AGENDA
Behavioral Health Commission Meeting
Wednesday, October 21, 2020
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
REMOTE BHC MEETING ZOOM
CALL-IN #: 1-669-900-6833 & MEETING ID #: 939 8475 9984

CALL TO ORDER
Roll Call
Changes to the Agenda

ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS
For discussion

1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee
Discussion regarding Chair’s meetings with Behavioral Health Services staff, meetings with members of the Board of Supervisors and community meetings about mental health or substance use.

1.1 a) Update on vacancies and reappointments to the BHC
1.1 b) Update on Sunshine Ordinance Complaint
1.1 c) Suggestions for more BHC engagement.
1.1 d) Restructuring of the BHC

1.2 Reports, updates and changes on Committees
Discussion regarding committee meetings, goals and accomplishments and proposed new committees
1.2 a) Implementation Committee
1.2 b) Bylaws Revision Committee
1.2 c) Strategic Plan Committee
1.2 d) Nominating Committee
1.2 e) Site Visit Committee
1.2 f) Legislative Committee

1.3 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission

1.4 Public Comment

ITEM 2.0 NEW BUSINESS – SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

2.1 New Business – Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee
   2.1 a) Discussion of ideas for Retreat content and scheduling
   2.1 b) Suggestions of people or programs Commissioners would like to acknowledge or commend
   2.1 c) Suggestions for future agenda items

2.2 Public comment

ITEM 3.0 ACTION ITEMS

For discussion and action

3.1 Public Comment

3.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of September 16, 2020 be approved as submitted.

ITEM 4.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

For discussion

4.1 Discussion regarding Behavioral Health Services Department a report on the activities and operations of Behavioral Health Services (BHS), including budget, planning, policy, programs and services

4.2 Public Comment

ITEM 5.0 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT UPDATES AND PUBLIC HEARINGS

For Discussion

5.1 Mental Health Service Act Updates and Public Hearings
The passage of Proposition 63 (now known as the Mental Health Services Act or MHSA) in November 2004, provides increased annual funding to support county mental health programs. The Act addresses a broad continuum of prevention, early intervention and service needs and the necessary infrastructure, technology and training elements that will effectively support this system. This Act imposes a 1% income tax on personal income in excess of $1 million. One of the requirements of the Act is that the county must provide annual updates as well as hearings for changes in the way the county implements the funding.

5.2 Public Comment

ITEM 6.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Adjournment
AMERICAN WITH DISABILITY ACT

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Sunshine Ordinance Task Force
City Hall, Room 244
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689
Telephone: (415) 554-7724
Fax: 4(15) 554-5163
E-mail: sotf@sfgov.org

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MINUTES
Behavioral Health Commission Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2020
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
REMOTE MEETING ZOOM

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Marylyn Tesconi, MA, Chair; Carletta Jackson-Lane, JD, Vice-Chair; Judy Z. Drummond, MA, Secretary; Dawson Emmett Cooper II; Arthur Curry; Ulash Thakore-Dunlap, MFT; Gregory Ledbetter; Toni Parks; Richelle Slota, MA; Harriette Stevens, EdD; and Idell Wilson

COMMISSIONERS ON LEAVE: Judith Klain, MPH

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: none

STAFF PRESENT: Loy M. Proffitt, MBA, ARC, Assistant Director

PUBLIC PRESENT: Marlo Simmons, MPH, Acting Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS); Dr. Mary Ann Jones, Ph.D., CEO, Westside Community Services (https://www.westside-health.org/); David Elliott Lewis, Ph.D.; MHA-SF; Wynship Hillier; and Steven Banuelos.

CALL TO ORDER
Chair Marylyn Tesconi the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL
A quorum was present.

ITEM 1.0 COMMISSIONER’S REPORTS

1.1 Report from Chair of the Commission and the Executive Committee
   a. According to the City Attorney, we must have quorum to have this meeting.
   b. Would the person using the name “International Terrorist” please change name to “unknown.” No response. Loy Profit changed name to “unknown.”
c. Site visit training is changed to September 26, 2020 at 10-12.

d. Commissioner Richelle Slota was reappointed by Sandra Fewer through 2023. Commissioners Judy Drummond, Ulash Thakore-Dunlap Dunlop, Gregory Ledbetter, and Marylyn Tesconi are waiting reappointment. There are 7 vacancies.

e. Theresa Hu will send a representative to give us a short report about the start of Mental Health San Francisco (MHSF) and talk about housing.

f. Legislation posed by Supervisor Stefani was posted on August 31, and will be heard by the Rules Committee after 30-day rule, by October 1st.

g. Spoke with City Attorney re zoom identification (international terrorist), she recommended we rename that person or disable the chat.

h. Theresa Comstock training was very helpful.

