

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
PREVENTION COMMITTEE
MINUTES - Tuesday, July 13, 2021**

<p>Members Present</p> <p>Janis Gardner, Chair BHAB Prevention Committee Chris Tejada, BHAB Claudia Armann, BHAB Erik Sternad, BHAB, Interface Children & Family Services (ICFS) Jesse Finkbeiner, BHAB Liz Warren, BHAB Patricia Mowlavi, BHAB Ratan Bhavnani, BHAB Chris Ridge, Ventura County Office of Education (VCOE) Cynthia Bautista-Rodriguez Ezequiel Sanchez Herman Corteza, Pacific Clinics Jennifer Morrison Katherine Kasmir, Reality Improv Connection - BRITE Lisa West Mark Stadler, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Scott Walker, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Theresa Plante, Casa Pacifica Vanessa Cortez, Pacific Clinics' TAY Tunnel</p>	<p>Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Managers/Staff Present</p> <p>Dr. Loretta Denering, SUS – Division Chief Allison Adam, SUS – Management Assistant to SUS Division Chief Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky, MHSA Sr. Manager Annastasia Flores, Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Program Dan Hicks, Manager, Substance Use Services (SUS) Prevention Cari Kawell, Substance Use Services (SUS) Prevention Greg Bergan, MHSA Program Administrator - Data Joanna Peterson, VCBH Administrative Division, Zoom Engineer Lorena Suarez, Interpreter, Homeland Language Services</p> <p>NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, September 14, 2021, 3:15 – 4:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Others Present</p> <p>Gail C. Parker, Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) Administration, Operation Engage Program</p>	<p>Ventura County Behavioral Health 1911 Williams Drive, Oxnard, CA 93036</p> <p>Zoom link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85118862194?pwd=ZmwwRVQ1cDNRY2pFQ1kwcHA3Y0VyUT09</p> <p>Meeting ID: 851 1886 2194 Password: 332632</p> <p>Dial-in: 669 900 9128</p>
<p>Note: The committee has not yet approved these minutes. There may be additions/deletions or corrections before the minutes are accepted in final form.</p>	

	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE
I.	Call to Order Chair Gardner called the meeting to order at 3:17 p.m.		
II.	Welcome and Introductions Chair. Gardner welcomed everyone. Joanna Peterson, Zoom Engineer, read the Meeting instructions. Roll call was completed by Chair Gardner by using the attendee list from the May 11, 2021 Minutes.		
III.	Approval of the Agenda Ms. Gardner asked the Committee to review and approve the July 13, 2021 agenda. The motion approved with the following amendment: The Time Certain Presentation was moved to directly follow New Business.	The agenda was approved as amended. M/S/C	Motion: Jesse Finkbeiner Second: Mark Stadler
IV.	Approval of the Minutes Ms. Gardner asked the committee to review and approve the minutes of the May 11, 2021 meeting. The motion carried unanimously through roll call.	The minutes were approved as written. M/S/C	Motion: Claudia Armann Second: Patricia Mowlavi

