

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

**Meeting Minutes**

October 21, 2021, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**Meeting Location**

Webinar and phone conference

**Meeting Attendees:**

- MHSA Steering Committee members: Carmen Briscoe, Diana Burdick, Karen Cameron, Ebony Chambers, Laurie Clothier, Anatoliy Gridyushko, Sharon Jennings, Erin Johansen, Evin Johnson, Olivia Kasirye, Ellen King, Melissa Lloyd, Brad Lueth, Ruth MacKenzie, Karly Mathews, Susan McCrea, Andrew Mendonsa, Leslie Napper, Ryan Quist, Koby Rodriguez, Lynsey Semon, Mi'Shaye Venerable, Christopher Williams
- General Public

Agenda Item	Discussion
<b>I. Welcome and Member Introductions</b>	The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. MHSA Steering Committee (SC) members introduced themselves.
<b>II. Agenda Review</b>	The agenda was reviewed; no changes were made.
<b>III. Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes</b>	The September 16, 2021 draft meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no changes.
<b>IV. Announcements</b>	<p><b>Andrew Mendonsa, SC Alternate:</b> There has been a steep surge in overdose deaths since last year. Tests of drugs seized indicate 97% of street-purchased pills are counterfeit and 97% contain fentanyl. The amount of fentanyl contained within a single pill can kill. There will be a Fentanyl Safety Awareness Fair on November 6 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. (see <a href="#">Attachment A – Fentanyl Safety Awareness Fair flyer</a>).</p> <p><b>Koby Rodriguez, SC member:</b> The Sacramento City Police Review Commission and the LGBT Center are hosting a conversation regarding a policy developed by the LGBT Center and the ACLU regarding Sacramento Police Department interactions with the transgender community. This conversation is happening now but the recording will be available at this location: <a href="https://fb.watch/8NOT91s44Q">https://fb.watch/8NOT91s44Q</a></p> <p><b>Leslie Napper, SC member:</b> I want to acknowledge Safe Black Space for receiving the MacArthur Grant. This is amazing and is what we are hoping for when we think about our providers. I want to thank and congratulate Safe Black Space for the work it is doing and encourage the county to continue to fund these types of programs.</p>

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p><b>Angelina Woodberry, Adult Consumer Advocate Liaison:</b>            The Peer Advocate Committee will meet on October 28. We will discuss peer certification and and Senate Bill 803. We will also focus on grandfathering and what that will look like. I invite all peer support workers throughout our county system, including our contract providers, to come to this meeting, which will be held via Zoom. See <a href="#">Attachment B – Peer Advocate Committee October 2021 meeting flyer</a>.</p> <p><b>Lilyane Glamben, ONTRACK Program Resources:</b> On November 17-18, ONTRACK will host a virtual event: Sacramento Black Community Mental Health &amp; Criminal “Justice” Real Talk. These sessions are funded by Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) under the diverse stakeholder contract. This event is focused on reaching the Sacramento Black community regarding the topic of mental health and criminal justice involvement. I hope you can join us. See <a href="#">Attachment C – Sacramento Black Community Criminal “Justice” Real Talk event flyer</a> and <a href="#">Attachment D – Mental Health and Criminal “Justice” System Two-Part “Call and Response” event overview</a>.</p>
<p><b>V. Executive Committee / MHSA Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Executive Committee Update</b>            Leslie Napper, Executive Committee member, requested those present to submit post-meeting evaluations and also shared the update below:</p> <p><u>MHSA SC Membership Changes</u>            We would like to thank Eduardo Amenyro for his service on the SC representing the Department of Human Assistance (DHA). He is transitioning to another leadership role and the DHA primary seat will now be filled by Julie Field. We also welcome Carmen Briscoe, who will now fill Julie’s former seat as DHA alternate.</p> <p><b>MHSA Updates</b>            Dr. Ryan Quist, Behavioral Health Director, provided the updates below:</p> <p><u>COVID-19 Update</u>            We have seen in our county data a great drop in COVID rates. Now that drop is levelling off. Although rates are better than the recent past we are still at higher rates than we want. We continue to encourage everybody to get vaccinated. If you have concerns about that or have questions, please talk to a health care provider you trust.</p> <p>Beginning October 1, all our direct service providers are required to be vaccinated or to have an exemption for religion or health reasons. The state requires contracted agencies providing</p>

