anticipated that this move will help strengthen the communication between psychiatrists and clinicians in various settings.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Continue to work toward developing an Innovation project that focuses on children ages 0-5.
2. Design an Innovation project focusing on identifying the early signs of possible mental illness in its early stages.
3. Consider implementing a tool for threat assessment on school campus that is applicable to students and adults alike and standardized across school campuses and law enforcement agencies.

## **2019-20 OBJECTIVES OF THE BHAB YOUTH & FAMILY COMMITTEE**

The committee voted to carry over its previous year's objectives into the new year.

### **1. Continuum of Care**

- a. Follow and evaluate the implementation of the Continuum of Care Reform (CCR). Identify further needs or gaps in services to children in foster care.
- d. Monitor the Crisis Stabilization Unit. Identify remaining gaps in the continuum of crisis services for both children covered by Medi-Cal and children with private insurance.
- e. Advocate for the availability of psychiatric hospital beds in the county for the pediatric population. Ensure communication and care coordination of medical information between care providers.

### **2. Community and Parent Outreach**

- h. Engage community agencies to schedule presentations regarding the role and activities of this Committee.
- i. Recruit community members to serve on the Committee, and inform families about mental health services available.
- j. Create innovative strategies to learn about parents/caregivers' needs and concerns.
- k. Raise awareness of alcohol and drug use information. Actively disseminate alcohol and drug use prevention information to the community partners, including community-based organizations (CBOs), law enforcement, and school districts.
- l. Maintain the availability of relevant materials on the Ventura County Behavioral Health's [wellnesseveryday.com](http://wellnesseveryday.com) website.
- m. Continue to oversee the development of the family resource app.
- n. Raise awareness of services for children ages 0-5 and access to those services.