

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD  
**YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES ■ Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

<p><b><u>Members Present</u></b>  Kevin Clerici, Chair  Dr. Steven Graff, Tri-County Regional Center  Melissa Hannah, United Parents  Martie Miles, Aspiranet  Dr. Danielle Shaw, Engage Treatment  Carole Shelton, Rainbow Connection  Scott Walker, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)</p> <p><b><u>Others Present</u></b>  Ariann Bulger, Seneca Family of Agencies / Ventura Crisis Services  Clarissa Cajiau, Homeland Language Services  Jorge Macias, Student – CA Lutheran University / Diversity, Equity &amp; Inclusion Office (DEI)  Gina Petrus, Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission  Rachel Pletcher, Kids and Families Together</p>	<p><b><u>Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Managers/Staff Present</u></b>  Jennifer Dougherty, Youth &amp; Family Services Senior Behavioral Health Manager  Patricia Alamillo, Management Assistant/Zoom Engineer  Estela Ortega, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity Administrative Assistant  Joanna Peterson, Management Assistant/Zoom Engineer  Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Senior Behavioral Health Manager  Cynthia Salas, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity, Equity Services Manager  Katie Stefl, (MHSA) Program Administrator  Sandra Tovar, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity Program Administrator  Vickie Poliquin, BHAB Assistant</p> <p><b>NEXT MEETING: October 12, 2022</b></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.	<p><b>Call to Order</b>  Chair Clerici called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.</p>		
	<p><b>Confirm Committee Membership</b>  Mr. Clerici provided clarification that in compliance with the Brown Act, formal individual roll call votes must be taken for action items versus Committee members voting all at once. The noted protocol will be followed at all Committee meetings.</p> <p>Mr. Clerici requested confirmation on current Committee membership. He noted that records currently reflect the following nine Committee members and that a quorum consists of five members in order to take formal action:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kevin Clerici, Chair</li> <li>2. Dr. Steven Graff</li> <li>3. Melissa Hannah</li> <li>4. Laurie Jordan</li> <li>5. Regina Reed</li> <li>6. Michael Rodriguez</li> <li>7. Dr. Danielle Shaw</li> <li>8. Carole Shelton</li> <li>9. Scott Walker</li> </ol> <p>Martie Miles advised that she is also a member of the Committee, bringing the current membership to 10 with six as a quorum.</p> <p>Gina Petris expressed her interest in becoming a Committee member. Mr. Clerici provided information on the process to become a Committee member noting that once someone has expressed interest in membership and has attended three consecutive Committee meetings consideration for membership can be expressed to the Chair who makes the decision to approve their membership. He advised that Gina Petris has met the requirements and is approved as a Committee effective at the next Committee meeting. Mr. Clerici noted that he welcomes participation from all meeting attendees regardless of whether they are official Committee members.</p>		
II.	<p><b>Approval of the Agenda</b>  Mr. Clerici asked the Committee to review and approve today’s agenda. Dr. Graff moved to approve; Dr. Shaw seconded. The motion carried unanimously through roll call.</p>	Agenda approved as written. <b>M/S/C</b>	

