Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Ongoing Planning Council

March 21, 2019
9:00am
301 East 13th Street, Merced

Present:
Nancy Reding, Jenna Nunes, Maria Orozco, Caitlin Haygood, Monica Adrian, Danielle Mumford, Jaime Ward, Ruby Awesome, Gloria Nunn, Scott Goda, Analy R. Canaverel, Ravenna Singh, Anna Santos, Alexandra Pierce, Rocío Ortega, Adam Lane, Marilyn Mochel, Heydi Herrera, Robin Siminoff, Dwayne Kawakami, Griselda Vasquez, Paul Thao, Anthony Vieira, Sharon Mendonca, Chris Bobbitt, Fernando Granados, Andrea Tovar, Sharon Jones, Tatiana Vizaino

Presentation and Discussion:
All Members

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes
The approval of minutes for March 21, 2019 was motioned/seconded (Nancy Reding/Marilyn Mochel) and carried.

III. Update Planning Council Contact List
Fernando Granados, Chair, stated that the contact list is updated when everyone signs in.

IV. Notice to the Public
Adam Lane of the Merced LGBTQ+ Alliance gave a brief overview of the upcoming LGBTQ Youth Conference which is scheduled for April 6, 2019 from 9:00am to 3:30pm at Merced High School. Adam also announced that there are tabling opportunities for the event; flyers were distributed. Marilyn Mochel of Building Healthy Communities and NAMI announced the upcoming Raising Storytellers Project event for 9th-12th graders scheduled for May 25, 2019, from 12pm to 3pm, location unknown at this time. Marilyn Mochel gave the group a brief overview of the event. Nancy Reding, Community Member, announced the upcoming School to Prison Pipeline social action event scheduled for May 4, 2019 in Sacramento; flyers were distributed. Sharon Jones, of BHRS, announced two scheduled events, May is Mental Health Awareness 9th Annual Mental Health Services Act Outcomes Event for May 15, 2019 and the Spiritual Wellness and Recovery Conference which is scheduled for July 20, 2019. Alexandra Pierce of HSA announced that May is also Older American Recognition Month. An event is scheduled for May 8th at the Merced Fairgrounds from 9am to 2pm. Alexandria Pierce also announced a partnership with the Alzheimer’s Association to bring a seminar series once a month starting May 20, 2019 on Understanding Alzheimer’s at Area Agency on Aging at 1:30pm. Flyers and registration forms will become available soon. Alexandra Pierce announced that HSA is in the middle of their Community Needs Assessment for the Area Agency on Aging with a survey that has been launched and is available on the Merced County website. Paul Thao, of Merced Lao Family, announced the upcoming 10th Annual Southeast Asian Mental Health Awareness Day scheduled for April 27, 2019 from 10am to 2pm at Applegate Park. Tabling opportunities are available.

V. Chair’s Report
Fernando Granados stated that he would like to bring awareness to Senate Bill 428 and Senate Bill 539. Brief overviews were given for both bills.

VI. Director’s Report
Sharon Mendonca, Assistant Director of BHRS, announced that the construction for the Crisis Stabilization Units (CSU) is moving along quickly. The hope is that the 8-bed Adult CSU will be opened by the end of this fiscal year. Both the Adult and Youth units are located next to Marie Green. A vendor is needed for the 4-bed Youth CSU.
VII. MHSA Bootcamp in April
Sharon Jones announced that the California Institute of Behavioral Health Solutions is offering a MHSA Bootcamp which is scheduled during the month of April in Sacramento, Ca. Sharon Jones gave the council a brief overview of the various topics the MHSA Bootcamp will be covering and encouraged all to attend if possible. Marilyn Mochel asked if input would be accepted during the MHSA Bootcamp. Sharon Jones encouraged Marilyn Mochel to submit her input via email through the MHSOAC.

VIII. Administrative Update and Changes
Sharon Jones announced that Administrative updates and changes will be an ongoing topic on future agendas until otherwise advised. Sharon Jones stated that occasionally there is a need to make administrative changes in real time for continuity of services and care. Sharon Jones gave the council a brief example of what would be considered administrative changes. Sharon Jones stated that she will report any administrative updates or changes as they occur during future Ongoing Planning Council meetings. Sharon Mendonca stated that BHRS, as a whole, is currently looking at the where strengths and weakens are, which may result in shifting clinicians locations on a regular basis to meet the needs of the consumers. Sharon Mendonca also stated that there is a shortage of clinicians and eight vacant positions.

IX. Improving Access to Services
Sharon Jones announced the BHRS recently offered all employees a Customer Service training to assist in improving consumer experience, timely care and promoting a welcoming environment.

X. Improving Client Engagement
Sharon Jones announced that the Customer Service training offered various methods on how BHRS staff members could improve client engagement.

XI. MHSA Upcoming Audit
Sharon Jones announced that BHRS will be having its first MHSA Audit Fall 2019.

XII. System Improvement Face to Face Meetings
Sharon Jones informed the council that Face to Face meetings will be scheduled to discuss the upcoming MHSA Audit.

XIII. Setting up Focus Groups/Key Informant Interviews/World Café
Sharon Jones announced that MHSA is preparing to set up focus groups, key informant interviews and a World Café for the fiscal year 2019/2020 Annual Update. Sharon Jones also announced that a timeline will be available in the near future. Emails will be sent out to arrange focus groups and key informant interviews.

XIV. May is Mental Health Month Events
Sharon Jones gave a brief overview of the May is Mental Health Awareness Month Outcomes event. She also stated that she is currently working on securing a speaker for the event.

XV. Spiritual Wellness and Recovery Conferences
Sharon Jones informed the council that she is currently seeking out two speakers for the upcoming Spiritual Wellness and Recovery Conference. She also asked the group if they had any recommendations for the two speaker slots and any additional participants for the program.

XVI. Brief Program Presentation
Alexandra Pierce of Area Agency on Aging gave a brief update on the various changes to Older Adult System of Care and the PEARLS Program for the council.

XVII. Possibilities and Success Stories
Sharon Jones introduced Maria Orozco, MHSA Office Assistant III, to the council. Marilyn Mochel announced that NAMI Merced received a grant from NAMI California to provide Connection training in Spanish. Tatiana Vizcaino of NAMI Merced
announced that six volunteer facilitators, including herself, will be trained on Mental Health 101 in the near future. Jenna Nunes of Sierra Vista announced that there has been an increase in requests for iMATTER groups to be presented to full classrooms. Jenna Nunes provided a brief description of the 8-week Second Step Curriculum. Sharon Jones announced that MHSA will be providing a Suicide Safer event at El Captain High School immediately after Ongoing Planning Council. Griselda Vasquez of Livingston Community Health announced that she recently heard Sharon Jones on a local radio station offering helpful mental health information. Sharon Jones and Sharon Mendonca both gave the committee an overview of the various public service announcements via local radio stations provided by BHRS. Christopher Jensen, of BHRS, announced the upcoming Youth to Youth Conference scheduled for April 6, 2019 at Golden Valley High from 8:30am to 9:00pm. Christopher Jensen also announced that the After School Mentoring Program is now in Los Banos High and Le Grand High. Danielle Mumford of Aspiranet announced that she will be stepping down from the Director position as of April 15, 2019 to pursue direct client care.

XVIII. Next Steps
Add agenda item Administrative Update and Changes to all future agendas.

XIX. Adjourned
Meeting adjourned at 10:06am.