



In-Person Community Forum
January 8, 2025
Westchester Training Room



Focus: MHSA Reform and Updates

Total Meeting Attendance	28
Total Survey Responses	22
Total Completion Rate	79%



Age Group:		Sexual Orientation:	
0-15	0	Straight/Heterosexual	18
16-25	0	Gay or Lesbian	1
26-59	19	Questioning or Unsure	0
60 or Older	3	Queer	0
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	6	Asexual	0
Gender assigned at birth:		Bisexual	2
Male	3	Pansexual	0
Female	18	Another Sexual Orientation	0
Intersex	0	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	7
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	7	Race:	
Gender Currently Identified with:		Asian	0
Male (Cis Male)	4	Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0
Female (Cis Female)	15	Black/African American	2
Transgender/other	0	Latino/Hispanic	5
Genderqueer	0	Tribal/Native American	0
Non-Binary	0	White/Caucasian	11
Genderfluid	0	Two or More Races: Indian & Hispanic (2)	2
Questioning or Unsure	0	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	8
Other Gender Identity	0	Ethnicity:	
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	9	African	1
Disability:		Asian Indian/South Asian	0
Vision	1	Cambodian	0
Hearing, or Difficulty Understanding	0	Chinese	0
Mental/Cognitive (excludes behavioral)	2	Eastern European	1
Mobility/Physical	3	Korean	0
Chronic Medical Illness	1	Middle Eastern	0
None	11	Vietnamese	0
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	10	European	2
Veteran Status:		Filipino	0
Yes, I Am a Veteran	2	Japanese	0
No, I Am Not a Veteran	16	Caribbean	0
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	10	Central American	0
Primary Language:		Mexican/Mexican American/Chicano	5
Only English	20	Puerto Rican	0
Only Spanish	0	South American	0
Both English and Spanish	1	Two or More Ethnicities (see below)	3
Another Language (Hindi)	0	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	16
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	7	<i>Two or More: n/a</i>	

*Group/Category		*Population you feel is most unserved/underserved in the above-mentioned community	
Client/Consumer/Person with Mental Illness	3	Children/Families	2
Family Member of a Client or Person with Mental Illness	2	Transitional Aged Youth (16-25)	4
KernBHRS Staff	6	Older Adults	6
Law Enforcement	0	Homeless or At Risk of Homelessness	4
Veteran Services	0	Those in Rural Kern Areas	2
Senior Services	2	Veterans	2
Education/Schools	3	Those with Substance Use Disorders	2
Community Member	1	Latino/Hispanic	1
County Agency Staff (Not KernBHRS Staff)	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Behavioral Health Provider (Not KernBHRS Staff)	2	Black/African American	1
Medical Care Provider	2	American Indian / Alaska Native	1
Other	2	LGBTQ+	0
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	9	Other	0
<i>Describe others: MCP and KM BHU</i>		Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	14
*Region of the County you are most involved		*Please indicate the types of services or programs that would be appropriate to service the above-mentioned population	
Arvin/Lamont	2	Prevention	7
Bakersfield	19	Early Intervention	6
Delano/McFarland	3	Outreach for Recognizing the Early Signs of Mental Illness	7
California City/Mojave/Rosamond	0	Stigma and Discrimination Reduction	4
Wasco/Shafter	3	Access and Linkage to Care	6
Buttonwillow/Lost Hills	0	Peer-Based Services	5
Oildale	0	Intensive Outpatient Treatment	9
Kern River Valley	1	Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	15
Tehachapi	0		
Ridgecrest	0		
Taft	2		
Frazier Park/Mountain Communities	0		
Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	9		

*Participants may select more than one answer to survey questions.

Do you have any questions, comments, or concerns?

Declined/Did Not Submit a Survey	21
Answered	7
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. I would like to hear about how CFLC is affected in 2025. I am a consumer at that peer-based mental health outpatient services center. I have heard % of funding will be significantly cut to CFLC which helps (my group) those with chronic, serious mental illness. 2. More space for listening sessions/networking. 3. I think we need to focus on homeless people w/mental illness. I feel sad when I see them. Can this be done? 4. Bakersfield College Disabled Student Program & Services (DSPS) is committed to supporting students with mental health diagnoses or other disabilities. Please do not hesitate to reach out to my department directly if you have a consumer client who could benefit from academic accommodation. 5. Starting a power to make trust for individuals? Regarding helping people go to work! 6. SUD Perinatal, Jason Retreat closed their SUD treatment for this. 7. Excited about 2 new mental health facilities. Info on prop 1 useful. Excited to see how this increases education institute collaborations. As a public member it was a little tricky to find this meeting. 	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

<p>Kern County Emergency Alert System – Ready Kern Visit www.ReadyKern.com to sign up for emergency notification.</p>	<p>Psychiatric Health Facilities Update New PHF for Adults and Minors located at 718 Workman Street and 702 Workman Street</p>
<p>Would you like to participate in our Cultural Competence Resource Committee? For more information, please contact CulturalCompetence@KernBHRS.org</p>	<p>Prepare U Contact MHSa Team at MHSATeam@kernbhers.org for more information</p>
<p>Help those in Crisis – Volunteer Recruitment For more information contact Cassie Deras-Coker at (661)332-7479 or CDeras-Coker@kernbhers.org</p>	<p>Navigating KernBHRS Website Visit our website to see MHSa reports and provide feedback for the upcoming Annual Report. https://www.kernbhers.org/home-bhr</p>

MHSA & Behavioral Health Transformation Education

Presenter: Tia Flores, Program Specialist

Description: Flores presented the MHSA origins and how the 5 funding streams work to improve mental health outcomes. Flores provided an update on Behavioral Health Transformation (BHT) / Prop 1

Questions from the Audience after the presentation: No questions were recorded for this section.

