

## **Cultural Competence Advisory Board (CCAB)**

### **Minutes**

**March 10, 2015, 11am-1pm, Wellness Center**

**Members Present:** Cesar Lagleva, Jessica Diaz, Robbie Powelson, Kerry Peirson, Robert Harris Jr., Kristine Kwok, Ngoc Loi, Leticia McCoy, Cheryl August, David Escobar, Maria Donnell-Abaci, Sandy Ponek, Kristen Gardner, Vinh Luu, Laurie Hunt, Cat Wilson, Sadegh Nobari, Rafael Tellez, Cammie Duvall

**Members Absent:** Gustavo Goncalves, Cecilia Guillermo, Douglas Mundo, Darby Jaragosky, Marisol Munoz-Kiehne, Brian Robinson, John Ortega

**Guest:** Ellie Boldrick

### **Introductions**

- Guest, Ellie Boldrick, introduced herself and stated her purpose for attending the meeting. Board welcomed Ellie to the meeting and to the agenda discussion items.
- Cesar acknowledged the recent award that members of this board recently received as the Team of Quarter for the County of Marin. All congratulated board members who were present.

### **Committee Updates**

#### **Policy Committee**

- Policy committee reported that it met on 2/3/15 to discuss possible policy issues to target in 2015. Reviewed all four(4) recommendations. After some suggested revisions to the language, all recommendations were unanimously approved.
- Cesar announced current vacant positions in the WET steering committee and Mental Health Board, with an emphasis on encouraging underserved members of MHSUS community (e.g. LGBTQ, communities of color, etc.) for the purpose of increasing diversity within the committee and the board.

#### **Access Committee**

- Discussed and provided updates on the division's website. Some expressed ongoing frustrations with the slow progress of this process as it has almost been a year since this issue was raised by consumer advocates of CCAB.
- Cesar discussed his attempt to provide consumers/family members training/vocational/educational opportunities as a means to encourage local residents to consider a vocation/career in the county's behavioral health system by offering scholarships to consumers/family members to get trained in the fields of peer

counseling, Drug/Alcohol and Domestic Violence certification programs. This initiative is being conducted through Cesar's role as the WET coordinator. Cesar encouraged board members to announce this opportunity among their contacts.

- Discussed AOD's and MHSUS Youth and Family Services programs' current strategic planning process. Cesar encouraged members to consider participating in either or both processes to provide input.

### Training Committee

- Discussed and reviewed plans for the upcoming cultural competence training series. Cesar invited members of the board to consider being a trainer for one of the culture-specific trainings. Thus far, Darby Jaragosky will conduct a training on the CLAS standards. Cesar provided a summary of what the CLAS standards are, but encouraged everyone to attend the training and to support our fellow board member. Ngoc Loi also volunteered to conduct a training on an API-related topic. Cammie Duvall also agreed to conduct a training on LGBTQ-related topic. Cesar will begin to provide an introductory training on cultural competence beginning in April.
- Cesar invited the board to identify system-wide trainings for 2015 that are not necessarily cultural competence-specific. Trainings can include, but not limited to, evidenced-based and/or community-defined best practices.
- Announced and discussed the upcoming Interpreter and Service Providers' Interpreter training. Provided information about the distinction of both trainings. Seven (7) bilingual and bicultural staff from MHSUS will participate in the Interpreters' training. The participants are identified by senior management as staff who are often utilized to provide interpreter services. The Service Providers' Interpreter training will be open to MHSUS staff and agency partners. Announcements will be made some time in early May as the training will be conducted on June 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Media and Outreach Committee

- Media team members provided updates on the progress of the Spanish and English TV programs. The project will hopefully be completed before June. A private invite-only screening will likely be organized sometime in May, during the Mental Health Month. All board members will be invited.
- Cesar shared some of his highlights from a recent anti-stigma conference that he attended. Due to this conference, he has begun to engage faith leaders around the role of faith and spirituality in the continuum of mental health and substance use treatment interventions and services, especially for underserved communities.

- Cesar announced an upcoming meeting between MHSUS managers, MHSUS-funded Southern Marin Service providers and Marin City residents/leaders to discuss ways to improve access to mental health and substance use services in Marin City. This meeting was requested by many Marin City leaders and residents who expressed confusion and/or lack of knowledge of services that are being provided by MHSUS and its agency partners in Marin City.
- Some members of this board attended this year's Vietnamese New Year celebration that took place on February 28<sup>th</sup>. Board members acknowledged Vinh Luu for his continued leadership in organizing this event and being an advocate for the API community.

#### Ad-Hoc Volunteer/Consumer/Consumer Advocates Committee

- LGBTQ members of this board and Cesar met to discuss ways to improve access and services to the LGBTQ community. Identified LGBTQ youth in the public schools as a possible target population, especially in light of the fact that five (5) high schools (Drake, Novato, San Rafael, San Marin and Tomales) were recently awarded funding to work on suicide prevention trainings and other strategies to reduce the suicide rate among LGBTQ youth. Another idea is to gather materials, literatures, flags, posters, etc. that represent LGBTQ identity/culture, and to place them in all waiting room areas of MHSUS and agency partner locations. Cesar will meet with Spectrum/MAP director to conduct outreach and possibly develop a collaborative working relationship. Cammie Duvall has agreed to conduct an in-service training for MHSUS' Youth and Family Services program.

#### General Announcement

- Cesar encouraged the board to go to the Office of Health Equity's website to review the draft of the California Reducing Disparities Project Strategic Plan.

#### Meeting Adjourned

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 12, 2015, 11-1, Wellness Center**