



# Merced County Mental Health Board Meeting

July 2, 2013

3:30 – 5:00 pm

1137 B Street, Merced, CA

**Present:** Cora Gonzales, Chair; Mary Ellis; Sally Ragonut; Vince Ramos; James Fuller; David Baker; Mary Hofmann; Jan Morita; Supervisor Walsh

**Absent:** Kim Carter; Maureen Freitas; Audrey Spangler; Chuck McClure; Iris Mojica de Tatum; Keng Cha; David Baker

**Others Present:** Manuel Jimenez; Sharon Robinson; Chris Kraushar, PRA; Fred Risard; Carol Hulsizer, Recorder

## MINUTES

### I. Call to Order / Flag Salute / Roll Call

Cora Gonzales, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. The flag salute was done. Roll call was taken.

### II. Approval of Minutes from June 4, 2013 (BOARD ACTION)

**Action/Recommendation:** Vince requested a change to the June 4, 2013 minutes. On page 4, second line, it states, "increasing staff pay" and Vince would like it to read "increasing paid staff". The minutes could not be approved due to lack of quorum.

### III. Approval of Agenda for July 2, 2013 (BOARD ACTION)

**Action/Recommendation:** The agenda could not be approved due to lack of quorum.

### IV. Mission Statement

**Action/Recommendation:** The Chair would like the Board to remember the Mission Statement as a reminder as to why they are here; a copy was in the monthly packet. Cora read the Mission Statement.

### V. Opportunity for Public Input to Speak on Any Matter of Public Interest Within the Board's Jurisdiction Including Items on the Board's Agenda (Time Limit of 3-5 Minutes)

#### a. Open Discussion for Board

**Discussion/Conclusion:** a. Vince commented that since there was an increase in the Mental Health budget, some of the money could be used for implementing Laura's Law. Cora decided that this could be added to the end of today's agenda.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

### VI. Chair's Report

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Cora thanked the Board members for allowing her to be the Chair this fiscal year. It is her honor to serve and she hopes to live up to the Board's expectations. She thanked the Executive Committee for FY 12/13 for the countless hours they contributed – Mary, Sally and Vince. There is much to be done with healthcare reform around the corner. The clients should be the first thing on everyone's mind. How can disparities be reduced, promote and advocate services and meet the goals that the Board has set? As the Chair, Cora also has goals for FY 13/14. She wants to run an efficient meeting, yet give everyone the opportunity to participate and be treated with dignity and respect, combine the Mental Health Board and the AOD Board – giving it a new name – Behavioral Health, visit all the sites that we provide services, attend each of the committee meetings throughout the year, visit opportunities to encompass the mobile unit, faith-based mental health services, expand the hours, and recruit bilingual staff are just a few of the things Cora would like to accomplish. Cora wants to carry out what the Board has said the goals for FY 13/14, she wants to update the binders, revisit the checklist and talk about mental health at every opportunity that she has. She also wants to review what was talked about at the retreat. At the retreat the Board said it would reduce and eliminate disparities of mental health, healthcare services for Latinos in Merced County and educate the community to understand the culture, programs for Junior High and High School

**VI. Chair’s Report – con’t.**

students, access services, transportation barriers to address, lack of mental health care professionals, merge the Merced County Mental Health Board and the AOD Board, and enforce the Board’s commitment to the mission. For these reasons Cora would like to read the Mission Statement at the beginning of each meeting.

*Recommendation/Action:* Information only

**VII. Powerpoint Presentation – Un Paso Alante**

*Discussion/Conclusion:* Manuel stated that a couple of months ago the Ongoing Planning Council asked him to give a presentation on a program called Un Paso Alante that he ran in San Joaquin County. This particular powerpoint presentation he and Rudy Arrieta gave at the National Latinos Behavioral Health Association California Policy Summit dealing with the integration of primary care and mental health back in 2005. Manuel went over the powerpoint.

*Recommendation/Action:* Information only

**VIII. Mental Health Board Evaluation-FY 12/13 Meetings Handout**

*Discussion/Conclusion:* The evaluation was included in this month’s packet. The Board was asked to take 5 minutes to complete the evaluation then give to Carol.

*Recommendation/Action:* Evaluations were collected.

**IX. 2013/2014 Meeting Schedule Handout**

*Discussion/Conclusion:* The 2013/2014 meeting scheduled was included in this month’s packet. During the winter months most meetings will be in Merced because it is hard to travel during this time. Meeting locations could change in time.

*Recommendation/Action:* None

**X. Supervisor’s Report**

*Discussion/Conclusion:* Hub reported that they are still working on the Affordable Care Act; California has passed the implementing legislation. They will be working on the roll-out between January and beyond. The challenge is still that California wants the counties to pay for it. The issue will be how quickly counties can get those eligible into the program. At the last minute there was talk about taking funds out of mental health to cover some of these costs, fortunately this will not happen. The County proposed budget was accepted; final budget will be in August. This includes a transfer of about \$800,000 Realignment dollars out of the Mental Health Trust Fund. At the National Organization of Counties (NACO) they are talking about health services and those who are in pre-trial incarceration. The argument under the Affordable Care Act is how these individuals can lose their health coverage when they have not been convicted of a crime yet. After they have been convicted, it is a different issue. Lastly, they had a good meeting with the Southeast Asian community recently and they were concerned about lack of information with connectivity. Manuel was also present and he identified some things for further discussion.