<p>V.</p>	<p>Chair Announcements Chair Gardner shared the following items that included:</p> <p>Announcement of the upcoming virtual Suicide Prevention Conference entitled, <i>“Conversations About Suicide Help & Hope.”</i> This event will be held Thursday, September 23, 2021.</p> <p>The Cause Action Fund is having a virtual Cause Action Leadership Awards reception on Sunday, August 1, 2021.</p> <p>CA State Senator, Henry Stern, representing Senate District 27, has two mental health bills which recently passed in the Senate – these include SB284 - <i>“Mental Health Care for 1st Responders Act”</i> that furthers efforts to destigmatize post-traumatic stress injuries and quell suicide rates among 911 operators, law enforcement, fire-fighters; and, SB317 - <i>“Reforming Mental Healthcare and Jail for Incompetent Defendants”</i> that tackles one element of the mental health crisis behind the walls of our penal system by allowing defendants deemed incompetent to obtain credit for time served in mental health treatment facilities not just their time in jail.</p> <p>The Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project, “MICOP” is doing a backpack drive for school-aged children. They are accepting financial donations, backpacks, and all school supplies. For more information, please contact Jessica Brandon at 805.329.1584.</p> <p>At a recent BHAB Executive Meeting, it was announced that VCBH Contracts will send a summary of all Ventura County Board of Supervisors (BOS) approved contractual agreements to all BHAB Committees for their review and discussion about what services are being provided.</p>		
<p>VI.</p>	<p>Public Comments</p> <p>A. Erik Sternad, Interface Children & Family Services (ICFS), gave a quick overview about the new Community Information Exchange (CIE) project that is just beginning. A CIE is a next generation, social services coordination project that seeks to link different systems and providers together with a common technology platform. This should enable the Ventura County Community, to do much better coordination of care for consumers who are coming to ICFS, Ventura County and other CBO’s and health systems who are engaged with Law Enforcement. This will help to seamlessly link services together and to case manage them better. The goal is to reduce implication and get at issues earlier so that collective efforts can be more effective.</p> <p>CIE projects are starting to pop up across the country. There are probably about 12 to 15 good efforts going on across the U.S., including San Diego, who has the best example of a CIE in operation on the West Coast.</p> <p>Through some COVID-related funding that has come in through the Ventura County Public Health (VCPH) Department, there is a committee overseen by Erin Slack, VCPH, called the “Ventura County Community Health Improvement Collaborative.” This group has been looking at developing ways to do coordination including a CIE. Ms. Slack received support from her leadership and the Ventura County CEO’s office who set-aside almost \$5 million from new funding to be able to develop a CIE in Ventura County.</p> <p>B. Jennifer Morrison mentioned that she was looking forward to the July BHAB PC Meeting Time Certain Presentation to be presented by Mark Stadler, CIT, as relates to the laws that have changed since 2019. Ms. Morrison expressed interest in finding out what Law Enforcement Officers can do with 5150’s and getting people into the care that they need.</p>		
<p>VII.</p>	<p>BHAB Prevention Committee Member Comments None.</p>		
<p>VIII.</p>	<p>Provider and Stakeholder Comments None.</p>		
<p>IX.</p>	<p>Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Staff Updates</p> <p>A. Anna Flores, VCBH SUS - DUI, mentioned that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DUI programs continue and recently have had two unexpected virtual audits. One of the clinics had only 1 finding which in any year is remarkable. The particular year that was under review had a staff commitment to excellence, performance and documentation. • The DUI Program is serving 1694 active clients via tele-health across the 5 clinics. They are working closely with the Ventura County Courts to collaborate in making sure that they are addressing the clients that failed to enroll during 2020. 		

IX.	<p>Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Staff Updates (continued)</p> <p>B. Dr. Jamie Rotnofsky, MHSA, announced that the Suicide Prevention Council Meeting meets every other month with a recent date change to August 4th – the 1st Wednesday of every other month from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. This Council is a gathering of many community leaders and peers that come together to discuss suicide prevention efforts within Ventura County.</p> <p>C. Greg Bergan, MHSA/Prevention Early Intervention (PEI), shared these updates about the MHSA funded, non-clinical PEI programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since last fiscal year just ended, PEI is busy collecting the data for the year and with that data, they will be working on their annual report. • MHSA PEI is looking forward to starting FY 2021-22 with their providers. They will be able to share their evaluation review with them. It is also posted to the MHSA/PEI website. <p>D. Dan Hicks, Manager, SUS – Prevention Services, mentioned multiple items that included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention is entering the final year of its 5-year Strategic Prevention Plan (SPP). • Mr. Hicks thanked the participants in the BHAB Prevention Committee who participated in the Prevention Qualitative Research Project. The efforts of the BHAB PC help inform the long-term planning for the next SPP in addition to their service utilization data and the COAST project information and other data sources. • Mr. Hicks added that methamphetamine has never really gone away. In fact, there has been a resurgence in levels and purity of use even though Prevention has been focusing upstream on young adults in terms of the “Meth: Don’t Buy the Lie” campaign. • Also mentioned was the “Community Connections” newsletter and that in the Ventura County community, Prevention has billboard, audio and video messaging. There is also messaging that targets young adults in different ways and on different platforms. For more information, visit: www.talkingaboutmeth.org that also links into the www.venturacountylimits.org website. 		
X.	<p>Old Business None.</p>		
XI.	<p>New Business - Future Presentations Chair Gardner asked that a presentation about the Wellness Centers be presented in the coming months.</p> <p>Erik Sternad, ICFS, volunteered to do an upcoming presentation about the new Ventura County Community Information Exchange project.</p> <p>Anna Flores mentioned that historically, September is “Recovery Happens” month, and proposed that the next Time Certain Presentation be on the topic of Substance Use and Prevention.</p>		
XII.	<p>Time Certain Presentation – Mark Stadler, Program Administrator, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program presented, “CIT Program Update”</p> <p>Mr. Stadler gave an overview of the Ventura County CIT Program that included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agencies that financially support the VC CIT program are the Sheriff’s Office, Ventura PD, Oxnard PD, Port Hueneme PD, Santa Paula PD, Simi Valley PD and Ventura County Behavioral Health. • Agencies that partner with the VC CIT Program include NAMI, CSUCI PD, Community Colleges, the VC Fire Department, the VC Naval Base, CHP, State Parks, Lake Casitas, District Attorney Investigators and the FBI. • CIT began in Memphis, Tennessee in 1988, after an officer involved shooting; and, then, in Ventura County before 2001. • The mission of the VC CIT program is to develop partnerships with mental health consumers and their family members, and other agencies and organizations. • CIT officers will respond to individuals who are in a crisis as a result of a mental health disorder and shall assess and assist those individuals in the most effective and compassionate manner possible. • It is the policy of Ventura County law enforcement agencies to utilize CIT officers in calls-for-service involving known or suspected mentally ill individuals when the officer(s) are available, and circumstances are appropriate. 		