III.	<p><b>Approval of the April 13, 2022 Minutes</b> Mr. Clerici asked the Committee for a motion to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2022, meeting. Dr. Shaw moved to approve; Ms. Shelton seconded. The motion carried unanimously through roll call.</p>	Meeting minutes approved as written. <b>M/S/C</b>	
	<p><b>Approval of the June 8, 2022 Minutes</b> Mr. Clerici asked the Committee for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2022, meeting. Mr. Walker moved to approve; Ms. Shelton seconded. The motion carried by majority vote through roll call. Dr. Graff and Dr. Shaw abstained.</p>	Meeting minutes approved as written. <b>M/S/C</b>	
IV.	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Mr. Clerici welcomed all attendees. All attendees introduced themselves.</p>		
V.	<p><b>Chair Announcements</b> Mr. Clerici acknowledged Dr. Sevet Johnson’s appointment as the County’s new Chief Executive Officer expressing appreciation of the appointment. Mr. Clerici also recognized the passing of Supervisor Carmen Ramirez and her many years of dedicated service and contributions.</p>		
VI.	<p><b>Public Comments</b> Ms. Shelton spoke to advocate for an increase in behavioral health services and representation for those people with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDDs).  Mr. Walker spoke advising that the Crisis Team had several complex cases in recent months that required many police resources and thanked Jennifer Dougherty and her team as well as Dr. Steven Graff and his team at Tri-Counties for their helpfulness and collaboration in these cases.  Katie Stefl provided a public comment to advise of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ventura County Health Needs Assessment, sponsored by the Ventura County Community Improvement Collaborative and included VCBH, was completed and consisted of over 3,000 completed surveys, secondary data and focus groups, people with lived experience and those enrolled in mental health services. Results can be found at the following website: <a href="https://www.healthmattersinvc.org/">https://www.healthmattersinvc.org/</a>. Portions of the report will be utilized for MHSA’s 3-Year Annual Update. MHSA will be holding additional focus groups in unserved and underserved and will hold community groups to review the results and receive feedback. More information will follow.</li> <li>• Announced that MHSA’s 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Suicide Prevention Forum, designed for both community members and healthcare providers, is scheduled at Ventura College on September 21. A “live” virtual event will follow on September 29 with highlights and discussions from the Forum. Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky added additional information regarding the youth focus with buses organized from the high schools to transport students to the Forum. A flyer was shown and is included with the minutes.</li> <li>• Effective July 16, 2022, the new 988 Suicide and Crisis Hotline became active across the country.</li> </ul>		
	<p><b>Contracts Review – May &amp; June 2022</b> Mr. Clerici noted that all Divisions contracts are provided to the Committee as a standing agenda item to provide an opportunity for Committee members to review contracts that have been approved and to ask questions, express concerns or provide feedback for staff response.</p>		
IX.	<p><b>Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Youth &amp; Family Division Updates</b> A. Youth &amp; Family Division – Jennifer Dougherty for Cheryl Fox, Youth &amp; Family Services Division Chief</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Working with VCBH’s Training Division on a Mentored Internship Program where a Youth &amp; Family Services clinic will support graduate level students in their training at VCHB.</li> <li>• Youth &amp; Family Services Division Chief, Cheryl Fox, is leading the effort to work on future behavioral health needs expressed by the community.</li> <li>• Work is being done to apply for an infrastructure grant through the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure grant process for possible funding for a bricks and mortar Wellness Center for youth up to age 25 and their families.</li> <li>• Acknowledged the Child Welfare Subsystem for their collaboration with Children and Family Services in participating in a court-appointed special advocates program better known as the Casa Training Panel which consists of Child and Family Services social workers and attorneys who purpose is to provide an overview of the court dependent process and services for youth and families in dependency. This program will provide the</li> </ul>		