1.2 Reports from Committees: all Commission members are required to be on one committee.

Strategic Planning Committee should be a standing committee. We will take this up at the Executive Committee meeting.

1.2a Information Committee

Does not need to exist anymore.

1.2b Implementation Committee

We met on September 13. Ida McCray will come to the next meeting to talk about women in the jails. Commissioner Idell Wilson wanted to discuss the impact of Prop 63 dollars on programs that are being pushed forward, especially in Hunters Point/Bayview. Commissioner Jackson-Lane is looking for someone to present.

1.2c Nominating Committee

This committee needs to reconvene because we need new officers and we need to elect new people into Commission positions. Commissioners Judith Klain, chair, and Gregory Ledbetter, Idell Wilson volunteered. We want them to step up in January. You can nominate but may not be on the committee if you want a position.

1.2d Bylaws Revision Committee

We had a successful meeting on 9/10/2020. The City Attorney’s office is willing to give us a law student to review our bylaws. Will meet in next few weeks to continue this project.

1.2e Strategic Plan Committee

Chair Judy Drummond, Commissioners Marylyn Tesconi, Judith Klain, Dawson Cooper II, Gregory Ledbetter, Carletta Jackson Lane are on the Committee. Commissioner Drummond did not get the post onto the agenda with a 72-hour window. She will set up a new meeting through Loy Proffitt.
1.3 People or Issues Highlighted by BHC: Suggestions of people, programs, or both, that Commissioners believe should be acknowledged or highlighted by the Behavioral Health Commission

1.3 a Presentation of Commendation for Dr. MaryAnn Jones

Vice Chair Carletta Jackson-Lane presented an award to Dr. Mary Ann Jones, CEO of Westside Mental Health Services for her lifelong work as a brave, revolutionary leader for mental health services to underserved communities.

a. Commissioner Idell Wilson wants to thank Helynna Brooke for the work she did for 25 years.

b. Commissioner Richelle Slota recommended we have a resolution commending health care workers who are working above and beyond the call of duty. How is this done? We will work on this. Write it and present it to the Commission meeting or the Executive Committee.

c. Commissioner Gregory Ledbetter nominated NAMI Peer to Peer Training Program.

1.4 Report by members of the Commission on their activities on behalf of the Commission

a. Commissioner Gregory Ledbetter is attending NAMI Peer to Peer Training Program. It is excellent.

b. Chair Marylyn Tesconi will participate on 9/22/20 in a discussion of human rights funds in the African American community. Money is being reallocated from the Police Department. Loy Proffitt will send link to participants if they want to attend.

c. Commissioner Dr. Harriette Stevens is attending meetings on the Data Notebook which will be due in January. It contains information on what should be put into tele health and issues related to COVID19. We have been restricted in our activities, so we need to write about our responses. What will our plan be in the future?

d. Commissioner Idell Wilson went to the Implementation Committee meeting and it was very informal and very interesting.

e. Commissioner Dawson Cooper II will participate in CORO of No CA, resilient SF infrastructure Leadership every Wednesday through the end of November.

f. Commissioner Gregory Ledbetter attended a meeting with Mega Black SF, a group Mayor Breed put together looking for reparations with money taken away from police.

1.5 New business - Suggestions for future agenda items to be referred to the Executive Committee

a. Commissioner Gregory Ledbetter: We need to look at Kindred Nursing Home on Bush Street, a senior care home operating under COVID. Conditions are horrendous. There is undertrained staff. Only 2 telephones for patients to use, with one designated to quarantine unit. Only one cell phone for 100 patients. This is only one of many complaints.

b. The Retreat just doesn’t seem feasible. People can’t stay on Zoom for 2+ hours. We need a retreat that will help us plan our vision for the next year.
1. Commissioner Richelle Slota: I have been in Zoom meetings where they do 2 hours in the morning and 2 more after a break. We can do that on the 26th when Terry does her training. Maybe we can have a diversity training for 45 minutes with Dawson Cooper II?

Commissioners Gregory Ledbetter and Carletta Jackson-Lane will help Commissioner Dawson Cooper II plan this.

c. In October the Strategic Planning Committee will lay out things we want to do in the New year and incorporate this into our work. We can move forward in a united front. Commissioner Ulash Thakore-Dunlap said she liked the idea of strategically training and scaffolding. We need to support and prepare ourselves to support our communities.

