

**VENTURA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
PREVENTION COMMITTEE
1911 WILLIAMS DRIVE, LAKE CACHUMA ROOM, OXNARD, CA**

MINUTES □ JUNE 8, 2015

<u>MEMBERS PRESENT</u>	
Janis Gardner	BHAB Member, Chair, Prevention Committee
June Ewart	Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District, Community Coalition United
Karyn Bates	BHAB Member
Sandra Wolfe	BHAB Member
<u>VCBH STAFF PRESENT</u>	
Dan Hicks	VCBH
Kiran Sahota	VCBH
Cari Kawell	VCBH
<u>GUESTS</u>	
Sevet Johnson	VCBH TAY Oxnard

	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE
I.	Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 3:15 PM by Chair, Janis Gardner		
II.	Approval of the Agenda (Action) Agenda for June 8, 2015 was approved as written.	Approved as written M/S/C	
III.	Approval of the Minutes (Action) Minutes of May 11, 2015 were approved with no changes.	Approved as written M/S/C	
IV.	Welcome and Introductions The Chair welcomed all. Self-introductions were made around the table.		
V.	Chair Announcements Janis Gardner, BHAB Committee Vice Chairperson, announced that the Ventura County BHAB Chair, Dave Holmboe, passed away on May 17, 2015. The Board of Supervisors plans to give a special recognition award to Mr. Holmboe's family. Ms. Gardner also stated that in Sacramento, the Behavioral Health Director's Association approved and adopted the Ventura County Behavioral Health's Prevention Services, Alcohol & Drug Program (ADP) position paper entitled " <i>Talking Points on Marijuana and Youth Safety</i> " formulated by Dan Hicks, Manager, ADP, Prevention Services.		
VI.	Public Comments Paul Corker, Director of Aanaca Program House in Simi Valley & Ventura County discussed bringing in youth/minors to BHAB Committee Meetings to find out their opinions on Mental Health and Alcohol issues in their age range. Mr. Corker suggested that youth do presentations for the BHAB Board since they have direct experience with peer group norms which bring insight that is not treatment or recovery focused but which instead showcases the realities on the streets.		
VII.	Staff Update A.) Dan Hicks, Alcohol & Drug Programs Manager for Ventura County Behavioral Health gave out an article from the June 8, 2015 issue of the <i>Ventura County Star</i> which discussed the increase in fires in California over the recent years due to the illegal manufacturing of butane hash oil (a.k.a. Honey Oil). Mr. Hicks also distributed the VCBH booklet called Marijuana in Ventura County " <i>A Gateway for Discussion</i> ," as well		

