

SAN FRANCISCO MENTAL HEALTH BOARD



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Idell Wilson, Vice Chair
Gene Porfido, Secretary
Terezie "Terry" Bohrer, RN, MSW, CLNC
Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD
Judy Zalazar Drummond, MA
Judith Klain, MPH
Gregory Ledbetter
Susan Page
Toni Parks
Richelle Slota, MA
Marylyn Tesconi
Njon Weinroth
Benny Wong, LCSW

ADOPTED MINUTES

Mental Health Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 16, 2019
1380 Howard Street
4th Floor, Room 424
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Harriette Stevens, EdD; Co-Chair; Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT, Co-Chair; Njon Weinroth, Secretary; Marcus Dancer; Judy Z. Drummond, MA; Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD; Susan Page; Toni Parks; Richelle Slota, MA; and Marylyn Tesconi.

BOARD MEMBERS ON LEAVE: [Terry Bohrer, RN, MSW, CLNC](#); and [Benny Wong, LCSW](#).

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Gregory Ledbetter; and Judith Klain, MPH.

OTHERS PRESENT: Helynna Brooke (Executive Director); Loy M. Proffitt (Chief Financial Officer); Kavooos Ghane Bassiri, LMFT, LPCC, CGP, Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Director; Wynship Hillier; Rachel Rodriguez, CPP/CPCM, St. Francis Memorial Hospital; Charles Berman, Citywide; Depak Kumar, Tammy Duong; Liza Murawski; and **two** public members.

Dr. Stevens called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Roll Call

Ms. Brooke called the roll.

Agenda Changes

No changes

ITEM 1.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR (See Attachment A)

The full director's report can be viewed at the end of the minutes or on the internet.

1.1 Discussion regarding Behavioral Health Services Department Report, a report on the activities and operations of Behavioral Health Services (BHS), including budget, planning, policy, and programs and services.

Mr. Ghane Bassiri highlighted items in his Director's Report. He mentioned that the OMI Clinic underwent a repair renovation after a recent flooding at the building, but all staff are now back at the clinic at 1701 Ocean Avenue, and clients have returned to the main site.

The Children, Youth and Families System of care promoted Bonnie Friedman, LCSW to the position of Family Centered Care Program Manager. Prior to this position, Ms. Friedman was the primary Director of LEGACY, a program serving transitional age youth & families.

Mr. Ghane Bassiri highlighted the successful completion of the Project 500 parent's group Project, the successful toy drive and distribution at Mission Family Center Project, and the participation of Chinatown Child Development Center in two major community events over the holidays.

The BHS Pharmacy published a Toolkit for Harm Reduction Strategies for people who inject drugs. The document provides information on the scope and impact of injection drug use and the evidence on harm reduction strategies that can be employed.

SFDPH and BHS presented at multiple conferences, such as the California County Behavioral Health Directors Association on the subject of: Treating Away Homelessness?. Several more presentations are highlighted in the Director's report.

He shared that the Mayor announced that funding will from the property tax windfall in the amount of \$90.5 million will be slated for homelessness, street health and behavioral health. Governor Gavin Newsom's budget is also focused on behavioral health. There is an expected \$675 million for Medi/Cal, \$360 million for managed care, and \$45 million for Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE's) screening to ascertain the impact of trauma.

Mr. Ghane Bassiri announced that he is resigning from his position and leaving BHS-SFDPH on March 15th. He & his family will be moving out of California.

Ms. Parks said she is sorry to see him go. Also, she would also like to find out more about the plans for the new monies coming to San Francisco from the State.

Mr. Ghane Bassiri said that SFDPH, the Department of Homelessness & Supportive Housing, and the Human Services Agency will also be receiving part of this funding and he can share as more develops, since the information has been released recently.

Ms. Drummond asked if this was Proposition C funds.

Mr. Ghane Bassiri said that this funding is separate and above & beyond Proposition C funds, which is now tied up with legal challenges & reviews, which will provide significant funding for

addressing homelessness / affordable housing, supportive housing & services, and behavioral health.

1.2 Public Comment

Mr. Hillier asked about Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT). He shared concerns that it forces people into treatment.

