



**NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING – County of Santa Cruz**  
**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**  
**SEPTEMBER 16, 2021 ♦ 3:00 PM-5:00 PM**  
**HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY**

**1400 EMELINE AVENUE, BLDG K, ROOM 207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060**  
**THE PUBLIC MAY JOIN THE MEETING BY CALLING (916) 318-9542, CONFERENCE ID 407 323 58#**

Xaloc Cabanes Chair 1 <sup>st</sup> District	Valerie Webb Member 2 <sup>nd</sup> District	Erika Miranda-Bartlett Co-Chair 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	Serg Kagno Secretary 4 <sup>th</sup> District	Jennifer Wells Kaupp Member 5 <sup>th</sup> District
Laura Chatham Member 1 <sup>st</sup> District	Catherine Willis Member 2 <sup>nd</sup> District	Hugh McCormick Member 3 <sup>rd</sup> District	Antonio Rivas Member 4 <sup>th</sup> District	Vacant 5 <sup>th</sup> District

Supervisor Greg Caput Board of Supervisor Member	Erik G. Riera Behavioral Health Director
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**IMPORTANT INFORMATION REGARDING PARTICIPATION IN THE  
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

The public may attend the meeting at the Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 207, Santa Cruz. All individuals attending the meeting at the Health Services Agency will be required to always maintain a distance of at least 6-feet from others. The use of face coverings is also required. Individuals interested in joining virtually may click on this link: [Click here to join the meeting](#) or may participate by telephone by calling (916) 318-9542, Conference ID 407 323 58#. All participants are muted upon entry to prevent echoing and minimize any unintended disruption of background sounds.

If you are a person with a special need, or if interpreting services (English/Spanish or sign language) are needed, please call 454-4611 (Hearing Impaired TDD/TTY: 711) at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting in order to make arrangements. Persons with disabilities may request a copy of the agenda in an alternative format.

Si usted es una persona con una discapacidad o necesita servicios de interpretación (inglés/español o Lenguaje de señas), por favor llame al (831) 454-4611 (Personas con Discapacidad Auditiva TDD/TTY: 711) con 72 horas de anticipación a la junta para hacer arreglos. Personas con discapacidades pueden pedir una copia de la agenda en una forma alternativa.



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## AGENDA

### 3:00 Regular Business

- a. Roll Call / Introductions
- b. Public Comment

**(No action or discussion will be undertaken today on any item raised during this Public Comment period except that Mental Health Board Members may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. Limited to 3 minutes each)**

- c. Board Member Announcements
- d. Approval of August 19, 2021 minutes
- e. Secretary's Report

### 3:15 Standing Reports

- a. Board of Supervisors Report – Supervisor Greg Caput
- b. Behavioral Health Director's Report – Erik G. Riera, Behavioral Health Director
  1. Presentation: Behavioral Health Financial Opportunities and Updates – Cassandra Eslami, Director of Community Engagement
- c. Committees
  1. MHSA Advisory Committee
  2. Site Visit / Programs Ad Hoc Committee
  3. Budget Committee
  4. Community Engagement Committee
  5. Law Enforcement and Mental Health Ad Hoc Committee
- d. Patient's Rights Reports – George Carvalho

### 4:30 New Business / Future Agenda Items

- a. Consideration of youth to become Member-At-Large – Marelize Velasco
- b. Approve informational letter regarding Behavioral Health Programs – Erika Miranda-Bartlett
- c. Letter of support for the Oversight Committee of the Sheriff's Office

### 5:00 Adjourn

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**NEXT REGULAR MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING IS ON:  
OCTOBER 21, 2021  
HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY  
1400 EMELINE AVENUE, BLDG K, ROOM 207, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060  
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM  
TELEPHONE CALL-IN NUMBER (916) 318-9542; CONFERENCE ID # - TO BE ANNOUNCED**

## MINUTES - DRAFT

### MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

August 19, 2021

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 207, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Microsoft Teams Meeting (916) 318-9542, Conference ID 411 008 259#

**Present:** Antonio Rivas, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

**Absent:** Catherine Willis

#### 1. Public Comments

- Richard Gallo, Ambassador with Access CA – checking in to see the status of everything. Joins meetings for the work he is doing on behalf of Access CA.
- Ludmila Boiko – shared personal story.
- Carol DeCarvalho – involved with NAMI Santa Clara. Support group leader for family members who have loved ones incarcerated or in the court system. Her passion is how to keep loved ones out of jail and incarceration through diversion and give families support. Recommends a training series through NAMI titled “Help Not Handcuffs.” It looks at different models of what communities are doing to make our system better so we can intervene before a crisis.

#### 2. Board Member Announcements

- New Board Member for District 1 – Laura Chatham
- September meeting will be run by Co-chair Erika Miranda-Bartlett

#### 3. Approved meeting minutes for July 15, 2021.

Motion by Antonio Rivas to approve July 15, 2021 MHAB minutes. Second by Valerie Webb.

