

**California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA)  
Forensics Committee  
Meeting**

**CMHDA  
2125 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Second Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95818**

# M E E T I N G R E P O R T

**Date & Time:** May 15, 2009, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

**Attendees:** Heather Anders, *CMHDA*; Kirsten Barlow, *CMHDA*; Gale Bataille, *CIMH*; Karen Baylor (via conf. line), *San Luis Obispo*; Debra Buckles, *Stanislaus*; Aaron Carruthers, *CDCR*; Lisa Gavin-Cruse (via conf. line), *Kern*; Robert Hart, *San Joaquin*; Don Kingdon (via conf. line), *CMHDA*; Susan Kole (via conf. line), *San Mateo*; Ed Perez, *Riverside*; Tom Pinizzotto, *Emeritus Director*; Jim Rostron, *DMH*; Millie Swafford, *Alameda*; Jim Waterman, *Kern*; Stephanie Welch, *CMHDA*

## **Topics of General Discussion:**

- DMH Report
  - IST Pilot Project
    - Jim Rostron reported that they are still progressing with the IST pilot project. They are trying to get in with Los Angeles County. Liberty Healthcare will be providing the care in the jails for the IST population who are waiting to be sent to the state hospitals. This is the same as SB 568. They have been trying to get the pilot project going for one year. DMH has requested an extension to the due date. DMH also needs to know what the costs will be. The funding for this is a base budget adjustment. If things go well with the pilot, it could then be expanded to other counties. This would be good to continue to follow at future meetings.
- CDCR Report
  - Report on the Impact of Budget Reductions to CDCR
    - It was noted that on April 3<sup>rd</sup> Secretary Cate wrote a letter to NASW in response to a letter CDCR received about NASW's concern about seriously mentally ill individuals who are discharged from parole. NASW's concern was about a need for a seamless transfer between CDCR and the counties. In CDCR's response, they noted that any MOU would need to be done on a county by county basis.
    - Gale Bataille noted that we need to focus in on more of the EOP people. CDCR would be able to draft a template of an MOU for the counties. Robert Storms and Jim Waterman will be in contact about the MOU.
  - Update on Re-Entry Facilities
    - In terms of citing re-entry facilities, the following counties have been successful in having signed resolutions supporting re-entry facilities in their communities: San Luis Obispo, San Benito, San Joaquin, Amador, Calaveras, and a few others. They have also received Public Works Board approval for three other counties. In San Diego, one facility fell through, but they have been able to access another site in the county.
    - A CDCR staff member walked through the floor plan for the re-entry facilities.
    - It was also noted that there was legislation to clear up the bond authority and that PMIB has been selling bonds. CDCR retains custody of staff and the re-entry facilities. CDCR also has bills

pertaining to the facilities, but they have not yet been introduced to the Legislature.

- CMHDA Report
  - Judicial Counsel Mental Health Project: Re-Entry, Co-Occurring and Prevention Subcommittee Issues
    - Don Kingdon reported that he is on the Prevention Subcommittee. It was noted that there is interested to implement full involuntary treatment by the Judicial Council Subcommittee. Gale Bataille noted that the mental health focus to the subcommittee is about 1 ½ years old. There are a number of judges who have been involved in behavioral health courts. The subcommittee is looking at what the purview is of the courts. They are considering establishing a standing mental health committee in the Judicial Council. Ms. Bataille noted that she is on the post-adjudication committee. There has been a lot of discussion of continuity of care and they are very interested in emerging best practices.
  - Update on the CA State Sheriff's Association Survey
    - Stephanie Welch reported that the sheriff from San Diego, who is also on the OAC, requested that CMHDA collaborate with him and the State Sheriff's Association on developing a survey. So far, fifteen sheriffs have completed the survey. On June 25<sup>th</sup> there may be a panel or a presentation on this issue at the OAC meeting. From the results received so far, it looks like law enforcement was involved in community planning for the MHS. On the panel it would be good for a county to talk about its accomplishments. The panel members could also give examples of how collaboration happens. It was noted that it would be good to have both law enforcement and mental health staff from each county on the panel. It was noted that it would be good to have the El Dorado, Kern and San Francisco county sheriffs and mental health directors on the panel.
    - It was also noted that the MIOCR outcomes are out and it would be good to get that data for the presentation.
    - Heather Anders will work with Stephanie Welch on the panel development.
  - CSDA COMIO Survey and White Paper
    - It was noted that Karen Baylor attended the meeting where the survey and white paper were discussed. Dr. Baylor has noted that there were not many mental health people at the meeting.
  - Community Corrections Issues
    - CSAC Corrections Policy – Gale Bataille reported that on the CSAC calls they give a summary of the latest corrections news. On yesterday's call there was talk of the budget cuts.
    - It was noted that Heather Anders recently e-mailed out some information on the Byrne-Jag stimulus funding. It was noted that there is the requirement that 67% of the federal funds need to go to local communities. The California Emergency Management Agency has recommended that 93.5% go to local communities.
  - Review Objectives for Forensics Committee's 2008-09 Goals
    - The committee walked through the objectives for the goals. It was noted that San Diego had some best practices, from the alien list (from the discussion at the January meeting) and they indicated that they could get some materials to the committee. Heather Anders will check to see if San Diego ever sent any follow-up materials to the January meeting. The objectives can be discussed again at the next meeting.
  - Legislative/Budget Report
    - State Budget
      - Kirsten Barlow reported that the May Revise was just released with two sets of proposals. One budget was if the propositions all passed and the other budget was if they did