Mr. Ghane Bassiri that there is a report online about AOT as well as a report about Conservatorship.

ITEM 2.0 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT UPDATES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

For discussion.

The passage of Proposition 63 (now known as the [Mental Health Services Act](#) or MHSA) in November 2004, provides increased annual funding to support county mental health programs. The Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service needs and the necessary infrastructure, technology and training elements that will effectively support this system. This Act imposes a 1% income tax on personal income in excess of \$1 million. One of the requirements of the Act is that the county must provide annual updates as well as hearings for changes in the way the county implements the funding.

2.1 Mental Health Services Act Updates

Mr. Ghane Bassiri highlighted events such as the Transgender Fair. At the fair staff conducted an evaluation to determine the efficacy of the activities being offered to program participants. He went on to highlight the Coordinated Entry System, which is a tool that assesses the needs of the people experiencing homelessness and prioritizes the most vulnerable populations for housing. He also highlighted the RAMS Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate and the Citywide Slice of Life Café and Catering Training Program.

The 11th Annual Peer and Family Conference happened on December 14th, and it was very successful. It has been approved for Peers to be involved in the Wellness in the Streets program. An RFP has gone out for it.

2.2 Public Comment

[No public comments.](#)

ITEM 3.0 ACTION ITEMS

For discussion and action.

3.1 Public comment

[No public comments.](#)

3.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Mental Health Board meeting of November 28, 2018 be approved as submitted.

Two changes were made in the minutes. One was to move Idell Wilson to on leave. The other was a sentence added in paragraph one of the presentation to say: “The following is a presentation of her personal experience.”

[The resolution unanimously approved.](#)

3.3 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the notes for the Mental Health Board retreat of December 8, 2018 be approved as submitted.

The resolution unanimously approved.

ITEM 4.0 MENTAL HEALTH BOARD GOALS AND PRIORITIES FOR 2019

ITEM 4.1 Mental Health Board Goals And Priorities For 2019

Dr. Stevens stated that at the retreat, board members proposed disbanding the current committees, which were the Youth Committee, Older Adult Committee, and Substance Use Disorder Committee. Proposed instead was an overall priority with board members working together to gather information and then advocating for changes. The Executive Committee met this past Monday to develop the structure for this discussion and propose the wording for the priority for the year. They also proposed suggestions for how committees might be structured to research information and propose changes. You have the proposal from the Executive Committee (the chart is attached). Mr. Weinroth also provided the powerpoint slide on the wall, from the diagram from the Retreat. The diagram is attached.

Board members reviewed the chart provided by Mr. Weinroth, providing a summary of committees that would pursue the overall goal. The overarching priority is safe, supportive housing for people with mental illness and substance use disorders.

Focus on Supportive Housing for BHS Consumers presentation is at the end of the minutes

Mr. Weinroth shared that he believed it was a consensus at the retreat to focus on consumers facing homelessness who have behavioral health challenges. In addition to the Executive Committee, there would be an Investigative/Information Committee and an Implementation Committee.

Dr. Stevens said that each committee would determine chairs of the committees. She also reminded the board that the Data Notebook is due March 31st. Board members volunteered for different components as follows:

- OLDER ADULTS: Ms. Slota and Ms. Bohrer
- CHILDREN: Ms. Drummond and Ms. Tesconi
- TRANSITIONAL AGE YOUTH: Ms. Jackson-Lane and Ms. Thakore-Dunlap
- ADULT: Ms. Wilson and Mr. Dancer
- MHSA: Mr. Weinroth and Ms. Parks

Ms. Drummond suggested that people should select committees by where their skill sets lie.

Ms. Parks reminded the board to focus on supportive housing.

Ms. Drummond suggested that board members meet with members of the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Weinroth followed up with the suggestion that we should find advocates and champions from the Board of Supervisors.

Ms. Parks suggested that the resolutions we draft should provide a way of sharing solutions.

All board members would do program reviews to gain information from consumers. Board members then selected the committee they wished to join as follows:

Information Committee: Dr. Stevens, Mr. Dancer, Ms. Tesconi, Ms. Wilson, Ms. Bohrer.
Implementation Committee: Ms. Parks, Ms. Slota, Ms. Drummond, Ms. Thakore-Dunlap, Ms. Jackson-Lane, and Mr. Weinroth.

