

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
Youth & Family Committee Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)

1911 Williams Dr, Training Room (first floor) · Oxnard, CA 93036

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Wednesday, December 14, 2022, 10:00AM – 11:30AM

Members Present:

Michael Rodriguez

Gina Petrus

Melissa Hannah

Regina Reed

Dr. Danielle Shaw

Carole Shelton

Cheryl Heitmann

Guests:

Alex Rodriguez, VCPA

Victoria Placencia, Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Clarisa Cajiau, Spanish Interpreter

Rachel Pletcher, Kids & Families Together

Susan Guffee, Seneca Ventura Crisis Services

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Staff Present:

Cynthia Salas, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity, Equity Services Manager

Greg Bergan, MHSA Program Administrator

Jennifer Dougherty, Youth & Family Division, Sr. Manager

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:02AM by Michael Rodriguez, who chaired this meeting on behalf of Chair Kevin Clerici. The Spanish interpreter, Clarisa Cajiau, introduced herself and provided instruction on the interpretation services.
- II. **Roll Call** – Ms. De Leon confirmed a quorum through roll call.
- III. **Approval of the Agenda** – The Behavioral Health Advisory Board Youth and Family Committee Agenda for December 14, 2022, was approved (Heitmann/Shelton/Passed). It was motioned to approve as written carried by majority vote through roll call.
- IV. **Approval of the October 12, 2022, Minutes** – The Behavioral Health Advisory Board Youth and Family committee minutes for October 12, 2022, were approved (Petrus/Shelton/Passed). The minutes were motioned to approve as written carried by majority vote through roll call.
- V. **Welcome and Introductions** – All members in the meeting introduced themselves.
- VI. **Chair Announcements** – No announcements were received by Chair Kevin Clerici.
- VII. **Public Comments** – No public comments were made.
- VIII. **Contracts Review (September & October 2022)** – No comments were made, and Mr. Rodriguez asked all members to review the contracts. Any questions or concerns that arise should be addressed at the next Youth & Family meeting.
- IX. **Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Youth & Family Division Updates:**
 - A. **Youth & Family Division** – Ms. Dougherty provided an update for the Youth & Family Division on behalf of Cheryl Fox. In November, members of the Youth and Family leadership team along with other youth serving based organizations, attended the Integrated Core Practice Model Action Summit. It is another step into integrating and

expanding the wellness system. The integrated core practice model is a model of shared values and approaches amongst agencies that are serving youth and cross systems. On November 1st, 2022, Youth and Family, the Adult Division, Substance Use, Leadership and Beacon Health Options co-presented the Mental Health Continuum training. The presentation highlights access to treatment, services available, crisis response information, and community support. A clinician from the Child Welfare subsystem facilitated a training to a new cohort of children and family services social workers on mental health issues and the referral process for mental health services. Lastly, the division continues to receive trainings on evidence-based practice and seeking safety, the goal is to implement groups and have a robust offering of evidence-based treatment.

B. Mental Health Services Act – Mr. Bergan provided an update for Mental Health Services Act on behalf of Hilary Carson. MHSA will be hosting an additional community planning process meeting. At the meeting they will be reviewing the results of the Ventura County Community Health Needs Assessment. The event will take place Wednesday, December 21st from 6PM to 7:30PM at Mountain Vista School, 918 5th St. Filmore, CA. For any questions, please email at mhsa@ventura.org or call (805) 558-4765. Ongoing, this will be the 4th in person meeting as part of their community planning process for the Mental Health Services Act regulations. Mr. Rodriguez, Ms. Shelton, and Ms. Petrus asked Mr. Bergan if they could please keep in mind to add more outreach for the East County.

X. Committee Members' Comments, Activities, Updates – Ms. Reed shared Selfa is planning on having their Agency 101 on February 15th from 1PM to 4PM in person. March 9th, 2023, from 8:30AM to 3:30PM is their annual Carpe Diem conference. Mr. Rodriguez asked Ms. Reed to please send the information or flyers to be distributed amongst the committee. Ms. Hannah shared United Parents is hosting their in-person support groups. They started their Spanish only support group at Turning Point Wellness Center in Oxnard in November and it has been a great success. They are starting another support group in Santa Clara Valley, they will be hosting in person support groups in Santa Paula and Filmore, and they will be hosting English support groups as well. Ms. Shelton shared Rainbow is on their second day community gift program for individuals 0-12 and they offer gifts to families that need them. On Monday, December 12th, was the Oxnard event, December 14th is their Simi Valley event and December 16th will be their Filmore event. Ms. Reed shared Selfa will be doing a presentation on January 25th in English and January 26th in Spanish on parent's rights from 4PM to 5PM. They are

