

**Sacramento County
Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee**

**May 20, 2010
Minutes**

**Department of Behavioral Health Services
7001A East Parkway, Sacramento, CA 95823
Conference Room 1**

Interested members of the public are invited to attend MHSA Steering Committee meetings and a period is set aside for public comment at each meeting. If you wish to attend and need to arrange for an interpreter or a reasonable accommodation, please contact Mary Nakamura one week prior to each meeting at (916) 876-5821 or Nakamura@sacounty.net.

Members: Laurel Benhamida, Mary Ann Bennett, Caroline Caton, Lois Cunningham, Katherine Elliott, Suzanne Hammer, Edwina Browning Hayes, Laura Heintz (*alternate for Children's Service Provider*), Bill Johnson, Ben Jones, Joyce Wright (*alternate for Education*), Michael Lazar (*alternate for Adult Service Provider*), Al Lipson, Hiep Ma (*alternate for Transition Age Youth*), Marguerite Story-Baker (*alternate for Alcohol & Drug Services*), Stephanie Ramos, Dave Schroeder

Alternates: Dorian Kittrell

Facilitator: Eileen Jacobowitz

	TIME	TOPIC
1.	6:10 pm	Comfort Agreement Eileen Jacobowitz read the Comfort Agreement. No changes were suggested.
2.	6:12 pm	Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes The May 6, 2010 meeting minutes were approved.
3.	6:13 pm	Agenda Review The agenda was reviewed. No changes were suggested.
4.	6:15 pm	Announcements Caroline Caton announced that NAMI has a Peer-to-Peer course coming up and space is available. The class starts Thursday, May 27. Patty Gainer, client advocate, announced that Saturday, 5/22/10, from 10 am-3 pm there will be an event at Sacramento City College called Sacramento Homeless Connect offering opportunities for homeless people, services and food. Patty also announced that Wednesday, 5/26/10, from 10 am-3 p.m. there will be an educational rally and resource fair at the west steps of the capitol for Disability Capitol Action Day. Tuesday, 5/25/10, from 10 am-3 p.m. there will be Legislative and IHSS Issues Training. See Attachment A – Disability Capitol Action Day flier and DCAD Legislative Priorities. Michelle Callejas announced today's release of a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the Suicide Prevention Project Warm Line and Support Services. The RFP is available at www.sacdhs.com/MHSA .
5.	6:20 pm	PEI Statewide Projects Update Michelle Callejas, MHSA Program Manager, reviewed past changes and current status of PEI statewide projects. See Attachment B – PEI Statewide Projects. Funding earmarked for the three PEI statewide projects (Suicide Prevention, Stigma

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	<p>and Discrimination Reduction, and Student Mental Health Initiative) cannot be used by the county unilaterally. In order to avoid reversion of these funds to the state (08-09 funds revert June 30, 2011) the county's options are to 1) implement statewide programs through the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) administering the program, 2) implement statewide and/or replicable programs through multi-county collaboration (disincentives, e.g., higher evaluation criteria, are a part of this option), or 3) assign funds to the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to implement or to contract with the JPA. Sacramento County recommends Option 3 assigning 08/09 funds in the amount of \$1,331,800. Option 3 facilitates quicker use of our dollars in danger of reversion because there is already a mechanism in place at DMH to assign the funds to the JPA.</p> <p><u>Member Discussion</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assuming a statewide plan is decided upon by the JPA, it is not yet clear how it will be implemented at the local level. • While DMH would like statewide PEI project dollars to be spent proportionately on the various statewide projects, an advantage of assigning funds to the JPA for statewide projects is that the proportionality will be calculated statewide. • It is unknown whether counties will receive the same amount of services per dollar back per statewide project from JPA that they put in and what percentage of that money that would go to administration and evaluation. • Consumers can attend and speak at the meetings of the JPA, which are typically held immediately after the monthly California Mental Health Directors' Association meetings in Sacramento. Further, any projects that are decided upon at these meetings will be posted for 30 days for public review and comment just as is done at the county level. • JPA meetings are subject to the Brown Act. • The JPA will be supported and administered by an Executive Director and contracted legal consultants. More staff may be contracted on an as-needed basis. The JPA will develop the evaluation component and determine how projects will be implemented. • Although it seems unlikely, it is possible that future circumstances could change to allow use of the FY 2009-10 dollars at the local level. Since there is no immediate danger of those dollars reverting, we can hold on to them for a while and await events before deciding whether or not to assign them to the JPA. <p><u>Public Comment</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Michael Wilkins, consumer, sees this proposal as very good for students with mental health issues. • Patty Gainer, client advocate, requests that clients be involved at every step and stage if the county joins the JPA and that the meetings be advertised. • Jessica Muñoz, consumer, is concerned that multiple levels of mental health bureaucracy take money that should go to services before it ever reaches the people. She also noted that excellent mental health services turn people with mental health problems into taxpayers. Inadequate mental health services turn those same people into inmates of hospitals and prisons. • Sandra Marley, consumer advocate, asked for and received assurance that meetings and 30-day stakeholder comment periods of the JPA will be publicly announced.

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sylvia Muñoz, said that it is hard to keep track of what is going on, with so many different groups and meetings. She would like to be involved so that she can have a voice in decisions. She suggested that as long as the RSTs are in operation, information can be sent to them regarding upcoming meetings that they can pass along to interested consumers. James Bennett said he is concerned that the Steering Committee is spending too much time thinking about/planning for secondary services when primary services to the county and community are being devastated. He believes many on the Steering Committee are privileged in that their livelihoods are not at risk. <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Mary Ann moved that FY 2008/2009 PEI Statewide Projects funds be assigned to the Joint Powers Authority via Option 3, while holding FY 2009/2010 funds back for the present. Caroline Caton seconded.</p> <p>16 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain – Motion approved.</p>
6.	7:30 pm	<p>Budget Update</p> <p>Mary Ann Bennett, Deputy Director, Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) announced that during the June budget hearings the County Executive will recommend to the Board of Supervisors that DBHS be given transition dollars so that the proposed program changes for 2010/11 scheduled to take place July 1, 2010, are extended for a longer period of time.</p> <p>Two proposals have been submitted to the county, one from The Effort and one from the RSTs. Both proposals are being thoroughly evaluated and no clear decision has been made on what will be recommended to the Board in June.</p> <p>The Board of Supervisors will start budget hearings on June 14th (overview). On June 15 at 2:00 pm the Department of Health and Human Services budget will be addressed, which includes DBHS. The hearings are scheduled to end on June 16. Thursday and Friday of that week are being held open should the budget hearings take longer than anticipated.</p> <p>The Governor has released a preliminary proposed budget which, if implemented, would result in a massive reduction to local mental health systems because it shifts 60% of realignment dollars from mental health to social services. A preliminary estimate of the impact on Sacramento County Mental Health is the loss of approximately \$24 million. This is only the start of negotiations in the capitol, so things may change, but Mary Ann believes we will likely be hit hard.</p>
7.	7:40 pm	<p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Student Mental Health & Wellness Plan Ad Hoc Charter Review Committee Report Back
8.	7:42 pm	<p>Upcoming Meetings (meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 3, 2010 June 17, 2010 (<i>possible cancellation</i>)
10.	7:43 pm	Adjourn