

STATE COUNCIL ON MENTAL HEALTH (SCMH) MEETING

May 9, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Hybrid meeting via Zoom and
in-person at Hale F Conference Room, 2201 Waimano Home Road, Pearl City 96782

APPROVED MINUTES

Members Present: Katherine Aumer, John Betlach, Naomi Crozier, Lea Dias, Jon Fujii, Jackie Jackson, Eileen Lau-James, Kathleen Merriam, Richard Ries, Mary Pat Waterhouse, Kristin Will.

Members Absent: Antonino Beninato, Jean Beninato

Members Excused: Heidi Ilyavi, Chris Knightsbridge, Ray Rice, Kau`i Seguancia

Staff Present: Jocelyn Nazareno, Carolyn Weygan-Hildebrand

I. Call to Order

Katherine Aumer, chairperson, called the meeting to order at 9:04 am. Eileen Lau-James, secretary, declared quorum at 9:09 a.m.

II. Announcements

K. Aumer warmly welcomed members and guess. She thanked members for the honor to serve as Council chairperson.

Meeting protocol:

- In case of communication technology-related interruption that could not be restored in 30 minutes, the meeting will automatically be terminated and resume on May 16 at 9 am using the same zoom links used of this meeting.
- Community input will be received in the designated part of the agenda as well as throughout the meeting.

Membership Update:

- All four nominees of the Governor were approved by the Senate – John Betlach, Heidi Ilyavi, Mary Pat Waterhouse and Kristin Will.
- The Governor's Boards and Commissions Office did not get through all of the applications. Members whose appointments were up this June 30th will continue as interim appointees or holdovers. According to the Attorney General's office, Kau`i Seguancia and Naomi Crozier had two terms but have not been eight years in length. So they will continue to serve as holdovers.

Events and resources:

- Members were encouraged to attend the Native Hawaiian Health and Wellness Summit on June 1-2, 2023 at the University of Hawaii at West Oahu. <http://www.papaalokahi.org/native-hawaiian-programs/2023-summit.html>
- Members were encouraged to look out for announcements from SAMHSA or the Federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration about National Prevention Week 2023. <https://www.samhsa.gov/prevention-week/about>

- Future minutes of the meeting will be simplified for efficiency. New Sunshine Law requirements are also anticipated about the posting of recordings. Visit OIP website for the latest requirements <https://oip.hawaii.gov/new-sunshine-law-requirements/>

I. Consideration and Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 11, 2023

ACTION: Richard Ries moved to approve the minutes. E. Lau-James seconded. The minutes was approved unanimously.

II. Community Input

none

III. New Business

A. Presentation

“Strengths, Challenges and Talk Story” with Dr. Amy Curtis

Announcements:

- Retirement of Dr. Run Heidelberg as Director of the Hawaii State Hospital (HSH) and Dr. Ken Luke joining the AMHD as the new acting HSH administrator. Dr. Mike Champion leaving as medical director and joining the Governor’s Office as senior adviser to work on policy and issues related to criminal justice reform and mental health. Dr. Courtenay Matsu coming on board as the new AMHD medical director.
- The Asian American Native Hawaiian Pacific Island ‘Ohana Center for Excellence launching events on May 23 1 pm and May 24 9 am. See <https://aanhpi-ohana.org/event-replays/>
- The Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic (CCBHC) pilot in Maui close to finalizing an additional site for its Child and Adolescent and Therapy Services.

Legislation:

- There were four bills for mental health that looked like they were going to pass but did not get the needed agreement to release money. The bills were on crisis service expansion and jail diversion and reform. One bill, Bill 950, on assisted community treatment (ACT) passed. The DOH Director wants AMHD to move forward with what it is already doing and put budget request for next year.
- Expansion of crisis care. Sites to pilot behavioral health crisis center are being located. This is a Center where someone could be dropped off, involuntarily or voluntarily, could stay up to under 24 hours, and also have stabilization beds afterwards if needed.
- Jail diversion reform. There is great collaboration here. There was a big meeting in Miami and those in attendance -the judiciary, the prosecutors, the defenders, and Department of Health - all worked together on getting a memorandum of agreement on how jail diversion is going to work. The new agreement includes the lowest level felony charges, which has never been there before. It is the first month of implementation, going through screening and how the screening will look at the district cellblock for individuals that may be appropriate for jail diversion.
- Levels of care/ continuum of care. AMHD has been meeting with the different circuit courts to talk about the continuum of care. The courts are aware that everyone is not appropriate for a Hawaii State Hospital level of care, and even if they are in AMHD’s care and custody, they may be appropriate for other levels of care. In just a couple of weeks, AMHD is opening a new group home on the campus of the HSH. This will help those who may be having trouble with rent or with a place that they can go but are ready for a group home level of care.
- AMHD is energized by new staff coming in, and are keeping up the momentum.