	<p>as VCBH's "How High?" initiative poster, WeeDUI postcards and another <i>VC Star</i> article called "Local authorities take on 'complex' fatal overdose investigations". Mr. Hicks also mentioned that <i>National Geographic</i> and <i>Time</i> magazines have been running articles about how marijuana does harm to the youth brain.</p> <p>B.) Kiran Sahota, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Manager for Ventura County Behavioral Health discussed the MHSA Suicide Prevention Committee and its 4 hour training class on suicide assessment. This "Train the Trainer" class on June 22, 2015 at VCBH in Oxnard, CA teaches doctors and nurses to train their staff in recognizing and assessing signs of patient suicide. Ms. Sahota distributed "Know the Signs" flyers to promote this event.</p> <p>C.) Sergeant John Franchi from the Ventura County Sheriff's Office shared information on pill pushers getting arrested through Social Host parties where alcohol is being provided to minors. 77 citations have been issued in the last couple years to the hosts of these parties. The intention is not to cite youth but to deter these parties through a civil assessment. Sergeant Franchi also stated that when school is out during the summer, the number of "5185 applications" for kids will likely taper off.</p>		
VIII.	<p>Time Certain Presentation 4:00 PM</p> <p>Dr. Sevet Johnson, Clinic Administrator of the Ventura County Behavioral Health's Transitions program presented an overview of clinic services which serves Transitional Age Youth (TAY), ages 18 to 25 years old, with serious mental illness, by addressing their full spectrum of needs. Transitions focuses on a client driven model, which integrates wellness and recovery into its array of services, including psychiatric treatment, individual therapy, intensive case management services, group treatment and rehabilitation services. While ensuring capacity to provide services within the clinic setting, the Transitions Program guarantees that clinicians and case managers also provide field-based services within homes, community, and the TAY Wellness and Recovery Center. Peer staff, or "Recovery Coaches," support consumers in the achievement of their wellness and recovery goals. The program serves primarily the Oxnard, Ventura, Conejo and Simi Valley regions of Ventura County and has been effective in expanding access to services to traditionally un-served and underserved TAY in these areas. The TAY Program is funded through the Mental Health Services Association (MHSA). Currently, TAY has a total of 232 clients with a maximum of 260.</p>		
IX.	<p>Old Business</p> <p>Janis Gardner promoted bringing in new BHAB members that are relevant to Behavioral Health and reminded all that a Site Visit Report from Khepera House will be available in July.</p>		
X.	<p>New Business</p> <p>A.) Inga McManus from Pacific Clinics TAY Tunnel Program in Oxnard, CA promoted connecting individuals to healthcare services.</p> <p>B.) Janis Gardner presented a report called "ACLU of Northern California" which discusses American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) drug related arrests. Ms. Gardner stated that the ACLU was concerned with the disparities in the Criminal Justice system with drug related arrests and incarcerations, particularly in cases that involved marijuana busts. The Blue Ribbon Commission on Marijuana Policy addresses these issues and others. Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom who chairs the Commission also has concerns about easy accessibility for kids and public safety. The report advises that many of the issues it is exploring need to be considered with the goal of limiting access of marijuana to California children. VCBH's Alcohol and Drug Programs and the BHAB have both been invited to share perspectives with the Commission in writing.</p> <p>C.) Dan Hicks discussed that what has been most important and successful has been to keep the focus on science, not pro vs con, when it comes to marijuana; not focus on legalization. Talking Points for the Director's association position on legalization is more beneficial knowing the science and protecting thousands of brains in our state.</p> <p>D.) Janis Gardner discussed that at the recent Laura's Law Workgroup Committee Meeting, members voted on 3 different options for Ventura County: Option 1 was to recommend implementing Laura's Law; Option 2 was to recommend not implementing Laura's Law; Option 3 was to recommend implementing a voluntary pilot program using an assertive community treatment model that has fidelity with an act model program of 1:10 ratio and 24/7 case worker availability. The vote was 7 to 10 to implement Laura's Law with another 5 to 5 vote to implement the pilot program. This issue is going to be brought to the BHAB general meeting on Monday, June 15, 2015 and a written recommendation will then be formulated by the BHAB and sent to the Ventura County Board of Supervisors. Ms. Gardner also mentioned the Children's Stabilization Unit (CSU) and that a bid went out to an unnamed facility that could potentially be a location for children 18 and younger who are in crisis.</p>		

XI.	<p>Committee Member Comments</p> <p>A.) June Ewart, Rancho Simi Recreation & Park District (RSRPD), Community Coalition United stated that in May 2015, there was a Mental Health First Aid Outreach through Conejo Parks & Recreation District. Ms. Ewart also distributed flyers for Teens & Parents Together events, Youth “Hockey” Outreach Program, Triple P Positive Parenting Program events and an upcoming Mental Health First Aid event on June 16-17 in Simi Valley. Ms. Ewart also mentioned that on June 1, 2015 in Gloucester, Massachusetts, the Gloucester Police Department with its Assisted Addiction and Recovery Initiative adopted the Volunteer ANGEL Program policy to address the needs of any person who comes into the police station requesting help with their opiate addiction. These people will not be arrested if they come in to the Police Department with their drugs and drug equipment. They are screened and then speed tracked into detox and treatment services instead of being given punishment. For more information: http://www.paariusa.org/</p> <p>B.) Dan Hicks announced that VCBH’s funding request for \$299K is under consideration by the State of California’s Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) for a “Drugged Driving Call to Action Campaign” which will begin no later than October 1, 2015.</p>		
XII.	<p>Future Meeting Discussion</p> <p>A.) Janis Gardner discussed having David Tovar, OTS Grant Coordinator from VCBH’s Prevention Services Alcohol & Drug Programs (ADP) report about WeedUI and the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) Grant at the VCBH Advisory Board Prevention Committee Meeting in July 2015.</p> <p>B.) Ms. Gardner also suggested having a representative from VCBH’s Transitions TAY Program do another presentation in August 2015.</p>		
	<p>Adjourn</p> <p>Meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.</p>	<p>Next Meeting: July 13, 2015</p>	