Ms. Tesconi suggested allowing board members to call in and participate in committee meetings.

ITEM 4.2 Public Comment

Ms. Murawski suggested involving public members who are peers in the outreach process. Peers can take surveys and report their results at full-board meetings.

She shared her concern about people being released from the emergency room with information but not direct to appropriate resources. People are also released from jail with no resources. People need to be able to stabilize. She does not feel that supportive housing is providing enough support either.

ITEM 5.0 REPORTS

For discussion

5.1 Report from the Executive Director of the Mental Health Board. Discussion regarding upcoming events, conferences, or activities that may be of interest to board members; Mental Health Board budget issues and update on staff work on board projects.

Ms. Brooke shared the following items:

- February 22, 2019 is the Black History event at Laguna Honda Hospital, and board members are welcome to attend.
- She also shared that the 2019 Peers and Family Conference planning starts in June and board members are invited to participate on that planning committee. Mr. Proffitt can provide additional details if you are interested.

5.2 Report from Chair of the Board and the Executive Committee. Discussion regarding Chair's meetings with Behavioral Health Services staff, meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors and community meetings about mental health or substance use.

Dr. Stevens reminded the board that the Executive Committee meets next Tuesday, January 22, 2019, at 10:00 AM in the Mental Health Board office, Room 226. All board members, as well as members of the public, are welcome to attend.

The SF Mental Health Education Funds (SFMHEF) board meets January 30th from 5 – 7 in Room 515 at 1380 Howard Street. All board members are welcome to join this board. You can be voted onto the board at this meeting.

The board awarded a Certificate of Appreciation to Ms. Susan Page who resigned from the Mental Health Board as of January 2019.

5.3 Committee Reports

Carletta Jackson-Lane, Chair of the Nominating Committee, with members Judy Drummond, Marylyn Tesconi, Idell Wilson and Gregory Ledbetter announced the nominations for new officers. They are Njon Weinroth and Marylyn Tesconi for Co-Chairs, Carletta Jackson-Lane for

Vice Chair and Judy Drummond for Secretary. They will be voted on at the February board meeting. Additional nominations can be taken at that time.

5.4 People or Issues Highlighted by MHB: Suggestions of people and/or programs that the board believes should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Mental Health Board.

None suggested.

5.5 Report by members of the Board on their activities on behalf of the Board.

Ms. Parks shared that she will be meeting with Dr. Melissa Bloom who manages the Grievance process.

Ms. Slota attended the January 2019 Transgender Fair at the San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) that was mentioned in the January Director's Report. She found it very informative.

Ms. Tesconi shared that the Executive Director Succession Committee is reviewing applications.

Mr. Dancer shared that he went to a Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) International meeting in Sacramento. He said that one of the main issues is communication between the police departments and other city departments. There are a lot of different models. Some counties came up with consent forms between departments.

5.6 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee.

5.7 Public comment.

Mr. Hillier is concerned about patients receiving involuntary treatment. He feels that involuntary treatment is used as a conduit for voluntary treatment.

6.0 Public Comment

Ms. Murawski shared that she attended the Conard House Board Meeting on December 13th and learned that they did not know about the MHB review of Jordan Apartments. She shared a letter she received from Richard Heasley, Executive Director of Conard House.

Ms. Murawski submitted the letter. Her letter is at the end of the minutes.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Summary of Retreat Ideas

SUMMARY OF RETREAT IDEAS

Proposed 2019 Priority: Safe, supportive housing for people with mental illness and substance use disorders that encourages growth for people.