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p>behavioral health services to verify employees' vaccination status.</p> <p>As discussed at recent meetings, before COVID-19 we had a work force shortage and after COVID-19 we entered a workforce crisis. Now, that crisis is melting down as individuals leave our workforce, so we continue to have workforce challenges related to delivery of behavioral health services.</p> <p>To our providers, I know this adds to the challenges you face with staff recruitment, but I want to thank you for the hard work you do and for continuing to meet the needs of our community.</p> <p><u>Fentanyl Awareness Day</u>  I want to expand on what Andrew said during announcements regarding Fentanyl Awareness Day and the importance of Narcan. When somebody has an overdose, Narcan is a remedy to that overdose situation and it can be administered by anyone, including a family member, ambulance driver, or service provider. It does not have to be a nurse. For service providers, Narcan kits are something you want to have in case you see one of your consumers experience one of these really tragic events. It can be an instant solution to help that person in need and we will be giving these kits away free at the Fentanyl Safety Awareness Fair.</p> <p><u>Flu Season</u>  Flu season is approaching and it will be very important this year to try to avoid emergency room visits. We do not want to overrun them with COVID and flu, so this is a good year to get your flu shot.</p> <p><u>Afghan Refugees</u>  We have a number of Afghan men, women, and children expected to resettle here. We are working with other county partners to identify the resources and supports needed for those individuals who are coming to our county. We want to make them at home.</p> <p>We are working with our managed care plans in working towards enhanced care management and “in lieu of” service, now known as Community Support Services.</p> <p><u>Residential Treatment</u>  Another exciting announcement is that WellSpace has been selected as a provider for our new methamphetamine residential treatment program. The Board of Supervisors has provided us with authority to contract with them and we look forward to that program coming to our community soon. Currently we are aiming for a July 1<sup>st</sup> opening date.</p>

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p><u>Youth Drop-In Center</u>            We are working on a new youth drop in center funded by MHSOAC. We are in a contract with Sacramento Native-American Health Center (SNAHC) to help develop that program.</p> <p><u>Wellness Crisis Call Center &amp; Response (WCCCR) and Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)</u>            We continue to work toward implementation of the planned WCCCR and AOT programs. We hope to be able to take the AOT program before the Board of Supervisors in December.</p>
<p><b>VI. Nominations for One (1) Co Chair Executive Committee Seat</b></p>	<p>Ebony Chambers, SC Co-Chair, introduced this agenda item.</p> <p>Co-Chair Daniela Guarnizo has taken a leave of absence. She plans to continue her role representing the Consumer/Family Member At-Large seat upon her return. Her alternate will represent that seat in the meantime. However, we now have a vacancy for one Co-Chair position.</p> <p>Julie Leung, Acting MHSA Program Manager, provided further context.</p> <p>The MHSA SC elects two Co-Chairs for two-year terms. The Co-Chairs lead SC meetings and are seated members of the six-member Executive Committee that develops the SC meeting agendas. The Executive Committee is comprised of the two SC Co-Chairs, the Behavioral Health Director, and three elected steering committee members. Currently, the committee membership is Ebony Chambers, Dr. Quist, Koby Rodriguez, Leslie Napper, and Ryan McClinton. SC members are being asked to put forth nominations for one Co-Chair position, with an emphasis on consumer or family member representation. All SC members, both primary and alternates, will have an opportunity to vote and the results will be shared at the next SC meeting. See <a href="#">Attachment E – MHSA Steering Committee Nominations</a>.</p> <p><u>Co-Chair nominations put forward on 10/21/2021:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Anatoliy Gridyushko</li> <li>• Crystal Harding</li> <li>• Sharon Jennings</li> <li>• Karly Mathews</li> <li>• Ryan McClinton</li> <li>• Susan McCrea</li> <li>• Koby Rodriguez</li> </ul> <p>Staff will reach out to all nominees to discuss and confirm nominations. The vote will be taken via SurveyMonkey sent out to all members and alternates. SurveyMonkey vote results will be announced at the next meeting.</p>