1.6 Public comment

a. Wynship Hillier: I was kicked out of the Zoom meeting. I’m well within my constitutional rights to have the name “international terrorist.” It has nothing to do with anyone’s comfort level; some things are going to be uncomfortable for important and pressing issues. I think people want to silence my message. I was trying to respond when you put me on mute. You are violating the Brown Act because you need to allow public comment on each item.

b. David Elliott Lewis: Nobody has the right to threaten anybody else. “International terrorist” is a threat and is entirely unprofessional. Free speech is not unlimited speech and threatening to report us is the act of the bully. The president of this country is a bully. I’m sorry you Commissioners have to deal with this.

ITEM 2.0 ACTION ITEMS

For discussion and action

None

2.1 Public comment

a. Wynship Hillier: David Elliott Lewis: if I have threatened anyone else, please let me know. Spell my name correctly. July minutes: motion to accept Dawson Cooper II did not happen. The resignation of Marcus Dancer was not there. There were many errors in the July minutes. At the August meeting, Arthur Curry was present. (Gregory Ledbetter says he was not present.) My comments are completely misrepresented. After motion I said you should rescind and expunge that motion because no notice was given for that. “I’m wondering if there was a breach of the rules,” there was no disability notice on the agenda.

b. Stephen Banuelos: The August minutes were not posted with agenda.

c. Chair Marylyn Tesconi: What are the changes you want made? Send changes to Loy Proffitt and they will be there when they are posted.

2.2 Proposed Resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes for the Behavioral Health Commission meeting of August 19, 2020 be approved as submitted

10 Aye, Commissioner Arthur Curry voted Nay, Adopted.
ITEM 3.0 REPORT FROM BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES DIRECTOR

The Director’s Report was based on information that went out with the agenda. The greatest impact is on our staffing. We are working hard to hire new people to take the weight off. We are getting people vaccinated for flu season. We are working to hire an Executive Director. BHS is moving up the ladder. There will be 2 new divisions for health services. One for rules of all health plan systems. There will be an office of coordinated care. Over the next couple of years, we will restructure all adult systems of care. We have opportunities for better care over the next three years. We highlighted Helynna Brooke in our newsletter for her years of service to Behavioral. Health. MHSF is getting ready to be implemented. Prop C will give hundreds of millions for housing and mental health. The Supreme Court of CA said they are not going to hear the complaints. The City is redirecting police funding to the African American community. We need to be better partners with the community, so if you have any ideas, let us know.

Questions:

Vice Chair Carletta Jackson Lane:

1. We are moving forward hiring our new Executive Director. How do we get involved to be part of the hiring process?
   a. Marlo Simmons said she would email Clair on the hiring committee.

2. Prop C: are there specific sections for behavioral health money?
   a. Marlo Simmons: At least 25% of the funding needs to be spent on mental health, specifically for preventing homelessness. It can’t be used to replace things. It has to be for new services.

3. Is it true that there is a 30% loss of staff?
   a. Marlo Simmons: Staff is down, Clinicians by 20%, psychiatrists by 30%, leadership by 40%. Email me if you want exact numbers. 24% are managing COVID deployments – trying to manage staff to part time. There is a peak in overdoses in hotel rooms and we need staff to go there. Lots of people are working to help with COVID but it is impacting our services.

Commissioner Richelle Slota:

1. How are DPH staff doing in staying free of COVID-19?
   a. Marlo Simmons: There are not many cases. Handful of concerns that turned out to be nothing. 2 programs had a staff person get COVID-19. Cases were traced to the community. COVID-19 is wreaking havoc across the board.

Commissioners Richelle Slota and Gregory Ledbetter offered support for their great work. Commendations across the board. We respect and appreciate what you have done in the hardest of times. BHS in facing an incredible amount of change, including money, our vision, and our principles. How do we engage you in our strategic planning even?

Commissioner Dr. Harriette Stevens: When we have an event, we should let everyone know what is going on. We need to hear about all the programs. We need the big picture, then stakeholders can fit into that.

Commissioner Judy Drummond suggested an umbrella group around mental health like you did under the transitional age youth (TAY) umbrella. That was incredible.
Commissioner Ulash Thakore-Dunlap: Thank you for your leadership. We appreciate your collaborative efforts. How can we advocate on red tape, bureaucracy? How can we elaborate for you?

a. Marlo Simmons: One of the challenges are the Civil Service Rules and how they operate in the hiring process. We are committed to hiring from the community. It may take 18 months to hire someone. This creates the most barriers.

