



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION

**MINUTES – Approved
July 17, 2025**



Salud Mental y
Tratamiento del Uso
de Sustancias

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

MAY 15, 2025, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

1400 EMELINE, CONFERENCE ROOMS 206-207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060

MICROSOFT TEAMS (831) 454-2222, CONFERENCE ID 516 328 698#

Present: Antonio Rivas, Dean Kashino, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Kaelin Wagnermarsh,
Lourdes Barraza, Michael Neidig, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Kimberly De Serpa
Absent: Hugh McCormick, Valerie Webb
Staff: Marni Sandoval, Karen Kern, James Russell, Jane Batoon-Kurovski

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- I. Roll Call – Quorum present. Meeting called to order at 3:04p.m. by Chair Xaloc Cabanes.
 - II. Public Comment – 1 addressed the MHAB in the conference room.
1 addressed the MHAB via Microsoft Teams.
 - III. Board Member Announcements
 - Motion to add Letter of Recommendation to BOS to reinstate the HSA budget FY2025-2026: Dean Kashino
Second: Antonio Rivas
Ayes: Rivas, Kashino, Arlt, Kaupp, Wagnermarsh, Barraza, Neidig, Cabanes
Abstain: Supervisor De Serpa
Motion passed.
 - Introductions of Dr. Marni R. Sandoval, Director of Behavioral Health and Lourdes Barraza, new MHAB member for the 4th District.
 - IV. Approve April 17, 2025 Minutes
Motion/Second: Dean Kashino / Supervisor De Serpa
Ayes: Rivas, Kashino, Arlt, Kaupp, Wagnermarsh, Barraza, Neidig, Cabanes, De Serpa
Motion passed.
 - V. Reports
 - A. Secretary's Report
 - No attendance/training issues.
 - B. Patients' Rights Report – George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate
April report was provided. George did not attend the meeting.
 - C. Board of Supervisors Report – Supervisor Kim De Serpa
 - May revise came out – funding for schools is mostly okay. The County is not good, potential cuts in the Medicaid program.

D. MHSA 2025–2026 Annual Plan: Open Public Comment – Karen Kern, Behavioral Health Deputy Director

- MHSA and BHSA Overview
 - Five components of MHSA: Community Services & Supports, Prevention & Early Intervention, Innovation, Workforce Education & Training, Capital Facilities & Technology Needs.
 - Stakeholders that partnered with the CPPP this year: adults/seniors, families, providers of mental health services, law enforcement agencies, education agencies, social service agencies, Veterans, SUD services, different healthcare organizations, and special populations.
 - BHSA (SB326) expands services to include substance use treatment and changes the allocation of dollars to different services that are eligible under the plan.
 - The reporting and stakeholder input will be expanded under BHSA.
- Community Program Planning Process (CPPP): Key Findings
 - SCCBHD System, Program & Service Strengths
Most respondents reported knowing where to go or who to call to access services for their own or another's mental health needs.
 - SCCBHD System, Program & Service Challenges & Gaps include not enough service space for services that are currently provided; limited variety of services available; more timely access to services needed and general accessibility of services.
 - SCCBHD Populations in Need include people experiencing homelessness and/or housing insecurity; youth experiencing behavioral health crisis; individuals with early signs of behavioral health needs; adults experiencing BH Crisis; Older Adults, specifically those in need of residential housing.
- Proposed FY25–26 MHSA Program Modifications & Budget Request
 - IHART services: case management, therapy and OT, psychiatric provider, housing navigation, peer support
 - Full-Service Partnership Clients and Housing – house 100 individuals enrolled on Full-Service Partnership Teams by June 2026 and provide supportive behavioral health services to assist them in reaching recovery and self-sufficiency.
 - Innovation Plan: Crisis Now – support staffing for Children's Crisis Center for FY25–26 under the Crisis Now Pillar "Somewhere to Go"
- Next Steps for the FY2025–26 Annual Update
Finalize Annual Update following the Public Comment Period and present Annual Update to Board of Supervisor for approval, then submit Annual Update to the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).

E. Site Visit Ad Hoc Committee Update – Kaelin Wagnermarsh and Dean Kashino

- Juvenile Hall site visit postponed for a few months due to construction.
- The board will select a different location to be discussed at retreat.

F. Funding Ad Hoc Committee Update – Jeffrey Arlt and Kaelin Wagnermarsh

- The committee is disbanded due to urgency of budget. The goal was to identify the gap in funding and found a \$50 to \$130 million gap between current budget levels and what is needed to operate a full-scale crisis response system that meets all the needs. The plan is to revisit after the budget.

VI. New Agenda Items

A. Revised Bylaws

Motion/Second: Antonio Rivas / Jennifer Wells Kaupp

Ayes: Rivas, Kashino, Arlt, Kaupp, Wagnermarsh, Barraza, Neidig, Cabanes, De Serpa

Motion passed.

B. Letter to Board of Supervisors regarding the sharing of information between Care Alert Program and Mobile Crisis Response Team

Motion to approve draft letter as revised: Mike Neidig

Second: Antonio Rivas

Ayes: Rivas, Kashino, Arlt, Kaupp, Wagnermarsh, Barraza, Neidig, Cabanes, De Serpa

Motion passed.

C. Letter to Board of Supervisors to Reinstate HSA Budget FY2025-2026

Motion/Second: Mike Neidig / Jennifer Wells Kaupp

Ayes: Rivas, Kashino, Arlt, Kaupp, Wagnermarsh, Barraza, Neidig, Cabanes, De Serpa

Motion passed.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.