AYES: Antonio Rivas, Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Serg Kagno, Valerie Webb, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

ABSTAIN: Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Laura Chatham

ABSENT: Catherine Willis

#### 4. Secretary’s Report

- All members have completed the Ethics training.
- Reminder from last retreat that the Board agreed to attend at least two trainings per year.
- All members are good on attendance. Agreed that four excused or unexcused absences in a year is excessive. Two unexcused absences in a row without formal notice is grounds for separation from the Board.

#### 5. Standing Board of Supervisors (BOS) Report, Supervisor Greg Caput

- County requiring individuals to wear mask indoors unless eating.
- Veterans Building in Watsonville – building will be closed for the homeless effective tomorrow. All individuals offered vouchers to stay at Roadway Inn in Watsonville.
- Moving forward with negotiations on purchasing 38 acres of park land in South County, close to fairgrounds. First park purchase for South County in the last 40 years. More information at the next MHAB meeting.
- Pajaro River Flood Control Project - goal is to have 100-year flood protection for people in the flood zone in South County. The support needed is the 10% that is supposed to

be locally funded, about \$20 million for Santa Cruz County, and \$20 million for Monterey County. If the 10% can be lowered, then that would lower the assessment on each property owner. Vote will be held June 2022.

## 6. Standing Reports

- a. MHSA Advisory Committee (Members: Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Antonio Rivas)
  - No report.
- b. Site Visit Committee – (Members: Serg Kagno, Hugh McCormick, Valerie Webb)
  - No report.
- c. SUDSC/MHAB Merger Committee (Members: Xaloc Cabanes, Jennifer Wells Kaupp)
  - Requesting new SUDS Director, Anthony Jordan to present and then move forward with the merger.
- d. Budget Committee (Member: Antonio Rivas)
  - No report.
- e. Community Engagement Committee – (Members: Valerie Webb, Catherine Willis, Laura Chatham)
  - No report.
- f. Law Enforcement and Mental Health Committee (Members: Hugh McCormick, Serg Kagno, Catherine Willis, Jennifer Wells Kaupp)
  - Distributed jail packet which includes information on visitation, commissary, etc. and provides a comprehensive resource for friends and family members of individuals in jail. Packet is posted on NAMI website. Working on partnering with the Sheriff's Office to get the packet in the jail lobby, and with the Probation Department and Behavioral Health Courts. NAMI distributed the jail packet to 2000 individuals.

## 7. Patients' Rights Reports – by George Carvalho, Patients' Rights Advocate

- View the July Report below.
- Question for George Carvalho – July report states, "This Advocate attended the Local Mental Health Advisory meeting due to the restart of in-person facility monitoring." Requesting clarity on this statement.
- Site Visit/Programs Committee - plans to meet with the Director of Advocacy, Inc. for clarity on reports. More information coming.

## 8. New Business

- a. Retreat – to be held in the Fall.
- b. Letter regarding CAHOOTS style program  
Clarification– Erika to write an informational letter about the Behavioral Health Programs available for mental health emergencies (MERT, ACCESS, MH Liaisons). If the MHAB approves the letter next month, the plan is to send the letter to the Sentinel, Pajaronian and the Good Times. It is not a letter in support of the CAHOOTS style program but is a letter to clarify the Santa Cruz County Behavioral Health Programs.
- c. Letter of support regarding Oversight Committee of Sheriff's Office – Board members to research the proposal of an oversight committee of the Sheriff's Office. Further discussion to be held at the September meeting.

9. Future Agenda Items

- a. Consideration of youth to become Member-At-Large

Motion to adjourn made by Erika Miranda-Bartlett. Second by Serg Kagno. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

# BH Updates: Funding Opportunities

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- State and Federal funding for Counties and Cities that supports expanded services
- **Recently released grant opportunities for the County**
  - Expansion of Mobile Crisis Services
  - Proposed Children's Crisis Residential Treatment Program
  - Proposed Adult Crisis Residential Treatment Program
  - Expansion of School Based Services
  - New outreach programs for the homeless
  - Housing and Shelter Projects



## PATIENTS' RIGHTS ADVOCATE PROGRAM

AUGUST 2021

1. Total number of unduplicated clients served this month: 17

Community based: 3

Facility based: 14

Number of clients represented at hearings:  
(Combined certification and Riese hearing representation)

1. Number of complaints addressed: 10

Dignity and respect 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue –ongoing and monitored (carried over from July 2021)

Request for assistance with filing a writ, Telecare- resolved

Assistance with transfer from facility-7<sup>th</sup> Avenue – ongoing (July 2021)

Assistance with Advocating for level change 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue (unresolved)

Financial concerns Willowbrook –ongoing and resolved (carried over from July 2021)

Request for assistance with locating birth parents- PHF (referred to Lawyers referral service.)

Protection of property-Telecare (Referred to Adult protective services and Senior legal Network)

Request to not be conserved -7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Center-(resolved /referred to the client's Public Defender)

Complaint about unfair treatment at the facility canteen- 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Center (resolved)

Local Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting: A representative from Advocacy Inc. will attend Mental Advisory Board meeting beginning in September 2021.

