



COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Elsa Jimenez, Director of Health

Administration Animal Services Behavioral Health Clinic Services
Emergency Medical Services Environmental Health Public Administrator/Public Guardian Public Health

Monterey County Behavioral Health Bureau
Cultural Relevancy and Humility Committee

September 14th 2023 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Location: El Gabilan Library 1400 North Main Street Salinas Ca, 93906

Virtually through Zoom

Meeting Agenda & Minutes

The purpose for the Monterey County Behavioral Health Cultural Relevancy & Humility Committee monthly meetings is to bring community together and help folks identify ways to improve access to care in a culturally responsive manner reflective of the community it serves with a focus on Medi-Cal beneficiaries for Behavioral Health and Substance use Disorder services in a collective & collaborative approach.

Meeting Attendees:

Online participants (8)

Christina Santana (MC Health Department)

Clarisa Reyes-Becera (CBDIO)

Eulogio Espinoza (CBDIO)

Evelyn Alvarez (MC Public Health)

Janet Barajas, MC BH Manager for Quality

Jennifer Rivas (MC Health Department)

Juan Rodriguez (MC Civil Rights Office)

Vicente Lara (MC Health Department)

In-person participants (20, including several resident doctors from Natividad)

Jessica Mora-Ramirez

Michelle Carter

Joe Harvin



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Interpreter Sara

Norma Ahedo (CCA)

Bertha Ruelas (CCA)

Francisca Vazquez

Veronica Leon (CCA)

Martha Ortega (CCA)

Eamon Vandaei (Natividad)

Cuong Lieu (Natividad)

Bao Ly (Natividad)

Annika Uneye (Natividad)

Sebastian Ramos (Natividad Resident)

Jessica Daggett (Natividad Resident)

Bilal Karim (Natividad Resident)

Magdalena Ruiz (Natividad Resident)

Sarah Fraz (Natividad Resident)

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm

Welcome & Introduction

1:15 pm - 1:45 pm

I. The Department of Health Care Services

- a. Requires a Cultural Competency Plan that is updated annually that includes and not limited to:

- Data Reporting

- Updates and recommendations from the Community Relevance and Humility Committee



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- Solutions and ideas for language barriers and how to address them: For example – Native languages and literature on Mental Health
- Generate ideas for an Action Plan
- Cultural outreach events, activities or fairs to provide information in a culturally appropriate manner.
- Collaborate collectively with other organizations to support our communities.

b. The Cultural Competence Plan is currently being reviewed & updates with new guidelines for 2024

- Review and generate a discussion about the new guidelines
- Think about what your roll in this committee may be and how you can support us and how we may support you all.

1:45 pm – 2:00 pm
15- minute break

2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

II. Monterey County Behavioral Health workshop and updates

a. Announcements for services and access

- WellScreen Monterey and how to navigate our webpage.



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- Request for help from folks in our Indigenous community and their input about representation (i.e., images representative from their communities that help us identify what region they are from and native language)
- You Matter I Will Listen Campaign

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm

III. Community

a. Sharing community resources and questions

- Topics for our next meeting October 10.18.23

3:00 pm

Meeting notes:

- What is CBDIO? Centro Binacional para el Desarrollo Indígena Oaxaqueño
- Objective is to help our community
- What do you know about BH services and how to access services
- Many in our community are transitional workers - they go where the work is.
- In-person participant: Services were greatly affected due to COVID
- What is WellScreen Monterey? *Review of the MCBH website and how to navigate to WellScreen Monterey*

<https://wellscreenmonterey.crediblemind.com/>

- We need help from the community! Get out into the indigenous communities and give them the information/resources
- Discussion of the new campaign "You Matter I Will Listen"
- Future sites of meetings:
 - ACFA Alisal Center for Fine Arts on the east side of Salinas
 - Pajaro
 - South County
 - Evening meetings for those who have been unable to attend during the daytime hours



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- What are people doing while they're waiting to get help? They've done the evaluation, and then what? We want to open spaces where people can get help.
- In-person participant: What would you recommend/what's the best way to get to know the community? A question especially directed at the doctors, who are only here for a short time, who may come from different states or countries.
- Response: Attend virtually, or in-person, the different meetings. Get out there, get involved in the community. "Help me, help you, help us!"