Behavioral Health Services
Monthly Director’s Report

February 2019

1. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)

Behavioral Health Services Awarded Funds to Administer School-Based Prevention Project

The Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) approved a new Mental Health Services Act Innovation project for the City and County of San Francisco. The project is entitled the Fuerte. Fuerte is a unique intervention culturally tailored to address the needs of newly immigrated Latinx youth, ages 12 to 18. It consists of a school-based group prevention program which uses a sociocultural, ecological lens and an evidence-based Attachment Regulation and Competency (ARC) framework.

This project is a unique collaboration between San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD), Behavioral Health Services (BHS), and University of California, San Francisco (UCSF). Funding would provide for a robust evaluation for the program, allowing it to be successfully adapted to other populations. Parent-caregiver education and peer-based support would be provided as part of this program. The project was approved by the MHSOAC in an amount of $1.5 million for a period of five years.
Innovation projects are defined as creative and innovative mental health practices or strategies that test new approaches, contribute to learning, and can inform current and future mental health programs.

For more information, contact MHSA@sfdph.org.

2. Quality Management

Consumer Satisfaction Survey

The results from the Fall 2018 Mental Health Client Satisfaction survey are now posted online. Report location:

At the beginning of the PDF are the results for the Systems of Care (All Mental Health Programs), followed by the reports for each program in alphabetical order (use PDF viewer’s bookmarks pane for quick browsing).

Please review this valuable feedback to see where the Systems of Care and/or programs’ strengths are as well as areas that need to be targeted for improvement.

Please send any questions you may have about the reports to Ryan Reichel at ryan.reichel@sfdph.org.

3. CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES (CYF) SYSTEM OF CARE

Spotlight on Mission Family Center and Project 500

Project 500 behavioral health team focused on planning for implementation of a STAIRs group. STAIRs is a skills group for people with a trauma history which focuses on emotion regulation, distress tolerance, and healthy relationship skills. The group will commence in the beginning of March. Also, staff co-facilitated a UCSF mini-course on addressing racial health disparities with the Expecting Justice program, which will continue to inspire medical and pharmacy students to actively address racial health disparities throughout their careers. Management solidified a plan with home visiting nurses for the implementation of regular individual mental health consultation with each nurse, which will begin soon.

The Mission Family Center collaborated with BHS Transitional Age Youth (TAY) program on a joint in-service with Catholic Charities (on 18th Street). A lot of useful resource information was exchanged, especially as the two programs continue to build relationships across Children, Youth and Families and Adult & Older/Adult Systems of Care.

4. FORENSIC/JUSTICE INVOLVED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Spotlight on Community Justice Center (CJC)

Behavioral Health Services would like to extend a warm welcome to the newest team member, Akiko Allen, LMFT, who joins the team as a Program Manager for the Community Justice Center (CJC).
CJC is a community-based collaborative court program that partners with the San Francisco Superior Court, the San Francisco District Attorney’s Office, the San Francisco Public Defender’s Office, Human Services Agency and the San Francisco Adult Probation Department. SFDPH-BHS staff provide case management services to people who are charged within the geographic area of the Tenderloin, Civic Center, parts of the South of Market neighborhood, and Union Square. SFDPH-BHS staff provide services on site and linkage to social services agencies; community resources; and primary, behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment programs.

Akiko has a diverse background in the mental health field. While accruing hours for licensure she utilized evidence-based practices and narrative/solution-focused therapies at a jail diversion program, a minor consent drug Medi-Cal program, at a homeless shelter, and at schools. She is passionate about neuroscience and is also certified as a computer system engineer. Learning about human behavior from multiple disciplines has broadened her perspective and pliability in thinking. Since becoming licensed in January 2008, she has worked as a mental health clinician at a local jail, as a utilization management clinician at USCF, and most recently as a supervisor in County Adult Assistance Program (CAAP) at Human Services Agency (HSA). Working in culturally rich and diverse community continues to expand her worldview and she feels fortunate to be able to serve for the community. BHS is excited to have Akiko as part of the team in this management role.

5. **Transitional Age Youth (TAY)**

**BHS TAY System of Care in 2019**

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) has been taking exciting steps in its development of a comprehensive Behavioral Health System of Care for Transition Age Youth (TAY), ages 16-24, by: 1) enhancing cross **systems coordination**, 2) building **provider capacity**, and 3) expanding **behavioral health services** tailored to TAY.

Funding from multiple sources including the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and the Department of Children Youth and Families (DCYF) have allowed the TAY SOC to establish 20+ new programs across a
continuum of services under the following categories: TAY Linkage Collaborative, TAY Crisis Stabilization & Support, TAY Full Service Partnerships (FSPs), TAY Early Psychosis Prevention & Intervention, TAY Population Specific Engagement and Treatment (i.e., African American, Asian and Pacific Islander, Latino and Mayan and LGBTQ), TAY Homeless Treatment, TAY Peer Certificate & Peer Employment, TAY SOC Advisory Board and for TAY clinical providers, non-clinical providers and general TAY serving network, we have the TAY SOC Network Development, Training & Capacity Building program.