Q&A, Discussion

Q. What is the name of that working group? And what about the group homes for other islands?

A. Working group? 'Ohana Center for Excellence.

Group homes? We are continuing to look at that. Part of the legislation was to put in more funding for more group homes to open but we're still looking at those opportunities. We have a couple of sites that we've okayed that providers want to open, but they're having trouble because of staffing issues. We are looking at the workforce development piece as well. The plan is to continue to open more of those programs at each of those levels of care. For the neighbor islands, there were contracts that were given to add more stabilization beds and other services. The providers are getting their staffing up and get ready to go later this year. Some of the ideas that we're bringing in with this new leadership team is how we can best work together with the direct service providers.

Q. How about Aloha house?

A. Aloha House on Maui was unable to have nurses they need for their Licensed Crisis Residential Services (LCRS). So we're working through very extreme measures and trying to keep it open under a different model. It do not have the nurse that tis needed. Anyone who has any thoughts, Dr. Matsu is coming in to be a leader in this (workforce needs). It is a huge priority.

Q. I've seen different departments try to put things together, but they're not looking at how things fit together and work together from different departments and different agencies. Is there anything that AMHD doing to look at that? (Structural integration)

A. Part is having more resources for those that are in needed. This is an important work of the leadership team coming in. Our vision for this summer, under this new leadership team, is to really examine and look at what we need to do and truly come from the person's viewpoint of what services they need. That's why there is eagerness over the CCBHC, addressing the disconnect over youth aging out of services, data improvement, dialectical behavior therapy (DBT).

Q. How did you come to decide to do separate grants applications for the Mental Health Block Grant and for the Substance Abuse Block Grant?

A. Honestly, we are trying to get the time to do that big change. We have the easiest relationships with Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division as well as the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division. We all agree that we want to work towards that and wanting to really get the appropriate care.

Q. Having been involved in the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program, is there something for probation officers (Pos) and other people along the justice chain so they can get some insights about the CIT Program? Having some knowledge and some insights would really go far for the POS, especially with those huge caseloads.

A. We want to have more training on a variety of things related to crisis. For the Assisted Community Treatment, there was a big push in the legislative session to ensure that those who need assisted community treatment can receive it as well.

Q. A few constituents were interested in whether there was going to be a rate study done.

A. Yes, we are amid doing that right now. We're looking at both the rates for disciplines, and the rates for services for services. We really look at the mainland and then do a comparison for many of the ones we do. But for disciplines, we can look at the rates that are being used by other entities in this state. We're pulling in our staff and doing it in a creative way. We would have this in the next month or so. It shouldn't be a long term one, it's just getting that information that we need and making sure we

have enough. Things are quickly changing Our state procurement office want to make sure that we're using good data.

Additional Discussion. DBT as skills training also covers self-awareness of and self-evaluation of the nature of thoughts. There is interest for treatment courts settings. There is a need to future out how to make it happen. The AMHD training of trainers was a “Cadillac” version and a “Ford” version may be what is needed. The Council can discuss this further.

On the HSH tour which was previously discussed with Dr. Heidelberg, staff can send an email right away with Dr. Luke there and get one by June. It is not only to visit but sometimes it is good to talk and get other perspectives.

B. 2023 MHBG Planning Update

ACTION: E. Lau-James motioned to form an Ad Hoc Committee for the Mental Health Block Grant (MHBG) application. R. Ries seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Ad Hoc Committee members: Mary Pat Waterhouse (chairperson), K. Aumer, E. Lau James, Kathleen Merriam, and Naomi Crozier.

Discussion before and after action.

The committee is formed so the Council can start planning accordingly. It was suggested that the Council can start working with Department of Health partners in getting data they need for the report and create a timeline with due dates.

C. May and June Council Activities

ACTION: John Betlach moved not to have State Council meeting in June. J. Fujii seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion before and after action.

The bylaws of the Council require that it meets at least quarterly so the bylaws will not be violated if it does not meet in June. Council committee and permitted interaction group will use the time to work on the MHBG and strategic planning. The month will also be an opportunity to catch up on webinars, conference and summit that have been announced. Staff's availability to support will be limited also at this time due to a learning collaborative trip. It was recommended that June 13 be used for the HSH tour. Some members will be able to attend while others will not. If possible, two dates will be explored.

