



# Alameda County Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB)

## Ad Hoc Committee Members:

### **Bloom, Brian**

Ad-Hoc Committee CHAIR  
MHAB Chair (District 4 Appointment)

### **Land, Terry**

Ad-Hoc Committee Co-CHAIR  
MHAB Vice Chair (District 1 Appointment)

### **Cooper-Kahn, Mia**

MHAB Member (District 5 Appointment)

### **Leftwich, Juliet**

MHAB Member (District 5 Appointment)

### **Bradley, Viveca**

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

### **Dashiell, Margot**

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

### **Feller, Alice**

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### **Malkki, Kari**

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### **Lindsay-Poland, John**

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### **Schwartz, Myrna**

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## **Care First, Jails Last (CFJL) Ad-Hoc Committee Summary**

**Location:** 2000 Embarcadero Cove, Suite 400, Oakland, CA (Chabot Conference Room)

### **Zoom Link –**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83541678892?pwd=4BZ2ExuBj3GzGz0O5HD3RvU5bTILG.1>

**Date:** Thursday, September 4, 2025

**Time:** 1:00PM – 3:00PM

**Attendees:** Ad Hoc Committee Members, RDA Consulting, ACBHD

## **Agenda:**

- I. Call to order – Introduction/Welcome & Announcements
- II. RDA Materials Review
- III. Agency Subcommittees Report
- IV. Data Committee Report
- V. Board of Supervisors meeting October 13
- VI. Decision-Making Structure Introduction
- VII. Outcomes by Strategy Area Discussion
- VIII. Parking Lot Review
- IX. Wrap Up

## **Summary**

RDA emphasized the goal of the Care First Jail Last Ad Hoc committee is to develop practices for and to monitor the implementation of the Care First Jail Last recommendations. These encompass 58 recommendations from the committee that are being focused on and then highlighted with an effort and impact score between 1 through 5.

## **RDA Materials Review**

The Care First Jail Last Ad Hoc Committee asked for a rating of effort and impact for all recommendations. RDA's first step was to analyze all 58 recommendations and then apply an effort and impact score from 1-5. After which, map each score on an Effort and Impact Chart via an Excel spreadsheet. Noting that none of the current documented information is set in stone.

Second step of the Effort and Impact Chart is for the Ad Hoc committee to review the spreadsheet, document questions and discuss before any greater detail is put forth.

The Effort and Impact Chart revealed only one recommendation fell into the category of low impact-low effort and no recommendations fell into the category of low impact-high effort. Several recommendations fell into high impact-low effort which are considered “easy wins”. In high impact-high effort, more recommendations, for example housing, fell into this category which means the county will have to put more effort to make these recommendations happen. All 58 recommendations are mapped by strategy area.



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## Agency Subcommittee Report

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- **Behavioral Health Department (BHD):** The Behavioral Health Committee met on August 21st with Board of Supervisors (BOS) Erin Armstrong to go through recommendations and updates from the May presentation. The May presentation and discussion will focus on the six Alameda County Behavioral Health (ACBH) recommendations. The discussion also touched on new recommendations that might be added.

The Chair and Co-Chair of the Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) request that all committee and subcommittee members carefully review their presentation slides in preparation for the upcoming meeting on October 13th. During this meeting, the Board of Supervisors will be inquiring with agency heads regarding their progress on specific recommendations. Committee members are also encouraged to assist the Board of Supervisors' staff by identifying appropriate agency contacts, as the agencies will be presenting directly to the Board. Additionally, Erin Armstrong will be coordinating outreach to the agencies to provide further support.

African American Hub met on September 3rd with Alameda County Behavioral Health (ACBH) Director to have a question-and-answer session regarding psychiatry incorporated and all that it encompasses.

- **County Administrator's Office (CAO):** Ad Hoc Members met with the County Administrator's Office (CAO) on July 24th. The next meeting will be on September 10th.
- **District Attorney's Office (DA):** The prior meeting with the District Attorney's Office was postponed and rescheduled for Sept 24th with LD Lewis.
- **Housing (HCD and H&H):** The Ad Hoc Committee members met on Aug. 21st and will meet again on Sept. 18th.

The top challenge or obstacle was Board and Care and whether they are included in permanent supportive housing. Also, whether Measure W has funds to include for Board and Care.

- **Probation department (PD):** The May 22nd ask regarding the court-based pretrial program resulted in no funding. It was determined that it is not the role of the county but the role of the state and was given to Chief Ford of probation to develop a program. A proposal was to allow individuals to be released unsupervised and under their own recognizance, pre-trial. The proposal went out to the Community Corrections Partner Executive Committee (CCPEP) for approval. Pending updates.
- **Public Defender's Office (PDO):** The Diversion program grant from the Department of State Hospitals is for people who are incompetent to stand trial and support their diversion out of the system instead of re-prosecuting them when they are competent enough to stand trial. Pending updates from the District Attorney's office. This is a possible agenda discussion item for the

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October 13th meeting with the Board of Supervisors to spotlight the delay in the grant progression.

- **Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ASCO):** Ad Hoc committee members visited Santa Rita jail on August 20th to meet with Commander McGrail to go over their program regarding substance use disorder (SUD) and mental illness to understand what services they offer, and which services are voluntary or involuntary. They also detailed their relationship with John George.

The Sheriff's Office also discussed a re-entry program including Roots and the new triage program in Pleasanton for Horizons.

Other topics discussed were jobs, training services and issues with 2-1-1 for the Coordinated Entry System (CES).

- **Social Services Agency (SSA):** Currently, nothing to report.
- **Superior Courts:** The Adult Committee Members met via Zoom with Judge Della Piana on August 26th. Judge Della Piana is overseeing Behavioral Health Court and will be overseeing Diversion Court as well. They also met with Yesenia Lotts who is the Administer of the programs. The discussion centered around what was working, what was not working, the challenges in the court system and how to get individuals connected with services

## **Data Committee Report**

Currently, no updates to report.

## **Board of Supervisors meeting October 13**

Ad Hoc Committee Members met with Board of Supervisors (BOS) Erin Armstrong and received some insight into the upcoming meeting on October 13th. The Board of Supervisors requested the agencies to come and present their updates on challenges and what they have done to date.

As a proactive measure, each Ad Hoc member was asked to go through the slide deck and work with the agency that they have been interacting with to ask for updates on any concerns, questions or challenges that they will ask the Board of Supervisors.

Focus will be on wins and any progress made on the recommendations not failures. Agency's have been asked to report a maximum of five updates.

## **Decision-Making Structure Introduction**

Discussion pushed to the October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting.



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## **Outcomes by Strategy Area Discussion**

Strategy area 4 regarding Crisis Services was selected for discussion as it has the lowest number of recommendations. Discussion items include reducing early deaths for individuals with a mental health diagnosis, supportive housing and getting those with a diagnosis of 5150 and mental health into the hospital to get the care they need.

Additional discussion around getting the 5150 diagnoses only if you are committing a crime was raised.

Next step would be how to measure them.

## **Parking Lot Review**

- Chair Bloom to reach out to Kristina Bedrossian regarding her attendance.
- John Lindsay-Poland highlighted a gap in the agency's subcommittee information gathering.
- October Meeting moved to the 9th, 1pm – 3pm
- Santa Rita Jail: Solving the problem of inmates being released from the Santa Rita Jail without their needed medications. Another matter for Santa Rita Jail is also regarding long acting injectables.
- Subcommittee report back on the nomenclature of the Care First population which is people re-entering in and out of jail who are living with mental illness.

**Next meeting date:** October 9, 2025