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## CLARK REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD

### MINUTES

April 10, 2020

9:00 AM

The meeting will be virtual through Webex, in accordance with Governor Steve Sisolak's emergency directive on public meetings to maintain government transparency and protect public safety.

CALL-IN NUMBER: +1-408-418-9388 Access Code: 965 658 151

Video: Dial [965658151@clarkcountynv.webex.com](tel:965658151). You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number: 965 658 151

1. Call to order/roll call—Charlene Frost, *Chair*  
**Members Present:** Charlene Frost (Chair), Assemblywoman Connie Munk, Dan Musgrove, Jamie Ross, Dr. Lesley Dickson, Michelle Guerra  
**Member Absent:** Angelo Aragon, Jacqueline Harris, Dr. Ken McKay, Dr. James Jobin, Todd Fasulo, Nita Schmidt  
**Guests Present:** Sandra Cosgrove, League of Women Voters; Justine Perez, Social Worker with Compassion Community Care- Pahrump; Raul Martinez, Cari Moss, Tammy Saling, and Joan Waldock, Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH); Marissa Brown, Nevada Hospital Association; Sean O'Donnell, Foundation for Recovery; Sara Hunt, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV); Garrett Hade, Recovery Advocacy Project; Teresa Echeberry, Vera Sverdlovski; Allison Djenko, Ferrari Public Affairs; Jasmine Cook, Behavior Health Data Analyst, Clark Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board; Frances Howze, Senior Management Analyst, Behavioral Health and Liaison for the Board
2. Public comment  
There was no public comment
3. Approval of minutes  
Dr. Dickson moved to approve the January 9, 2020 meeting minutes with amendment of attendees. Mr. Musgrove seconded the motion. The motion was approved without opposition or abstention.
4. Board Members Announcements  
Dr. Dickson, Sara Hunt, and UNLV are putting together a warm line for emotional support for people on the front lines of epidemic. When it is up and running, they will send more information to all.
5. Presentation: Nevada's/Clark's Uninsured  
This item was tabled. The presentation will be made at the next meeting.

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6. Presentation: “Everything Medicaid”

This item was tabled. The presentation will be made at the next meeting.

7. COVID-19 and Behavioral Health

Much discussion was provided by Board Members and guests on current COVID-19 concerns and available behavioral health resources. Among item items discussed were:

- Ms. Cook communicated with Clark County Fire Department and Las Vegas Metropolitan Police (Metro), which raised questions about where patients placed on mental health holds are going.
- Dr. Dickson had concerns regarding Monte Vista’s closing, the lack of psychiatric professionals, and the fact there is nowhere for Legal 2000 patients to go while their paperwork is processed, which is causing them to linger in emergency departments (EDs) while waiting for family court dates;
- Ms. Frost said Metro’s numbers show a jump in Legal 2000 hold requests for the first quarter this year over last year. She will compile and share data.
- Ms. Cook asked how to mitigate the number of uninfected patients going into EDs that are being sent to psychiatric hospitals with COVID 19.
- Dr. Dickson stated staff in some facilities were not following social distancing guidelines. She is preparing a letter to Governor Sisolak expressing concern about social distancing guidelines not being followed in facilities. There are additional concerns that with people staying home, we would see an uptick in requests for mental health services. As more people become unemployed and as parents become stressed, the stress will overflow to children.
- Ms. Guerra stated there are two mental health crisis teams responding to emergency rooms and hospitals, but there are problems with Medicare limiting stays annually. Medicaid does not have those limits.
- Ms. Howze pointed out many states are using universities, interns, and retirees to meet needs and asked if our State Examining Boards could modify requirements to allow interns and retirees to help fill the gaps during the pandemic. Ms. Frost recalled seeing an emergency directive from Governor Sisolak that modified credential requirements but was not sure if it was only for medical personnel; Mr. Musgrove asked if Dr. Stephanie Woodard could send the request to the Governor.
- Dr. Dickson stated Dr. Woodard is working on an application to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) for a grant to help with mental health and substance abuse issues that have worsened due to COVID 19.
- Ms. Frost noticed numbers for child abuse are down and wondered if that was due to students not being in touch with mandated reporters in classrooms. A meeting with the school superintendent resulted in working to fix the problem by having teachers make contact with students.
- Ms. Ross reported there are budget cuts in prevention and treatment dollars this year, with more cuts next year. Most dollars coming in are federal or state dollars with an 80 percent relapse rate;

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**8. Workgroup Reports/Recommendations**

Ms. Frost asked Mr. Musgrove if the group had met and encouraged them to work on the Bill Draft Request (BDR) as time is short. Ms. Howze will start discussions on the BDR.

**9. Discussion and Approval of Annual Report**

This agenda item was taken out of order.

- Mr. Musgrove requested more consistency when referring to “region” versus “regional” throughout the document.
- Ms. Cook requested members look at page 3 and confirm their names and titles are accurate.

Assemblywoman Munk moved to approve the annual report. Jamie Ross seconded. The motion was approved without opposition or abstention.

**10. Discussion of Board Candidates/Approval of Appointments**

Ms. Frost stated a new member, Todd Fasulo, was appointed by the Senate Majority Leader but was not present at this meeting.

**11. Approval of Date for Next Meeting/Agenda Items**

There was discussion about whether the Board should meet once a month or continue to meet every two months due to the current circumstances. Consensus was to meet once a month during the pandemic.

Ms. Cook suggested the next meeting be held Friday, May 8, 2020. All attending members agreed. The meeting was scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on May 8.

Ms. Cook encouraged members to submit items for the next agenda prior to its posting.

**12. Public Comment**

Ms. Perez mentioned concern about the long wait on applications and asked if there was a way to expedite the process. She also asked why there was no preventive treatment for social workers.

**13. Additional Announcements**

There were no additional announcements.

**14. Adjournment—Chair**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m.