Chair Marylyn Tesconi: Those are barriers that need to be pushed a bit.
Commissioner Toni Parks: My experience with websites and forms has shown me that government forms are so user unfriendly and poorly designed.

3.2 Public Comment

a. Wynship Hillier: 2500 people are on involuntary treatment. It is appalling that this Commission is not going into this. It is 3% of the City and County’s population. How many patients are under Section 5300? Marlo Simmons responded that she has requested that information and will follow-up on the request.

b. David Elliott Lewis: It’s more like 500 who are in involuntary treatment.

c. Stephen Banuelos: Thank you Marlo. I dealt with budgets for residential beds. Because of the nature of San Francisco, this supportive housing becomes permanent and then there is nowhere to go.

4.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Stephen Banuelos: How can this Commission make sure we can participate in these funding entities? Maybe we can have someone sit in on this so we don’t replicate what is happening, and our time and energy are efficiently used. Do you have any sense about the % of client contacts pre COVID? Marlo Simmons: In a two-week period, 67-80% are in contact by phone. We’re evaluating if there is enough frequency. COVID is traumatizing everyone. A lot more is needed.

b. David Elliott Lewis: We are in a time of great change. Mayor Breed wants to mandate public mental health, but we have not had a seat at the table. The refunding of police money will do this. We should try to get seats on these advisory boards so there are mental health people on board. BHC should have a seat at the table.

c. Commissioner Toni Parks: I tried to apply for the committee They want long essays. Seems like you have to know someone. Judy Drummond said she will help.

d. Wynship Hillier: I remind you that there are 2500 petitions filed for long term treatment. I made a reference to staff to ask for more information to Marlo Simmons to report back to October meeting. How many new outpatients come in from June to July?

e. Marlo Simmons: I sent you an email, I think I found out what you are referencing. I want to talk to you offline.

f. Wynship Hillier: You said new legislation by Supervisor Stefani to reform staff relationship was introduced on 8/13. The 30th day is tomorrow. It could come up in the Rules Committee next Monday. It is your choice if you wish to continue to hold a
meeting in violation in the Brown Act. It is a criminal violation. The August meeting was not posted. Section 9A of the Sunshine Act says any document used in a meeting must be distributed beforehand.

Vice Chair Carletta Jackson Lane moved to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Idell Wilson. Approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Secretary Judy Drummond prepared the minutes.

There being no further business, the Commission adjourned at the hour 8:13 p.m.
Our Latinx Clients and their Stories during the COVID-19 Crisis

As we celebrate National Latinx Heritage Month (Sep 15 to Oct 15), we also need to reflect on the stories that highlight not only the disproportionate impact of this pandemic on the Latinx community, but also the rising mental health needs among our Latinx clients, which are most likely precipitated and perpetuated by this COVID-19 pandemic.

In clinical interviews with Latinx youth and their families, here are a few client stories that underscore difficulties and challenges at this time:

- **Client’s mood in the home and academic engagement has suffered since March 2020 because of distance learning challenges, witnessing the economic impact the pandemic has had on the client’s parents (i.e. unemployment of parents, father suspected to be homeless) and the change of service delivery through telehealth.**

- **Client acknowledges the difficulties of the trauma that they have experienced including witnessing domestic violence and the associated life changes such as moving to the United States, managing social interactions and school during COVID-19, and having to live in transitional housing.**

- **Client’s family previous to COVID had been attending church every Sunday and had gotten much support from this and this was also a family bonding ritual uniting the extended family (grandparents) and her nuclear family, however since COVID they have not been able to attend together.**

Our Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) assessment show that Latinx youth who were admitted for behavioral health services during the COVID-19 crisis (i.e., March to September 2020) have a slightly higher likelihood of experiencing cultural stress as well as some traumatic stress reactions, when compared to Latinx youth who were admitted in the same time period last year (see data stories below).

When working with Latinx clients and their families, it is essential to strike a good balance between cultural humility and cultural competence. The latter calls for adapting our practices using a trauma-informed and culturally-responsive lens. Here are a few resources where to start: Working with Latinx Children/Youth and Families - CYF TIPs (Tools to Improve Practice); Culture and Trauma brief (NCTSN, 2007); and Healing Ethno-Racial Trauma in Latinx Immigrant Communities (Chavez-Dueñas et al., 2019). Feel free to reach out to Ritchie Rubio of CYF (ritchie.rubio@sfdph.org) for questions or consult.