also offering a parent NCPI training, it will be taking place January 25th from 8:30AM to 3PM at the Conference Center, she will be sending out the flyers as well. Ms. Salas asked if there are any trainings or workshop opportunities, to please inform her therefore she can share at other community meetings. Ms. Hannah also shared there will be an event in Thousand Oaks, Ventura County Sherriff's Possie Sending Horses for Kids Program, on December 18th at the Auto Center from 10AM to 12:30PM. Ms. Placencia shared Mothers Against Drunk Driving will be having their signature fundraising event, Walk Like Mad, it will be for the tri-counties area at the Ventura Promenade on March 18th, 2023.

- XI. Items for the Next Meeting Agenda** – Any requests can be forwarded to Chair Kevin Clerici and bhabadmin@ventura.org. Ms. Shelton requested a real thorough understanding of how individuals with autism are deemed eligible for services. She believes it could be 3 installment presentation. Mr. Rodriguez stated they will get in contact regarding her request.

- XII. Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:03AM by Mr. Rodriguez, chairing on behalf of Chair Kevin Clerici.

Ventura County Behavioral Health
Board Letter Summary of Contracts for September 2022

Board Date	Contractor	Amount	Term	Description
9/13/2022	California Health and Human Services Agency	\$0	Effective January 31, 2023	Data Sharing Agreement with the California Health and Human Services Agency. The California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) Behavioral Health Quality Improvement Program (BHQIP) is a California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) incentive payment program to support Mental Health Plans (MHP), Managed Care Plans (MCP), Drug Medi-Cal State Plans (DMC), and Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery Systems (DMC-ODS) to prepare for changes to the delivery and payment of mental health and related services as part of the implementation of the CalAIM initiative and other Newsom Administration priorities. Under the CalAIM BHQIP, VCBH is eligible for a portion of the incentive payments provided that VCBH achieves certain milestones related to its ability to exchange client and patient data for the implementation of CalAIM. In order to receive 100% of the available CalAIM BHQIP incentive funds, VCBH must demonstrate that it has begun to improve its data exchange capabilities by September 30, 2022, specifically by preparing and executing a data sharing agreement that commits VCBH to sharing certain records and information through an electronic health record system that meets certain operability standards. In recent communication with DHCS regarding how to fulfill the requirements of this milestone, DHCS informed VCBH that it must specifically sign the Data Exchange Framework DSA established by CalHHS. The Data Exchange Framework DSA was developed by CalHHS, DHCS, and other stakeholders in response to state legislation requiring, among other things, improved data exchange between MHPs, MCPs, DMCs, and DMC-ODSs. The DSA is intended to facilitate data exchange between the participants in compliance with applicable federal, state, and local health privacy laws and regulations, including but not limited to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), federal law governing the confidentiality of substance use disorder records, and Welfare and Institutions Code section 5328. The goal is to prepare a single data sharing agreement that establishes a common set of policies and procedures that governs the exchange of health information among California MHPs, MCPs, DMCs, and DMC-ODSs for the implementation of CalAIM. There is no fiscal impact for this Agreement.
9/20/2022	DHCS	\$0	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2027	Standard Agreement with DHCS for the Provision of Specialty Mental Health Services to Medi-Cal Beneficiaries. VCBH is designated as Ventura County's local mental health plan (MHP) administrator by DHCS and is responsible for providing or arranging for the provision of specialty mental health services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries in Ventura County. The Standard Agreement with DHCS specifies the federal and state requirements that VCBH must meet to participate as a MHP and be reimbursed for all medically necessary covered services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries. The Standard Agreement includes terms and conditions related to: (1) scope of services, (2) financial requirements, (3) management information systems, (4) quality improvement system, (5) utilization management program, (6) access and availability of resources, (7) provider network, (8) documentation requirements, (9) coordination of continuity of care, (10) information requirements, (11) beneficiary problem resolution, (12) program integrity, (13) reporting requirements, (14) peer support services, (15) budget and payment provisions, and (16) other general terms and conditions related to the services. New terms and conditions incorporated into the Standard Agreement include: (1) criteria for beneficiaries to access specialty mental health services, (2) provisions and guidelines for the delivery of Medi-Cal peer support services, (3) MEDSLITE Access account and data management requirements, and (4) additional electronic and IT accessibility non-discrimination requirements. There is no change to the amount of the Standard Agreement; it remains at zero dollars. DHCS determined that this amount made the most sense because the funding that is used to pay for specialty mental health services flows through different payment mechanisms (realignment distributions and estimated total cost of the Federal Financial Participation); the Standard Agreement is not the method by which those funds are paid to counties. In addition, the zero dollar amount eliminates the need for future amendments to change funding amounts based on actual or estimated expenditures. There is no fiscal impact for this Agreement.
9/20/2022	Dennis M. Giroux & Associates, Inc. (DMG)	\$466,924	July 1, 2022 through January 31, 2023	Eighth Amendment to the Agreement with DMG for the Provision of DMC-ODS Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Services. DMG provides outpatient DMC-ODS SUD treatment services to adults involved in the criminal justice system at various locations in Ventura County, including Oxnard, Ventura, and the Todd Road County Jail as well as in the Juvenile Justice Facility. DMG is also completing contingency management pilot program start up services for VCBH for Medi-Cal beneficiaries with stimulant use disorder. DMG uses the following evidence-based practices: matrix, seeking safety, and moral reconnection therapy. In April 2022, VCBH conducted a site review audit of DMG to review their FY 2021-22 program, utilization review, fiscal, staffing, and physical plant operations. The site review process, designed to ensure that DMG is in compliance with the requirements specified in the contract and all applicable Federal, State, and local regulations, resulted DMG being issued a Corrective Action Plan (CAP) that identified various issues that require remediation. Because of these issues, VCBH limited its FY 2022-23 extension of its contract with DMG to a three-month term, specifically July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022, pending review and finalization of the site review audit CAP. VCBH requires additional time to complete its review and finalize the DMG site review audit CAP process. The Eighth Amendment extends the agreement with DMG at existing terms for an additional four months ending January 31, 2023 and increases the maximum agreement amount accordingly to allow VCBH to complete its review and audit process. This agreement is funded by Drug Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (DMC FFP), Realignment, AB 109 funds and DHCS BHQIP funds.

