

STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH
Behavioral Health Administration
Department of Health, State of Hawaii

Kinau Hale Board Room, 1st Floor
April 12, 2016, 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Members Present: **Crum, Louise; Dang, Psy.D., Cynthia; Daraban, Charlene; Foard, Susan; Kaneshiro, Iris; Koyanagi, M.D., Chad; Lyons, Frances (Elaine); Minami, Theresa; Simms, Sandra; Vorsino, Psy.D., Marie; Wilcox, APRN, Noelani.**

Members Absent:

Members Excused: **Arendorf, M.D. Alfred; Calcagno, Sheila; Durant, Mike; Mansfield, Haaheo; Rocchio, Christopher; Shimabukuro, Ph.D., Scott**

Guests Present: **Bolan, Angela; Collesano, Robert; Ito, Gordon; Gustilo, Mardelle; Peralta, Jimmy; Shannessy, Mitchell.**

Staff Present: **Clarke, Judith; Cooper, Rei; Fallin, Lynn; Fridovich, Ph.D., M.P.A., Mark; Hiraga-Nuccio, Madeleine; Nazareno, Jocelyn; Subica, Crystal; Tom, Trina.**

AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION	RECOMMENDATIONS/ACTIONS /CONCLUSIONS	PERSON(S) RESPONSIBLE	DATE DUE
1. Call To Order	Dr. Marie Vorsino, 1 st Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m. and quorum was established.		M. Vorsino, 1 st Vice Chair	
2. Review of Minutes	The minutes for March 8, 2016 were reviewed and approved by Council members with a correction to add Dr. Cynthia Dang’s credentials (Psy.D) to her name. Ms. Crum moved to approve the minutes and Ms. Susan Foard seconded.	<u>Action:</u> With no objections, a motion to approve the March minutes was carried unanimously.		
3. Community Input	None.			
4. Parity Law and Mental Health in Hawaii	Mr. Gordon Ito, Hawaii Insurance Commissioner, gave a brief history/summary on Hawaii’s Parity Law. He shared the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mental Health Parity Law was signed in 1996 and became effective in 1997. The emphasis of the law changed from the federal level to the state level. The law required employers that offered mental health benefits to set annual and lifetime caps equal to those for medical and surgical benefits. The law also allowed health insurance providers to set different benefit levels for co-payments, deductibles, 	For information only.	G. Ito	

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4. Parity Law and Mental Health in Hawaii (cont'd)	<p>out-of-pocket payments, inpatient days and outpatient visits. Under the Federal Law in 1996, the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Act (MHPEA) ensured that parity protections were in place for those living with mental illness and addictions, such as, requiring health plans to offer the same benefits for mental health as provided for all medical benefits.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 1999, the law expanded coverage for schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, and bipolar mood disorder, but excluded coverage for substance abuse and other disorders, including major depression. • The Hawaii Revised Statutes developed Chapter 431, which is known as the Insurance Code. The law includes mental health and drug abuse treatment provisions that govern insurance benefits to be in harmony with the Federal Parity Law. • In 2010 through the Affordable Care Act (ACA), health plans were required to cover behavioral health services for all groups. The requirement for the medical plans is the same for mental health plans, and drug is a rider. However, the ACA only applies to small groups. <p>Mr. Ito reiterated that Hawaii's Mental Health Laws are in conformance with the Federal Parity Law.</p> <p>Ms. Wilcox asked, "How does the Parity Law impact an individual in terms of mental health and dental benefits?" She stated that the mental health and substance abuse population is a vulnerable group that needs dental services due to the usage of various medications/drugs.</p> <p>Mr. Ito responded that ACA only provides dental benefits for babies. He continued that as the population ages, there will be a need for more services; thus, the insurance premiums will also increase. He shared that if the Federal Government mandates the state to pay for additional benefits, the state will have to comply. However, any new mandate that the state passes and adopts, such as autism benefits, the state will have to pay for the cost. The average monthly cost for insurance premiums is \$600.</p>			