Number of Abuse Reports: 4 resident to resident:

3 filed by the 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue Center  
1 Filed by Willow brook facility

6) No in-services provided during the month of August 2021.

7) The following facilities were monitored during the month of August, 2021

George monitored by phone contact: (all facilities are now monitored in person except for the Telecare facility)

(Phone contact only)

Telecare PHF  
Telecare CSP

(in person contact)

Willowbrook  
Wheelock Residential  
Telos  
Wheelock  
Front Street Residential  
Opal Cliffs  
Casa Pacifica  
El Dorado Center

MAA count for August 2021

George:

MAA Count for August 2021  
Monday, August 2, 2021-- 2 Persons  
Tuesday, August 3, 2021-- 7 persons  
Wednesday, August 4 2021 -2 persons  
Thursday, August 5, 2021—3 Persons  
Thursday, August 6, 2021—4 Persons  
Friday, August 7, 2021 -4 persons  
Monday, August 9, 2021—3 persons  
Tuesday, August 10, 2021—4 Persons



Wednesday, August 11, 2021—3 persons  
Thursday, August 12, 2021—1 person  
Friday, August 13, 2021—4 persons  
Monday, August 16, 2001 -PTO  
Tuesday, August 17, 2021 -8 persons  
Wednesday, August 18, 2021 -4 persons  
Thursday, August 19, 2021—3  
Friday, August 20, 2021 -3 persons  
Monday August 23, 2021—2 persons  
Tuesday August 24,2021 - 6 persons  
Wednesday August 25, 2021—Persons  
Thursday, August 26, 2021 -4 persons  
Friday, August 27, 2021 -3 persons  
Monday August 30, 2021 -1 person

Davi:

August 2, 2021 - 3 persons  
August 3, 2021—3 p ersons  
August 4, 2021 -4 Persons  
Augst 5, 2021 -- 3 Persons  
August 5, 2021 -5 persons  
August 6, 2021 - 2 persons  
August 6, 2021 - 5 persons  
August 9, 2021 - 1 persons  
August 17, 2021 - 2 persons  
August 18, 2021 -PTO  
August 19, 2021 -1 person  
August 20, 2021 -4 persons  
August 23, 2021 -2 persons  
August 24, 2021 -2 persons  
August 25, 2021 -PTO  
August 26, 2021 -3 persons  
August 27, 2021 -4 persons  
August 30, 2021 -2 Persons  
August 31, 2021 -3 persons

Respectfully submitted: George N. Carvalho, PRA



ADVOCACY INC.  
TELECARE CLIENT CERTIFICATION AND REISE HEARING/PATIENTS' RIGHTS  
REPORT

August, 2021

1. TOTAL NUMBER CERTIFIED	38
2. TOTAL NUMBER OF HEARINGS	38
3. TOTAL NUMBER OF CONTESTED HEARINGS	12
4. NO CONTEST PROBABLE CAUSE	26
5. CONTESTED NO PROBABLE CAUSE	3
6. VOLUNTARY BEFORE CERTIFICATION HEARING	0
7. DISCHARGED BEFORE HEARING	0
8. WRITS	0
9. CONTESTED PROBABLE CAUSE	9
10. NON-REGULARLY SCHEDULED HEARINGS	0

Ombudsman Program & Patient Advocate Program shared 0 clients in this month  
(shared = skilled nursing resident (dementia) sent to behavioral health unit or mental  
health client placed in skilled nursing facility)

*\*The usual scheduled hearing days are Tuesdays and Fridays. Due to the pandemic and the shortage of bed availability throughout the state of California hearings can be scheduled throughout the week to accommodate legal requirements that hearings must occur no later than one week of hospitalization.*

The following is an account of activity August 1, 2021 through August 31, 2021 associated with providing representation to clients held at Telecare (Santa Cruz Psychiatric Health Facility) who are facing Reise Hearings.

Total number of Reise petitions filed: 8  
Total number of Reise Hearings conducted: 8  
Total number of Reise Hearings lost: 8  
Total number of Reise Hearings won: 0  
Total number of Reise Hearings withdrawn: 0  
Hours spent on Reise Hearings Conducted:

- 1) 1.5
- 2) 1
- 3) 1.5
- 4) 1.75
- 5) 2
- 6) 1.5
- 7) 2
- 8) 1.75

- Please note that these numbers have been retrieved from memory and hearing notes.
- This advocate will strive to provide more accurate numbers in upcoming reports

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Hours spent on all Riese Hearings: 14

Cross Over clients: 0 (Clients in common with the Long Term Ombudsman program)

- Note of explanation: before the Covid pandemic hearing days were set for Tuesday and Friday every week however, this has changed in that the Certification review hearings have breached the confines of the set days. Now, the Patients' Rights Advocacy program can be called upon, generally with a 24 hour notice to provide hearing representation when called upon by the Telecare staff.