I. Alameda County Mental Health Board

Jaseon Outlaw, Ph.D, Chair, and Rochelle Elias, Past Chair, Mental Health Board, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Mental Health Board’s 2014/2015 Annual Report.

The mission of the Mental Health Board is to “ensure that the County’s Behavioral Health Care Services provides quality care in treating members of the diverse community with dignity, courtesy and respect. This mission is accomplished through advocacy, education, review, and evaluation of Alameda County’s mental health needs.

The Mental Health Board’s Annual Report consists of highlights of the Board’s major activities during the past year and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the local mental health program, as mandated by WIC Section 5604.2.

Highlight of Activities

Monthly meetings with a varying range of topics, including new and expanded programs, pharmacy services, criminal justice overview and housing services for the mentally ill.

Recommendations to the Board of Supervisors

- Correct overcrowding and at John George Psychiatric Emergency Services; an average of 20 patients per day sleep on the floor;
- More stringent triage to address homelessness, chemical dependency and outpatient services;
- Implement a Peer Respite Program, a volunteer short term- residential treatment program;
- Adequately track hiring trends within Behavioral Health Care Services to assess cultural competency in psychiatrists and psychotherapists; and
- Address disparities in mental health with the African American, Latino and Tri-Valley communities. The Mental Health Board thanked the Health Committee for their continued support.
Joe Rose stated that he was a prior member of the Mental Health Board and he understood that the Mental Health Board’s responsibility was to make recommendations to Behavioral Health Care Services and provide a report on how BHCS implemented said recommendations.

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

**Recommendation from Health Committee:** The Health Care Services Agency will draft a written response to the Mental Health Board’s recommendations and report back to the Health Committee at a future meeting.

Health Care Services Agency will draft a report responding to recommendations from the Mental Health Board made during the past five years and provide a status update on implementation. Supervisor Carson recommended the Mental Health Board Annual report be submitted to Social Services and Public Protection Committees, the Sheriff and the Chief of Probation.

## II. Alameda County Health Care Services Agency Inter-Governmental Transfer (IGT)

**Attachment**

Rebecca Gebhart, Finance Director, Health Care Services Agency presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Agency’s Inter-Governmental Transfer Program.

The Intergovernmental Transfer Program is a program that funds Medicaid shortfalls by implementing a mechanism to draw down federal share of costs.

The Health Care Services Agency Finance & Administration runs the IGT Program in coordination with the State Department of Health Care Services, Safety Net Financing Division, participating hospitals and the County Auditor.

The Health Care Services Agency is requesting $5 million for the non-federal share for St. Rose Hospital participate in the IGT program.

**Speakers**

Debbie Nielsen, Director of Managed Care, Children’s Benioff Hospital Oakland, supports the IGT program.

Jim Lugannani, Board of Trustee member, Alameda Health System, supports the IGT program.

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

**Recommendation from Health Committee:** The Health Care Services Agency will draft a written response to the Mental Health Board’s recommendations and report back to the Health Committee at a future meeting.

## III. Sharps Disposal Ordinance Review

**Attachment**

Supervisor Keith Carson, District 5, member of the Health Committee, presented a PowerPoint presentation on the Sharp’s Disposal Ordinance Review.
Alameda County began working on Sharps Disposal regulation in 2000, and additionally sponsored a bill to regulate the disposal of household sharps waste. SB 13062 allowed Household Hazardous Waste sites to dispose of home generated sharps needles. A subsequent bill was passed which prohibited the disposal of sharps waste in California landfills. Several pieces of legislation have been introduced to regulate the disposal of sharps waste which failed passage.

The proposed Alameda County Safe Consumer Generated Sharp’s Disposal Ordinance will require producers of medications to fund and participate in a product stewardship program to collect and dispose of sharps waste from its’ consumers. Producers cannot charge fees to consumers for any element of the Product Stewardship Plan, forcing internalization of costs to implement the stewardship program. The program must have an outreach and promotion campaign, including prominently displayed signage. Producers will pay the County’s cost for implementation and oversight of the Ordinance. Failure to comply can result in a maximum fine of up to $1,000 per day per violation. This proposed Ordinance is a compliment and companion to the Alameda County Safe Drug Disposal Ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors in July 2012.

Purpose:

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

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

PUBLIC COMMENT
None.

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