Committee 1: Executive Committee

Members are: Co-Chairs, Vice Chair, Secretary, Chairs of each Committee, and any other underrepresented group from the board (mental health professional, family member, consumer, public interest)

- Planning full board meetings using input from committees
- Accountability for committees
- Developing resolutions from input from committees
- Creating a focus for the Annual Report, assigning tasks to staff, collaborating information from committees.
- Ensuring completion of Data Report
- Program reviews

Committee 2: Informational Gathering

- Information gathering
- The current state of supportive services in housing
- Models from other parts of the country
- What are we doing that is working and what are we doing that is not working?
- Program Reviews

Committee 3: Implementation

- Meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors
- Meetings with Health Commission Members
- Meetings with BHS department staff
- Program Reviews

Focus on Supportive Housing for BHS Consumers

Investigative	Implementation
Mandate	Mandate
What Currently Not Working?	Quantify Root Deficiencies
What Are Others Doing Right?	Enlist Advocates/Champions
What Could We Make Happen?	Present Solutions
Method	Method
Program Reviews	Schedule and Brief Speakers
BHS Department Reviews	Meet With Supes and BHS Groups
Research Other Municipalities' Programs	Convene Public Hearings
Identify Champions/Advocates	Draft Series of Resolutions

The **Investigative Group** would tackle goals like conducting reviews, gathering numbers, and identifying champions while the **Implementation Group** would focus on developing a series of targeted resolutions and hearings.



CONARD HOUSE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

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December 19, 2018

Liza M. Murawski
820 O'Farrell Street, Unit 208
San Francisco, CA 94109

Re: Your request for Conard House, Inc. information

Dear Ms. Murawski:

From Robin Knight, I received a fax of your memo to "Conard Mental Health" dated December 14, 2018.

In response to your requests:

1. I cannot provide the Board list you requested, nor Directors' email addresses, nor any other contact information. As a standing procedure, the Board has instructed me not to give out their personal contact information to anyone, not just you. Instead, they want all communication to the Board to come through me.

However, in view of the formal complaints that you have made against us, which are either still open or may otherwise continue, I am advised that your communication should be through counsel.

2. We will not provide any list of "stakeholders," whomever you would include in this undefined group. If you are referring to the individuals who manage our DPH contract, those names are known to you because they are listed in the Mental Health Board Summary Report distribution list. I learned from two people present at the November Mental Health Board Meeting that you or others brought up de-funding the Conard House DPH contract to force action against the John Stewart Company. I am surprised you are asking us to help you pursue this tactic or otherwise spread complaints about us.
3. The Board will approve the Minutes for the December 13th Public Board at their next meeting in January. Meanwhile, I will inform the Board that you have requested the Minutes and ask counsel to advise them on their distribution obligations.

Respectfully,

Richard Heasley
Executive Director

CC: Board of Directors



Behavioral Health Services Monthly Director's Report

December 2018 & January 2019

1. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)

Transgender Health Fair

The 8th Annual MHSA Trans Health and Wellness Fair was held on December 10th, 2018 at the San Francisco Main Library. The Health Fair is an opportunity for clients and providers in the community to come together to exchange information and network. The overarching goal is to raise awareness of services that are available in San Francisco that have the expertise to service Trans and Gender Non-conforming individuals with a special emphasis on Trans Women of Color.

Over 100 people attended the event including representation from two hospitals and twenty-four community-based agencies. Activities included health screenings, information on services available for Trans and Gender non-conforming Individuals, entertainment, and opportunities for networking.

Evaluation Efforts

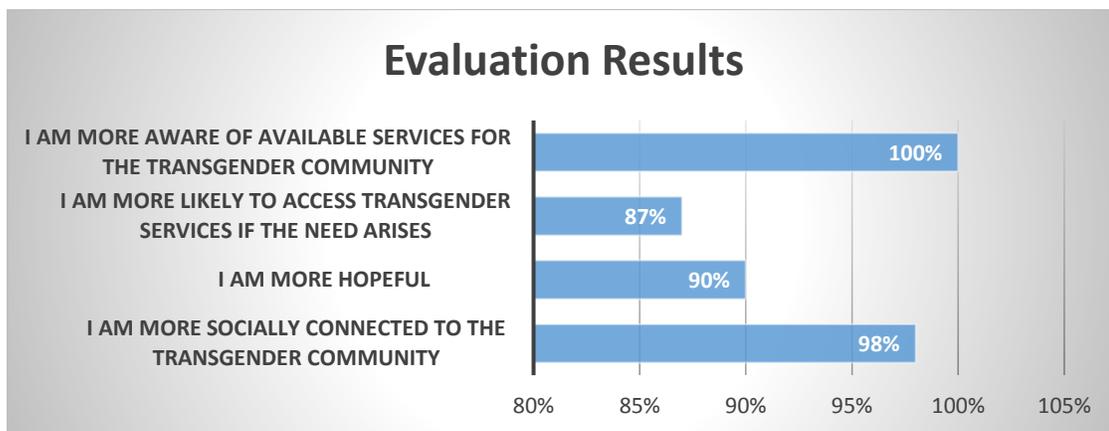
The Transgender Health Fair staff conducted an evaluation to determine the efficacy of the activities being offered to program participants. An evaluation tool was developed in collaboration with SFDPH-BHS Quality Management in order to best assess and determine if the program objectives were met.

