

October 22, 2020

To: Behavioral Health Commission
From: Children's Services Ad Hoc Committee

RE: BRIEF UPDATE AND AD HOC COMMITTEE'S NEXT STEPS

On October 12th, the Ad Hoc Committee along with El Dorado County Staff heard presentations from the following:

New Morning Youth and Family Services

Michelle Godwin, LCSW, Clinical Services Director
Carrie Thomas – Quality Assurance

Community Hubs

Kathi Guerrero, Executive Director, First Five

Tahoe Youth and Family Services

Karen Carey, Executive Director

Sierra Child and Family Services

Barry Harwell, Executive Director

On September 17th, we received presentations from:

El Dorado County Office of Education

Sheila Silan, Coordinator, School Attendance Review Board (SARB)

Stanford Sierra Youth and Families

Sara DeCoursey, Associate Program Director, CBFS & TBS
Laura Walshaw, Associate Program Director, Wraparound

Summitview Child & Family Services

Chris Stedeford, Senior Director of Mental Health Programs

This makes a total of seven agencies that provided us comprehensive information on services provided to children, youth, and their families.

Topics of discussion included but not limited to:

Referral services
Coordination of care
Respite care
Specialty mental health services
Inpatient residential services
Outpatient services

Foster youth programs/services
Drug and substance abuse programs
Coordination of services for youth in the Juvenile Detention Center
Wellness Centers
Expansion of services
Coordination with Child Welfare Services
Advocating for children and youth services

We have obtained a great deal of information and are extremely grateful to agency representatives for taking the time to apprise us of the many programs in which they are involved. We also wish to extend our appreciation to EDC staff Heather Longo, Angelina Larrigan, Tami Smith, and Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken for their assistance in helping us through this process; providing us with their insights on EDC programs related to children and youth; and their active participation in the discussion with the aforementioned agencies.

Our next step is to synthesize all this information into several recommendations that will be presented to the Behavioral Health Commission at our November meeting. To that end, the committee and EDC staff will be meeting on November 3rd from 1-3 to complete that process.

Additionally, we respectfully ask that the Commission after hearing these recommendations, adopt those which it would like to see further implemented and proceed from there.

Thank you again for allowing us to serve the Commission in this capacity. It has been quite enlightening and highly informative. We look forward to presenting our recommendations at our November meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Norma Santiago, Chair
Ad Hoc Committee,
BHC Children and Youth Services