<p>XII.</p>	<p>Time Certain Presentation – Mark Stadler, Program Administrator, Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Program presented, “CIT Program Update” (continued)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Law Enforcement goals of the CIT program are to de-escalate crisis situations; reduce the necessity for use-of-force; reduce the use-of-force; decrease recidivism; facilitate the empowerment of mentally ill individuals by increasing their lawful self-reliance and health-enhancing behaviors. • The CIT Program trains the following to respond to mental health crises: police officers, firefighters, paramedics, mental health workers (therapists, doctors, etc.) and more. • Police officers are available 24/7, arrive on the scene first, and can handle someone who is aggressively out of control. • Law Enforcement receive CIT Training because as First Responders they assess and stabilize people; demystify mental illness and reduce anxiety; connect people to resources and are available in addition to limited Crisis Team availability. • NIMH estimates that 4.2% of the American population has a serious mental illness. • NIMH estimates that nearly 1 in 5 Americans will suffer from some form of mental illness in their lifetime. • 1 in 5 people held in America’s prisons and jails have a recent history of mental illness. • 7 in 10 youth in the juvenile justice systems have at least one mental health disorder. • Officers contact approximately 1500 adults with mental health issues in a year and 250 children. • Every 24 hours in Ventura County, Law Enforcement will contact 4 adults in a mental health crisis; contact 1 child in a mental health crisis, and, take 3 adults and/or children to a hospital for psychiatric needs. • The most common crisis related behaviors are suicidal talk (41%), severe, depressed mood, crying, anxiety, bizarre behavior, agitation and pacing, absurd & illogical thinking/speech. • More facts were shared about people in crisis that included: 15% are homeless, 10% have a weapon. • After an officer contacts someone with mental illness, 59% are transported to psych/ER; 40% are contacted only and 1% are arrested. • 5150/5585 situations are qualified when a person is the following: a danger to themselves, a danger to others and gravely disabled. Holds are placed for 72 hours and include application, re-evaluation by a mental health professional, voluntary conversion and transportation to an ER. • An officer considers making an arrest of someone that has mental illness when the person has a mental health history of infractions, misdemeanors, felonies, serious crimes, the victim’s desire for prosecution, the use of a weapon, the likeliness that the behavior will repeat in the immediate future if they are released, and the availability of mental health services. • 88% of the contacts result in verbalization only versus use-of-force. CIT Officers are less likely to use force and approximately 3x more likely to have “contact only” and approximately 2x less likely to use jail. • CIT Academies are 40-hr classes, held 2-3 times a year and have 50 students maximum per class. • There have been 54 CIT Academies since 2001, 1900+ have been trained since 2001 which include more than 90% Patrol Officers, 50% Custody Personnel, 76% ALL Officers, 67% Dispatchers. • Other CIT Training includes: Basic Academy Training – MIDD, Use of Force/De-escalation and OIS; an 8-hr CIT Update/Refresher; and, a 4-hour Autism Training and a Briefing training. • CIT Training also includes Tactical Disengagement, which is the decision to leave, delay contact, delay custody, and, plan for re-engagement at a future time. This tactic should be considered when an officer reasonably believes continued contact may result in an unreasonable risk to the person in crisis, the public and/or members of this agency. • More information about the Ventura County CIT Program can be obtained by calling: (805) 383-4806 and/or by email at: VenturaCo.CIT@ventura.org 		
<p>XIII.</p>	<p>Adjourn The meeting adjourned at 4:34 p.m.</p>		