

Central Regional Training of MH Boards and Commissions
April 2, 2011
Blue Sky Wellness Center in Fresno, CA
[TRAINING NOTES]

ROUNDTABLE Discussion Topic:

- **Does the CALMBC Board - a statewide association that provides advocacy on a statewide basis of MH Boards and Commissions – include representation of the geographic, cultural and client/family member diversity of Central Region?**

Background provided by CALMBC members present...

CALMHBC (Elected at Annual Meeting)

President: Kim Kennard (Stanislaus)
1st VP: Gary Scheppke (Marin)
2nd VP: John Sturm (San Diego)
Secretary: Julie Crouch (Riverside)
Treasurer: Beryl Neilson (Napa)

Central Region Reps (per CALMHBC Bylaws: Elected Regionally)

Cary Martin (San Joaquin)
James Fuller (Merced)
Kim Kennard (Stanislaus)
Current Vacancies: 2 Central Region Director Openings and 3 Alternates

Yearly Schedule for CALMBoard Meetings

June (6/17-6/19): Burlingame
April (4/28-4/30): Anaheim
January: San Diego
October: Oakland

Planning Council meets Tuesday through Thursday
CALMHBC meets Thursday Evening through Saturday

Benefits to Going

Travel, Hotel and Food Paid For
Statewide Networking
Thursday Evening to Saturday

Roundtable Discussion Question: Does CALMHBC reflect diversity of regions and is there client representation as well as cultural diversity? Can election of Central Region representatives to fill vacancies improve cultural diversity and issues of consumers and family members .

Recommendation to Bylaws: Elections for regional representatives to CALMBoard (directors and alternates) shall be at Regional Level

Curt Thornton – 1st motion

Ricky Miller – 2nd motion

Ayes – unanimous

Motion: To elect additional representatives for Central Region at today's meeting

Steven McCormick – 1st motion

Pat Oliver – 2nd motion

Ayes – unanimous

Discussion on motion

Stephen McCormick – motion to close discussion and elect

Ayes unanimous

Nominations to Assure Cultural, Geographic and Consumer/Family Member Representation at State Level

2 Director Representatives (Elected)

Nominations:

Debra Allen, Kings County

Ricky Miller, Fresno County

Nominees made short statements of qualifications and desire to serve.

Motion: Elect two nominated MH Board/Commission members to CALMHBoard Director positions

Curt Thorton – 1st

Pat Oliver – 2nd

Nays – 0

Ayes – 16 (unanimous)

Abstentions – 0

3 Alternates (Elected)

Nominated:

Jeremy Briese, Mariposa----- Elected as 1st Alternate

Steven McCormick, San Joaquin—Elected as 2nd Alternate

Keng Cha, Merced -----Elected as 3rd Alternate

David Thorne, Fresno

Nominees made short statements of qualifications and desire to serve.

Anonymous vote held by paper vote. Tally of votes by Donna Matthews and Gina Ehlert with CiMH. Results based on majority votes per slot. No discussion. New appointments congratulated.

Roundtable Discussion Topic:

- **How to ensure LMHBC membership that reflects diversity of age, culture and lived experience. Challenges to “growing a diverse membership”.**

Fresno County - authorized to have 20 members and has 11. Board of Supervisors determines and appoints members – no diversity to speak of. Need to recruit effectively – 20% consumer rule is difficult to meet and keep privacy.

Kings County – getting over stigma issues

Stanislaus LMHB (16 Total – 15 Filled, 1 Black, 1 Asian, and 5 Hispanic) – Members must interview and be recommended to the BOS.

Kings – 3 meetings and 30 days to reply to continue on board. 16 slots – 15 filled, need a youth. Membership sub-committee interviews – MHB, BOS and must be on multiple committees (Stanislaus too)

Bring politicians to LMHB Meetings in counties. And in jail, welfare, programs. Conflict of interest “rule” is in W&IC 5604. There may be loopholes.

Conflict of interest prompting employees to not be able to serve on LMHBC; Difficulty of recruiting people willing to openly serve as “consumers”

Anonymous survey of board members may not work to identify who is a person with lived experience as a consumer and/or family member.

There should not be a “conflict of interest” for non-Administrative staff of provider agencies to be on the board (can served on committees) to strengthen expertise on the board. Consider adding to Bylaws (e.g. job description).

Can CALMHBC address? --- Networking before CALMHBC meetings may give opportunities to talk with policy “influencers” on Planning Council. Can ask to speak before Planning Council.

Board and Commission Recruitment: Perpetual flux in LMHB’s – please visit at least 2 meeting before joining. Board members should actively recruit, when necessary. Relate their interests with what board is doing.

Go to various agencies and recruit for LMHB and other groups simultaneously.

Recruit at stakeholder meetings – Board meetings in different locales at other agencies to increase community engagement of diverse communities.

Have wellness centers staff attend LMHB meetings to recruit.

Culturally, address different ethnic groups and keep asking if they’d like to attend. For Hmong, go through communities.

Liaison with folks from diverse communities to get representation on the LMHBs, including ethnicities, races, military personnel (veterans), sexual orientation, etc.

Go to higher education and seek out students/faculty with a commitment to MH, wellness, etc.

Influencing BOSs

BOS member is always on agenda with a report. BOS member is budget savvy.

What do we want to influence? We'd like them to respect what we have to say. Bring in testimony from clients/professional organizations. It's about relationships. Get on regular agenda, when possible. CSU, Fresno – Psychology, Social Work, Marriage and Family Therapy, CASRA, etc.

Community Involvement

Get art of consumers into the community to spark discussion – consumer art at county fair. Expand sub-committee to include more of civilian population (cannot share). Ad-hoc committees (e.g. wellness arts projects). Have forums of meetings in different locales. PR and marketing the location of these mobile meetings. Do it like the ground jury. Go and listen to folks in education or other settings.

Active Participation of LMHBC member

Revise existing committees and sub-committees to reflect current issues/goals of LMHBC; Review requirements of members in By-Laws and enforce. Be prepared to cultivate new members in community that reflect traditionally un- or under-served people.