



California Coalition for Mental Health - Membership Meeting
 Wednesday, September 27, 2023 | 10:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.
Hybrid Via Zoom Video Conference (meeting recorded for minutes) & In-Person
(2520 Venture Oaks Way, Sacramento, CA 95833, 2nd floor, Suite 205)

Minutes
(Draft)

Welcome & Introductions

Theresa Comstock, CCMH President

The meeting was called to order at 10:04am

Attendees were asked to introduce themselves:

First Name:	Last Name:	Organization:
Alley	Jennifer	California Psychological Association
Kirsten	Barlow	California Hospital Association (guest)
Angela	Blanchard	CA Association of Marriage and Family Therapists
Nahar	Sumaya	CA Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (Political Solutions)
Michelle	Cabrera	CA Behavioral Health Directors Assn (joined 2 nd half)
Adrian	Castellon	National Association of Social Workers - California Chapter
Theresa	Comstock	CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions
Chad	Costello	CA Assoc of Social Rehabilitation Agencies
Gonzales	Rebecca	National Association of Social Workers - California Chapter
Randall	Hagar	Psychiatric Physicians Alliance
Erin	McIntyre	Occupational Therapy Association of California
Curtis	Paullins	Mental Health America of California
Danny	Thirakul	Mental Health America of California (CAYEN)
Shelby	Gnos	Mental Health America of California
Thomas	Renfree	CA Assoc of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives
Fred	Seavey	National Union of Healthcare Workers

Daphne	Shaw	CA Behavioral Health Planning Council
Adrienne	Shilton	CA Alliance of Child and Family Services
Heidi	Strunk	Mental Health America of California
Bennie	Tinson	Licensed Adult Residential Care Association (guest)
Karen	Vicari	Mental Health America of California
Jamie	Yoon	National Association of Social Workers - California Chapter

= in person

Behavioral Health Services Act / Proposition 1 Ballot Measure - CCMH Work Session

- **CCMH member discussion regarding the BHSA ballot measure, including potential organizational responses and CCMH follow-ups with CA HHS and MHSOAC**

Theresa Comstock suggested that today's meeting could be used to provide an overview of the language in the initiative and provide clarification, if possible. Remaining questions can be identified and hopefully answered prior to a yet to be scheduled additional working session that might include a representative from CA HHS, DHCS and the MHSOAC.

Theresa reviewed the prepared high-level overview of both the BHSA and the accompanying bond that was shared with attendees.

Theresa asked attendees to share whether their organization has decided to take a position on Prop 1. She also asked attendees to identify areas of concern/opposition/support regardless of whether their organization has taken a position.

- CAADPE has not yet taken a formal position but is pleased with the expansion of BHSA funds to cover those with a primary diagnosis of SUD, though there are areas where the initiative could be improved.
- MHAC has taken an oppose position on the initiative. They have many concerns including a significant loss of funding for more general mental health services, including many that are client run.
- Psychiatric Physicians Alliance is leaning toward supporting the initiative but has yet to take a formal position. Would like to take a look at final initiative language to see what's in it and how it hangs together before taking a final position.
- California Hospital Association (guest) is in support of the two-bill package that will become Prop 1.
- NASW-CA has yet to take a formal position. They are concerned about the funding implications for core prevention and early intervention programs and about the last-minute language switch related to locked programs in the bond bill. Supportive of extending eligibility to those with SUD but concerned that no

new funding is being added for those services. Once the final initiative language is published, their Legislative Committee will review and possibly take a position.

- NUHW has not yet taken a position on the initiative.
- The Licensed Adult Residential Care Association has not taken a position. They have some concerns around the \$2B designated for Permanent Supportive Housing be made available to ARFs and RCFEs. Would like to see the Innovation element continue.
- CBHDA expressed several concerns including that their members/counties will have to make cuts to several programs that are currently in operation should Prop 1 pass. The belief that 1991 and/or 2011 Realignment are sufficient to backfill funding does not hold up given the flat/nonexistent growth in those two funding sources.

Stephanie Welch from CA HHS, who was supposed to present on Prop1 had to cancel to attend an in-person event, so Theresa asked if there was interest in meeting with Stephanie and possibly Toby Ewing of the MHSOAC prior to the next scheduled CCMH meeting, understanding that they may be limited in what they can say/share since it is now a formal initiative. The purpose would be to identify areas of concern that might be able to be addressed during the implementation of the initiative assuming it becomes law. Theresa will get back to members to set up a time.

Behavioral Health Workforce

Adrienne Shilton, Director of Public Policy & Strategy, The CA Alliance of Child & Family Services

- Adrienne provided an overview of the Alliance's recently released report "[Addressing the Disparities in Clinical Exam Rates for Behavioral Health](#)" which highlights the disturbing differentials between the higher passage rates of whites vs. exam takers from those who identify themselves as other than white and makes several suggestions as to what can be done to address this critical workforce and service accessibility issue.
 - Theresa asked if the Alliance had any "asks" related to the report, and Adrienne replied that they did not have specific asks at this time – they are in development.

CCMH Organizational Business

- **Minutes from June 28th, 2023**

Chad Costello, CCMH Secretary

Minutes from the 06.28.23 CCMH Meeting were approved as presented.

- **Treasurer's Report**

Carol Neidenberg, CCMH Treasurer

Carol was not able to attend. The financial information was presented by Curtis Paullins from MHAC.

- CCJBH has paid their CCMH dues.
- He will reach out to those organizations that have yet to pay their dues.
- Cash balance stands at \$11,161
- **CCMH Fiscal Management & Staffing** (*Action item*)

Heidi Strunk, MHAC President & CEO

Heidi presented the need for/rationale behind MHAC's request for an increase in the administrative fee they charge to CCMH (Increase from \$5000/year to \$8000/year). Absent the increase, MHAC would need to transfer the responsibilities to another organization.

- *A motion to grant the increase in the administrative fee from its current level of \$5,000 to \$8,000 was put forward and seconded. A majority of those members present voted in favor.*

- **CCMH Dues: \$50 Dues Increase for FY 2024 (Action Item)**

Theresa Comstock, CCMH President

- *A motion to increase the annual member dues by \$50 was put forward and seconded. A majority of those members present voted in favor.*

- **Election of CCMH Treasurer (Action item)**

(The Treasurer is elected for a two-year term beginning immediately following the election.)

Theresa Comstock, CCMH President

Erin McIntyre accepted the nomination to serve as CCMH Treasurer.

- *A motion to elect Erin McIntyre as CCMH Treasurer was put forward and seconded. A majority of those members present voted in favor.*

CCMH Member Updates

- Various CCMH members provided updates on their current activities

Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 11:52am