

HUMBOLDT COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD MEETING

January 22, 2026

12:15-2:15 pm

Meeting via Zoom and in person

Members present:	Laura Montagna, Danette Kellerman, Vernon Price, Marguerite Story-Baker, Bob Dougherty, Peter Stoll, Joshua Rosewolf, Shawn Burger, Jess Weaver		
Members excused:	Natalie Arroyo, Kelly Johnson, Raphael DiCaprio		
Members absent	Virginia Bass		
Members attending remotely	None		
Guests present:	Columbina Hozven, Eric Rushing, Melissa Nelson, Manual Medina, Chandel Nelson-Mathews		
Staff present:	Emi Botzler-Rodger, Behavioral Health Director; Jack Breazeal, Deputy Branch Director; Joe McManus, Executive Secretary; Laura Coulter, Administrative Secretary; Paul Bugnacki, Deputy Branch Director; Laurel Johnson, Staff Services Analyst, Jeremy Nilsen, Deputy Branch Director; Nancy Starck, Program Manager; Oliver Gonzalez, Program Manager, Connie Beck, DHHS Director; Rosemary Shultz, Case Manager; Connie Beck, DHHS Director; Alex Olivera, Administrative Analyst		
TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/FOLLOW UP	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
1. Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 12:18 pm	Informational	
2. Roll Call	All members, staff and guests were introduced.	Informational	
3. Adjustments to the Agenda	None.		
4. Public Comments	None.		
5. Action Items: a) Approval of Minutes from the 11/20/25 meeting	a) Minutes from the last meeting on 11/20/25 were submitted for review and approval.	Unanimously approved. To be posted on the webpage.	Joe McManus
5. Action Items b) Approval to pay CALBHBC Invoice for 2025-26	a) The Board was asked to approve the annual invoice from CALBHBC for 2025-26.	Unanimously approved. Invoice to be sent to DHHS Fiscal for payment.	Joe McManus
5. Action Items: Approval of membership application for Dana Holcomb	a) Laura Montagna reported that the membership application for Dana Holcomb is ready for approval.	Unanimously approved. Membership application for Dana Holcomb to be sent to the BOS for final approval.	Joe McManus
6. Discussion items: BHB Handbook	a) Laurel Johnson reported that the BHB Handbook is now online on the BHB Webpage and members can access it or they can request a hard copy. Laurel handed out a copy of the binder to the BHB members.	Informational	

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7. Presentation: BHSA Public Meeting	<p>a) Oliver Gonzalez reported he is here today to give the Board an update on the BHSA. The MHSA is transitioning to the BHSA and there are challenges with implementation. The demographic form is voluntary and anonymous and at the end for the form there is a place for comments. You can also send comments to the bhsacomment@co.humboldt.ca.us email. Comments should be specific to the Integrated plan.</p> <p>b) The MHSA was originally approved by voters in 2004 as a 1% tax on millionaires on all income over one million dollars. In 2025 the voters approved proposition one that changes the MHSA to the BHSA. Ninety percent of funds are allocated to counties while ten percent goes to the state. The BHSA is intended to expand best practices and recovery-focused mental health programs and to reduce long-term mental illness from becoming severe and disabling. A new plan is completed every three years with two annual updates for years in between and requires community program planning. The components of the BHSA are Housing Interventions, Full-Service Partnerships and Behavioral Health Services and Supports. Some of the goals for housing include reducing homelessness, permanent housing and rental subsidies. Timelines are very tight for the housing and communication with the state has been challenging. The purpose for the BHSS is to serve children, youth, adults and older adults with a focus on access, stabilization and prevention. The BHSS funds Outpatient services, SUD services, outreach, WET, Early Intervention and Innovative programs. FSP funds the CCT program and focuses on clients at risk of homelessness, hospitalization and justice involvement.</p> <p>c) The draft plan needs to be submitted to the state by March 31, 2026 with approval from the CAO. There will be community meetings through February. The BHSA public hearing will be held at the May 2026 BHB meeting. Laura Montagna reported that Humboldt County is doing very well with the BHSA and is doing better than some other small counties. Rosemary Shultz reported that she would like to get HCTAYC feedback. Vernon Price reported he would like to see more Peer Coaches. A question-and-answer period followed the presentation, and the Board members thanked Oliver for his presentation today.</p>	Informational	

