



Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

Hybrid (In-Person & Virtual) Community Forum

January 18, 2024

Westchester Training Room and Zoom Meeting

**FOCUS: MHSA Annual Plan Update & Annual Revenue and Expenditure Report
(ARER)**

<p>TOTAL MEETING ATTENDANCE:</p> <p>18</p> <p><i>(12 in-person and 6 in Zoom)</i></p>	<p>TOTAL SURVEY RESPONSES:</p> <p>11</p> <p><i>(10 paper and 1 electronic surveys)</i></p>	<p>TOTAL COMPLETION RATE:</p> <p>61%</p> <p><i>(percentage of attendees who submitted a survey)</i></p>
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COMMUNITY FORUM

January 18, 2024 – Hybrid Community Forum
Total Attendance: 18 / Total Surveys Collected: 11

(Note: participants may select more than 1 answer)

Age Group:		Sexual Orientation:	
0-15	0	Straight/Heterosexual	10
16-25	0	Gay or Lesbian	0
26-59	8	Questioning or Unsure	0
60 or Older	3	Queer	0
Declined/Did not submit a survey	7	Asexual	0
Gender assigned at birth:		Bisexual	1
Male	2	Pansexual	0
Female	9	Another sexual orientation	0
Intersex	0	Declined/Did not submit a survey	7
Declined/Did not submit a survey	7	Race:	
Gender Currently Identified with:		Asian	0
Male (Cis Male)	1	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0
Female (Cis Female)	9	Black/African American	0
Transgender/other	0	Latino/Hispanic	6
Genderqueer	0	Tribal/Native American	0
Non-binary	0	White/Caucasian	4
Genderfluid	0	Two or More Races:	1
Questioning or Unsure	0	Declined/Did not submit a survey	7
Other Gender Identity	0	Ethnicity:	
Declined/Did not submit a survey	8	African	0
Disability:		Asian Indian/South Asian	0
Vision	0	Cambodian	0
Hearing, or difficulty understanding	0	Chinese	0
Mental/Cognitive (excludes behavioral)	2	Eastern European	0
Mobility/Physical	0	Korean	0
Chronic Medical Illness	0	Middle Eastern	0
None	8	Vietnamese	0
Declined/Did not submit a survey	8	European	2
Veteran Status:		Filipino	0
Yes, I am a veteran	0	Japanese	0
No, I am not a veteran	9	Caribbean	0
Declined/Did not submit a survey	9	Central American	1
Primary Language:		Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano	4
Only English	7	Puerto Rican	0
Only Spanish	2	South American	0
Both English and Spanish	2	Two or More Ethnicities (see below)	3
Another language	0	Declined/Did not submit a survey	8
Declined/Did not submit a survey	7	<i>Two or More: from Honduras</i>	

Group/Category		Population you feel is most unserved/underserved in the above-mentioned community	
Client/Consumer/Person with Mental Illness	4	Children/Families	1
Family Member of a Client or Person with Mental Illness	0	Transitional Aged Youth (16-25)	2
KernBHRS Staff	5	Older Adults	5
Law Enforcement	0	Homeless or at risk of Homelessness	3
Veteran Services	0	Those in rural Kern areas	3
Senior Services	1	Veterans	1
Education/Schools	0	Those with Substance Use Disorders	2
Community Member	2	Latino/Hispanic	1
County Agency Staff (Not KernBHRS Staff)	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Behavioral Health Provider (Not KernBHRS Staff)	0	Black/African American	0
Medical Care Provider	0	American Indian / Alaska Native	2
Other	0	LGBTQ+	1
Declined/Did not submit a survey	7	Other	0
<i>Describe other: Former Board</i>		Declined/Did not submit a survey	7
Region of the County you are most involved		Please indicate the types of services or programs that would be appropriate to service the above-mentioned population	
Arvin/Lamont	1	Prevention	4
Bakersfield	10	Early Intervention	7
Delano/McFarland	1	Outreach for Recognizing the Early Signs of Mental Illness	5
California City/Mojave/Rosamond	0	Stigma and Discrimination Reduction	4
Wasco/Shafter	1	Access and Linkage to Care	4
Buttonwillow/Lost Hills	0	Peer-based services	6
Oildale	2	Intensive Outpatient Treatment	4
Kern River Valley	1	Declined/Did not submit a survey	9
Tehachapi	1		
Ridgecrest	0		
Taft	0		
Frazier Park/Mountain Communities	0		
Declined/Did not submit a survey	7		