	<p>“behavioral health” lens for those individuals that become court-appointed special advocates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• South Oxnard’s team has collaborated with the MHSA team on the Public Health Needs Assessment to include youth and parents in the focus groups to provide their perspective and input for the community planning process.</li> <li>• Youth &amp; Family Services’ 18-person leadership team attended the Integrated Core Practice Model training in late June and early July. The focus of the training was for all inter-agency partners (Probation, Human Services Agency, Tri-Counties, Ventura County Office of Education) to lead an integration of principles to build the child youth and family wellness system of care.</li> <li>• Progress is being made on the development of full-service partnerships consisting of a field-based team dedicated to providing wrap-around and additional services that are challenging to provide in a clinic-based environment to youth ages 0-20 and families with the highest needs. The launch of the partnerships is projected by the end of 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Carole Shelton asked questions regarding access to the full-service partnership for those with IDD and Dr. Shaw provided additional clarifications regarding the importance of the full-service partnership’s field-based team to include a developmental assessment component to ensure interventions are appropriate.</p> <p>B. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) – Hilary Carson, Program Administrator, Innovations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky advised that Hilary Carson is on vacation and that Katie StafI provided MHSA updates under agenda item VI. Dr. Rotnofsky offered to answer any questions related to MHSA in Hilary Carson’s absence. No questions were asked.</li> </ul>		
<p>X.</p>	<p><b>Committee Members’ Comments, Activities, Updates</b></p> <p>Dr. Graff provided the following updates and changes from Tri-Counties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vasti Mezquita is the new Transition Team Manager in the Simi Valley office.</li> <li>• Veronica Rodriguez, previous Transitions Team Manager, has moved to Self-Directed Services.</li> <li>• Sabrina Smith is the new Children Team Manager.</li> <li>• Mindy Mosher, previous Children Team Manager, has moved to Federal Programs.</li> <li>• Gabrielle Bodle is the Manager of the added second Children’s Team in the Oxnard office.</li> <li>• Elvia Contreras is the Manager of the added second Transition Team in the Oxnard office.</li> <li>• Acknowledged and thanked Dr. Shaw for her work at the State level regarding Fetal Alcohol Syndrome that was instrumental in the State of California changing the Early Start regulations as of July 1, 2022, with new Trailer Bill language advising that Fetal Alcohol Syndrome is now recognized, has been added as a high-risk condition and development delay percentages have been changed from 33% to a 25%.</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Shelton provided the following comments and updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rainbow Connection is having a Backpack drive-up event at the Oxnard and Simi Valley offices on August 12 for families and individuals served by Tri-Counties Regional Center for ages 5 to 12. Requests for backpacks can be emailed to <a href="mailto:rainbow@tri-counties.org">rainbow@tri-counties.org</a> or call 805-485-9643.</li> </ul> <p>Ms. Hannah provided the following comments and updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• United Parents holds monthly support groups on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month in Spanish from 6:00 to 7:30 PM and in English from 7:30 to 9:00 PM. Groups are currently held virtually, and plans are to hold hybrid meetings starting in September or October.</li> </ul> <p>Dr. Shaw provided the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanked Dr. Graff and others for their comments regarding her advocacy on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome.</li> <li>• Made note that the Early Start Bill is for Fetal Alcohol Syndrome—not Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders. She advised that Fetal Alcohol Syndrome has facial features and is more easily recognized than the entire spectrum and that the State of California is still missing out on providing services for approximately 80% of children who have been affected by fetal alcohol exposure. She noted that advocacy needs to continue to provide more information so that everyone that needs services can be included and not just for those at the most observable end of the spectrum. Dr. Graff commented as Chief Clinical Director for Tri-Counties Regional Center, stating that Tri-Counties Regional Center always tries to provide services to children who have prenatal exposure.</li> </ul>		

	<p>Ms. Shelton provided an additional comment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advised that the new VCBH Director provided closing comments at a “Bridging the Gap” event between Tri-County Regional Centers and VCBH that included discussions on how to plan for services for people with IDD with dual diagnoses. Ms. Shelton suggested hearing from the new VCBH Director at the next meeting regarding his plans for Ventura County on this subject.</li> </ul>		
<b>XI.</b>	<p><b>Items for the Next Meeting Agenda</b></p> <p>Mr. Clerici will check with the new VCBH Director when he is on board regarding a possible future presentation at a Youth &amp; Family Committee meeting regarding his plans for Ventura County in follow-up to his closing comments from the “Bridging the Gap” event.</p>		
<b>XII.</b>	<p><b>Adjourn</b></p> <p>The meeting adjourned at 10:47 AM.</p>		

# Preventing Suicide: Connections & Community

7th Annual Forum  
Free In-Person and  
Virtual Events

**In-Person:**  
Ventura College  
Wednesday,  
September 21  
9:30am – 2pm  
*Lunch included*

Suicide touches us all.  
Find connections and  
support through personal  
stories, creative expression,  
wellness activities and  
local resources.

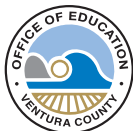
**Virtual:**  
Join Us Online  
for Highlights  
and Discussion  
Thursday,  
September 29  
4pm – 5:30pm

**Save the Date & Register Now!**

[www.brite.link/forum2022](http://www.brite.link/forum2022)



Interpretation and childcare available upon request. For more information, email [mhsa@ventura.org](mailto:mhsa@ventura.org).



WELLNESS • RECOVERY • RESILIENCE



For suicide prevention resources, visit: [www.WellnessEveryDay.org](http://www.WellnessEveryDay.org)

Funding is made through Ventura County Behavioral Health, Mental Health Services Act.