

California Behavioral Health Planning Council
Performance Outcomes Committee
October 17, 2023
Meeting Minutes

Committee Members present:

Susan Wilson, Chairperson	Noel O’Neill, Chair-Elect
Walter Shwe	Steve Leoni
Karen Baylor	Catherine Moore
Uma Zykofsky	Erin Franco

Invited External Partners present:

Theresa Comstock, CALBHBC

Staff present:

Justin Boese	Linda Dickerson
Jenny Bayardo	

Item #1: Welcome and Introductions

Susan Wilson welcomed all committee members and guests. A quorum was reached.

Item #2: Review Meeting Minutes

The Committee reviewed the meeting minutes for June 2023 and September 2023. No edits were made.

Item #3: Setting the Stage for Today’s Meeting

Susan Wilson reviewed the agenda and goals for the meeting. The agenda included updates for the 2022 (Impact of COVID-19) and 2023 (Stakeholder Engagement) Data

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Notebook projects, and planning for the 2024 Data Notebook. A discussion on stakeholder engagement and public forums was also on the agenda.

Item #4: Data Notebook Project Updates

Linda Dickerson provided an update on the 2022 Data Notebook on the Impact of COVID-19 on Behavioral Health. She has been working on the 2022 Data Notebook Overview Report, which is nearly complete. There are some final edits and formatting changes to make before it is sent out to the committee. Linda spoke about some of the key findings from Part II of the survey, such as the process of shifting from in-person to virtual / remote services, reported challenges returning to physical services, and the impact of telehealth therapy for youth/children.

The overview report will be completed by Friday, October 20. Susan Wilson said that the committee will have an interim meeting in November to review the report and develop recommendations based on the analysis.

Justin Boese then provided a brief update on the 2023 Data Notebook on Stakeholder Engagement. The 2023 Data Notebook survey was sent out to the counties at the end of August, with a requested completion date of November 30.

Public Comment

Steve McNally commented that it is hard for people at the county level, especially the local boards and commissions, to find the data to answer the survey questions for Part I of the Data Notebook. He said that this information is scattered through many systems, rather than centralized into a data dashboard that would be more accessible for people to use.

Item #5: Discussion: Stakeholder Engagement and Public Forums

Susan opened the discussion on this item by providing some background. She said that the idea for the committee to facilitate public forums or listening sessions came in part from the public forums held for Senate Bill 326 (SB 326). Jenny Bayardo told the committee how the public forums for SB 326 took shape. The Planning Council held 7 forums throughout the state, including 1 virtual forum. Though attendance varied, the overall reception was very strong, and stakeholders were appreciative that the Planning

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Council was engaging with them through these forums. Susan opened the conversation for the committee to discuss the potential for the Performance Outcomes Committee to organize more events like this on various topics as a way for the Council to increase stakeholder engagement.

The committee went on to discuss what these events might look like, and the role the committee could play in facilitating them. It was clarified that the Executive Committee would still be responsible for overseeing the events. Committee members weighed in on the idea. Uma Zykofsky suggested that if the committee does do this, that they stick to 1-2 events a year to keep the workload manageable.

Erin Franco said that the committee could use the public forums to engage and educate stakeholders about the Data Notebook project, perhaps by holding a public forum annually on that year's Data Notebook topic. Noel agreed with this idea and suggested that perhaps there could be one forum held in the Northern region and one in the Southern region of the state.

Karen Baylor said that as the Behavioral Health Services Act reform is rolled out, it would be important to have a lot of ongoing stakeholder engagement on how the policy and program changes impact services. That could be another area for the committee to hold further public forums on.

Item #6: Committee Name Change Proposal

Members discussed the idea of changing the name of the committee to the "Performance Outcomes and Planning Committee" to reflect the role the committee could play in planning public forums and other stakeholder engagement events. There was some discussion of the wording of the name, and Steve Leoni suggested "Performance Outcomes and Information Committee" instead. Ultimately the committee members decided that they did not want to change the name of the committee at this time.

Item #7: 2024 Data Notebook Planning and Topic Suggestion

The committee discussed the upcoming 2024 Data Notebook. A topic for this year has not yet been selected. Additionally, the committee discussed whether or not to continue

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including the “Part I” survey questions on adult residential facilities, homelessness, and foster youth.

Steve Leoni advocated for continuing to collect this data. He said that there are bound to be many changes in the system in the next 4-5 year, and tracking the data over this transition will be important. Uma Zykofsky suggested checking in with the Housing and Homelessness Committee before deciding whether or not to stop tracking this data, since it is relevant to their interests.

Noel O’Neill said that he thought it was good that the committee collected the data, but that he felt it was time to stop including it in the Data Notebook. He elaborated that the data in Part I were not truly “performance outcomes,” and were not specific to Medi-Cal or MHSA services. He also said that the burden it placed on local behavioral health boards and county staff to find this data in order to complete the Data Notebook survey was too high. He went on say that the committee should focus on the local behavioral health boards and commissions as the audience for the data notebook. Noel suggested that the committee pick 2-3 performance outcomes from the CALBHBC issue brief to track, or even ask the counties directly what performance outcomes measures would be most meaningful to them.

Linda Dickerson suggested that some of the Part I questions could be kept (such as the questions regarding foster youth) while others are dropped. Theresa Comstock agreed that separating the items was a good idea.

Karen Baylor suggested that the committee needs to do a cost-benefit analysis regarding this data, taking into consideration the relevancy, usefulness, and effort required to collect it, as well as difficulties in analyzing data that is incomplete and isn’t representative of the whole state. Karen also suggested that the committee revisit the mandated duties of the Planning Council in statute regarding performance outcomes measures at the January meeting. Erin Franco added that the language of SB 326 required certain performance outcomes to be reported and suggested that the committee look into those as well, which Catherine Moore agreed with.

The committee moved on to discuss potential topics for the 2024 Data Notebooks. Some of the suggestions included:

- Medi-Cal outcomes such as rehospitalization rates
- Substance Use Disorders
- The Community Program Planning process

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Susan Wilson also suggested that the committee could ask the boards and commissions what performance outcomes they collect and/or are interested in, via Theresa Comstock at CALBHBC. Theresa said that would be possible, and also pointed out that the CALBHBC website has pages for every county that list the performance outcomes they collect.

Item #8: CBHPC Year-End Report

Susan Wilson led the committee in a discussion of what to include in the Planning Council's annual year-end report regarding the activities of the committee in 2023. Items put forth for inclusion in the report were:

- The completion and publication of the 2021 Data Notebook Overview Report on health equity in behavioral health.
- The completion rate for the 2022 Data Notebook on the impact of COVID-19 on behavioral health services. (53 counties total, the highest return rate to date).
- The 2023 Data Notebook on Stakeholder Engagement, currently in progress.
- The committee memberships involvement in the public forums for SB 326.

Item #10: Wrap Up and Plan for Future Activities

Susan Wilson thanked the committee members, partners, and members of the public for a productive meeting. She identified the next steps for the committee, which are:

- An interim meeting in November to develop recommendations for the 2022 Data Notebook Overview Report.
- Selecting a topic for the 2024 Data Notebook at the January quarterly meeting, as well as making a decision about whether to continue collecting the "Part I" data.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.