Do you have any questions, comments, or concerns?	
Declined/Did not submit a survey	16
Answered	2
<p>1. Thank you for the generous offering of a healthy lunch and incentive gift cards.</p> <p>2. I sometimes wonder if long term outcomes for graduated consumers are mandated or reportable apart from any contribution's activity services, unsolicited or not from former clients to aid in quality of life or support community involvements.</p>	
Announcements	
<p>Alison Burrowes Named Director of KernBHRS Former KernBHRS Director, Stacy Kuwahara left KernBHRS and accepted a position with County of Kern Administration as the new Kern County Chief Operations Officer</p>	<p>Hopester Do Good Labs! Starting Wednesday, February 7th starting at 6:00 pm Community Forum</p>
<p>Liz Bailey, LCSW, Department Supports Administrator & Interim MHSA Coordinator Former MHSA Coordinator, Dr. Christina Rajlal left Kern County and accepted a position with SLO County as their MHSA Coordinator</p>	<p>"The Celebration of a King" Saturday, February 10th (11 AM – 1 PM) BCSD in collaboration with Stay Focused At Martin Luther King Elementary 1100 Citadel Street</p>
<p>Light A Candle for a Loved One January 25th starting at 6:00 pm Park at River Walk</p>	<p>Help those in Crisis – Volunteer Recruitment For more information contact Cassie Deras-Coker at (661)332-7479 or CDeras-Coker@kernbhers.org</p>
<p>Race Against Trafficking – 5K & Walk Saturday, January 27th at 7:00 AM Park at River Walk</p>	<p>PHF Program Update Pictures show the construction progress</p>

PROGRAM & SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Program Presentation #1

Presentation: **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Report Review**

Presenter: **Liz Bailey, KernBHRS Administrator and MHSA Coordinator**

Liz Bailey presented an overview of the Kern County MHSA Annual Update Plan FY 2024-2025. She presented the highlights, changes, and updates of the plan.

Questions from the Audience after the presentation:

- 1. Q: The Healing Project is scheduled to sunset in June 2024. Is there going to be anything in place of the Healing Project or is it just going to be gone?**
A: As we are continuing with our strategic planning for Proposition 1, should it pass, we are looking at where and how we can continue with those services. Each week our executive management and finances go over those plans. In the case of the Healing Project, we have a sustainability plan in place with a combination of other types of funding.
- 2. Q: What about the Early Psychosis Program? Is that going to be ending?**
A: Early Psychosis is a mandated service that we need to provide.
Q: So, is Early Psychosis solid?
A: Yes.
- 3. Q: Is the Adult WRAP program only available in Bakersfield?**
A: As an FSP (Full-Service Partnership), it only operates in Bakerfield. Adult WRAP programs operate as a System Development (SD) program for the outlying areas.

Program Presentation #2

Presentation: **Annual Revenue and Expenditure Report (ARER)**

Presenter: **Candee Del Rio, KernBHRS Finance Director**

Candee Del Rio provided a detailed overview of the Annual Revenue and Expenditure Report that shows MHSA funds spent during FY 2022-2023.

Questions from the Audience after the presentation:

- 1. Q: In the slide showing the photos of the PFH building update, is that the inpatient adult facility?**

A: There are two facilities, one for adults and one for minors. The one pictured is the adult facility.

2. Q: For the peer training, is there going to be a new scholarship?

A: (Candee Del Rio) That is a programming question. Can someone answer that?

A: (Liz Bailey) Are you talking about the Peer Certificate Training? That's another component within the BHSA regulations. The proposed language says that we need to continue working with our peers. So, I would say yes.

3. Q: Is this the annual budget for the 2023 year? Do you have a proposed budget for 2024?

A: Yes, we do have a budget for 2024 but I will be reporting that in about a year.

4. Q: Is the budget based on the calendar year from January to December?

A: No, it is a fiscal year budget. It is July - June.

