Summary/Action Minutes

I. John George Psychiatric Hospital Update

Rebecca Gebhart, Acting Director, Health Care Services Agency, Dr. Karyn Tribble, Deputy Director, Behavioral Health Care Services and Guy C. Qvistgaard, Chief Administrative Officer, John George Psychiatric Hospital and Ambulatory Care, Alameda Health System presented a PowerPoint presentation on the John George Psychiatric Hospital.

John George Psychiatric Hospital opened in 1992 and serves both involuntary and voluntary patients who have an acute psychiatric illness. In addition the hospital provides psychiatric consultation, 5150 clearance, and referral to appropriate mental health agencies on the Highland and Fairmont Campuses, as well as at the Alameda Health System Wellness Centers.

The John George Psychiatric Hospital has a total of 80 licensed inpatient beds. Treatment includes medication, psychotherapy, milieu therapy, group therapy, occupational therapy and activity therapy.

- Inpatient Admissions: 3,077 (Average Length of stay = 7-8.5 days)
  - 1400 per month
  - Majority via ambulance – 1200
  - 720 are screened in the field by EMS EMT’s
  - 480 are determined to go for medical evaluation
  - 230 walk-ins

Issues contributing to overcrowding

Alameda County has the highest 5150 population, per capita, in the State of California and there is a “culture of care” rather than jail in Alameda County. Hospitalization is more humane than going to jail and the process for 5150 holds can be expedited and lead to greater resources for the individual compared to arrests. These conditions have all lead to overcrowding at John George Pavilion.

A thorough screening can lead to delay in patient flow. Other contributing factors include staffing and physical space challenges. John George is the only mental hospital that directly screens for placement in inpatient care and community resources are limited and often filled to capacity.

Multiple Solutions

John George Pavilion has added “triage doctors” to screen and stabilize clients, which will enable patients to be screened 20 hours per day 7 days per week. Rapid screening, assessment and coordination of care can occur and divert patients to more appropriate levels of care.
Other solutions and next steps include:

- Increase community capacity for step down services
- Pilot Short Term Treatment program
- Provide continuity of care and intensive post-discharge treatment in community
- Approve Emergency Department at St. Rose Hospital to extend and release 5150
- Capital Expansion

Speakers

Judy Lynn read statement on behalf of Alane Friedrich. Rebecca Rozen, Steve Bischoff, Gary Jimenez, Troy Nixon, BJ Wilson, Ruby Sloan, Ben Castillo, Rachel Odes, Derrick Boutte, D. MacPherson, Milton Lorry, Beverly Bergman, Francesca Tenenbaum, Lisa Mills, Dr. Amy Young, Sandre Swanson all made comments regarding overcrowding and possible solutions at John George Psychiatric Pavilion.

Purpose:

☑️ Report progress
☐ Advocacy or Education
☐ Request Health Committee Recommendation or Position
☐ Other:

Recommendation from the Health Committee: The Health Care Services Agency will return to the Health Committee for a follow up on August 1st, 2016. The follow up should include if there has been an improvement in the overcrowding due to some of the short-term solutions. In addition, the Health Care Services Agency shall provide a list of step down providers and their relationships and barriers for expanding their services. The Health Care Services Agency to include a plan to assist the 90 high users of the emergency room. Francesca Tanenbaum and District 3 staff will continue to monitor the situation at John George and report back to the District offices.

II. Whole Person Care Pilot as part of Medi-Cal 2020 Waiver – Continued to August 1, 2016

Attachment

III. FY 2016-17 Measure A One-Time Funding Requests

La Clinica de la Raza Children’s Hospital Dental Clinic Relocation & Expansion

Attachment

Rebecca Gebhart, Acting Director, Health Care Services Agency and Jane Garcia, Chief Executive Officer, La Clinica de la Raza, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Children’s Hospital Dental Clinic Relocation and Expansion, to request one-time Measure A funding.

La Clinica Dental Clinic has been operating at Children’s Hospital Oakland since 2003 as a result of a County negotiated partnership between the hospital and La Clinica, which specializes in serving pediatric patients with special health care needs. This would include children with developmental delays, undergoing chemotherapy, complicated surgery and transplant patients. Nearly 6,000 low-income patients are served each year.

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) has awarded La Clinica the Oral Health Expansion Initiative Grant to increase access for dental care in the existing service area, to be operational by January 2017. La Clinica has the opportunity to relocate and expand the clinic to meet the steadily growing demand for pediatric specialty dental care in the County, reducing the 6-month waiting period for a dental appointment. Children’s Hospital patients need dental care and treatment as part of their medical care and in close proximity to the hospital; the alternative closest facility is in Santa Clara County.
The Health Care Services Agency requests the Health Committee’s approval to allocate $1 million of Measure A one-time funds for the expansion of the dental clinic.

**Purpose:**
- [ ] Report progress
- [ ] Advocacy or Education
- [x] **Request Health Committee Recommendation or Position**
- [ ] Other:

**Recommendation from the Health Committee:** Approve. Move to the full Board of Supervisors.

**IV. Update on Zika Virus in Alameda County**

Dr. Erica Pan, Director, Division of Communicable Disease Control and Prevention, Public Health Department, presented a PowerPoint presentation to update the Health Committee on the Zika Virus in Alameda County.

The Zika Virus is a mosquito borne virus of the Aedes species, in the family of dengue and West Nile virus, which was first discovered in the Zika Forest in Uganda in 1947. Typically one in five people get symptoms of the virus, which can occur one to five days after exposure and last approximately one week. Symptoms include fever, rash and joint pain.

**Summary**

The Zika Virus is a mild disease but the concern is congenital infection & rare Guillain Barre Syndrome. All cases in CA & Continental US are travel-associated. Alameda County does not have established invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes. Access to Zika testing is currently primarily through public health labs but expanding. The domestic public health response to Zika virus comprises mosquito vector control and prevention of sexual & blood-borne transmission. Pregnant women should be counseled about travel and potential sexual transmission from male partners.

**Purpose:**
- [x] **Report progress**
- [ ] Advocacy or Education
- [ ] Request Health Committee Recommendation or Position
- [ ] Other:

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

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