

November 15, 2024 Meeting Notes

Mental Health Services Act Workgroup Meeting

10:00 a.m. Boggs Conference Building

- **Welcome and Introductions.** Ashley Saechao introduced herself, role with Behavioral Health and Social Services (BHSS) with Shasta County.
 - Please fill out a demographic form – Ashley asked everyone to fill out demo form and turn in.
- **MHSA Overview**
 - Background, Allocation, Monitoring and Evaluation – Slides 1-6.
- **Innovations**
 - PADs Update – Brief overview of what Psychiatric Advance Directive is for those who may not be familiar. Talked about moving into Phase II and the training that will take place for First Responders/Law Enforcement/Hospitals. Covered slides 7-10
 - Level Up NorCal Update – Covered slide 11
 - Roughout Ranch Update – Covered slide 11
- **MHSA Updates**
 - FY 24-25 Annual Update – Covered slides 12-13 Staff Report currently out for approval then will be scheduled for the Board of Supervisors.
 - Prop 1 Update – Covered slide 14-24
- **Open forum**
 - Stakeholder Thanked Shasta County for all we do and stressed the importance of Peer Support Staff. Veteran who wouldn't be where they are today without the help of Shasta County Mental Health and our Peer Support staff John & Michele.
 - Stakeholder from Ventura County said they haven't seen as much help in their 31 years as she has seen in Shasta County in the last 6 months of being here. Attends Hill County Circle of Friends most days and is thankful to be housed in Shasta County.

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- Stakeholder points out the major changes in funding with Prop 1 – Wishes in relation to measurements/outcomes would allow for more narratives that aren't so easily measured otherwise. Ashley responded with a couple examples of how we collect narratives for analyzing contractual obligations.
- Stakeholder asked about how to get new books for the wellness center. Bailey Cogger said to check with the wellness center and see if the budget allows. Wellness center representative was present and confirmed that they will be getting new books.
- Stakeholder asked where our programs are going to fit under Prop 1. Ashley responded that getting more details from the State through the workgroups/policy guidance will help us answer what is now unknown.
- Stakeholder asked in relation to the Continuum of Care – BHCIP are the stakeholders driving the need within our County? Bailey responded we are looking for community members to tell us what our county needs & collaborating so that efforts don't get duplicated.
- Stakeholder proposes we do a sobering center with BHCIP funds.
- Stakeholder asks for the county to hire more Peer Support Specialist (PSS) as they offer the best support. Perhaps even ask for PSS Volunteers or work with youth to be PSS and help establish emotional wellness.
- Stakeholder suggested using Opiate Settlement to leverage County funds as a match to pursue BHCIP.
- Stakeholder asked how many non-profits does Shasta County have? Ashley responded that she didn't have the exact number but we do contract with several agencies. A good way to get connected to community partners would be to reach out to the MHSa team. Also mentioned attending resources fairs like Minds Matter fair in May and Recovery Happens Fair as many community partners are at this well attended event.
- Stakeholder agrees to combine resources to braid funds to help community at large.
- Supervisor Rickert suggested sending an email to the Board of Supervisors to establish a committee of experts in their field to come up with a more organized plan for spending Opiate Settlement Funds. Suggests community partners like Shasta Health and Redesign Collaborative (ShaRC) & Substance Abuse Coalition etc. as those agencies are well versed on knowing where the gaps in our community lie.

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- One stakeholder disagreed and thought the Board was best fit to decide how the funds get spent.
- Bailey Cogger suggested a Gap Analysis be done.
- Stakeholder mentioned we aren't going to get what we need from the top end. Need to hear from the people doing the work on the ground levels (Social Workers, etc.) There is no program that will accept people unless they have gone through a detox. Had one pregnant client wait listed over a month that needed help now and couldn't help.
- Stakeholder mentioned New Life Discovery has a similar program to the mission with 140 beds that would be good for the county to contract with.
- Stakeholder suggests bringing all entities to the table to collaborate on spending funds and having the county driving things as the neutral party.

Ashley concluded the stakeholder meeting and thanked everyone for coming. She said the remainder of this meeting will be for Bond BHCIP. Anyone not interested in that could go and if anyone in the room submitted BHCIP pre-applications and would like to discuss that in more detail to stay. 5 min for the room to clear/bathroom breaks.

- **Bond Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Discussion –**
 - Bailey Cogger states our BHCIP pre-application is for a partnership with a local provider to operate a receiving home for foster youth. Through the RFI/RFP process we have received 0 applicants.
 - Ashley asked anyone left in the room to share what agency they were with, if they submitted a pre-application and what the proposal was for?
 - Stakeholder Laura Beyer from Mayers Memorial put in a pre-application to add space to their clinic.
 - Dr. Mercedes Patee of Renewed Life Medical Group submitted a pre-application for a short stay/detox units. Renewed Life also interested to partner with Shasta County on a receiving home and/or sober living for youth ages 13-18.
 - Steve Lucarelli from VOTC did pre-application for some property bought to be turned into 60 additional beds, specialty one for women/ and another for men. Also applied for Opiate Settlement funds to use as match.
 - Childrens Legacy Center – Staff hired and ready to go but Shasta County hasn't responded to several proposals, seems un-willing to partner with them. Mentioned these funds do have lots of barriers which can result in less entities applying. No one wants to have to lay off staff due to sustainability issues either.

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- Recap that the need is to have a network of people with a common goal of serving the community of Shasta County to bridge the gaps in Mental Health Care.
 - Emphasis on understanding the gaps in care for the rural areas
 - Bailey Cogger stated any community partners seeking letters of support may reach out to the MHSA email (mhsa@shastacounty.gov).

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