

**Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health
Behavioral Health Advisory Board**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting
Thursday, February 12, 2026
5:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

Chair Esemann called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Roll Call**

The following members were in attendance: Chair Heather Esemann, Vice Chair Manny Cardoza, Bruce Adams, Maggie Walker, John Floe and David House.

Excused: Supervisor Renick House, Secretary Mary Page and Susan Fleming (attended via ZOOM)

Absent: Supervisor Mike Ziegenmeyer and Gwen Ziegenmeyer

Also, in attendance: Rick Bingham, HHS Assistant Director; Jesse Hallford, Staff Services Manager, Adult Services; Leah Zubiate; Hank Sims, Executive Secretary and Sue Hopper, Administrative Assistant, Sutter County.

3. **Action Items:**

- a. **Approve January 8, 2026, Meeting Minutes** – Member Cardoza moved to approve the January 8, 2026, Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member Adams.

Aye votes: Esemann, Cardoza, Adams, D. House, Floe and Walker

Nay votes: None

Abstentions: None

4. **Program Presentation** – Community Suicide Prevention Plan, Jesse Hallford, Staff Services Manager. Ms. Hallford presented on the following:

- In 2023 Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health (SYBH) was tasked with developing a Community Suicide Prevention Plan as part of the State’s Striving for Zero prevention campaign.
- In conjunction with SYBH, community feedback and planning sessions were held and a plan drafted from those efforts. A final draft of the plan was submitted to the State in February 2024.
- Overall, community engagement remained inconsistent. Plan is completed, but community efforts at disseminating and raising awareness of the plan are currently on pause due to a lack of engagement from community stakeholders.
- Due to funding changes with BHSA, the California Department of Public Health will be running future prevention campaigns.

- Suggestion was to have BHAB create an ad hoc committee to follow up on open items in the plan and assist with creating avenues to move the plan forward. Item will be added to the March BHAB agenda.
5. **BHSA Program Update** – Jesse Hallford, Staff Services Manager, Adult Services. Ms. Hallford reported on the following:
- Updates provided below with Behavioral Health Directors report.
6. **Behavioral Health Director’s Report** – Rick Bingham, Assistant Director of Health & Human Services and Behavioral Health Director. Mr. Bingham reported on the following:
- BHSA Changes and Proposals:
 - ✓ The new “buckets” for BHSA now consist of 35% for FSP programs, 35% for BHSS programs and 30% for housing.
 - ✓ The new 30% BHSA Housing “bucket” also **redirects** \$3,353,249 away from currently spending treatment programs to housing costs for serious and persistent mentally ill clients served by SYBH.
 - ✓ Prevention funds are now redirected to California Department of Public Health (CDPH).
 - ✓ SYBH will reduce programming at the Latino Outreach Center. A majority of individuals served here meet SYBH service criteria for treatment of severe and persistent mental illness, however some prevention activities will be reduced as prevention funding has been eliminated at the county level.
 - ✓ Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health will eliminate their contract with the Sutter County Superintendent of Schools for Workforce Development and Adult Education programs.
 - ✓ Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health will reduce their contract with Youth for Change for peer mentors in the Wellness and Recovery Program.
 - ✓ SYBH will close the Hmong Outreach Center effective June 30, 2026. Transition plans and ideas to mitigate closure impacts are currently being worked on.
 - ✓ Community education activities formally funded by PEI will be eliminated or reduced. This will include Bridging Hope, May is Mental Health Month, Mental Health First Aid, Suicide Prevention Training, Suicide Prevention Month, Client Art Calendar and the PEI Mini Grant program.
 - ✓ Counties are required to use 30% of the funds distributed by the state Controller’s Office into their Behavioral Health Services Fund (BHSF) for Housing Interventions. Priority populations include children and youth who are in, or at risk of being in, the juvenile justice system; in the child welfare system; or, at risk of institutionalization. Adults who are in, or at risk of being in the justice system; reentering the community from prison or jail; at risk of conservatorship or at risk of institutionalization.
 - ✓ Programs currently in or moving to the Housing Category: Lanterman Petris Short (LPS) Act Conservatee Placement costs for clients eligible to Full-Service Partnerships (FSP) and supported by Public Guardians, as well as Care Court. Permanent Supportive Housing Supports for New Haven and Cedar Lane Housing Developments (55-year service commitment). Homeless Engagement and Resolution Team (HEART). Housing and Stabilization Team.
 - ✓ Counties are required to use 35% of the funds distributed for Full-Service Partnership and these services must now align with required Evidence Based Practices.
 - ✓ Counties are required to allocate 35% of their total allocations for Behavioral Health Services and Supports to include Children’s, Adult and Older Adult Systems of Care;

outreach and engagement; workforce education and training, capital facilities and technological needs; innovative projects and early intervention programs.

- ✓ Under BHSA, each county must establish and administer a short-term Early Intervention (EI) program that is designed to mitigate mental illnesses and substance use disorders from becoming severe and disabling and to reduce disparities in behavioral health. Programs moving to this area include TAY; support and care for TAY; Youth open access/urgent services; Latino Outreach; Tri-County Diversity and Camptonville Community Partnership.
- Mobile Crisis – the new provider will begin providing services sometime in April.

7. New Business

- a. Adult Outpatient Customer Issues and Complaints
 - ✓ Discussion on creating a process to resolve complaints that are not at a “grievance procedure” level. Discussed issue of calls being made by reception to cancel appointments. Complaints are that calls/messages are not being received by the client. Clients are showing up to appointments and being informed the appointment was rescheduled. One suggestion was to implement a texting system. Mr. Bingham has been looking into this issue and working with the manager; will be implementing continuous training sessions.
 - ✓ Current procedure for complaints is for staff to contact an on-site supervisor if there is a complaint that cannot be resolved at staff level, and the supervisor should respond to reception to speak with the customer.
 - ✓ Need to ensure that rescheduled appointments aren’t interfering with prescriptions that need to be refilled.
- b. Future Agenda Topics
 - ✓ Care Court update will be presented in March or April
 - ✓ Ms. Hopper to contact COPE to see if they can provide a presentation on opioid statistics/prevention in the community.
 - ✓ Mobile Crisis and Budget Review – add to May and/or June agendas.
- c. Other Discussion Items
 - ✓ Ms. Hopper will send out information regarding the Conversations on Healthcare Town Hall meeting.

8. Old Business

- a. Ad Hoc Committee Update – no updates provided.
- b. Site Visits
 - ✓ Encouraged all members who are interested in touring either the Hmong Outreach or Latino Outreach Centers to contact Ms. Hopper to schedule their site visit.
- c. Brown Act – Remote Meeting Attendance Follow-up
 - ✓ Sutter County Counsel is working to have attendance via teleconference added to the Board of Supervisors agenda for approval.

9. Other Announcements/Correspondence:

- a. Wellness and Recovery Centers in California’s Public Behavioral Health Systems Data Notebook Overview Report – 2025. This item is informational only.

10. **Adjournment** - There being no further business brought forward, Chair Esemann thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 6:25 p.m.