
Meeting Minutes Wednesday, December 11, 2024 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

- I. **Roll Call** – Stanislaus Homeless Alliance (SHA) meeting called to order by Chairperson, Brad Hawn, at 5:33 pm. Please see attachment for roll call.
- II. **Public Comment Period** – None
- III. **Action Items**
- a. November 2024 Minutes-Motion to approve minutes by Rosalinda Vierra and second from Lise Talbott
Approved (7 – Y, 0 – N, 0 – Abstain)
 - b. Alternate Member Appointment-Bylaw recommendation change.
Members voted on the following recommendation:

4.2 Alternate Member Appointments

For each government entity listed in Section 4, alternate members of the Stanislaus Homeless Alliance will ~~be the highest-ranking an executive-level~~ administrative official in each government entity.

For each non-government entity listed in Section 4, alternate members will be nominated by the governing bodies of these entities and approved by a majority of that body. Subject to the bylaws of those organizations, non-governmental entities shall prioritize the election of representatives not currently employed by a governmental entity.

Before the vote, there was discussion regarding the new verbiage. Councilmember Lise Talbott stated that in some cities, such as Ceres, the board member is a councilmember, and the alternate is a councilmember. The new verbiage would imply that it *can't* be another council member. A motion was made to approve action item III.b., however, there was not a unanimous decision. A concern was brought forward that the alternate councilmember from Ceres would no longer be eligible to be part of the board based on the change. CEO Jody Hayes recognized that the SHA Board is fine with other elected officials deemed appropriate to be alternates and function that way. The verbiage does need to be looked at, and the new recommendation needs to be looked at again. It was suggested that this action item be tabled until next month, with new recommendations brought forward.

IV. Informational Items

- a. Kevin Panyanouvong, LCSW Associate Director of BHRS-Presented on the implementation of Senate Bill 43 (SB43), which is an expansion of grave disability.
 1. There are two counties which have implemented SB43 as of January 1, 2024. They are San Francisco and San Luis Obispo
 2. Counties that will be implementing January 1, 2025, are:
 - Stanislaus
 - Sacramento

- San Bernardino
 - San Diego
3. SB43 Implementation Timeline
- January 2024: Held two stakeholder meeting, developed initial timeline
 - March 2024: Stakeholder meetings continue; initial DHCS guidance
 - June 2024: BHRF fiscal impact analysis and FY 24-25 budget finalized
 - September 2024: Statewide workgroup recommendations; policies, guidelines to be finalized
 - October: November 2024: Training for staff, law enforcement, designated facilities
 - January 2025: County-wide implementation of SB43 in Stanislaus County
4. Brief Background: SB43 expands California’s criteria for involuntary detention and conservatorship, based on a person’s mental health disorder and/or severe substance use disorder (SUD), including alcoholism, resulting in the person’s inability to provide for their basic needs for food, clothing, shelter, personal safety, or necessary medical care.
- *Current grave disability definition:* A condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, is unable to provide for his or her basic personal needs for food, clothing, or shelter.
 - **NEW* grave disability definition under SB43:* A condition in which a person, as a result of a mental health disorder, severe substance use disorder* or a co-occurring mental health disorder and severe substance use disorder, is at risk for serious harm or currently experiencing serious harm as a result of being unable to provide for their basic needs for food, clothing, shelter, personal safety* or necessary medical care*.
 - **New/expanded criteria to meet grave disability under SB43
 - Functionally, SB43 allows people to be placed on 5150’s and other involuntary holds based on there severe SUD. This provides a working definition of how severe SUD may be defined.
 - According to DSM-5, severity of SUDs is measured in a continuum based on the number of symptoms present of a total of eleven (11) criteria, with a ‘severe’ diagnosis being defined as when 6 or more than the 11 criteria are present, as noted below.
 - ‘Severe’ SUD is defined as a diagnosed substance-related disorder that meets the diagnostic criteria of ‘severe’ according the most current version of Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (now DSM-5).
 - However, non-clinicians who are LPS designated to place holds (e.g., law enforcement) would not be expected to make a DSM diagnosis for a SUD, but simply need to describe the observable **behavior or conditions**, and/or document the

information received, consistent with the (simplified) DSM criteria below, and which would meet **probable cause** for detaining someone on a 5150 due to severe SUD.