*Recommendation/Action:* Information only

**XI. Director’s Report (Manuel)**

- a. Final Budget
- b. Finances

*Discussion/Conclusion:* a. The Governor signed the budget last weekend. There will be some new money coming to Mental Health primarily for mobile response teams as well as crisis residentials and respites. Manuel will be meeting with both hospitals (Merced and Los Banos) to look at placing crisis workers in their emergency rooms so that they can either refer them to a new crisis residential, to the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU), to Marie Green or if they have insurance another facility outside the County. This money could also be used to build a crisis residential facility with 6 or 12 beds. Manuel also wants to partner with Madera County, Mariposa County and Tuolumne County on the crisis residential and they will be able to help share the cost. b. There was a document in this month’s packet entitled MCDMH Program-Revenue/Expenditure for FY 12/13. This document is a list of all programs and yearly cost and annualized costs. It also shows what revenue pays for those programs.

*Recommendation/Action:* Information only

**XII. Committee Reports / Updates**

- a. **Quality Improvement Committee (QIC)** (Sally / Mary E.)
- b. **Executive / Bylaws / Planning Committee** (Sally / Vince / Mary E.)
- c. **Membership Committee** (Kim)
- d. **Patients' Rights Advocate** (Chris)
- e. **Wellness Center Update** (Chuck)
- f. **CALMHB/C Update** (James / Keng)
- g. **NAMI** (Mary H.)
- h. **Children's System of Care (CSOC)** (Cora)
- i. **MHSA Ongoing Planning Council** (Sharon J. / Mary E.)
- j. **Cultural Competency Committee** (Mary H. / David)
- k. **Community Partner's Meeting** (Vince / Mary E.)
- l. **AOD** (Richard Hawthorne)

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Cora stated that at the August meeting there will be discussion if everyone wants to stay on the same committee or make changes. She would like everyone to think about this and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting. a. Sally stated that there was no QIC meeting in June. b. Mary E. reported that they are working on the Annual Report. Jan stated that basically everything is done except for Curt's report and some documents that she has not been able to scan into the document. She will give it to Carol and figure out how to handle this. c. Kim was not present today. d. Chris reported that she had to cancel the Wellness Center training planned for June 24<sup>th</sup> because she had to see a doctor. It will be rescheduled. e. Manuel reported that the Wellness Center will be celebrating their 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration on July 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00-1:00 if anyone would like to come by for ice cream and cake. Also they will be having a BBQ fund raiser on the 19<sup>th</sup>. The CUBE will also be having a car wash on the 19<sup>th</sup>. f. Cora reported that Keng was able to attend the last CALMHB/C meeting and we will have a report next month. g. Mary H. reported that NAMI just had an election of officers and they have a new Board. They are asking people to send them ideas for places to contact that might be interested in having the "In Our Own Voice" and "Ending the Silence" which is a school-based program – let Jan or Mary know if anyone is interested. Mary questioned the CAW applications because she knows someone who applied back in March and has never heard anything. Manuel stated that they did receive many applications and he and Mike will be screening them soon. Lastly, NAMI is planning to start their Family-to-Family classes on September 5<sup>th</sup>. h. Cora reported that the next meeting is July 8<sup>th</sup>. i. Manuel reported that they are working on updating the MHSA Annual Plan. In order for the Annual Plan to go to the BOS on August 27<sup>th</sup> for their approval, a Public Hearing is needed. The plan will be posted for 30 days beginning July 3<sup>rd</sup> through August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Manuel would like to move the August Mental Health Board meeting from August 6<sup>th</sup> to August 13<sup>th</sup> and hold the Public Hearing on this date for the Annual Update. The September 3<sup>rd</sup> Mental Health Board meeting will then be canceled. The actual time of the Public Hearing is still being worked out. j. Manuel reminded everyone that the Cultural Competency Summit will be held October 2-3 in Modesto sponsored by Merced County, Stanislaus County, San Joaquin County and Sacramento County. We will be able to send approximately 25 people for free. If anyone on the Mental Health Board is interested in attending, we will be more than happy to send them. Please let Carol know if you are interested – the sooner the better. Vince commented the Ge from Lao Family is working on a warm handshake/integration for people to feel comfortable when they see a clinician. Since Mental Health has an increased budget they are looking at 12 new positions and 22 extra-help positions and he hopes for more discussion at the next meeting. k. No update. l. Cora reported that she attended the last AOD Board meeting and they talked about combining both boards. A meeting has been set for both Boards on July 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m. Cora hopes everyone will attend and there will be a perspective from somebody who has been through the process.

Cora asked if there were any other announcements. Vince was wondering about the increased money and the staffing in the Department. Manuel replied that all the vacant positions that are being filled are obligated already. The positions that are going to the BOS in August are committed to other programs as well. The Department is recruiting for Mental Health Worker II, Medical Records Technician, Staff Psychiatrist, 2 Mental Health Clinicians, Program Assistant, 2 OI Specialists, Staff Services Analyst, Mental Health Worker, Dual Diagnosis Specialist, and Office Assistant. There are 21 vacant positions with the majority going to Marie Green - 4 Psychiatric Staff Nurses, 3 Licensed Mental Health Workers, an Office Assistant and 4 Community Developmental Partners.

Jan commented that at the August meeting she was going to bring flyers for the NAMI classes and a Suicide Prevention Walk. She wondered if she could give these announcements to Carol and she could send them out.

**XII. Committee Reports / Updates – con't.**

Hub announced that for those who commute, Gerard will be closed; it will be closed from Hwy 59 from July 8th through the 10th. Cora thanked everyone for being patient with her with this first meeting. She did not want to rush anyone, but did want to stay on time and have a structured meeting.

*Recommendation/Action:* As noted above

**XIII. Adjournment**

*Discussion / Conclusion:* The meeting was adjourned at 4:56 p.m. The next meeting is August 13, 2013.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Carol Hulsizer  
Recording Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_

Iris Mojica de Tatum, Secretary  
Merced County Mental Health Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_