D. Should the State Council Request for SAMHSA Technical Assistance?

R. Ries reported on this. As Council chairperson, he was invited, and he attended one of two opportunities to a SAMHSA technical assistance meeting. Essentially, it was an invitation for State Planning Council chairpersons across the US to talk about their experiences and their challenges. There was a lot of a sense that in some of the other councils that they felt like their efforts were largely being ignored by leadership and staff. He felt that the efforts that the State Council put in- from sending out letters, inviting people to meetings, giving testimonies, and when certain urgent things come up- are well received and the Council gets responses back. One of the things that people talked about, was having trouble getting a diversity of membership on the council or filling all the

seats. In the past, the Council had that problem before and did a good job of addressing that. He felt that there seemed to be a plan, moving ahead to try to do something where there will be an opportunity Councils from different states, to maybe learn from each other's successes and advise each other on their challenges.

K. Aumer, who was also privy to the email exchanges that followed, agree that the future is a good idea. She looks forward to the idea of pairing up with other States like having sister-states. C. Weygan-Hildebrand added that planners were also invited. In the planners' breakout session, other states also shared the feeling of being rushed during MHBG planning. Some states shared that because Council are rushed at planning time, another area to investigate is the evaluation part of planning.

IV. Old Business

A. Welcome to and Presentation by Ms. Keli Acquaro, Acting Administrator -Child and Adolescent Mental Health Division (CAMHD)

ACTION: R. Ries moved to approve a letter (handout) thanking Keli Acquaro. J. Betlach seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion before and after action.

Keli Acquaro, as new administrator of CAMHD, joined the Council and updated members about CAMHD's direction. The Strategic Plan was very informative. A draft letter of thank you was in today's meeting packet.

B. 2023 Election of Officers

K. Aumer explained why this was brought back as old business. She explained that while preparing for the election, staff inadvertently used an older version of nominees list. As a result, Mary Pat Waterhouse's name was not listed as candidate for 2nd Vice Chairperson. K. Aumer thanked her for being gracious about the situation. C. Weygan-Hildebrand as staff apologized for this major error and left it up to the Council for next action. J. Betlach shared that in other boards, the right thing to do was to hold the election again. M. P. Waterhouse thanked everyone for the concern but wanted to simplify the situation and said she will withdraw anyway. She expressed instead to serve as chairperson of the MHBG planning committee. K. Aumer thanked her again for encouraging the Council to move on.

C. Legislative Advocacy Updates and Next Steps

E. Lau-James reported that seven of the bills that the Council testified on were transmitted to the Governor (by the Legislature). These are:

- HB 1397. Housing establishes a supportive housing pilot program in the statewide office on homelessness and housing solutions and appropriates funds.
- HB 579. Child Welfare establishes the statewide Human Trafficking Prevention program within the department of the Attorney General to provide services and assistance to victims of human trafficking and victims of the commercial sexual exploitation of children and requires reports to legislator legislature.
- HB 907. Telehealth which temporary allows for the reimbursement of services provided through telehealth via an interactive tele-communication system and to a real time audio only communications in certain circumstances.
- HB 948. Crisis response for youth establishes a two-year child and adolescent crisis mobile outreach team program on Oahu and one neighbor Island site to expand existing crisis response services.

- HB 950. The ACP authorizes psychiatrists or advanced practice registered nurses after examination of a person for assisted community treatment indication to request assistance from the Attorney General to file an assistant assisted community treatment petition authorizes the family court to use online hearings for assisted community treatment petitions.
- SB 712. For workforce development, trauma informed care establishes a trauma informed certification program at Windward Community College campus of the University of Hawaii for adult corrections officers and requires the curriculum to include level one trauma informed care course designed for adult corrections officers.
- SB 894. For wellness and resilient trauma informed care transfers the office of Wellness and Resilience from the Office of the Governor to the Department of Human Services.

The meeting packet also included a list of the other bills that were tracked. Some were deferred to next session. Some “died” in committees while others were not heard at all.

Discussion

To E. Lau-James’ knowledge, the Council has not reviewed and testified on as many bills as it had this year. It was an enormous effort by all. Everyone should be thanked and congratulated for the effort and success. On whether there was further needed to write letters of support for the bills that were transmitted to the Governor. K. Aumer shared that there is not a need at this time because, to her knowledge, none of the seven bills are in danger of being vetoed. The ad hoc committee will not be dissolved yet. It was encouraged to have one more meeting to wrap up, look back, and help prepare for next year. It was pointed out that the Council has a leg-up on the deferred bills since the Council will be ready with testimonies already.