5. Q: Can you please repeat the amount for the veteran's service?

A: Yes, it is \$115,000.

LISTENING SESSION

Presentation: Listening Session

Presenter: Joshua Garnica, MHSA Program Specialist

Joshua Garnica opened the floor to facilitate the listening session.

Questions from the Audience after the presentation:

1. Q: What is the address for the psychiatric unit being built for adults?

A: The address is 708 Workman Street. It is off Oswell and Hwy 58.

2. Q: For the Light a Candle event at River Walk, are they taking volunteers?

A: We have hit capacity with our volunteers. I can add you to the list for next year.

3. Q: (Zoom) Is there an action plan on the feedback forms? Is it just used in the annual reports? What happens after the information is collected?

A: (Liz Bailey) Any information that we receive whether it is stakeholders or 30-day public community forums, it goes through an intensive review process. As far as stakeholders, Estela takes the lead in looking at the information, evaluating the information, and it is discussed with the MHSA team and executives. It is reviewed and considered, if there are any changes where we can implement the feedback, we look at creating a strategy plan.

4. Q: (Zoom Stakeholder) My next question is, we have been working with Estrella Amaro to meet the needs on Spanish speakers in the county, according to the annual report there are 50% Spanish demographics, can you point out any continuing programs that are established to support the Spanish community?

A: (Liz Bailey) To just understand your question. Are you asking what are we doing to create more programs for the Hispanic/LatinX and Spanish-speaking communities?

(Zoom Stakeholder) Yes.

A: (CFLC Peer) At CFLC, we do have Spanish peer led classes that are strictly in Spanish. We also do outreach through our members, but I do think it would be a good idea to promote it more in our community.

A: (Liz Bailey) There is a lot of areas that are being discussed and collaborated on the various committees like CCRC (Cultural Competency Resource Committee) and our various sub-committees like the Spanish/Latinx group. Even beyond that, there is a partnership with the Kern Health Equity Project (KHEP), both on a state, county, and agency level. We are always looking at what resources we have and how we can expand to reach the individuals that need our services which includes Spanish-speaking populations, and homeless, among others. The opportunity to join the Kern Health Equity Project is still available. If you are interested, please leave the information with the MHSA Team so we can forward you the information

MHSA Stakeholder Feedback Forms Received

- 1. Where is the Adult Psychiatric Facility being built? (Thank you for answering during the meeting)**
- 2. It is my fervent hope that regardless of any political or community redirection of treatment funding, that consumers and all in need receive help and healing.**
- 3. Thank you for the update.**
- 4. Great work. You guys should be able to eat while not presenting.**

CPPP Incentive Program

The MHSA/CPPP Incentive Program started on December 1, 2021. This incentive program offers a \$20 gift card for consumers/clients, their families, and other MHSA program participants.

To qualify for the MHSA/CPPP Incentive Program, interested consumers/clients, family members, and other MHSA program participants must first pre-register to attend the MHSA Community Forum. Upon pre-registration, MHSA staff will ensure that those who pre-register know the location of the meeting (*for In-Person meetings*) or have reliable access to Zoom (*for Virtual meetings*).

During the MHSA Community Forum, MHSA staff will confirm attendance. Then, approximately within one business day, the \$20 gift card will be mailed to the address they provided during pre-registration.

ACTION STEPS

Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services will continue its commitment to inform, engage, take feedback, and provide outreach to the communities it serves through the provision of MHSA-funded programs and services in collaboration with community organizations and contract service providers throughout Kern County.

MHSA recorded a total of **18** attendees (*12 in-person and 6 remotely via Zoom*) during this presentation; the total excludes *MHSA Coordination team members and presenters*.

During the Stakeholder meeting, we had **2** presentations and **0** voting items.

MHSA determined the following action steps/findings after reviewing verbal responses from stakeholders, polling questions, and surveys.

MHSA will:

I. General

- a) MHSA will continue to provide education and updates on legislative and policy changes on MHSA funding and how that impacts the programs and services given to Kern County residents.
- b) MHSA will investigate ways of gaining stakeholder feedback and participation (giveaways, treats, etc.) during the next meetings.
- c) MHSA will continue researching ways of gaining a greater number of clients/ family, and public participation during stakeholder meetings.

No further action steps.