Note: % = Proportion of Latinx youth who need intervention or intensive action. n = new clients for that period.
SF Latinx Community Organization and Resiliency

BHS Mission Family Center (MFC) has remained staffed with minimal coverage during Shelter in Place and sees clients in the Transition Age Youth (TAY) Clinic as needed when a client family is in crises or has a difficult time engaging in telehealth. We collaborated with Habit for Humanity to receive donations of two large playhouses for children once Shelter in Place is lifted. We were also the recipients of 100 handmade children's masks - 50 from a donor through Dr. David Smith of BHS Pharmacy and 50 from a donor at the Chinatown Children’s Development Center.

Additionally, MFC staff participated in the BHS booth at the Carnaval "Salud es Poder" Wellness Pavilion on September 5, 2020, in celebration of Latinx Heritage Month, dedicated to public health education for the Latino community which represents over half of all COVID+ individuals in SF. We are forever inspired by the organization and resiliency of our Latino community in these challenging times.

And last but not least, a great big shout out to MFC staff who are deployed either full or part-time: Maureen Gammon, Health Worker at the COVID Command Wellness Center; Augusto Guerra, Sr. Clerk, and Roxana Razo, Behavioral Health Clinician, at the Isolation and Quarantine (I&Q) Hotels; Marta Bernal and Leslie Nieves, Behavioral Health Clinician COVID Contact Tracers; and Claudia Diaz, Sr. Behavioral Health Clinician at SFUSD COVID Resource Hotline. You are all amazing!

For more information, please contact MFC Director Robán San Miguel at: roban.sanmiguel@sfdph.org

Photographed: Leslie Nieves, Robán San Miguel and Jaime Arcila (top right) and Maria Isabel Sanchez, Robán San Miguel, and Anthony Sarabia (bottom left).
Salud es Poder: Health is Our Wealth
San Francisco's 42nd Annual Carnival Latino Covid-19 Healing and Recovery Street Fair

Over the Labor Day weekend, DJ Julicio played his Latinx dance hits and members of several dance troupes performed their choreographed moves, while members of the health community, including Behavioral Health Services, handed out health information, adding to the festive ambiance that is always Carnaval in the Mission.

This year’s slogan, “Salud es Poder: Health is our Wealth,” reminded us of our purpose to assist families in the Mission District who have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The health fair section of the street fair provided free COVID-19 testing, groceries, employment information, acupressure, and a myriad of other services from a variety of providers. Our BHS booth handed out tips for dealing with COVID-19 stress and leaflets on how to help our children deal with these unprecedented times.

Tabling at this year’s event were BHS employees Roban San Miguel, Maria “Chavela” Sanchez, Julio Siliezar, Michaelo Rosso and Anthony Sarabia. Despite the record-breaking heat wave and poor air quality, the public came out to enjoy the festive atmosphere. Face Masks and social distancing reminded us of San Francisco’s commitment to responsible social interactions with their neighbors, making this year’s event a great success!

For more information on BHS Vocational Services please contact Travis Hill at 415-255-3607 or william.hill@sfdph.org.
Transition Age Youth (TAY) System of Care (SOC) Program Spotlight: Horizons Unlimited SF

For 35+ years, Horizons has offered a variety of culturally-rooted and linguistically specific services, events, and campaigns including employment, gender specific, prevention and treatment programs in English and Spanish for youth and families, serving over 5,000 unduplicated clients each year.

An important TAY SOC partner, Horizon’s EMIC Behavioral Health Services program brings lo-threshold, culturally and developmentally responsive services to youth and TAY ages 12-25. Services include outreach, screening and assessment, wellness promotion, therapeutic services, case management and service linkage.

During the COVID-19 crisis, staff shifted case management virtually, maintaining clients’ active engagement. Clients shared the virtual space allowed them to be more open and honest on an array of topics while easing their anxiety when speaking with staff. In addition, Horizon staff member, Gabi Espinoza, created a Newcomer Wellness Group catered to Brazilians in response to a rise in youth from Brazil. The group was successful in meeting virtually and was facilitated in Portuguese! TAY also reported increase in hopefulness due to Horizons’ support mitigating any distress in lack of resources, including access to food banks, economic relief, internet access, and filling out forms for undocumented youth.

