

# Summary

## Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Ongoing Planning Council

April 18, 2019  
9:00am  
301 East 13<sup>th</sup> Street, Merced

### Present:

Andrea Tovar, Bonnie Henderson, Caitlin Haygood, Tria Vang, Fernando Granados, Jenna Nunes, Rebecca McMullen, Mai Ka Yang, Arleen Lopez, Kristina Jara, Jessica Wheeler, Steven Wilson, Tatiana Vizcaino, Anna Santos, Ruby Awesome, Anthony Vieira, Vong Chang, Sharon Mendonca, Maria Orozco, Cindy Mattox, Kristen Mengell, Cesar Velasquez, Anna M. Diaz, Sophia M. Ornelas, Adam Lane, Rhonda J. Prater, James Henderson, Chris Bobbitt, Sharon Jones

### 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 (Sharon Mendonca/Chris Bobbitt) 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

Tatiana Vizcaino, of NAMI Merced, announced the upcoming Raising Storytellers Project event for 9<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> graders scheduled for Saturday, May 25, 2019, from 12pm to 3pm, at the Golden Valley High school theatre. Tatiana Vizcaino also gave the group a brief overview of the event and stated that tabling opportunities are available. Sharon Jones, Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services (BHRS) MHSA Coordinator, announced that MHSA is actively preparing for the upcoming May is Mental Health Awareness 9<sup>th</sup> 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. Kristen Mengell of Merced Mercy Medical Center asked the group how LCSWs and LMFTs are being trained and where they are currently employed. Sharon Mendonca, Assistant Director of BHRS, suggested meeting after the meeting and exchanging contact information so that correct information could be shared. Adam Lane of the Merced LGBTQ+ Alliance announced that there will be a two-hour workshop scheduled for Saturday, April 27, 2019 at the Merced County Library. This workshop will serve as a follow-up for the adults working with LGBTQ+ youth who attended the LGBTQ+ Youth Conference. Flyers will be sent out. Cindy Mattox, of BHRS MHSA, reminded the council that a MHSA notice for funding is currently open for supportive services for LGBTQ+, this will need to be submitted by April 29, 2019.

#### V. Chair's Report

No Chair's Report

#### VI. Director's Report

Sharon Mendonca, Assistant Director of Merced County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, announced that the construction for the Crisis Stabilization Units continues to move forward.

#### VII. Brief Program Presentation

Bonnie Henderson, BHRS ISN/SIT Program Manager and Caesar Velasquez, BHRS Division Director, gave a brief presentation on the Adult Innovative Strategist Network (Adult-ISN) program which covered barriers, referral processes and success stories. Adult-ISN serves individuals of 18 years and up. Caesar Velasquez stated that by the new fiscal year,

Adult - ISN should be in a position to begin referral discussions with various outside agencies. Jenna Nunes, of Sierra Vista, gave a brief presentation on the Innovative Strategist Youth (ISN-Y) program for ages 0 to 17. ISN-Y has a launch date of May 1, 2019. The program will have a total of three staff members. Brochures were distributed to the council. The group discussed referral processes and various barriers that would qualify an individual for Adult-ISN or ISN-Y.

**VIII. Administrative Update and Changes**

Sharon Jones announced that Administrative Updates and Changes will be a standing agenda item. Sharon Jones gave various examples of administrative updates and changes. She also stated that her goal is to report the updates and changes for the good of the council.

**IX. Possibilities and Success Stories**

Sophia Ornelas, of BHRS, reported that the Youth to Youth Conference was a success with 326 students in attendance. Tatiana Vizcaino, of NAMI Merced, reported that NAMI Merced will be able to make various changes to the programs in order to become more responsive to multilingual communities. She also reported that in the near future, NAMI Merced will be providing support groups in Spanish and other services geared toward more diverse populations in Merced. The Merced Wellness Center Consumer Advisory Chairperson reported that several consumers have recently been housed or have gained employment.

**X. Next Steps**

Next month Youth to Youth will be offering a brief program presentation to the council.

**XI. Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 9:46am.