

Consolidated Planning and Advisory Workgroup (CPAW)

Thursday August 7, 2014

3pm – 6pm

Location: 2425 Bisso Lane, First Floor Conference Room, Concord, CA 94520



Members attending: Connie Steers, Stephen Boyd, Dave Kahler, Courtney Cummings, Lori Hefner, Mariana Moore, Laurie Schnider, Matt Wilson, Kathi McLaughlin, Molly Hamaker, Ryan Nestman, Sam Yoshioka, Kimberly Krisch, Susan Medlin, Tom Gilbert, John Hollender, Gina Swirsding

Staff attending: Erin McCarty, Roberto Roman,

Public Participants: Tess Paoli, Sheri Richards, Douglas Dunn, Devon Roberts, Maude DeVictor, Michelle Curran, Laura Perona, Kim, Mike Peterson, Beth Williams, Stan Baraghin, Carwen Spencer, Anne Cevallos, Sylvia Ortega, Yolanda Cruz, Hillary Bowers

Facilitator: Maria Pappas

Recorder: Lisa Cabral

Staff Support: Warren Hayes

Excused from Meeting: Susanna Marshland, Lauren Rettagliata, Lisa Bruce

Absent from Meeting: Tony Sanders, Karen Smith

TOPIC	ISSUE/CONCLUSION	ACTION/RECOMMENDATION	PARTY RESPONSIBLE
1. Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Call to Order• Introductions• Working Agreement• Announcements• Finalize Minutes	Welcome and Introductions were made. Maria Pappas reviewed CPAW Working Agreements. Approval of June minutes	Minutes approved. Will be posted on MHSA CPAW web site.	Lisa Cabral to post minutes
	First Annual Mental Health Community Softball Tournament with Recovery Innovations, Putnam Clubhouse, NAMI, Crestwood, Rainbow Center and Hume	Information	N/A

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	Center. Event will take place on Aug 22 nd at Willow Pass Softball Fields.		
2. Steering Committee follow-up to vacancies in Behavioral Health Senior Leadership and other staff positions	There are significant concerns regarding the slow pace of filling leadership and other key vacancies within Mental Health Administration, as well as no visible progress in staffing the Miller Wellness Center with mental health professionals, and lack of movement regarding the Electronic Mental Health Records Project.	The CPAW Steering Committee to meet with Cynthia Belon to obtain an update, and discuss how CPAW can assist Mental Health Administration with advocacy to the County's Human Resources Division.	Warren Hayes to coordinate meeting.
3. AB 1421 Planning Work Group Activities	Workgroup will have a final meeting on Aug 28. Workgroup will have final reports and recommendations which should go to the Board of Supervisors in mid-September. Workgroup consists of family members, consumers, and county staff.	Workgroup representatives to brief CPAW at the September meeting as to outcome of final meeting and recommendations going forward to the Board of Supervisors.	AB 1421 Workgroup members who will attend the September CPAW meeting.
4. MHSA Fund Sustainability	Warren Hayes reported that the Three Year Plan was pulled from the Board of Supervisor's July 8 agenda as the Board wished to consider the Three Year Plan concurrent with the recommendations from the AB 1421 Workgroup. Also, he provided a fiscal analysis that indicated that committing MHSA funds for implementing Laura's Law would shorten the time before unspent funds from previous years would be exhausted.	Information.	N/A
5. Laura's Law from the consumer's perspective	Michelle Curran provided a presentation in opposition of AB 1421 (handouts were included in the CPAW packets). See attached document for summary of presentation.	Information	N/A

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6. Break (flexibly applied)			
7. CPAW members discuss Laura's Law and take a group position on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concurrent Approval of Three Year Plan with resolution of Laura's Law • Use of MHSA funds • Implementation 	<p>CPAW membership and those in attendance discussed the three issues and voted.</p> <p>Concurrent Approval of Three Year Plan</p> <p>The approval of the Three Year Plan should be considered separately from consideration of implementing Laura's Law.</p> <p>CPAW members in favor: 16 CPAW members not in favor: 1 CPAW members abstain: 0</p> <p>Non-CPAW members in favor: 5 Non-CPAW members not in favor: 1 Non-CPAW members abstain: 2</p> <p>Use of MHSA Funds</p> <p>MHSA funds should not be used to fund the mental health treatment portion of implementing Laura's Law</p> <p>CPAW members in favor: 13 CPAW members not in favor: 2 CPAW members abstain: 1</p> <p>Non-CPAW members in favor: 4 Non-CPAW members not in favor: 2 Non-CPAW members abstain: 1</p>	<p>CPAW's position to be conveyed to the Behavioral Health Director.</p>	<p>Warren Hayes</p>