Recently, one of Horizon’s youth tested positive for COVID-19 and contracted it to their own family. Everyone stayed home to get better and currently all are physically healthy luckily. With no extended family nearby, Horizons’ helped obtain economic assistance since for them and provided Safeway gift cards so the family had groceries delivered to their doorstep. The family was so thankful and appreciative! This situation has helped promote the importance of telehealth and the need for social distancing.

Horizons truly builds trust and rapport in providing valuable services and in creating meaningful therapeutic relationships with TAY and their families. Recently, they welcomed new Clinical Director Karla Solis to their team! To learn more or get involved, visit their website or contact clucero@horizons-sf.org
New BHS Bed Availability & Optimization Team Gets Started

Yoonjung Kim, LCSW, and David Pating, M.D. are co-leading, the BHS Bed Availability & Optimization (BAO) Project, with data analysis assistance from Emeterio Garcia, under SF Mental Health Reform. This project is specifically focused on improving client access, patient flow, service quality, and the overall efficiency and effectiveness of the BHS system of mental health (MH) and substance-use disorder (SUD) residential treatment beds. The team is working closely with BHS behavioral health residential treatment providers and stakeholders on new policies and procedures to optimize utilization of the beds.

The BAO Project was initiated in 2019, under prior project manager, Lauren Brunner, and included the launch of our public website, www.FindTreatmentSF.org, which now displays real-time availability and occupancy of BHS SUD residential treatment beds. The purpose of the website is to monitor bed utilization, improve bed management and access, and promote transparency and accountability via sharing of information with the public. The new team, Yoonjung, David, and Eme, updated data collection methods for the SUD bed availability website, incorporated the impact of COVID-19, and are now working to launch an equivalent MH residential treatment bed availability website.

BHS MH and SUD residential treatment beds constitute a significant and critical investment for clients experiencing the highest acuity and most severe impairments from serious mental illness and substance-use disorders, who are in need of prolonged periods of stay in 24/7 recovery and rehabilitative settings. BHS currently has almost 200 MH residential treatment beds and over 500 SUD residential treatment beds available for clients in SF including medical and social detoxification, MH crisis, 90-day transitional, MH one-year long-term, SUD residential step-down, and behavioral health perinatal beds.

In addition to refining the data collection and monitoring of the daily bed census, capacity, and utilization across BHS MH and SUD residential treatment facilities, the BAO Project team is determined to pursue other system reform implementation initiatives to further improve BHS residential treatment services.

Kudos to Yoonjung, David and Eme, for quickly tackling this important challenge, and working collaboratively with BHS providers towards improving our BHS residential treatment services!

For more information on the BAO Project, please contact yoonjung.kim@sfdph.org or david.pating@sfdph.org.
Pilot for CBOs to get FREE Access to Interpretation Services
Continues through FY 20-21

The BHS Office of Equity, Social Justice, and Multicultural Education (OESM) is writing to announce that Language Resources for CBO Programs Pilot is continuing through the duration of FY 20-21. Last year, after receiving feedback via our Cultural Competence Questionnaire and CBO representatives on the BHS Cultural Competence Task Force, OESM learned that the ability to fund language resources for clients was a big obstacle for contracted providers to better reach and retain clients. With this in mind, OESM made it a goal to support our CBOs by providing them with free access to our interpretation vendors for in-person interpretation. For this pilot program, all that was needed was the completion of a simple request form, to be submitted to OESM, who would work with our vendors to ensure that an interpreter was assigned to the appointment or event.

Through FY 19-20, the pilot was quite successful, with approximately 30 requests being processed. The vast majority of requests came from just a handful of agencies, and Chinese was the most commonly requested language.

For this current fiscal year, we hope to get increased usage of the pilot, with more contracted agencies participating and an even more diverse array of languages requested. Since most appointments or meetings are being held over WebEx, Zoom, and traditional conference calls, assigned interpreters are joining those until in-person sessions are resumed.

Please spread the word so that the value of this opportunity can be maximized!

For questions on the pilot or if you need a copy of the request form, please email Michael Rojas at michael.rojas@sfdph.org.
Expanded Language Services and Voting Access for BHS Clients

The SF Community Justice Center (CJC) has seen a large influx of monolingual Spanish speakers which as necessitated out of the box thinking on how to best engage and serve this underserved population during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Case Managers have been working with Spanish speaking staff as well as the Language Line in order to best serve and address the unique needs of this population.