The following evaluation questions were developed to assess for a participants improvement to health, wellness and recovery as a result of activities at the Trans Health and Wellness fair:

1. As a result of participating in the 2018 Trans Health Fair, I am more aware of available services for the Transgender Community.
2. As a result of participating in the 2018 Trans Health Fair, I am more socially connected to the Transgender community.
3. As a result of participating in the 2018 Trans Health Fair, I am more hopeful.
4. As a result of participating in the 2018 Trans Health Fair, I am more likely to access Transgender services if the need arises.

Evaluation Results

The data was compiled and analyzed to determine that the Transgender Health Fair met the objectives. Please see the below table for evaluation results.



The Coordinated Entry System and What it means for BHS Clients

The Coordinated Entry System (CES) is a centralized tool that assesses the needs of the people experiencing homelessness, and prioritizes the most vulnerable populations for housing. In San Francisco, there is an Adult, Youth, and Family (adults or transitional aged youth with children in their care) CES. The San Francisco platform used for CES is called Online Navigation and Entry (ONE) system. The ONE System uses a standard assessment tool that prioritizes people for housing based on their length of time homeless, barriers to housing, and vulnerability (including disabling and medical conditions). Those who are not prioritized for housing will be offered problem solving and linkage to available resources.

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) is optimistic that more of our clients will get access to housing to support their recovery and wellness.

For more information, **contact** Josephine Ayankoya, MHA Program Manager, at josephine.ayankoya@sfdph.org.

Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate (RAMS and San Francisco State University)

The RAMS Division of Peer-Based Services celebrated the graduation of the 12 students of Cohort #17, who successfully completed the 12-week, 100-hour RAMS/San Francisco State University Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate Entry Course. The Peer Certificate Program, established in 2010, offers training and education for individuals with lived experience to provide counseling, advocacy, and support services to behavioral health consumers. The program leads with the principles of cultural humility, supporting participants to commit to lifelong learning and self-reflection. The program teaches students to focus on their individual wellness and recovery to build resilience and enhance capacity to provide strengths-based, person-centered care to individuals and groups throughout San Francisco.

The graduates are in the process of interviewing for positions at various sites throughout San Francisco, and multiple students from this cohort are already providing services at different organizations, including

Mentoring and Peer Support (MAPS), Curry Senior Center, HealthRight360, San Francisco AIDS Foundation, Institute on Aging, and RAMS, among others. The Peer Certificate program looks forward to these graduates empowering individuals in the community to achieve their wellness goals!



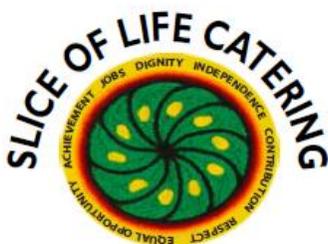
Program contact: Kristin Snell, MSW, Program Manager, Peer Specialist Mental Health Certificate, 415-579-3021 x102, kristinsnell@ramsinc.org

UCSF Citywide Slice of Life Cafe and Catering Training Program

The UCSF Citywide Employment Services' Slice of Life Cafe and Catering Training Program individuals with a 6-month paid work experience in food safety, handling, preparation, and presentation.

