



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

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

Malkki, Kari

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

Monroe, Alison

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

Nguyen, Tash

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

Lindsay-Poland, John

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

Polony, Katy

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

Schwartz, Myrna

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

Sikora, Kathleen

CFJL Ad Hoc Committee Member

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, October 9, 2025

Time: 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Attendees: Ad Hoc Committee Members, RDA Consulting, ACBHD

Agenda:

- I. Call to order – Introduction/Welcome & Announcements
- II. Announcements
- III. Update on Impact vs Effort Ratings for Each Recommendation
- IV. Agency Subcommittees Report
- V. Data Committee Report
- VI. Outcomes by Strategy Area Discussion
- VII. Board of Supervisors meeting (October 13, 2025)
- VIII. Parking Lot Review
- IX. Wrap Up

Announcements

The Mental Health Advisory Board will primarily focus on the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) transformation at its October 20, 2025, meeting.

Update on Impact vs Effort Ratings for Each Recommendation

The Care First Jail Last (CFJL) Committee's timeframe for providing updates on the Impact vs Effort recommendation ratings has concluded. RDA has initiated the visualization and plotting of the matrix for the committee's review.

Agency Subcommittee Report

- **Behavioral Health Department (BHD):** First Episode Psychosis (FEP) remains an effective intervention, though untreated schizophrenia continues to drive significant costs. Discussions are underway regarding fund allocation to ensure resources are directed to appropriate programs.

In a separate initiative, the African American Wellness Center, in collaboration with Alameda County Behavioral Health Department and Dr. Wade Nobles, explored integrating psychiatric models emphasizing family involvement to support culturally responsive and community-centered care. The development of the African American Wellness Center is currently in progress.

- **County Administrator's Office (CAO):** On September 10, 2025, CFJL committee members met with CAO staff to discuss unspent funds identified in the Impact vs. Effort Matrix recommendations. A recommendation was made to redirect funds from the cancelled Santa Rita Jail mental health wing to projects better

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aligned with current priorities. The next meeting on October 30, 2025, will focus on defining the "Care First" population and the criteria that constitute this designation.

- **District Attorney's Office (DA):** Committee members met with District Attorney's Office to discuss changes to the Diversion Program. A key concern was the state's decision to alter program guidelines after funding had already been awarded, including a 50% reduction in the daily compensation rate for diverted individuals, which impacts feasibility for placements in locked facilities such as Villa. Despite these challenges, the Cares Navigation program has shown steady progress. The DA is scheduled to attend the Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting on October 13, 2025, to brief new members on initiatives, such as the Collaborative Court and Cares Navigation programs.

- **Housing (HCD and H&H):** The Committee members held several meetings in preparation for the October 13, 2025, BOS meeting. Approval was given for the first allocation of Measure W funds; however, implementation is delayed due to the need to fill 41 new permanent staff positions.

H&H has contracted with BACS to establish a forensics access point for coordinated entry services at Santa Rita Jail.

- **Probation department (PD):** No report.
- **Public Defender's Office (PDO):** Committee members met with the Public Defender's Office. Names and contact information submitted to the BOS were not forwarded to the PDO. The committee is preparing to deliver remarks at the October 13, 2025, BOS meeting.
- **Alameda County Sheriff's Office (ASCO):** Committee members met with the Diversion Center in Pleasanton regarding discussions the Sheriff's Office about access to Santa Rita Jail. Further updates are pending.
- **Social Services Agency (SSA):** No report.
- **Superior Courts:** Contact information related to Recommendation 5C (Court-Based Diversion Program) was submitted to the BOS. The Superior Court acknowledged ongoing work and highlighted the need for additional clinical staff for the Mental Health Diversion Court. These matters will be discussed at the October 13, 2025, BOS meeting.

Data Committee Report

No report.

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Outcomes by Strategy Area Discussion

Strategy Area 4: Crisis Services, 5150, and Treatment Beds has been discussed. Several members noted the connection between mental health and homelessness, emphasizing that while additional beds may not resolve homelessness, they could improve quality of life. Economic factors were also identified as a significant contributor to homelessness.

The committee recommended that the First Episode Psychosis (FEP), though placed under Strategy Area 3: Community Based Support, Outreach, and Education, should also be addressed in Strategy Area 4 under Improved Post-Crisis Care and Continuity of Services. Additionally, there were interest in establishing measurable outcomes to evaluate the effectiveness of the strategies.

Board of Supervisors meeting (October 13, 2025)

The CFJL Committee reviewed each Strategy Area slide in preparation for the October 13, 2025, BOS meeting. Talking points were discussed, each slide was assigned a designated committee member to serve as lead speaker during the meeting.

Parking Lot Review

No report.

Next meeting date: November 6, 2025