CJC staff have identified various community resources which are available during the pandemic, including the Mission Hiring Hall which has been running the “Latino Task Force” weekly on Wednesdays and Thursdays to include free job counselling for Spanish speaking community members, free food boxes and free COVID-19 testing. We have also been working with City College of SF English Language as a Second Language Department to help clients connect to courses for the Fall 2020 semester, which are now all online using Zoom.

A huge shout out to Sara Biel and the RAMS Peer Division of Peer Based Services for their fantastic work getting voter registration, information, and ballot boxes in the COVID Shelter In Place hotels. Many of our clients have been excluded from having their voices heard in local and national elections and we are thrilled for the opportunity to help empower them to participate in our democratic process. We appreciate all the work to support our clients and are excited to include them this November.

For more information on CJC please contact Forensic and Justice Involved Behavioral Health Services Director, Angelica Almeida at angelica.almeida@sfdph.org.
New COVID and Racism Pandemic Practice Improvement Tools

What is the CYF TIPS website?

The CYF Tools to Improve Practice (TIPS) website was designed to serve as an online hub of resources that providers can use to strengthen and supplement their clinical intervention work with children, youth, and families.

How do I access this website?

The link to the website is as follows:

https://sites.google.com/view/cyftips/

This website will continue to be in development in the next months. As a start, I have prioritized including currently relevant resources:

Why the need for this website?

Our story started in the Winter of 2018, at a CYF Providers’ Meeting. While collectively reflecting on our data stories from outcomes of our children and youth clients, we acknowledged the impact of ongoing trauma, racism, and other cultural and systemic factors on the well-being of our child and youth clients. Aside from ongoing trainings and groups, we highlighted the potential usefulness of an online resources hub, that any provider can access, for tools that can support and reinforce their practice. We started with internal wiki pages and shared folders of resources, disseminated through time, but later realized how cumbersome it can be to navigate these folders.

The need for a user-friendly website became more apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, especially as most of our providers shifted their practice to telebehavioral health. In response, I put together this temporary website. The BHS website is currently undergoing a major redesign. Once this is completed, these CYF TIPS will be migrated to a dedicated CYF page in the BHS website.

Next steps will be to add resources on: (1) trauma-informed tools; (2) evidence-based tools informed by the F.I.R.S.T. model (Weisz & Bearman, 2020); and (3) tools to strengthen cultural humility and competence.

CYF-SOC TIPS website flyer. Created on 9.15.2020. For consult/questions: Ritchie Rubio (ritchie.rubio@sfdph.org)
Highlights from National Suicide Prevention Week in September

National Suicide Awareness and Prevention Month & World Suicide Prevention Day, as well as National Recovery Month all took place in the month of September. In honor of World Suicide Prevention Day on September 10th, the Mental Health Services (MHSA) Team and Behavioral Health Services partnered with San Francisco City Hall to have the civic landmark illuminated in purple and teal, the colors which symbolize suicide awareness and prevention.

During Suicide Prevention Week, MHSA also shared with providers and partners daily resources from Each Mind Matters (EMM) which included webinars, virtual events, and activities that reflected this year’s theme of “Hope, Resilience and Recovery.” EMM also encouraged a special focus on the intersection between suicide prevention, alcohol and drug use in their events and activities given that research has shown there’s a strong co-morbidity and overlap among risk and protective factors for substance use and suicide.

We encourage everyone to remember that we’re in this together. Let’s continue to help ourselves, clients, and loved ones by staying connected, reaching out, knowing the suicide warning signs, asking for help, and offering help when we can.

EMM is California’s Mental Health Movement which consists of many organizations and individuals that work to advance mental health and to reduce stigma and discrimination around mental health. EMM is implemented by the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) and is funded through the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA).

For resources and more information, please visit Each Mind Matters and Suicide is Preventable. For additional questions, please contact MHSA@sfdph.org.
### October 2020 Trainings