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<p>8. Communications</p>	<p>a) Vernon Price reported that Senate Bill 417 for the affordable housing act will go to the voters in June and has brought copies for the Board members to review. Vernon also reported he would like the DA's office to give a presentation in the future on how they deal with the homeless population.</p> <p>b) Bob Daugherty reported there is a new acupuncture treatment for Veterans and has flyers with more information that can be sent to the Board.</p> <p>c) Peter Stoll reported that the Bridges to Wellness program in the schools is going well and they are responding to referrals. Also working with Cal Aim on Foster Youth Case management.</p>	<p>Informational</p>	
<p>9. Reports a) DHHS Director</p>	<p>a) Connie Beck reported that there have been meetings with the BOS and City of Eureka staff regarding the Navigation Center. There is an agreement with the county architect, and they are meeting with the engineers to work on plans. They are working on the permitting and the funding is in place. The project is moving forward</p>	<p>Informational</p>	
<p>9. Reports b) Behavioral Health Director and Deputy Directors</p>	<p>a) Emi Botzler-Rodgers reported that the BHSA is a big transition for staff and is another new initiative that is coming out. The changes to the BHSA will impact programs. There are also three audits coming up in March and this is a lot of work for staff. The new Medical Director Doctor Christine Skotzko has started, and she is very compliance focused. Work is starting on the budget planning for next Fiscal year to remain fiscally solvent. There are also 150 contracts which is a lot of work for staff.</p> <p>b) Jeremy Nilsen reported that CBH is focusing on high fidelity wraparound services to meet FSP needs. Doing outreach to providers. Hoping to have the EBPs in place by mid-year for functional family therapy training and parent child therapy. Jeremy reported that EA services is going to be opening a short-term residential program for youth who need treatment and there will be six beds for youth at the new facility.</p> <p>c) Jack Breazeal reported that there are housing changes with the new FSP, and he is also working on a contract with the Windsor facility in Sacramento which will have 80-90 beds and will have locked and unlocked and forensic beds also.</p> <p>d) Paul Bugnacki reported that the SB43 for Grave Disability criteria has been implementing and there will be training for Law Enforcement.</p>	<p>Informational</p>	

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9. Reports b) Behavioral Health Director and Deputy Directors	d) Paul Bugnacki reported the there is a new PRA-The Smith-Waters group and they are providing good services. There is a meet and greet with them and staff scheduled for Friday 1/23. They are from the Sacramento area and are providing services to most Partnership counties in Northern CA. They have a lot of experienced staff to provide PRA services.	Informational	
9. Reports c) SUD Committee update	a) Maguerite Story-Baker reported she was unable to attend the last SUD Committee meeting that Oliver Gonzalez did attend and updated them on the BHSA.	Informational	
9. Reports d) Chair/Vice Chair	a) Laura Montagna reported she is working on possible retreat dates for March and also that the CIT training scheduled for February has been moved to the end of May.	Informational	
10. Unfinished Business a) CARE Court	a) Paul reported there are 20 active petitions and that the program is moving forward. Care Court staff attended the TAY staff meeting and provided some information on the program.	Informational	
10. Unfinished Business b) Navigation Center	No update.		
10. Unfinished Business c) Crisis Triage Center	a) Nancy Starck reported that the Crisis Triage Center is moving forward with the architects. Looking for a general contractor. Looking at completion by June 2027. The new SV facility is also moving forward.	Informational	
11.Future Items	a) Connie Beck reported that the Point in Time count is scheduled for Friday 1/23 and needs more volunteers. There is an online training for volunteers and there are 92 people signed up so far. The Point in Time count allocates state funding for homeless services for the county.	Informational	
12. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 1:50 pm.		
ACROYNMS- Updated 3/28/25			
ACA	AFFORDABLE CARE ACT		
ACES	ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES		
AFHHA	AFFORDABLE HOMELESS HOUSING ALTERNATIVES		
ADHD	ATTENTION DEFICIT HYPERACTIVITY DISORDER		
ADCS	ALCOHOL DRUG CARE SERVICES		

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AHP	ARCATA HOUSE PARTNERSHIP		
AIDET	ACKNOWLEDGE INTRODUCE DURATION EXPLANATION THANK YOU		
APD	ARCATA POLICE DEPARTMENT		
ART	AGRESION REPLACEMENT THERAPY		
ATP	ADOLESCENT TREATMENT PROGRAM		
AOT	ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT (LAURA'S LAW)		
ASAP	ALLIES FOR SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION		
ASIST	APPLIED SUICIDE INTERVENTION SKILLS TRAINING		
ASOC	ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE		
BHBH	BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BRIDGE HOUSING		
BOS	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS		
CAEQRO	CALIFORNIA EXTERNAL QUALITY REVIEW ORGANIZATION		
CALBHBC	CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL BEHVIORAL HEALTH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS		
CALFHA	CA HOUSING FINANCE AGENCY		
CANS	CHILD AND ADOLESCENT NEEDS (TRAINING)		
CARF	COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF REHABILITATION FACILITES		
CCRC	COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS RESOURCE CENTER		
CFMG	CALIFORNIA FORENSIC MEDICAL GROUP		
CMHACY	CA MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH		
CBHDA	CALIFORNIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRETORS ASSOCIATION		