- DSM-5 Criteria for SUD (simplified)
 - Use in larger amounts or for longer periods of time than intended.
 - Unsuccessful efforts to cut down or quit.
 - Excessive time spent getting, using, intoxicated, and recovering from effects.
 - Craving or Intense desire/urge to use substance.
 - Failure to fulfill major obligations.
 - Continued use despite social/interpersonal problems.
 - Activities/hobbies reduced or given up.
 - Recurrent use in physically hazardous situations.
 - Recurrent use despite physical or psychological problems caused by or worsened by use.
 - Withdrawal.

5. Big Picture

- Many at-risk folks currently served/treated as dual-diagnosed (MH and SUD) = existing psychiatric hospitals
- Increase in 5150 holds?
- Involuntary SUD treatment (alone?)
 - Little evidence base, or tradition, of such (outside of criminal?)
 - Facility types? SB 1238 (Eggman)
 - BHRS plans to expand existing outpatient services...mobile crisis launched this year.
- 'SUD only' psychiatric holds...and conservatorships?

6. Stanislaus County SB43 Implementation Meetings

- Held monthly meetings with Community Partners and Stakeholders (Self-Help FCU, 900 Crows Landing Rd, Modesto)
 - September 23, 2024
 - October 28, 2024
 - November 13, 2024
 - December 11, 2024

b. Behavioral Health also presented on Community Assistance, Recovery, Empowerment (CARE) Court

1. What is CARE Court?

- A new civil court process designed to connect individuals with certain mental health diagnoses over a one-to-two year process with county behavioral health services under the oversight of a judge.
 - CARE Court is NOT:
 - Criminal court
 - For all mental health conditions
 - A solution to homelessness

2. Who does this program help?

- 18 years or older

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- Has diagnosis in disorder class: Schizophrenia Spectrum and Other Psychotic Disorders
- Currently experiencing behaviors and symptoms associated with severe mental illness (SMI)
- Not clinically stabilized in on-going voluntary treatment
- At least one of the following:
 - Unlikely to survive safely without supervision and condition is substantially deteriorating.
 - Needs services and supports to prevent relapse or deterioration, leading to grave disability or harm to others
- Participation in a CARE Plan or Agreement is the least restrictive alternative
- Likely to benefit from participating in a CARE Plan or Agreement

3. Who is CARE Court NOT for?

- People with conditions other than schizophrenia/psychotic conditions and severe mental illness.
- Psychosis resulting from:
 - Traumatic brain injury
 - Autism
 - Dementia
 - Substance use disorders
- Individuals already stabilized in voluntary treatment
- Individuals not at risk of relapse or grave disability

4. Who are the parties involved in CARE Court?

- Petitioner
 - Files a petition to bring a person who they believe to be eligible into CARE Court. Could be a person or organization.
- Respondent
 - The individual who is the subject of the CARE Court petition .
- Court/Judge
 - Responsible for receipt of petitions, and oversight of the CARE Court process.
- County Behavioral Health Agency
 - Responsible for engaging the respondent, mental health services and supports.
- Public Defenders/Legal Aid Attorneys
 - Responsible for representing the respondent in proceedings.
- County Counsel
 - The county's lawyers.

5. Who can petition?

- Family/Home
 - Person with whom respondent resides
 - Spouse, parent, sibling, child, grandparent or other individual in place of a parent
 - Respondent (i.e., self-petition)
- Community