BHS staff held the first TAY SOC quarterly convening for TAY providers representing across 13 community-based organizations for an intimate meet-and-greet and networking across expanded TAY continuum of services to address a wide range of behavioral health needs tailored to identified TAY priority populations!

This convening also highlighted the establishment of all TAY RFQ-15-2017 funded contracts for FY18-19, programs’ current implementation progress and ongoing milestones, such as hiring long awaited new staff, graduating TAY Peers in a Certificate program, travelling to TAY and talking with them over a hot meal, launching Clinician’s Academy, developing new program design and serving many TAY with limited resources, were just a few of many that speak to the impacts of TAY program staff and expanded services!
In the Director’s reports for 2019, more will be shared about the developing TAY SOC infrastructure, coordinated systems efforts and spotlighting the programs themselves. To stay more closely informed about the TAY SOC and/or to collaborate with us, please contact: kali.cheung@sfdph.org.

6. EVENTS, COMMUNITY, MEDIA:

Black History Month Event: The San Francisco Department of Public Health and Human Service Agency present, The Impact of Inter-generational Trauma on African-American Youth in the Foster Care System on Friday, February 22, 2019 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM PST at Laguna Honda Rehabilitation Center (375 Laguna Honda Blvd., Gerald Simon Theater). Three renowned speakers Dr. Kenneth Hardy, Dr. Wade W. Nobles, and Daisy Ozim, will discuss the history of foster care in the United States and pathways to creating equity in the foster care system. Part of the event is devoted to hearing stories from youth who have experienced the foster care system. Coffee, tea, a continental breakfast, and lunch will be served. Event Fee is $25. To Register: Link to register: tinyurl.com/2019DPHBlackHistoryEvent

KQED Forum regarding methamphetamine epidemic and response in San Francisco, featuring Dr. Anton Nigusse Bland, Medical Director of Psychiatric Emergency Services at Zuckerberg San Francisco General.

https://www.kqed.org/forum/2010101869630/san-francisco-struggles-to-respond-to-methamphetamine-epidemic

SFGovTV episode of What's Next, SF? LEADING the Way to Treatment and Recovery, focusing on the San Francisco LEAD pilot program. SFGovTV airs the series on both of its Comcast channels 26 and 78. You can watch the program anytime on the SFGovTV YouTube channel: https://youtu.be/8nz3tle24g4

The second year of the Behavioral Health Services’ 10-Month Clinical Supervision Training & Learning Academy launched on January 22, 2019. This cohort includes 60 Clinical Supervisors from across Behavioral Health Services (BHS) including both civil service and community based organization staff, including Licensed Marriage Family Therapists, Licensed Clinical Social Workers, Licensed Psychologists, and Psychiatrists who provide specialty mental health services. This academy offers best practices within clinical supervision. BHS is committed to the provision of clinical supervision for all staff to help ensure the quality of services delivered, the continued competence of our workforce, and that our staff receive ongoing support to do their job most effectively.

7. ANNOUNCEMENT:

Methamphetamine Task Force

On February 8th, San Francisco Mayor Breed and Supervisor Mandelman announced the formation of a Methamphetamine Task Force to address the rise in methamphetamine use in San Francisco. The Department of Public Health will take lead and coordinate the Task Force alongside with Mayor Breed and Supervisor Mandelman.

The Task Force will examine the methamphetamine landscape, impacts on residents, and opportunities and challenges for increasing rehabilitation and treatment options, including expanding existing prevention and law enforcement programs. The Task Force will be multi-disciplinary and multi-sector, with members
including medical and public health professionals, researchers, substance use disorder treatment providers, emergency responders, criminal justice and law enforcement officials, drug policy experts, and current and/or former substance users.

The Task Force will release a comprehensive report with recommendations on harm reduction strategies to decrease and manage methamphetamine use, identify best practices for treatment and service options for current users, and develop policy recommendations to reduce the medical and social impacts of methamphetamine use on San Franciscans. The Task Force is an opportunity to further support cross-departmental collaboration, increase public awareness of substance use and abuse, and examine cost-effective strategies to better manage the impacts of methamphetamine use on the City's systems and its residents.

Resignation

Dear colleagues and community partners, I have made a personal decision to resign from my position as the Director of Behavioral Health Services and I will be leaving San Francisco Department of Public Health in March 2019. My last day at work will be March 15th.

I began working in San Francisco back in January 1995, first at UCSF-San Francisco General Hospital, then at RAMS, Inc., before joining San Francisco Department of Public Health. It has been a great honor to work for these three major and reputable institutions in San Francisco. Additionally, it has been a real privilege for me to be the Director of Behavioral Health Services at SFDPH and serve as the San Francisco County’s Mental/Behavioral Health Director (Mental Health Plan Director).

I am deeply grateful for the opportunities I have been offered and the vote of confidence I have received along the way. This has been a humbling, rewarding, and learning journey for me and I hope I have contributed in some meaningful way to the well-being of our community members as well as the work experience of those who serve this community.

Your dedication, strong advocacy, and steadfast commitment to community behavioral health are inspiring. The high quality services you offer our consumers, in meeting their diverse behavioral health needs, and doing so in such a compassionate & culturally responsive manner are truly admirable. You elevate the profession and our community is stronger & better because of it. THANK YOU!