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

Agenda Item	Discussion
<p><b>VII. MHSA Budget Update and Recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Member Discussion</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> <li>• SC Action</li> </ul>	<p>Dr. Quist presented an update on Sacramento County’s MHSA revenue projections and BHS recommendations as to what could be done with the revenues not yet planned for. See <a href="#">Attachment F – MHSA Budget Update and Recommendations presentation</a>.</p> <p>The recommendations put before the SC for consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase provider pay rates by 7% across CSS and PEI programs</li> <li>• Implement Peer Certification with three new County Peer Manager positions</li> <li>• Increase Full Service Partnership (FSP) capacity, both new and expanded</li> <li>• Transition Mental Health Urgent Care Clinic Innovation project to CSS funding in 2022-23</li> </ul> <p><b>Member Questions and Discussion</b></p> <p>What is the amount contracts would be increased?  <i>Dr. Quist: Contract dollar amounts would be increased to the point providers are able to increase the rates they charge us by seven percent, which will hopefully allow them to recruit and retain more staff.</i></p> <p>Will providers be reviewed to ensure compliance?  <i>Yes, providers are already reviewed at least monthly in addition to quarterly reviews.</i></p> <p>Speaking as a provider, I would add that also includes review of our annual agency-wide audits.</p> <p>I found this presentation to be clear and concise. The peer program is absolutely what folks are asking for and the mental health urgent care provides a great service to the community, so continuing that makes a lot of sense to me. The need is evident and I support all of these recommendations.</p> <p>Why was AOT not mentioned? Why was there no consideration for funds for that?  <i>We brought the question of MHSA funding for AOT before the SC earlier this year. The SC vote taken at that time indicated the SC did not believe MHSA funds should be used for this. I want to be fair and clear that the vote taken was not in regards to SC support for or lack of support for county implementation of AOT, but solely about the use of MHSA funds for this purpose. After the SC vote, the separate question of AOT implementation went before the Board of Supervisors and the Board voted unanimously in favor of implementing AOT in Sacramento County. Behavioral Health Services will take a Board Letter</i></p>

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p><i>regarding the implementation process to the Board for approval, probably in December of this year, so AOT is moving forward.</i></p> <p><b>Motion</b>  Christopher Williams moved to support the recommendations within the presentation. Dr. Olivia Kasirye seconded.</p> <p><b>Public Comment</b>  <b>Diane Wolfe, psychiatrist</b> (via chat): I am concerned a seven percent increase may not be enough to recruit and retain qualified staff.</p> <p><b>Angelina Woodberry, Adult Consumer Advocate Liaison:</b>  There is concern over the lack of consumer awareness and involvement in the upcoming adult system of care transformation. The details are not available to consumers and we cannot understand why.</p> <p>Also, what program areas will the three peer manager positions be in? That could be a crucial thing for SC members to know as you move forward.</p> <p><b>Robin Barney, Adult Family Advocate Liaison:</b> Thinking about the peer positions, I know you gave us an annual salary base but I wonder what that breakdown actually looks like. We want to ensure the peers are receiving equitable pay, that they are getting their due.</p> <p><i>Regarding the peer positions, the amount would include salary and benefits and their work would include supporting peer certification and the rollout of a new Medi-Cal funded peer service across the system. An already funded but currently vacant health program manager position within the BHS Administration, Planning and Outcomes Unit would be designated for oversight of this process and MHSA planning and would also be filled by a peer. This would not be the extent of their job duties. BHS is open to community feedback on what other duties these peer manager positions should take on.</i></p> <p><b>Motion Restated</b>  <b>Christopher Williams moved to support the recommendations within the presentation. Dr. Olivia Kasirye seconded.</b> Erin Johansen suggested a friendly amendment to the motion on the floor, raising the amount of increase from seven to ten percent. Ebony Chambers seconded this amendment. This friendly amendment was accepted by the motion authors.</p>