The Slice of Life program graduated its 5th cohort at the San Francisco Behavioral Health Center located next to the Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital. Under the expert tutelage of Chef Mike Sullivan, Program Coordinator Gigi Lapuz, and Peer Mentor Joseph Rivera, the graduates prepared an elegant and delicious 3-course luncheon for family, friends and staff. The luncheon was a culinary culmination of the skills the graduates learned over their 6-month, paid-work experience. Dr. Susan Ehrlich, CEO at Zuckerberg San Francisco General, who attended the graduation, wrote;

“The program increases integration into the community and feelings of self-worth. It’s all about better lives and hope for the people it serves; that was clear from the wonderful graduation celebration!”



Program Contact: Mindy Oppenheim, M.Ed., Director, Vocational Rehabilitation Program, UCSF at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital, 415-206-5962, Mindy.Oppenheim@ucsf.edu

FACES for the Future at John O’Connell High School

In 2016 O’Connell High School student Nicole came out to her family and peers about her sexual orientation. Unfortunately, Nicole’s parents were not supportive of her life choices and this caused her great pain. But with the help of her FACES Program Coordinator, Nicole was able to:

- receive support & mentorship from program staff;
- practice mindfulness to manage her stress;
- participate in therapy with her mom; and
- learn about healthy communication practices with her family members;

Nicole says that the FACES for the Future program has helped her grow in many ways and has given her an opportunity to see the trajectory of her education pathway and future career. Nicole’s internship at SFDPH’s Castro Mission Health Center gave her the chance to see clinic staff who share bonds with their patients and who love their work.

**Note: This personal story was drawn from an MHSA-funded program’s fiscal year 17-18 year-end narrative report; and the student’s name was changed to respect her privacy.*

11th Annual Peer & Family Conference: Building Resilience and Empowering Communities

On December 14, 2018, the 11th Annual Peer & Family Conference: Building Resilience and Empowering Communities was held at the Google Community Space along the Embarcadero. The purpose of the conference was to promote wellness and recovery within our community through education and encouragement. Up to 100 participants enjoyed the festive and celebratory event, filled with interactive wellness activities, and were entertained by inspirational music performances from: RAMS Peer Counselor: Talon Demeo, Peer Navigator & the master of ceremonies: MGM Grand, and hip-hop therapy group: Beats, Rhymes and Life.

Behavioral Health Services Director introduced the event, featured speaker, Neo Veavea, conveyed his rich and inspirational life story, and peer panel speakers shared their stories of hope and resilience in the face of life challenges, while discussing the meaningful work they are doing in and for our communities. Workshops included: Tai Chi, Holiday T-shirt decorating, multiple art activities, terrarium-making, beading and jewelry making, and a nature walk.

The event was sponsored by RAMS, the Mental Health Services Act, and the Mental Health Board of San Francisco. For more information, please contact the Mental Health Services Act program at mhsa@sfdph.org.





2. ADULT & OLDER-ADULT (AOA) SYSTEM OF CARE

OMI Family Center Update

Staff at OMI Family Center would like the community to know that they are back at the clinic location, 1701 Ocean Avenue. The building renovations were completed and after working with SFPD facilities and IT support teams, the Center is ready to start receiving new referrals. OMI staff members have been getting feedback from the existing clients that they are very glad to be back at the Center as well. During renovation, they had to travel to different locations throughout the city to see their prescribers and therapists. BHS & OMI staff would like to thank the staff and Directors of The Behavioral Health Access Team, Mission Mental Health Clinic, Mission ACT, Chinatown North Beach Clinic, TAY; also, the CYF sites at Mission Family Center and Southeast Child/Family Therapy Center for hosting OMI Family Center clinicians, while the building was under construction. Thank you to the community for your patience and support!

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

BHS is pleased to announce Bonnie Friedman, LCSW, as the Family Centered Care Program Manager, effective December 2018. This position will oversee the two family-focused programs, L.E.G.A.C.Y. & Parent Training Institute (PTI), and work to better integrate youth and families with lived experience into the system planning, development, and implementation of family focused services. This will include training and capacity building of family systems therapists and family-focused practices across our system. In addition, this position will work collaboratively with our systems of care partners and PTI joint funders, to support access and engagement of families across our systems. Bonnie started with the City and County of San Francisco as a Social Worker within Human Services Agency in March 1999, then joined SFPD as the director of LEGACY in September 2011. Congratulations to Bonnie for her transition to this new leadership role at BHS.