Ventura County Behavioral Health
Board Letter Summary of Contracts for October 2022

Board Date	Contractor	Amount	Term	Description
10/4/2022	Telecare Corporation (Telecare)	\$833,245	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	Sixth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare for Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Services (Vista/XP2/XP3 Program). Telecare provides ACT program services to Ventura Innovative Services Telecare ACT (VISTA) (XP2/XP3) adult consumers who have been released from local jails. These individuals receive community-based support to ensure independent living and wellness. ACT services include: mental health treatment, psychiatric care and management, medication education, alcohol and other substance abuse treatment, life skills training, vocational training and counseling, advocacy regarding criminal justice, social services, social security issues, and linkage with peer support programs, wellness and recovery centers, and housing supports. The FY 2022-23 Sixth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare increases the maximum contract amount by \$33,312 to a new not to exceed amount of \$833,245. This increase is due to the addition of a Peer Support Specialist (.48 Full Time Equivalent (FTE)) and a Medical Records Technician (.24 FTE). Peer Support Services have been approved by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for Medi-Cal reimbursement and are being incorporated into this agreement to align with the Full-Service Partnership (FSP) model. This agreement is funded with Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and Short Doyle/Medi-Cal Federal Financial Participation (SD/MC FFP) funding.
10/4/2022	Telecare	\$902,976	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare for ACT Services (Voice/AB109 ACT Program). Telecare provides ACT services to Assembly Bill (AB) 109 parolee consumers who have significant mental health and/or alcohol and drug issues that require treatment in order to live safely and productively in the community and reduce recidivism. ACT services include: mental health treatment, psychiatric care and management, medication education, alcohol and other substance abuse treatment, life skills training, vocational training and counseling, advocacy regarding criminal justice, social services, and social security issues, and linkage with peer support programs, wellness and recovery centers, and housing supports. Treatment needs fall into two main categories. The first category includes individuals who require high intensity ACT model wrap around support services, such as intensive case management, medication, crisis intervention, and housing/life skills support. These services are available 24/7 and 365 days per year using a "whatever it takes" approach. The second category includes individuals who require low intensity services (ACT-lite), such as case management and medication management. The FY 2022-23 Fifth Amendment to the Agreement with Telecare increases the maximum contract amount by \$36,888 to a new not to exceed amount of \$902,976. This increase is due to the addition of a Peer Support Specialist (.52 FTE) and a Medical Records Technician (.26 FTE). Peer Support Services were recently approved by DHCS for Medi-Cal reimbursement and are being incorporated into this agreement to align with the FSP model. This agreement is funded with AB 109 and SD/MC FFP funding.
10/4/2022	Ventura County Local Education Agencies (LEA) (Various)	\$0	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Template Between Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) and Various LEA for Educationally Related Social Emotional Services (ERSES). On June 30, 2011, Assembly Bill No. 114 (2010-2011 Reg. Sess.) was signed into law. Under AB 114, several sections of Chapter 26.5 of the California Government Code were amended or rendered inoperative. This ended the state mandate on county mental health agencies to provide mental health services to students with disabilities. These services were provided to special education students via the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process, and may have included such things as individual or small group counseling, collateral services, medication monitoring, case management, and residential care. Since that time, school districts and the Ventura County Special Education Local Plan Area (SELPA) have been solely responsible for ensuring that students with disabilities