V. Information Reports

A. Island Representative Reports

1. *Oahu Service Area Board (OSAB)*. Jackie Jackson reported that the Board met on April 19 and had quorum. Ms. Ida Bonilla and Ms. Fern Yoshida, from the DOE School-Behavioral Health area, provided a presentation on “The Here to Help Campaign.” She also raised a Board concern over the news that the City Bus’ bus passes for people with disability will no longer be extended to those with mental illness. She asked if anyone has heard about this. C. Weygan-Hildebrand said that a passenger raised it at a Mayor’s (Ewa) Town Hall Meeting and the mayor directed the Department of Transportation Services director to reconsider this. She encouraged the SAB to look into it further and see if they have to write a letter to the mayor. K. Will said she also learned this from some of her clients, and that they are being accommodated via “low income” eligibility and not disability. She reiterated the role of transportation in making sure that clients get to the services they need. J. Jackson will look into the situation further.
2. *Hawaii Service Area Board (HSAB)*. J. Betlach shared that the HSAB has been very active in reaching out to community groups and nonprofits. They participated in an event on autism that brought together these groups. There was also a justice-involved event where service providers and those with lived experiences came together to see what warm handoffs are helping justice-involved people regain back their lives and start afresh. The Mayor’s Office is regularly represented at SAB meetings so there’s a lot of collaboration between the mayor’s office, the different departments and nonprofits. Some 40 nonprofits are sitting around the table and being part of the process.

B. State Agency Representative Reports

1. *Behavioral Health, Department of Health (DOH)*. Kathleen Merriam pointed out that members have been updated via the latest presentations of Amy Curtis and Keli Acquaro. The new administrator for Alcohol and Drug Abuse Division has also been invited to join the Council, and the schedule is being worked out.
2. *Vocational Rehabilitation, Department of Human Services (VocRehab)*. Lea Dias presented Attachment 1 (Data Report) to highlight the work at VocRehab. She pointed out that they program served 3,876 during the latest available quarter (Q3, PY22). She highlighted that based on disability, 77 percent are cognitive, psychological, or psychosocial. She pointed out the kinds of jobs and median wages that clients have, including one flight attendant with a median wage of \$43 per hour. She clarified that ineligibility has never that the disability is not severe enough. Also one is usually presumed eligible if someone is receiving supplementary security income (SSI) or Disability benefits (SSDI). Someone's case may be close later because they have not stuck to their plans, moved, changed their minds, do not want to work, or have a substance abuse history that they refuse to address or make them unavailable for training or employment. If someone comes and they don't have records (e.g. no treating physician or psychologist), we send them out and support their evaluation.
3. *Judiciary*. K. Will announced that Judge Kuriyama, the judge for conditional release (CR) will be leaving at the end of the month. Her replacement has not been named. Also, the Mental Court is expecting a new judge. The Department is implementing a new data and information system called DIMMs to be used by their courts- drug, mental, and veterans. It will help keep track of clients information, recidivism, and others. The Mental Health Unit lost and gained probation officers positions, but got funding to fill these positions. As for clients, housing is tight right now and so clients are waiting for a long time for housing.

C. Specialty Area Representative Reports

1. *Providers*. R. Ries reiterated what he has been reporting in the past. Providers across the board -from psychiatry, psychology, social work, counseling – are all feeling pretty overwhelmed with the influx of referrals and doing our best to keep pace with it. There's been some more TMS or trans cranial magnetic stimulation services and more etamine depression treatment services that are opening up but that's not new.
2. *Family members*. E. Lau-James reported that as far as the CARES line, it is increasingly harder for people to navigate resources that are available to them. With all the needed resources and all the development and all the new numbers to call, there is some issues and frustration with the CARES line. There is an issue where family members want to reach out for help but the CARE line cannot help unless the individuals who need help want help themselves.

K. Aumer referred to a CARES line infographic that Stacy Haitsuka shared with the Council. Some remember that and a discussion ensued on the need to update that and share again. K. Merriam echoed the latest information from CARES Hawaii, clarifying that they now help family members also. C. Weygan-Hildebrand suggested that the whole CARES line issue may be more than the infographic. Summarizing, K. Aumer closed that all will be looked into. She reiterated looking into the infographics.

There were no additional reports.