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CBH	CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH		
CMS	CENTERS FOR MEDICARE AND MEDICAID SERVICES		
CCP	COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS PARTNERSHIP		
CCRC	COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS RESOURCE CENTER		
CCRP	CA CENTER FOR RURAL POLICY		
CCT	COMPREHENSIVE COMMUNITY TREATMENT		
CIT	CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING		
CIBH	CALIFORNIA INSTITUTE FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH		
CR	COLLEGE OF THE REDWOODS		
CRC	CULTURAL RESPONSIVENESS COMMITTEE		
CRT	CRISIS RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT		
CSET	COMMUNITY SAFETY ENGAGEMENT TEAM		
CSU	CRISIS STABILIZATION UNIT		
CWS	CHILD WELFARE SERVICES		
C&FS	CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES		
DHHS	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES		
DHCS	DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES		
DMC	DRUG MEDI-CAL		
DRP	DUAL RECOVERY PROGRAM		
EBP	EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICES		
ERMHS	EDUCATIONALLY RELATED MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES		
ETD	EMPLOYMENT TRAINING DEPARTMENT		
EPD	EUREKA POLICE DEPARTMENT		
FFT	FUNCTIONAL FAMILY THERAPY		
FURS	FAMILY URGENT RESPONSE SYSTEM		
HART	HUMBOLDT ALCOHOL RECOVERY TREATMENT		
HBHDC	HUMBOLDT BAY HOUSING DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION		

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HCPR	HUMBOLDT COUNTY PROGRAMS FOR RECOVERY
HCGJ	HUMBOLDT COUNTY GRAND JURY
HCTAYC	HUMBOLDT COUNTY TRANSITION AGE YOUTH COLLABORATION
HCBH	HUMBOLDT COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
HEPI	HUMBOLDT EARLY PSYCHOSIS INTERVENTION PROGRAM
HHHC	HUMBOLDT HOUSING AND HOMELESS COALITION
HOME	HOMELESS OUTREACH & MOBILE ENGAGEMENT
HRC	HUMBOLDT RECOVERY CENTER
HVN	HEARING VOICES NETWORK
IEP	INDIVIDUAL EDUCATION PLAN (FOR YOUTH WHO MEET EMOTIONAL DISTURBANCE CRITERIA)
ISP	INDIVIDUAL PLACEMENT AND SUPPORT
IST	INCOMPETENT TO STAND TRIAL
ITFC	INTENSIVE THERAPEUTIC FOSTER CARE
IY	INCREDIBLE YEARS
IHSS	IN HOME SUPPORT SERVICES
IOA	INSTITUTE ON AGING
IDDT	INTEGRATED DUAL DIAGNOSIS TREATMENT
IST	INCOMPETENT TO STAND TRIAL
LECAH	LAW ENFORCEMENT CHIEFS OF HUMBOLDT
LGHH	LET'S GET HEALTHY HUMBOLDT
LBHB	LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
LGBTQ	LESBIAN GAY BI TRANSGENDER QUEER
MAT	MEDICALLY ASSISTED TREATMENT
MEV	MOBILE ENGAGEMENT VEHICLE
MTC	MODIFIED THERAPEUTIC COMMUNITY
MTFC	MULTI-DIMENSIONAL TREATMENT FOSTER CARE
MHSA	MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT
MHSAOAC	MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION
MIST	MOBILE INTERVENTION AND SERVICES TEAM

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MRT	MOBILE RESPONSE TEAM
NAMI	NATIONAL ALLIANCE ON MENTAL ILLNESS
NFP	NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP
OLLI	OSHER LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE
OSHPD	OFFICE OF STATEWIDE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT
OTP	OFFENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM
PBIS	POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS
PEI	PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION
PIT	POINT IN TIME COUNT
PCIT	PARENT CHILD INTERACTIVE THERAPY
PIP	PERFORMANCE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT
PBIS	POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTION SERVICES
PRA	PATIENT'S RIGHTS ADVOCATE
QPR	QUESTION PERSUADE REFER
RF	REGIONAL FACILITY
RFQ	REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
ROSE	RURAL OUTREACH SERVICES ENTERPRISE
RUPRI	RURAL POLICY RESEARCH INSTITUTE
SAPT	SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT
SUD	SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS
SAMHSA	SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
SDS	SAME DAY SERVICES
SOC	SYSTEM OF CARE
SV	SEMPERVIRENS
TBH	TRADITIONS BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
TIP	TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE PROCESS
TAY	TRANSITION AGE YOUTH
TFCBT	TRAUMA FOCUSED COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL THERAPY
UCAF	UNITED ADVOCATES FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
WRAP	WELLNESS RECOVERY ACTION PLAN