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- First responder (e.g., peace officer, firefighter, paramedic, mobile crisis response, homeless outreach worker)
 - Director of a hospital, or designee, in which respondent is hospitalized (including for 5150s, 5250s)
 - Licensed behavioral health professional, or designee treating respondent for mental illness
 - Director of a public/charitable organization providing behavioral health services or whose institution respondent resides
 - County
 - County behavioral health director, or designee (e.g., BHRS CARE Court team)
 - Public guardian, or designee
 - Director of adult protective services, or designee
 - Tribal Jurisdiction
 - Director of California Indian health services program, California tribal behavioral health department, or designee
 - Judge of a tribal court located in CA, or designee
6. How to file a petition:
- Complete petition (CARE-100)—remember to fill out all requested information
 - Additionally, provide the required documentation:
 - Completed ***Mental Health Declaration*** (CARE-101) from licensed behavioral health provider -OR-
 - Evidence the respondent was detained for a minimum of two periods intensive treatment (aka, WIC 5250 holds), most recent one within the previous 60 days.
 - Each county will develop its own filing process.
 - In Stanislaus County, the petitions can be filed in-person at the Stanislaus County Courthouse at the 1100 I Street entrance.
 - E-filing is available
 - The Self-Help Center will be available to provide assistance to petitioners.
7. CARE Court has a base path:
- Case Initiation: BHRS as petitioner
 - Assessment: Prima Facie Determination
 - Determination and Treatment Order: Hearing on Merits, Case Management Hearing
 - Treatment Implementation and Court Oversight: Progress Review Hearings (every 60 days), 1-Year Status Review Hearing (at month 11)
 - Hearing Graduation at month 12
8. What is in a CARE Agreement/Plan?
- Behavioral Health Services
 - Medications
 - Housing Resources
 - Social Services Supports

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9. CARE Plan: Medication Orders

- Stabilization medications: antipsychotic medications to reduce symptoms of hallucinations, delusions, and disorganized thinking.
 - *Can be* court ordered
 - *Cannot be* forcibly administered; AND,
 - The respondent **cannot be** penalized for failure to comply with medication order.

SHA General Membership announcements:

Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority: Announced that there is a tentative date of January 14, 2025, for a Grand Opening/Open House at their new office building located at 1612 Sisk Rd, Modesto. Working with Turlock Gospel Mission to open a restaurant.

Hoping the second half of the building, 144 studio unit component, will be completed early, between late March to early April. May possibly be able to showcase a couple of units in January. Grand opening for these units possible in late April to early May.

Working with the city of Riverbank to complete the Riverbank Public Housing Authority Community Center. Tentative grand opening in February.

Have been getting a lot of questions, comments, and concerns over vouchers within the county. Currently at full utilization for funding authority. Unfortunately, there is no additional funding to continue issuing additional vouchers currently.

There is some hesitancy from HUD to issue any additional funding until the new federal budget is established.

Establishing a homeowner project to help first-time buyers. This allows for first-time buyers to use their subsidy towards mortgage payments. Piloting with Turlock right now, with 10 homes for these first-time buyers. Also looking into homes in Ceres as well.

Stanislaus County: Thanked Behavioral Health for coming out and presenting on CARE Court and SB43 implementation. County's number one priority is to best utilize resources that are coming in, and continue working with Salvation Army to assure stability.

City of Waterford: Acknowledged Darlene Barber-Martinez, former board member, and commended her work and for all she has to offer.

City of Oakdale: The city continues to have dialogue with the county in regard to finding funds to purchase a county owned corporation yard next to the Oakdale Community Building. Also commended Darlene for all her work.

V. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

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ATTACHMENT A - ROLL CALL
Stanislaus Homeless Alliance Board
Wednesday, December 11, 2024

Attendance

	Representing:	SHA Board Members		Attendance
1	City of Ceres	James Casey	Primary	A
		Rosalinda Vierra	Alternate	P
2	City of Modesto	David Wright	Primary	A
		Joe Lopez	Alternate	A
3	City of Oakdale	Christopher Smith	Primary	P
		Bryan Whitemyer	Alternate	A
4	City of Patterson	Shivaugn Alves	Primary	A
		Ken Irwin	Alternate	A
5	City of Riverbank	Darlene Barber - Martinez	Primary	A
		Marisela Garcia	Alternate	A
6	City of Turlock	Cassandra Abram	Primary	P
		Reagan Wilson	Alternate	A
7	City of Waterford	Lise Talbott	Primary	P
		Mike Pitcock	Alternate	A
8	Community System of Care	Fred Berry	Primary	A
		Maryn Pitt	Alternate	A
9	Focus on Prevention	Brad Hawn	Primary	P
		Tim Byrd	Alternate	A
10	Stanislaus County	Terry Withrow	Primary	A
		Jody Hayes	Alternate	P
11	Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority	Carlos Estacio III	Primary	A
		Jim Kruse	Alternate	P