Spotlight on Chinatown Child Development Center, Mission Family Center, and Project 500

Project 500 behavioral health team wrapped up the Attachment Vitamins parenting group and began planning for the implementation of a STAIRs (Skills Training in Affect and Interpersonal Regulation) group to

be rolled out in spring 2019. STAIRs focuses on skills building to support emotion regulation and healthy relationships. Project 500 began regular mental health consultation to case conferences with the Nurse Family Partnership team and staff started planning for their co-facilitation of a UCSF mini-course on addressing racial health disparities with the Expecting Justice program.

The Mission Family Center staff is grateful to Jaime Arcila, AMFT, and the San Francisco Sherriff's Department for another successful year of collaboration to obtain toys for our families during this holiday season. This collaboration was started many, many years ago by Bob Hernandez, MSW, and has been carried on by Mr. Arcila after Mr. Hernandez retired several years ago. This year Ana Magaña, Augusto Guerra, Leslie Nieves, Marta Bernal and Maureen Gammon helped to organize all the toy donations in a beautiful display and in a gender-neutral manner. It was a wonderful site to see parents and children mindfully picking out a toy to give to someone in their family. In the tradition of giving thanks – The Mission Family Center provided paper, markers and stickers for the children to write and decorate thank you notes to the Sherriff's Department as they wished.

In December, Chinatown Child Development Center participated in two main community events: 1) Staff attended the Wisdom of Nutrition press conference held at the Chinatown Public Health Center. Staff and the community at large celebrated the release of the publication "Wisdom of Nutrition." This publication highlights a nutrition column written from 2011-2018. Additionally, selected recipes were showcased at the reception immediately following the press conference. Keynote speakers at this event included Catherin Wong, MPH, Nutrition Manager at the Chinatown Public Health Center and Daniel Wong, MD, Acting Ministry Director of the Chinese Christian Herald Crusades; 2) On December 20th, the Chinatown Child Development Center held its annual holiday party for 150 consumers & their families onsite. Community donors and sponsors for the event included the San Francisco Police Department, Asian Police Officers Association, Citibank, Ng Hing Kee Bookstore and Kong Chow Family Association. Participants enjoyed entertainment and each child also received toys and gifts graciously donated by the generous sponsors. It was a successful event connecting with the clients and community, seeing the joy in the eyes of the children and families was the highlight of the day and a great way to end the year.

4. FORENSIC/JUSTICE INVOLVED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

Spotlight on Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), authorized by San Francisco's Board of Supervisors in 2014, is one of a handful of County-led programs in California to support the primary intent and purpose of the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Demonstration Project Act of 2002 (Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §§5345-5349.5)—otherwise known as "Laura's Law"—to (a) identify persons with serious mental illness who are not engaged in treatment, (b) assess if there is substantial risk for deterioration and/or involuntary detention (under WIC §5150) which could be mitigated by provision of appropriate services, and (c) petition the court to order participation in such services if the individual is not able to be successfully engaged by other means.

The San Francisco AOT Model is utilized as an intervention and engagement tool designed to assist and support individuals with serious mental illness. San Francisco's AOT program places an emphasis on promoting voluntary engagement by utilizing a strength-based and client-centered approach, as well as

accessing an individual's natural support system (i.e., family and friends). The program has been constructed to employ principles of recovery and wellness, and has a particular focus on community-based services and multiple opportunities for an individual to engage in voluntary treatment before a court order is requested. One of the hallmark features of San Francisco's program is to employ team members who provide peer and family support.