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	<p>Ms. Minami stated that there are indeed laws that provide for parity for alcohol and mental health treatment. She clarified that the concern of the State Council is that individuals living with mental illness and living in the community may not understand how the insurance law works, and therefore, they may not know about the availability of insurance, how to access it, and who to call to get information. Ms. Minami opined that educating the community is the key to access insurance and services.</p> <p>Mr. Ito agreed that educating people in the community is the solution. He recommended that the Council visit the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA) website (http://cca.hawaii.gov) which has very good information on insurance, or individuals can call the office at (808) 586-2790.</p>			
5. Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD) Update Report	<p>Dr. Fridovich updated the Council on AMHD activities. He shared the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 25% of admissions to Hawaii State Hospital are referred by the District Court, he made arrangements to observe the Judge Nakata and Judge Wong’s mental health calendar. Dr. Fridovich opined that the experience was very helpful for him to understand the process. • A partial listing of bills related to mental illness that the AMHD compiled for this legislative session was shared with the Council. The listing shows the bills being tracked, the number of testimonies submitted, their histories, and the current status of each bill. Of note, Dr. Fridovich highlighted the following bills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB2353 – Relating to exemptions from Civil Service for 18 forensic psychologist positions and two (2) exempt HSH primary care physician positions. • SB2559 – Relating to Homelessness. This bill is very important to AMHD as it relates to the Assisted Community Treatment statute. • HB2561 – Relating to the Administration of Justice. Part 2 of the bill relates to the time that a person can be on conditional release. • Dr. Fridovich shared that other bills that may impact the work of AMHD were also being tracked; bills such as Firearms, Homelessness, Housing, and Suicide Prevention. 	For information only.	Dr. Fridovich	

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6. Progress Report on SB2007 and SB2008	<p>Dr. Vorsino shared that both bills did not make it out of Committee for final discussion during the joint committee of the House and Senate. In essence, both bills “died.” She shared that she left several phone messages and sent emails to several Senate and House representatives to advocate for movement of both bills. Unfortunately, she did not receive any responses.</p> <p>Council members discussed future plans for addressing both bills during the next legislative session. Ideas generated were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add both measures to the Council’s Strategic Plan to re-submit both bills; • Encourage more Council members to submit testimony; and • Collaborate with other Boards, perhaps a joint bill, on quorum challenges. 	For information only.	M. Vorsino, 1 st Vice Chair	
7. Discuss and Update the SCMH Strategic Plan	<p>Dr. Vorsino amended the SCMH initial Strategic Plan based on previous meeting discussions. She streamlined the document, added new action items, and added check boxes to show progress to ensure tasks are completed within timelines.</p> <p>Action items updated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Human and Sex Trafficking issues; • Development of a statewide calendar to track conferences; and • Invite someone from the AMHD Clubhouses to discuss insurance issues that affect members. 	For information only.	M. Vorsino, 1 st Vice Chair	
8. Island Reports	<p><u>Hawaii Island</u> – no report</p> <p><u>Oahu</u> – An informational meeting was held last month. There are a few potential members who will be vetted through the Senate for board confirmation.</p> <p><u>Maui</u> – Mr. Robert Collesano, Chair of the Maui SAB, reported on behalf of Dr. Arensdorf:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An informational meeting was held in lieu of not having quorum. • Members are actively recruiting for new members. 		C. Dang R. Collesano	

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8. Island Reports (cont'd)	Kauai – An informational meeting was held last month. The board is waiting to hear from the Boards and Commission office regarding placement of new candidates.	For information only.	M. Hiraga-Nuccio	
9. Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Mental Health America Mahalo Award Luncheon is scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2016. The event will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel. • May is Children’s Mental Health Awareness month. There will be statewide activities to celebrate Children’s Mental Health Awareness. 	For information only.		
10. Future Agenda Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transition of Youth to Adult Mental Health Services. • The Maui Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) presentation in May 2016. • Invite an Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division representative to speak on substance abuse initiatives in the community. • Invite a representative from the YO Project to discuss housing issues for youth and adolescents. • Invite Rick Blangiardi, General Manager of Hawaii News Now, and John Fink, General Manager of KFVE-Television. 	For information only.		
11. Adjournment	Motion passed to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 a.m.			
Electronic Mail Sent to Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Council on Mental Health Agenda for April 12, 2016. • State Council Attendance Log’16. • State Council Draft Minutes for March 8, 2016. • Adult Mental Health Bill Assignment Tracking Log • State Council Strategic Plan, FY2016 • Hawaii Advisory Commission on Drug Abuse and Controlled Substances Agenda for March 22, 2016, and Draft Minutes for February 23, 2016, November 24, 2015, October 27, 2015 and September 22, 2015. 			