VI. Meeting Evaluation/ Future Agenda Items

No further discussion

VII. Adjournment

The meeting as adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Handouts

1. PUBLIC NOTICE AND AGENDA May 9, 2023 Meeting
2. ATTENDANCE log April 11 2023 Meeting
3. ANNOUNCEMENT – Selected from SAMHSA emails
4. MEETING MINUTES DRAFT– April 11 2023 meeting
5. PLANNING reference – 2024 MHBG guide and application forms as of May 2023
6. PLANNING reference – 2023 SAMHSA Behavioral Workforce Report
7. LETTER DRAFT – Thank You to K. Acquaro
8. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY – Ad Hoc Committee Legislative Tracking as of May 7, 2023
9. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY Copy of April 24 Letter to Sen. Dela Cruz and Rep. Yamashita

ATTACHMENT 1

Data Report

Hawaii Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (HDVR) SCMH Meeting May 9, 2023

Jan-March 2023

Total PY22 Served

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 |
|--|-------|-------|------|----|
| VR Participants (VR Case Type) | 2,621 | 3,114 | 3068 | |
| Potentially Eligible: Students with Disabilities (not VR Participants) | 769 | 810 | 808 | |
| Total | 3,390 | 3,924 | 3876 | |

Disability

| Primary Disability Type Group | Number | Percent |
|---------------------------------------|--------|---------|
| (01-02) Visual | 206 | 7.41 |
| (03-09) Auditory or Communicative | 231 | 8.31 |
| (10-16) Physical | 468 | 16.83 |
| (17) Cognitive | 971 | 34.92 |
| (18-19) Psychological or Psychosocial | 905 | 32.54 |
| Total | 2781 | 100 |

Total PY22 Applications – VR

| Applications by Branch | Q1 July – Sept. | Q2 Oct. – Dec. | Q3 Jan.- March | Q4 April - June | PY 2022 Total |
|------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Oahu (OB and SBB) | 79 | 58 | 73 | | 210 |
| Hawaii | 48 | 19 | 28 | | 95 |
| Maui | 20 | 24 | 24 | | 68 |
| Kauai | 9 | 9 | 6 | | 24 |
| Total | 156 | 110 | 131 | | 397 |

ATTACHMENT 1

continuation

Total PY22 Determined Eligible

| Eligibility by Branch | Q1 July – Sept. | Q2 Oct. – Dec. | Q3 Jan.- March | Q4 April - June | PY 2022 Total |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Oahu (OB and SBB) | 80 | 53 | 52 | | 185 |
| Hawaii | 40 | 22 | 23 | | 85 |
| Maui | 14 | 20 | 18 | | 52 |
| Kauai | 11 | 6 | 8 | | 25 |
| Total | 145 | 101 | 101 | | 347 |

Total PY22 IPEs Developed

| IPE by Branch | Q1 July – Sept. | Q2 Oct - Dec. | Q3 Jan.-March | Q4 April - June | PY 2022 Total |
|-------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Oahu (OB and SBB) | 82 | 109 | 50 | | 241 |
| Hawaii | 49 | 30 | 21 | | 100 |
| Maui | 27 | 12 | 17 | | 56 |
| Kauai | 8 | 17 | 10 | | 35 |
| Total | 166 | 168 | 98 | | 432 |

Total PY22 Cases Closed (Rehabilitated and Other than Rehabilitated)

| Closures by Branch | Q1 July – Sept. | Q2 Oct - Dec. | Q3 Jan.-March | Q4 April - June | PY 2022 Total |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Oahu (OB and SBB) | 134 | 108 | 64 | | 242 |
| Hawaii | 51 | 28 | 27 | | 79 |
| Maui | 41 | 6 | 2 | | 47 |
| Kauai | 16 | 19 | 8 | | 35 |
| Total | 242 | 161 | 101 | | 403 |

ATTACHMENT 1
continuation

Total PY22 Rehabilitated in Competitive Integrative Employment –

| CIE | Q1 July – Sept. | Q2 Oct - Dec. | Q3 Jan.-March | Q4 April - June | PY 2022 Total |
|-------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| Total | 15 | 8 | 13 | | 36 |

Employment at Exit - Participants
for Program Year/Quarter PY22Q3 - H1c1PY223_Final_corrected 4.30.23.csv

| Hourly Wage at Exit [DE359] | Individuals | Median Hours | Median Wage |
|---|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| Landscaping and Groundskeeping Workers | 3 | 19 | 12 |
| Stockers and Order Fillers | 2 | 37.5 | 15.88 |
| Janitors and Cleaners, Except Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 2 | 28.5 | 14.88 |
| Office and Administrative Support Workers, All Other | 1 | 20 | 10.1 |
| Fast Food and Counter Workers | 1 | 25 | 12 |
| Maids and Housekeeping Cleaners | 1 | 33 | 12 |
| Flight Attendants | 1 | 20 | 43.87 |
| 533053 | 1 | 40 | 23.13 |
| Food Preparation Workers | 1 | 40 | 12.54 |
| Total | 13 | 25 | 12.25 |

#end#