



Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

Chronic Homelessness Committee

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

1:30 PM to 3:00 PM

Via Zoom

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Shelly Storkan, Behavioral Health
Lorena Reed, Behavioral Health
Charles Withuhn, CHAT
Tracey Gillihan, Help Central

OTHER ATTENDEES:

Michael Wright, DESS H&H
Debra Taylor, NorCal VA
Pahua Thao, DESS H&H
Melissa Jamison, UWNC
Lisa Hedemrk, TNHA
Caitlyn Patterson, CHAT

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT:

Briana Harvey-Butterfield, DESS HH
Kaitlyn Sherrill, DESS HH
Deanna Schwab, Safe Space
Don Taylor, DESS HH
John Mitchell, ORM
Leslie Johnson, CHAT
Nancy Morgans-Ferguson, Shalom Clinic
Sarah Frohock, Behavioral Health
Tara Sullivan Hames, Help Central
Lori LaRiviere, MD, TNHA/BOD
Elisa Rawlinson, DESS HH
Tracey Gillihan, Help Central
Erin Murray, DESS HH

RECORDING:

Erin Spasbo, DESS H&H

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by Chair Shelly Storkan at 1:33 PM
- 2. INTRODUCTIONS/UPDATES:** All members present introduced themselves. C. Withuhn, of CHAT, and the President of the North State Shelter Team, stated that his agency has recently hauled 60 trailer loads of trash out of Chico Parks. Their agencies have delivered over 400 hot showers, port-a-potti & handwashing services, as well as clothing giveaways to those living without a bathroom. They have delivered a 25-page proposal, for a manage camp ground for the Chico City Council. On that proposal, they have received letters of support from True North, Safe Space, and CHAT. If you would like to see the synopsis, contact Charles at: cswithuhn@yahoo.com. He stated that if this manage camp were to be created, it could take 90 people off the street before Christmas. C. Patterson, stated that she is the Program Manager for Everhart Village and they are having a community forum over zoom on August 18th at 6PM.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: There were multiple minutes that needed to be approved:

A motion to approve minutes for *June 15, 2021*,

Motion: Lorena Reed

Second: Melissa Jamison

4. AGENCY PRESENTATION – BUTTE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH:

Presented by S. Storkan,

S. Storkan, began by stating that their mission is to partner with people to encourage and facilitate wellness, recovery, and hope. Behavioral Health, provides mental health and substance use treatment to Medi-Cal beneficiaries and provides crisis intervention to the community regardless of insurance status. They have been serving Butte County for over 55 years and provides care to youth and adults. The treatment consists of a continuum of prevention, early intervention, and treatment and recovery support systems.

For the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year, they served a total of 7,387 consumers, 889 with substance use disorders, 4,320 crisis calls, and for Inpatient Services, they served 526 individuals. The people that they serve varies, for example they have walk-in services, for which they served 1,405 people. They have a Mobile Service team, which are the people that work with the Police Department, where they served 781 people. They have a Residential Facility, they have opened a new facility called The Bella Vida, since The Iris House closed its doors in 2020. The facility is for people stepping down from a psychiatric facility and need additional support, but are not eligible to go into an inpatient setting.

5150's distributed from 2020 – 2021 fiscal year was, 1,149. 5150, is the number of the section of the Welfare and Institutions Code, which allows an adult who is experiencing a mental health crisis to be involuntarily detained for a 72-hour psychiatric hospitalization when evaluated, they are a danger to others, themselves, or are gravely disabled. Individuals can have a single 5150 for several reasons, causing them to fall into multiple categories. For people accessing crisis services, there has been a big push to not write a hold on them, because they are going in voluntarily. It is anticipated that the numbers will be lower next year, rather than this past fiscal year.

For Youth Mental Health, they serve ages 0 – 25 which is also call transitional aged youth. They provide outpatient therapeutic services; individual, group, family, & case management. School based services, full service partnership; which is intensive case management & 24-hour support. Psychiatric services, Homeless Emergency Action Response Team (HEART), and Hospital Alternatives Program (HAP). They also provide Age 0 – 5 Services; which includes preschool intervention, Strong Starts, Parent Child Interaction Therapy, and Butte Baby Steps.