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	<p>Implementation</p> <p>Would you support the implementation of Laura’s Law as it is specified in AB 1421?</p> <p>CPAW Member in favor: 2 CPAW Members not in favor: 11 CPAW Members abstain: 4</p> <p>Non-CPAW members in favor : 4 Non-CPAW members not in favor: 2 Non-CPAW members abstain: 1</p> <p>CPAW members were concerned that, regardless of the merits of Laura’s Law, the passion and commitment of the two opposing sides of this issue have the potential to divide the stakeholders of Contra Costa County’s mental health community.</p>	<p>A summary of CPAW’s considerations and concerns to be drafted and time devoted to discussing next steps at the September CPAW meeting</p>	<p>Steering Committee</p>
<p>8. Committee Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s • TAY • Adult • Older Adults • Housing • Social Inclusion • Innovation • Membership 	<p>Membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported on analysis and efforts to recruit full stakeholder representation on CPAW • Matt Wilson appointed and welcomed as a new CPAW member <p>Children’s’</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Miller Wellness Center is not currently providing mental health services to children or adults; question 		<p>Committee Representatives</p>

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	<p>use of MHSA funds.</p> <p>TAY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Next meeting will be held on Monday, August 25th at Mental Health Admin in Martinez; main agenda item is to decide upon a structure going forward. <p>Adult</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will call first meeting in the near future; currently sorting through issues for this committee to provide advice and counsel. <p>Older Adult</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Endorsed St. Mary's graduate program students' presentation of Partners in Aging concept, and is scheduled at the next Innovation Meeting for approval to move to full proposal. <p>Housing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More funding is needed, and board and care facilities not operating up to quality of human dignity. <p>Social Inclusion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speakers Training will meet on August 13, 10:30 am – 12:00pm at Rainbow Community Center 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WREACH will be on August 28 1:00-3:00 pm at 2425 Bisso Lane • Photovoice will meet August 20, 10:00am – 12:00 pm at Rainbow Community Center • Social Inclusion did not meet for July or August <p>Innovation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will meet August 25, 2:00 – 4:00 pm at 1350 Arnold Drive; will consider Partners in Aging concept to move to full proposal 		
9. Public Comment, Announcements	None	N/A	N/A
10. Review of Meeting	Liked Michelle Curran’s presentation; provided enough space to speak due to the emotional content.	None	N/A
11. Next CPAW, Steering, Membership Meetings	August Steering Meeting will be on Aug 21st. Membership Meeting will be held on Aug 18th. Next CPAW meeting is Thursday, September 4 th .		

Michelle Curran – Laura’s Law Presentation August 7, 2014

People’s lives are impacted by “Serious Psychiatric Distress”, in Michelle Curran’s terms. The feelings of hurt and pain, needing a lifeline and hope bring them back a sense of well-being and love for the family and community. Please honor the distress and struggle that so many people experience.

In the 1990’s a psychiatric nurse, elected to the Legislative Assembly, and her husband, who was the head of the California Psychiatric Association, were publicly pushing their opinions regarding treatment that were consistent with the provisions of Laura’s Law. They thought that keeping people drugged and safe from any kind of self-harm would be best for society. Everybody actually providing offering services at the time said this was not the correct way of doing it. The most positive and beneficial way is client-directed voluntary services, with wellness and recovery as the goal.

In 2004 the Mental Health Services Act was passed by California’s voters. This law recognized wellness and recovery as achievable and the goal for services for persons experiencing serious mental illness. The Act recognized peers and family members with lived experience as a key part of assisting persons with serious mental illness with the recovery process.

Helen Thompson patterned AB 1421 after a law in New York. This law is for people who refuse service, and harms people beyond measure. AB1421 states that no voluntary services are to be reduced or eliminated as a result of funding the law. The MHSA prohibits supplanting money from one program to fund another. MHSA funds are to be used for wellness and recovery programs, not Laura’s Law.

Implementing AB 1421 is not the answer. There just are no simple and easy answers for people experiencing serious emotional and mental health distress.

Handouts are provided in the CPAW packet outlining detailed arguments from the consumer’s perspective that explain why Laura’s Law should not be implemented.