not pass. The budget said that some boards would be consolidated and there would also be a Medi-Cal fraud unit. There would also be a 10% reduction of payments to private hospitals. It was also noted that the Governor will work with President Obama to get more flexibility for the state. If the propositions fail there would be a 10% reduction in drug Medi-Cal. There would be a 10% rate reduction for child welfare. A reduction of adult day health care to three days a week. There would be the release of 19,000 undocumented prison inmates, and this appears to be only half of the 38,000 noted in the paper, who would be deported. It was noted that the overall analysis that CSAC did looks at the cost shift to counties.

- SB 756
  - Ms. Barlow noted that this bill is related to parole diversion and it would create a pilot project. This bill passed out of the Public Safety Committee. Currently, the author is looking at ways to amend the bill. The pilot projects will be close to public transportation. The pilot projects are for people who violate their parole. Parolees subjected to prop. 36 would not be included. Each offender would participate in each treatment program. If the person violates parole they then go back to jail for nine months, which is longer than usual. The committee suggested that CMHDA watch this bill to see what happens.
- SB 678
  - Gale Bataille reviewed this bill for CMHDA and the analysis was included in the handouts for the meeting. This bill proposes that savings from recidivism costs would be put elsewhere. CSAC has had some discussion of this bill and they took a “support in concept” position. CMHDA will also take a “support in concept” position on the bill.
- Local Forensics Issues
  - It was noted that the committee could gather information on the counties that were sharing medication (regarding SB 568) and it could be shared with the CMHDA Governing Board. CMHDA could also get a report on this from DMH.
  - Alameda
    - Millie Swafford reported that their contract with ConREP has been renewed. The numbers that will go to community outreach will be decreased.
- CiMH Report
  - Gale Bataille noted that they were providing some training programs such as CIT and moral reconnection, but they have now ended because the MIOCR funding has ended. They do have some training funding that will end June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- New Business
  - Improving Outcomes for People with Mental Illnesses Under Community Corrections Supervision: A Guide to Research Informed Policy and Practice
    - Gale Bataille reported that she reviewed the guide and that there is a high/low criminogenic mix. Ms. Bataille also noted that this is very easy to use.
- Housekeeping
  - The date of the next CMHDA Forensics Committee Meeting will be e-mailed out to the committee.

## List of Recommendations/Decisions/Motions:

- Minutes from the January 30, 2009 Forensics Committee meeting were reviewed and approved.

**Task List:**

- Heather Anders will work with Stephanie Welch on pulling together the panel members for the June 25<sup>th</sup> OAC meeting for the presentation of the results of the State Sheriff's Association survey.
- Heather Anders will check to see if San Diego ever sent any follow-up materials to the September meeting discussion of the alien list and best practices.

**The next Committee Meeting for the CMHDA Forensics Committee will be held:**

**Date TBD**

**Time TBD**

**At CMHDA**

**2125 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Second Floor**

**Sacramento, CA 95818**

**Room TBD**