Adult Mental Health, which serves people that are 18+. They have outpatient centers; where they help individuals, group, case management, and dual diagnosis treatment. S. Storkan stated that she works in an outpatient center, as a housing counselor. They have Full Service Partnerships, it is better known as

SEARCH (Support, Engagement, Assistance, Recovery, Community, and Housing). They have Wellness & Recovery centers, one of those is called Iverson's Center in Chico, where they provide support. The housing programs, is what S. Storkan does, she provides resources to finding low income housing in our community, assist clients with filling out applications. The programs used to run off of grants, but now they collaborate with different programs and agencies that provide permanent supportive housing. For example Caminar, run Avineda and Base Camp Village. They have vocational programs, which work with the Department of Rehabilitation, so that clients can get job experience. They have a CalWORKS program and AB 109.

Crisis Services, they have multiple services serving all ages, regardless of their insurance. The Mobile Crisis Team; when someone is having a mental health crisis the police department will request assistance from a behavioral health staff member, to go along when they go out. In Chico it is the Chico Police department and for Oroville, it is the Sherriff. The Crisis Response Team, is when someone is written in on a 5150 hold or goes into the hospital, the behavioral health staff member does the assessments. Psychiatric Health Facility, there is a 16-bed unit on Rio Lindo in Chico and they also have a Residential Facility, The Bella Vida. The Crisis Triage Connect, is a team of case managers that help clients when they come out of psychiatric health facilities, or an involuntary hospitalization where they provide support, it is a 90-day program.

Substance Use Treatment, through Behavioral Health serves clients 12+. They provide outpatient treatment, they offer dual diagnosis treatment, as well as Medication Assisted Treatment or (MAT, which, for example, is when someone is trying to get off of opioids, they will be prescribed Suboxone as well as be monitored by a psychiatrist during that time. They have Residential Treatment (in and out of the county) that they can assist people to get into, Skyway House is the local one. Stepping Stones, which is their perinatal program. They assist with Adult Treatment Court, where they would get a lawyer to request for their client to get treatment. They have youth treatment and narcotic treatment programs.

Lastly she noted how to access services. For a Medi-cal beneficiary, they should call the access line at 1-800-334-6622 or 530-891-2810, if the client does not have Medi-cal they can get help to sign up for it. They will go through a screening process, to see if they meet the criteria for treatment, which means they have a severe impairment in one or more of life's domains: academic, social, vocational, or housing. If they meet that criteria, an individual is scheduled for a comprehensive assessment at their clinic. If they don't meet that criteria, they will be referred to other services in our community such as talk lines, support groups, community treatment like counseling, medications, specific help topics, link to 2-1-1 & DESS. When calling in, M – F from 8AM - 5:00PM a trained clinician will answer the incoming calls. From 5PM – 8AM, Holidays and weekends, a Crisis Response team member will answer the calls, the Crisis Response Team is available 24/7.

She wanted to clarify that since beginning at Behavioral Health, she has gotten a lot of questions about who is able to receive services. Since everyone is screened in Butte County, the person qualifying or

receiving ongoing services has to be moderate to severe. The Crisis services are available anytime for all individuals.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

C. Withuhn, stated that he received an email from D. Taylor requesting the documents for their proposal of the managed campground, the location would be about a 10 minute walk NW off Eaton and Cohasset in Chico, in an alfalfa field outside the airport clear zone. It would be 5 acres that they have a binding letter of intent on. Their plan is to have 3 camps, each holding about 28 campers each, hopefully by Christmas. He stated that if anyone would like an electronic copy to contact him at: cswithuhn@yahoo.com. He stated that we have a lot of vacant land in Butte County, which we could be utilizing for safe places for our homeless population. Him and his team have been inspired by projects of other community supported shelters from places like Medford & Eugene, Oregon. Fourteen Forward that was started in 2016, was a collaboration between Yuba and Sutter Counties to provide a safe setting for the homeless population to stay, until they have a roof over their heads. He stated, that it has won the State of California's Challenge Award, for its high success rate in helping so many people. When places like this are provided, 60% of the people graduate or move on, to a place called positive placement. Positive placement, means that they are moving back in with their family, they get into subsidized housing, all the way to getting their own apartment.

L. Hedemark, of True North Housing Alliance, was asked to let everyone know that they have 40 beds available at the shelter. They also have Blues and Brews benefit concert for our homeless coming up, on Sunday August 21st from 1 – 7 PM at the Women's Club, in Chico.

S. Starkey, stated that at the next meeting, she would like to discuss shortening the meetings to just 1-hour so that people aren't scheduling such a large time block in their calendars, since these meetings don't tend to go that long.

6. NEXT MEETING: *The next Chronic Homelessness Meeting will be on Wednesday, October 19, 2022 from 1:30-3 PM.*

7. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 2:03 PM