MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION
COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
Tuesday, May 16, 2017 2:00 p.m.
101 Grove, Room 302, San Francisco, CA  94102

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present:  Commissioner David Pating, MD, Chair
Commissioner Cecilia Chung, Member
Commissioner James Loyce Jr., Member
Commissioner Edward Chow, non-voting guest

The meeting was called to order at 2:04pm.

2) APPROVAL OF APRIL 18, 2017 COMMUNITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES

Action Taken:  The minutes were unanimously approved.

3) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UPDATE

Kavoos Ghane Bassiri, Director, gave the update.

Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Pating stated that the Committee will be reviewing information regarding the San Francisco Health Network Behavioral Health section over several meetings through the year so the Health Commission can better understand the mental health service system.

Commissioner Pating asked if the MediCal and MHSA audits had been completed. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that the SFDPH was audited by both entities and did very well.

Commissioner Pating asked how many clients are within the total San Francisco health service system. Dr. Alice Chen, Chief Medical Officer of SFHN, stated that there are 136,000 individuals served within the system.
Commissioner Loyce asked whether the 7,395 substance use clients overlap with those receiving mental health services. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that the two groups of clients are distinct within the data systems.

Commissioner Chung asked for clarification on how substance use services are defined and captured in the data. Dr. Chen stated that any SFHN patient may receive substance use services in any part of the system in which they access services such as one of the hospitals or a primary care clinic. She noted that not all substance use services are captured in the system.

Commissioner Chow asked if dual diagnosis clients would be listed in both Mental Health and Substance Use data. Dr. Chen stated that there are programs that target dual diagnosis patients but the data system does not currently capture all the overlapping services for this population.

Commissioner Pating asked if stigma is a contributing factor to the disparities in Asian youth/adults and Latina adults. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that stigma is a general issue but many programs have been designed to combat stigma by being embedded in other socially acceptable settings such as schools or community centers.

Commissioner Pating asked if full school partnership (FSP) service data is contained in AVATAR. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that FSP data is in AVATAR and noted that these services sometimes address the highest level of need.

Commissioner Pating asked how the SFHN is handling access for behavioral health issues. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that SFHN adheres to the law mandating service access within 48 hours of a request.

Commissioner Pating asked if data is being collected to track the amount of time it takes from a request for service until the intake appointment. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that data is tracked from the time of contact until services are received.

Commissioner Pating asked if there is a sub-acute day hospital service option. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that there is a one-day treatment program through the Progress Foundation; he added that the SFDPH may have multiple outpatient service contacts with a patient until an inpatient option can be found if needed.

Commissioner Pating asked if AVATAR tracks clients from the provision of crisis services to stabilizing care. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that AVATAR tracks services throughout the mental health service system.

Commissioner Pating requested data on:
- Number of behavioral health referrals made to SFHN
- Number of referrals resulting in provision of services
- Percentage of clients completing services
- Percentage of clients who drop out of services before completion with a breakdown of reasons why services were not completed (e.g. AWOL, health issues)

Commissioner Pating asked how well the SFHN is able to transfer patients to community based providers when appropriate. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that his assessment is that this process is done well by the SFHN.

Commissioner Chow asked for clarification on which entities fund school wellness centers. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that school wellness centers can be funded through the General Fund, DCYF, SFUSD, and MHSA.

Commissioner Pating asked how the SFDPH responds if there is a shooting or traumatic event at a school. Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that the SFDPH has a comprehensive crisis counseling team and that the school system also has counselors who can offer grief services.
Commissioner Chung asked if the transition of clients from residential treatment program to community housing would be the responsibility of the treatment program. Kelly Hiramoto, Director of Transitions, stated that the community discharge plan would be the responsibility of the treatment program.

Commissioner Chung asked how the service system handles veteran’s mental health needs. Marcellina Ogbu, SFHN Deputy Director, stated that veterans are encouraged to access services through the Veterans Administration. If an individual does not wish to access these services, the SFDPH services system provides services.

Commissioner Loyce noted that the service system is much more robust and responsive to the community needs than when he was working as a crisis counselor several decades ago.

Commissioner Chow requested a review of data showing client outcomes and data indicating the percentage of clients completing services and recidivism.

Commissioner Chow noted that in the presentation, the graphs show that after a 180-day stay in a residential program, there is no clear line to the community. He also asked for more information regarding how clients being discharged from residential substance treatment programs are integrated into the SFHN primary care system.

Commissioner Chung asked for information regarding the number of clients that also participate in substance use services, drug court, and the SFDPH Assisted Outpatient Treatment program which was developed in response to “Laura’s Law.” Mr. Ghane Bassiri stated that he can provide this information at a future meeting.

Commissioner Pating requested that the next presentation include the slide listing the categories of behavioral health services with the number of clients in each type of service.

Commissioner Pating stated that in a future presentation, he would like to hear more information on:

- Gaps in outpatient intensive case management
- Linkage of substance use services with mental health services
- Placement in the community after participation in a residential substance treatment program
- Integration of individuals leaving residential substance use or mental health treatment into SFHN primary care
- Behavioral Health True North metrics once they are developed

4) RESOLUTION: IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSED BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ORDINANCE PROHIBITING THE SALE OF MENTHOL AND OTHER FLAVORED TOBACCO PRODUCTS IN SAN FRANCISCO

Derek Smith, Director, Tobacco Free Project, presented the item.

Commissioner Comments:
Commissioner Chung asked if the resolution is comprehensive enough to cover all the current tobacco products including e-cigarettes. Mr. Smith stated that the resolution is inclusive of all current tobacco products. Colleen Chawla, Deputy Director of Health and Director of Policy and Planning stated that the proposed Health Commission resolution supports the resolution that will be considered by the BOS.

Commissioner Chow asked why menthol was left out of previous tobacco-related laws. Mr. Smith stated that the Tobacco industry lobbied against the inclusion on menthol in previous legal efforts. He noted that when San Francisco passed its previous tobacco use law, e-cigarettes were not yet developed.

Commissioner Chow suggested that the resolution combine menthol related clauses to better explain the history of why this substance was left out of previous laws and the reasons it is dangerous.
Commissioner Pating asked how the SFDPH has interacted with Supervisor Cohen’s office on this draft resolution. Ms. Chawla stated that Supervisor Cohen is interested in hearing the Health Commission’s comments and support of the resolution.

Commissioner Pating requested that the resolution include a history of previous Health Commission actions on tobacco products.

Commissioner Chung asked if there is any effort on a state level to increase taxes on tobacco products. Mr. Smith stated that California voted in a steep increase in tobacco cigarettes and a new e-cigarette tax will take effect this summer.

**Action Taken:** The Committee unanimously recommended that the Health Commission approve the resolution.

5) **EMERGING ISSUES**
This item was not discussed.

6) **PUBLIC COMMENT**
There was no public comment for this item.

7) **ADJOURNMENT**
The meeting was adjourned at 3:54pm.