SFDPH-BHS congratulates Mr. Jose Orbeta for being honored by the County Behavioral Health Directors Association with the 2018 Storyteller Award. Jose was given the award during the CBHDA's Award Ceremony, as part of the California Behavioral Health Policy Forum, held in December, in San Francisco at the Palace Hotel. This recognition is well deserved and we wanted to take this opportunity to share Jose's journey (in his own words):

Jose Luis Orbeta has been working as a peer counselor for 6 years. He started as a volunteer group facilitator for Dual Recovery Anonymous and then was hired as a paid employee. In 2015 he joined the staff for the Hummingbird Peer Respite, the first peer run and peer created program of its kind in San Francisco funded by the MHSA. In 2017 he became a Peer Specialist/Counselor for Richmond Area Multi-Services, Inc. and in 2018 he was hired to work as a health worker for AOT. Jose has been in recovery for 7 plus years. Along the way he has had the honor of being mentored by some incredibly wise and supportive people. He has literally risen from being homeless on the streets of San Francisco to being a full-time employee at the San Francisco Department of Health. He is currently involved with helping Peers being recognized for all their accomplishments and cutting edge work. He has participated in presenting 2 separate peer based programs before the Innovations Committee that received a combined total of 5.5 million dollars in funding. His current role with AOT consists of outreaching and engaging clients and supporting them with their immediate needs. Not only supporting the clients, but also providing family members with support and education. He also supports outside agencies that deal with his clients. He feels very proud and fortunate to work for the City and County of San Francisco as a Health Worker II, as part of the Assisted Outpatient Treatment's Care Team.



5. BHS PHARMACY

Toolkit for Harm Reduction Strategies published

The College of Psychiatric & Neurologic Pharmacists (CPNP) and members of its Substance Use Disorders Committee announced the release of a resource document, Harm Reduction Strategies for People Who Inject Drugs: Considerations for Pharmacists. Authored by Chris Stock, PharmD, BCPP, Michelle Geier, PharmD, BCPP, and Kathie Nowicki, PharmD, this resource is intended to highlight what harm reduction is, services, and barriers. Michelle and Kathie are both Pharmacists working at BHS Pharmacy at 1380 Howard Street. The document provides information on the scope and impact of injection drug use and the evidence on harm reduction strategies that can be employed. Major categories of information include:

- Consequences of injection drug use
- Harm reduction services, activities, and policies
- Stigma
- Potential barriers
- Professional and policy support
- Resources, references, and data sources

Congratulations to Michelle and Kathie!

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

List of Presentations by SFDPH-BHS

The California County Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) invited SFDPH to present at the 2018 California Behavioral Health Policy Forum, held in December 2018 in San Francisco. The panel presentation was titled, *Treating Away Homelessness?*, and presenters included Karen Lancaster, LMFT, BHS Program Director of San Francisco Fully Integrated Recovery Services Team (SF FIRST), Kelly Hiramoto, LCSW, Director of Transitions Division, San Francisco Health Network, and Dr. Barry Zevin, Medical Director of Street Medicine and Shelter Health.

SFDPH-BHS presented at the recent Association for Multidisciplinary Education and Research in Substance use and Addiction (AMERSA) 42nd Annual National Conference, titled: Interdisciplinary Addiction Strategies: Discover, Prevent, Treat, Teach. The Interdisciplinary Panel Session: *Meeting the Need: Collaborative Justice and Treatment* was presented by: Lisa Lightman, MA - Collaborative Courts, San Francisco Superior Court; Angelica Almeida, PhD - SFDPH; Linda Wu, LCSW - SFDPH; Charles Houston - SFDPH; Judge Eric Fleming, JD - San Francisco Collaborative Courts.

Dr. Barry Zevin (Medical Director) and Karen Aguilar (lead peer navigator), from SFDPH, represented BHS Gender Health SF program at the 25th World Professional Association for Transgender Health Symposium, in Buenos Aires Argentina. They presented a mini-symposium "How Gender Affirming Surgery Works-Supporting Patient Choices" to a diverse international audience.

San Francisco Mayor's Disability Council has invited SFDPH-BHS to present on behavioral health services for people who are homeless. The Council meeting will be held on January 18, 2019 and BHS will provide information on mental health and substance use disorders treatment resources, the referral process to receive treatment, and then, related information on transitional/supportive housing.

Past issues of the BHS Monthly Director's Report are available at:

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oservices/mentalHlth/CBHS/CBHSdirRpts.asp>