receive the special education and related services needed to address their social, emotional, and behavioral needs, in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and pursuant to Education Code sections 56195 et seq. and 56205. VCOE SELPA was designated for direct receipt and distribution of funds, provision of administrative support, and coordination of implementation of the local special education plan, pursuant to Education Code section 56195.1(c)(2). Because it was designated the local agency responsible for special education and related services, during this time VCOE SELPA contracted directly with VCBH for the provision of ERSES to students with an IEP in the various LEAs (schools and school districts) within Ventura County. ERSES services may include, but are not limited to, assessments, individual therapy, group therapy, collateral services, case management, and other mental health services. Due to a recent change in law, VCOE SELPA is no longer the local agency that directly receives funding from the State for the provision of ERSES to students. Funding for these services is now channeled directly to each LEA in Ventura County. The MOU template will be used to contract with each LEA moving forward to facilitate the provision of ERSES and invoice the LEAs for costs not covered by SD/MC FFP or other insurance coverage. The MOU delineates the roles and responsibilities of each party to the MOU and clarifies processes such as invoicing and payment. All LEAs served under these MOU's will have access to bilingual and bicultural staff to meet the needs of the client population served. The source of funding for these MOU's is SD/MC FFP and LEA funding.
10/11/2022	Turning Point Foundation (TPF)	\$476,112	July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023	Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with TPF Thompson Place for Augmented Board and Care Services. The TPF Thompson Place facility provides augmented board and care services for adults ages 18 to 59 with serious and persistent mental illness that has resulted in significant functional impairments requiring 24-hour care and supervision. In July 2022, VCBH negotiated a three-month extension (July 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022) of the TPF Thompson Place Agreement to allow VCBH additional time to review and analyze the TPF Thompson Place budget and to negotiate with TPF a more complete extension of the Agreement. The Fourth Amendment to the Agreement with TPF Thompson Place: (1) extends the term of the agreement through June 30, 2023, (2) increases the number of beds from of 20 to 26 beds for VCBH clients, (3) adds two (2.0) full time equivalent (FTE) Care and Supervisor Techs, (4) increases the rate per client/per month from \$1,305 to \$1,526 for augmented board and care services, and (5) increases the maximum contract amount from \$345,200 to \$476,112 (an increase of \$130,912) for the service period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The source of funding for this Agreement is Tobacco Settlement, 1991 Realignment (Trust N520-717C), and MHSA funds.
10/11/2022	Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC)	\$7,619,314	September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2026	Second Amendment to the Mental Health Student Services Act (MHSSA) Round Three Grant Agreement with the MHSOAC. On June 17, 2022, VCBH submitted an application to the MHSOAC for \$11,623,393 in additional MHSSA Round Three grant funding to fund the expansion of Wellness Centers to several school locations within Ventura County, using the VCOE Wellness Center model. The additional funding would have allowed VCOE, through an existing MOA with VCBH, to expand existing services within all their Wellness Centers, add high school Wellness Centers, hire additional staff, and expand into two (2) new School Districts (Conejo Valley and Oak Park). On July 6, 2022, the MHSOAC approved VCBH's grant application and awarded VCBH \$1,619,384 in additional Wellness Center funding. The Second Amendment to the MHSSA grant Agreement with the MHSOAC provides VCBH with \$1,619,384 in additional Wellness Center services funding increasing the existing agreement amount from \$5,999,930 to \$7,619,314 and extends the effective date of the existing MHSSA grant agreement an additional one year and four months, for a new term of September 1, 2020 through December 31, 2026. The source of funding for this Agreement is the MHSSA Grant.