



EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Public Comment on 5/8/18 BOS Agenda Item 1806-01 Annual Behavioral Health Commission Update

1 message

Valerie Akana <vakana@alumni.gsb.stanford.edu>
To: EDC COB <edc.cob@edcgov.us>

Thu, May 3, 2018 at 8:55 PM

Dear Jim and Staff:

Would you please be so kind as to attach the letters (see attachment below) from jail inmates to item 1806-01 (Behavioral Health Commission Annual Update) on the upcoming Tuesday 5/8 BOS meeting?

The inmates want the Board and Behavioral Health Commission to know that appropriate and timely mental health screening and treatment would help them recover and improve their lives post jail.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Val Akana
Placerville, CA

 **Inmate Letters.pdf**
3398K

I BELIEVE MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS ARE DEEPLY NEEDED BY INMATES AND OTHERS IN EL DORADO COUNTY, THERES A SIGNIFICANT AMOUNT OF PEOPLE WHO SELF MEDICATE BECAUSE A LACK OF MEDICAL INSURANCE OR RESOURCES. I BELIEVE EVERY INMATE SHOULD BE EVALUATED BY MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS, THAT WILL HELP BETTER AND MORE SUCCESSFULLY TREAT SUCH ILLNESSES. THESE TREATMENT SHOULD ALSO BE CONTINUED ON THE OUTSIDE, TO PREVENT SUCH PEOPLE FROM CONTINUING TO HARM THEMSELFS AND OTHERS IN PUBLIC. IF WE DONT DO ANYTHING ABOUT THIS THIS PROBLEM WILL CONTINUE AND POSSIBLY ESCALADE.

Sincerely;
Carlos Bahena
ID# 133026

I Personally Have Had Mental Health issues that were never met in here. I Suffered from Depression and anxiety while incarcerated in the El Dorado County Jail for 18 Months, during that time I was put on multiple different medications and doses. By the time of the end of my stay was up, none of the medications helped. I still have anxiety issues and don't want to ask for help cause all I've gotten was some medication and told come back in a month. I feel that there should be more than just medication. one on one treatment and also some type of bridging the gap program when leaving jail. that way self medication is eradicated.

Sincerely

Mick Cowder

I Believe Mental Health Programs Are Deeply Needed By Inmates And others in El Dorado County. There Are A significant Amount of People Who self Medicate Because of A Lack of Medical Insurance or The Embarrassment From Their Mental Illness by which They Inherit Genetically. When A Mentally Ill Person is Arrested Most of Them Have Been Abusing Drugs or Alcohol. I Believe Every Inmate should Be Evaluated By A Mental Health professional At The time of Their Incarceration To Help Better and More successfully Treat such Illnesses. I Believe This Care must Also Be continued After Their Release To Help Reduce Future Harm To Themselves or The General Public. Without Further Education and New Programs This Problem will continue To Grow and Progress.

Sincerely

Martin Ramirez

ID # 133944

Mental health programs are desperately needed by inmates in El Dorado County. When we get arrested many of us have been abusing drugs or alcohol. Mental illness is magnified by substance abuse and poor overall health. Inmates health stabilizes by sleeping well, eating healthy, and not using. This is a great opportunity to evaluate mental health. Educating inmates about mental illness is very important to get inmates to want to participate in treatment. After treatment while in custody, comprehensive out of custody care must be available. Mental illness is a huge problem and will continue to grow without education and new programs.

Thank you.

Scott Baker
101234

MENTAL HEALTH IS NEEDED
IN EL DORADO COUNTY DUE
TO THE ABUSE OF DRUGS &
ALCOHOL & TRANSIENT INDIVIDUALS
OF SOCIETY.

WE NEED TO HAVE APPROPRIATE
TREATMENT AND JUDGMENT
TO RESPOND TO ANY KIND
OF ILLNESS...

THE MOVEMENT HAS TO BE
A MESSAGE TO THOSE WHO
ARE WILLING TO HELP... ARE OPINIONS
MATTER TO THOSE WHO SUFFER
FROM ILLNESSES SO STAND UP
AND MAKE A CHANGE CAUSE
ARE FUTURE MENTAL HEALTH
MATTERS.


