

MHSA Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

May 13, 2015

1:30-3:00pm

20 N. San Pedro Road, Point Reyes Conference Room

- I. Advised all members that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and that there were flyers available for the consumer/family member recognition at the Marin Health & Wellness Campus on 5/22 at 1:30-3:30 and that we will be having a second movie night at Whistlestop on 5/28 at 6pm for consumers/family members. Kasey will send out electronic versions of the flyer to members with the request to share widely.
- II. The committee received a copy of the MHSA Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan for FY2014-15 through FY2016-17 AMENDMENT which was posted for public comment on April 10, 2015 through May 9, 2015 and also included were the public comments received through the 30 day period. Comments received related to a proposed new program implementation for Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) but no comments regarding the specific Amendment to the Plan were received. The committee was informed that this amendment will now go before the Board of Supervisors for their review and approval.
- III. Advised the Committee that on Friday, May 8th, the MHSA FY2015-16 Annual Update report for FY2013-14 Outcomes was posted for public comment and will remain open through June 7, 2015 with a request to the committee to go out and look at the report (200+ pages) and for them to post their comments on the website at www.marinhhs.org/mhsa.
There were quite a few questions related to the budgets in the Amendment as well as in the MHSA FY2015-16 Annual Update. Committee members requested more detail about the budgets, e.g., county operated funds identified, as well as Community Based Organization's and their budget allocations as a starting point. Questions around the Plan and adding new programs were raised by the committee and it was explained that we cannot add new programs to the Plan because the available funding has already been allocated and we cannot un-fund programs to add new programs, nor could we shift funds between programs. It was made clear that we could and should collect recommendations for new programs regardless of where the funding would come from.
Some program recommendations heard at today's meeting were:
Veteran's services for Women; MH/SUS programs for females on probation; more psychiatric hospital beds are needed; residential programs for youth and women
Frustration with the understanding that new programs could not be built into the existing MHSA Three Year Plan was heard by the committee. Some members expressed dissatisfaction with the current Plan's substance use services since it was one of the identified priorities during the community planning process, but felt that what was added was inadequate based on the priority expressed by the community, e.g. was the Co-Occurring Capacity programs.

Questions around how much MHSA funding was coming to the county was asked as one of the members had heard that MHSA funding was increasing. Kasey expressed that we had not heard this – instead we'd received a letter from the State Department of Finance that revenue forecasts would be lower than was estimated (see FY2015-16 MHSA Annual Adjustment Letter).

- IV. Purpose of the committee was discussed. The membership wants to understand how their voice will impact current and future programs and services. Some expressed that their participation was contingent upon having “meaningful input,” otherwise they did not want to be on the committee. They did not want to participate on a committee that was just “window dressing”. Many expressed that they wanted the Director, Suzanne Tavano, to be present at the committee meetings – or when she wasn't available, that her “representative” participate. Members recommended that Kasey send out all meeting handouts and minutes via email and not just reference the MHSA website to access them which will begin immediately. One committee member asked about previous impact the MHSA Stakeholder committees have had and some of the members that had participated in earlier versions of the MHSA Stakeholders committee shared some history about the committees they participated on, both the positives and the negatives, with the hope that this committee would have a positive impact on how MHSA programs are funded and perform in Marin. The committee recommended that when we have presenters come in, that they receive the committee's questions in advance to ensure the presentation addresses the issues and questions of the committee.
- V. Steering Committee – 6 members: Sandra Fawn, Maritza Saucedo, Marvin Mars, Robbie Powelson, Teresa Torrence-Tillman and Victoria Sanders
- The Steering Committee's purpose is to assist with meeting content for the meeting agenda's. The group agreed that all Steering Committee efforts will be transparent to the whole MHSA Committee membership.
- VI. The committee wants to get a Mission Statement in place – to help us get an idea of what that means to the members, we went around the room and each member introduced themselves, gave input on why they wanted to be on the committee and what their goals were as a participant. See MHSA Committee members Goals document for members feedback.

Next Meeting Date: June 10, 2015, 1:30-3:30pm, 20 N. San Pedro Rd, Pt. Reyes Room