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Training</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Trainer</th>
<th>CE’s Offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10/1</td>
<td>5:00 pm – 6:00 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/TZAsdOqrqToHNUqsWMhTncCn-nKkQM5SR-h7fbciId+iwAR21Ttx7v27U-jhMyOyQjJTNqkaJopgGJyQc725G8A-yeqGwBLk9bh-5yzo">Human Rights Commission’s Thoughtful Thursdays</a></td>
<td>Varies</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 10/2</td>
<td>10:00 am – 11:00 am</td>
<td><a href="https://mhtctnetwork.org/centers/national-hispanic-and-latino-mhttc/event/evolution-latino-identities-and-mental-health">The Evolution of Latino Identities and Mental Health</a></td>
<td>Darice Orobitg, PhD</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 10/5</td>
<td>9:00 am – 12:00 pm</td>
<td>[Advanced Motivational Interviewing: Continuing the Journey](By Application)</td>
<td>Steven Malcom Berg-Smith, MS</td>
<td>6 CME/CE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 10/6</td>
<td>10:00 am – 11:30 am</td>
<td><a href="https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/1866659991386403339">Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy: A Culturally Adapted Therapy to Work with Latino Families</a></td>
<td>Isa I. Velez Echeverria, PsyD</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 10/7</td>
<td>9:00 am – 10:30 am</td>
<td>[Overdose Prevention and NARCAN](<a href="https://zoom.us/webinar/register/">https://zoom.us/webinar/register/</a> WN_jVo-8wqTjDuoJxLd2FhuA)</td>
<td>DOPE</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10/8</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/self-care-and-resilience-online-tickets-11902803427">Self-Care and Resilience</a></td>
<td>Charles Hawthorn</td>
<td>2 CEU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 10/13</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 3:00 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/safer-drug-use-in-the-covid-19-era-online-tickets-119299390689">Safer Drug Use in COVID-19</a></td>
<td>Charles Hawthorn</td>
<td>2 CEU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 10/20</td>
<td>1:00 pm – 2:30 pm</td>
<td><a href="https://bit.ly/25b6q0I">Fentanyl and the Third Wave of the Opioid Epidemic</a></td>
<td>Daniel Ciccarone, MD, MPG</td>
<td>1.5 CME/CE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 10/20</td>
<td>2:00pm – 4:00pm</td>
<td><a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/de-escalation-and-conflict-management-online-tickets-119022231699">De-escalation and Conflict Management</a></td>
<td>Charles Hawthorn</td>
<td>2 CEU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 10/23</td>
<td>2:00pm – 4:00pm</td>
<td><a href="https://bit.ly/3naagrt">De-escalation for Front-Line Providers in COVID-19</a></td>
<td>Theresa Ick</td>
<td>2 CME/CE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 10/27</td>
<td>9:30 am – 11:00 am</td>
<td><a href="https://bit.ly/36g5ksK">Introduction to Effective and Ethical Group Tele-Mental Health During COVID19</a></td>
<td>Mary K. Alvord, PhD</td>
<td>1.5 CME/CE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>BAAHI Equity Learning Series</td>
<td>Contact <a href="mailto:Gavin.Morrow-Hall@sfdph.org">Gavin.Morrow-Hall@sfdph.org</a> for Details and Zoom link</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
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New BHS Webinar Recording Available Online

Aspire to Re-Imagine Safety and Equity (ARISE): Interpersonal and Structural Violence Prevention and Intervention in COVID-19

Presented by Leigh Kimberg, MD | Recorded 9/23/20 | Vimeo Link

Dr. Leigh Kimberg will discuss how interpersonal violence (IPV) is rooted in oppression and structural violence and how violence is prevented through safe, nurturing and equity-promoting relationships and policies. She will review the ways people using violence wield power and control in relationships, the impacts of interpersonal violence on health, and ways to provide prevention and intervention resources to the patients we care for. Dr. Kimberg will invite IPV service providers to share their best practices in prevention and intervention for people experiencing IPV and structural violence, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the communities they serve, and the ways they have adapted their programs and practices to meet current challenges. Throughout the training we will practice caring for ourselves while caring for others through guided meditations and healing practices.

Other BHS Training Webinars are available on the Training Unit Vimeo Page

If you have feedback including future training suggestions, please contact Michelle Meier, LCSW, BHS Training and Internship Manager (Michelle.Meier@sfdph.org).

BHS Staffing Update

As of September 15, 2020, Lucy Arrellano, the Quality Management Grievance & Appeal Officer, will be taking a temporary 9-month leave of absence to serve at the COVID Response Command Center. During this period, Dr. Melissa Bloom, BHS Risk Manager, will be handling grievance issues until a temporary replacement is found to cover the role. Grievances can continue to be submitted as they normally would.
Do you have general questions about being a Disaster Service Worker (DSW) or are you currently deployed and have concerns you need help getting answers for?

The BHS Clearinghouse team is available to support you regarding your deployment needs.

If necessary, BHS leadership provides support answering questions/addressing concerns and coordinates with DOC Staff call or email with concerns or questions

Team reviews, logs, and responds to staff

415-255-3427  bhsclearinghouse@sfdph.org