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p>Amended motion recommendations for SC consideration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase provider pay rates by <del>7%</del> 10% across CSS and PEI programs</li> <li>• Implement Peer Certification with three new County Peer Manager positions</li> <li>• Increase Full Service Partnership (FSP) capacity, both new and expanded</li> <li>• Transition Mental Health Urgent Care Clinic Innovation project to CSS funding in 2022-23</li> </ul> <p><b>SC Action</b> Motion passed.</p>
<b>VIII. General Steering Committee Comment</b>	<p><b>Karly Mathews:</b> I am a SC member and also receive services in Sacramento County from one of the contracted providers through MHSA funding. I need to say I am not satisfied. Often over the last ten months the voice mailboxes have been full and I have not gotten a call back for weeks or months at a time. It is extremely hard to navigate, even though I have trained on finding resources and navigating health systems. I called the provider only to be told I had been dropped because the employee assigned to me had left. If this is happening to me, I know it must be happening to many others.</p> <p><i><b>Dr. Quist:</b> Please send me an email. I want to ensure you are being supported at this point. I would be happy to help with that.</i></p> <p><b>Jane Ann Zakhary:</b> We just learned that there have been technical difficulties with the Zoom call for some tonight. Some people were stuck in a waiting room that staff were unable to see or admit to the meeting. For anyone who had trouble joining or participating at any point tonight, I truly apologize. We did not realize this was happening and are not sure why, but we will look into this to try to avoid this in the future.</p> <p><b>Leslie Napper:</b> One concern I have is in regards to the compensation for the peer managers. If nothing has changed from when it was originally put out, I think we should address that. However, I am very excited that the county is open to hiring a peer as a health program manager. That is amazing and forward thinking and I hope the trend continues.</p> <p>Also, is there any consideration of increasing adult outpatient services? I think there is a general concern as to whether we are allotting enough to provide the behavioral health services the county is charged with given all that is on our table: outpatient providers, FSPs, Alternatives to 911, to outpatient services--whether PEI or otherwise--and the same for AOT, etc., and then just in general, given that we are redesigning our programs. I</p>

**Sacramento County**  
**Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Services**  
**Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee**

Agenda Item	Discussion
	<p>want to uplift the concerns around appropriate funding for the asks that are upon us during this time.</p> <p><b>Karen Cameron</b> (via chat): A big thanks to Dr. Quist in recognizing the need to raise wages for everyone in those systems. Retaining good staff is so important with other jobs in the private sector siphoning off the good staff we currently have.</p>
<b>IX. General Public Comment</b>	<p><b>Robin Barney, Adult Family Advocate Liaison:</b> First, thank you to the SC for increasing the amount to 10 percent. That is awesome and I am sure the peers will be appreciative of that as well.</p> <p>Second, I want to say thank you to Dr. Quist and Jane Ann for insuring our program manager is going to be a peer. It is vitally important. All in all we are heading in the right direction, so thank you for that.</p> <p><b>Nancy and Wade Brynelson, family members:</b> As family members, we would like to be able to talk more about Assisted Outpatient Treatment at a future meeting and what opportunities that would present for our loved ones. Ultimately, we think MHSA funds should be considered to support AOT, but beyond that and broader than that, we would like to talk about what the vision might be for implementing AOT in our county and how we can implement the most effective program for all of our loved ones. We appreciate the opportunity to be here and we ask that this be a future agenda item.</p>
<b>X. Adjournment / Upcoming Meetings</b>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 p.m. Upcoming meetings will be held on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• November 18, 2021</li> <li>• December 16, 2021</li> </ul>

Interested members of the public are invited to attend MHSA Steering Committee meetings and a period is set aside for public comment at each meeting. If you wish to attend and need to arrange for an interpreter or a reasonable accommodation, please contact Anne-Marie Rucker one week prior to each meeting at (916) 875-3861 or [ruckera@saccounty.net](mailto:ruckera@saccounty.net).