PEREZ, G.

4-24-18

To whom it may concern:

I feel that this county could really use mental health services for us inmates, because we need outlets for help to regulate our needs for a better mental health. Here at El Dorado county we dont have very many options to get help except from a man on a computer who only gives certain pills and doesnt offer any other services like counseling, or support groups or after care help to keep us stable when released. It would be nice to have a program here to help.

Thank you

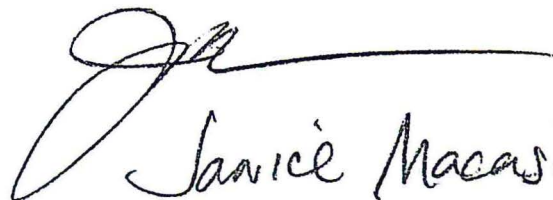
Kristina 

4/24/18

To Whom it may concern,

I, Janice Macasio, truly believe that mental health services ~~is~~ a necessity on a daily basis or at least if already offered than at least be improved on a better intrapersonal level between client and mental health counseling. Longer sessions and sharing of clients thoughts, emotions, and attitude on a personal level rather than just what medication a client is currently taking is not sufficient enough. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely


Janice Macasio

4-24-18

To Whom it may concern,

I am currently in El Dorado County jail + we are in desperate need of mental health services.

I have been waiting for 3 weeks to talk to a mental health provider. It is difficult to go through hardships + mental illness w/o hope of the assistance of a professional.

Thank you
Kurt Biddle

4-24-18

To whom it may concern,
I Bobbie Ritola, think it would be beneficial to have mental health services on a face to face regular basis. I saw a DR. on a video conference. I don't feel that I got the treatment necessary to help me this way. It also took quite a bit of time to be seen. If people would have mental health available on a more regular basis I feel it would be very beneficial.
Thanks for your time.

Bobbie Ritola

I believe mental health professionals at a jail can help people make it on the outside after being evaluated & getting to deeper root problems that they may be suffering from. Whether it be counseling or medication but they can solve problems more one on one instead of thinking that every one is the same with the same issues that make it hard for them to make it living in the outside world. The system we once knew was not working! So it's on us to make changes and break that cycle once and for all. I think mental health services will be one step further to a new way of self improvement in jail facilities.

Sincerely,

Jerry Helton

April 24, 2018

To: Whom it may concern,
I am writing you as an
inmate at El Dorado Co. jail...
Mental Health issues that
I've seen needs to be addressed
differently in County jail and
be more professional by taking
the time and hearing the needs
of the inmates, instead of just
classifying their mental status
and putting their requests or needs
2 weeks out. I feel addressing
their issues during intake would
have better results

May 3, 2018

To: El Dorado County Board of Supervisors
El Dorado County Behavioral Health Commission

Subject: Public comment on 5/8/18 BOS Item 1806-01 Annual Behavioral Health Commission Update

I have been an El Dorado County resident for the past 45 years. Due to Mental Health issues in my family I have personally experienced frustration and anguish trying to obtain health care and as a result I have been researching the Mental Health resources here in Placerville and El Dorado County.

I am glad to see that there are a number of changes and improvements in Mental Health Care here in El Dorado County and I urgently request that the Board of Supervisors do everything within their power to continue and expand these services, including but not limited to:

1. Stepping Up
2. Community Hubs and ACES Collaborative
3. PERT (Psychiatric Emergence Response Team)
4. HOT (Homeless Outreach Team)
5. Homeless Coordinator/Continuum of Care
6. CIT (Crisis Intervention Training)

I would like to see more consistency of treatment of the Mentally Ill by various police, sheriff and EMT teams as well as a better staffed and educated ER in our local hospital. Example: The PERT team is only available for County Sheriff calls on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in certain daytime hours.

Approximately 1 in 25 adults in the U.S. experiences a **serious** mental illness in a given year that substantially interferes with or limits one or more major life activities. It is a biological brain disorder, causing a chemical imbalance. It is no one's fault and cannot be wished away.

Please, let us here in El Dorado County be an example for all of the state and hopefully, the nation.

Sincerely,

L. Hall

Placerville, CA