Program Presentations and Updates

Presentation #1

Presentation: Behavioral Health Transition (BHT) Updates

Presenter: Mark Kimmel, Mental Health Services Act Program Supervisor

Description: Kimmel presented MHSA program changes due to the transition to Behavioral Health Transformation / Prop 1.

Position Reduction to the following programs:

- **Homeless Outreach Team (PEI):**
 - Reducing positions down to 1 Liaison position
 - Contract with Flood Ministries
- **Continuum of Care Reform Foster Youth Engagement (PEI):**
 - Reducing by 1 Program Specialist
 - KernBHRS Team

Program Changes:

- **Home to Stay (SD):**
 - Moving from MHSA funding to another funding stream
 - KernBHRS Team
- **Cultural Competence (?):**
 - The MHSA Team is absorbing Cultural Competence duties
 - KernBHRS Team
- **Professional Development Team / Clinical Supervision:**
 - Department Supports is absorbing Professional Development / Clinical Supervision
 - All aspects of the Professional Development Team and Clinical Supervision will continue to remain in place

Questions from the Audience after the presentation:

- **Q:** With the Cultural Competence Team being run now by MHSA, will the MHSA Team hire more staff or continue as is?
A: (Kimmel) The MHSA Team will be changed. However, we don't know exactly how it will look later. We know we won't be adding new positions. This will be one of those things we take on, along with what we already do.
- **Q:** How will the Cultural Competence Team change with the committee and subcommittee structure already in place?
A: (Kimmel) None of those committees or subcommittees are changing. Our team is attending and has been attending those committee meetings, so we will take those on and run them as normal.
- **Q:** When you said we have that 1%, do they have that through a trust fund so that it builds and adds to it?
A: (Kimmel) So that's a tax on millionaires that funds the MHSA throughout the state.
- **Q:** As a stockholder, have we put anything in place for what we feel is the better thing to add money to so that if the state takes any funds away, we can continue the projects?
A: (Kimmel) The state takes that money and distributes it to each county in California. Allowing the Counties to decide the different areas of funding they need so they can provide services. There is quite a bit of oversight through our Annual Plans and Audits. Making sure that all the funds are being used properly and accounted for. There is going to be even more oversight in the future.
- **Q:** I was just wondering if we have ever put in place a Will & Testament to ensure that if the County cuts back on how much we get, we will still have enough for our programs to stay in place.
A: (Kimmel) I like that idea, and I will make a note of it. Thank you for your feedback.

Listening Session

Presentation: Listening Session

Presenter: Tia Flores, MHSA Program Specialist

Description: Flores opened to facilitate the listening session

Questions from the Audience after the presentation: No questions were recorded for this section.

MHSA Stakeholder Feedback Forms Received

- "I did not hear anything about how CFLC is affected by changes in 2025."
- "I enjoyed this meeting. I am sorry, but I don't have any questions. Just appreciate this place"
- "A lot of great information. Thanks!"
- "Great job. Unfortunately, the meeting started late, and I couldn't stay"
- "Very concise explanation from Mark"

CPPP Incentive Program

The MHSA/CPPP Incentive Program started on December 1, 2021. This incentive program offers a \$20 gift card for consumers/clients, their families, and other MHSA program participants.

To qualify for the MHSA/CPPP Incentive Program, interested consumers/clients, family members, and other MHSA program participants must pre-register to attend the MHSA Community Forum. Upon pre-registration, MHSA staff will ensure that those who pre-register know the location of the meeting (for In-Person meetings) or have reliable access to Zoom (for Virtual meetings).

During the MHSA Community Forum, MHSA staff will confirm attendance. Then, approximately within one business day, the \$20 gift card will be mailed to the address they provided during pre-registration.

CPPP Incentive Program will be discontinued effective August 21, 2024.

Action Steps

Kern Behavioral Health and Recovery Services will continue its commitment to inform, engage, take feedback, and reach out to its communities. This will be achieved through the collaborative efforts of offering MHSA-funded programs and services in partnership with community organizations and contract service providers throughout Kern County.

MHSA recorded a total of **22** attendees during this presentation; the total excludes MHSA Coordination team members and presenters.

In this meeting, MHSA provided an overview of the ongoing Behavioral Health Transformation update. This transformation is a collective effort, and MHSA will continue to provide updates as information is received.

During the Stakeholder meeting, we had one program presentation and no voting items.

MHSA will:

General

We will continue to provide education and updates on legislative and policy changes regarding MHSA funding and how that impacts the programs and services provided to Kern County residents.

Investigate ways of gaining stakeholder feedback and participation (giveaways, treats, etc.) during the next meetings.

Continue researching ways of gaining more clients/families and public participation during stakeholder meetings.

No further action steps.