

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
January 5, 2017 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present: Monica Wilson, Ed O'Brien, May Farr, Veatrice Jews, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, Christopher Massa, Paul Williams, Michael Grabhorn, Catherine Inscore, Jane Godager, Akin Merino

Excused Absence: Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Carol Kinzel

Absent:

Guests: Veronica Kelley, Cristina Ruiz, M. Oliver, Greg Pandzic, Ashley Banks, Sonia Rubio, Laretta Ross, Doris Turner, Melinda Ancrum, Leeann Ficara, Sarah B. Rios, Laurence Gonzaga, Gregory Nyx, Kristen Mungcal, Patrick Martinez, Josh Morgan, Jamesia Brown, Rodger Uminski, Zakiya Otis, Claudia Silva, Tim Hougen, Jenae Holtz, Linda Llamas, Xiomara Perdomo, Jessica Garcia, Anthony Hernandez, Michael Sweitzer, Antonio Castro, Sherwin Farr

Minutes recorded by Raquel Ramos, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC).

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Monica Wilson called the meeting to order at 12:02p.m. Chair Monica Wilson led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

Chair Monica Wilson advised meeting attendees that the agenda items will be addressed out of order due to Monica being ill. Items under New Business – Action items, specifically the Election of 2017 Officers will take place immediately following the review of the minutes.

Tab 4: Review Minutes of 11/3/16

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Troy Mondragon, Christopher Massa

AYES: Monica Wilson, Susan McGee-Stehsel, May Farr, Paul Williams, Michael Grabhorn, Catherine Inscore.

ASBSTAIN: Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Jane Godager, Akin Merino

ABSENT: Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Carol Kinzel

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEM(S)

- **Tab 7:** Election of 2017 Officers.

Chair of the Nominating Committee, Commissioner Mondragon, announced the slate of officers and asked for further nominations from the floor. No further nominations were received. Commissioner Ed O'Brien withdrew his nomination as Chair. The Secretary and Treasurer Positions required votes as there were two nominations.

Voting of Secretary was conducted verbally

Ed O'Brien voted for Veatrice Jews

Michael Grabhorn voted for May Farr

Paul Williams voted for May Farr

Christopher Massa voted for May Farr

Troy Mondragon voted for May Farr

Catherine Inscore voted for Veatrice Jews

Monica Wilson voted for Veatrice Jews

Susan McGee-Stehsel voted for Veatrice Jews

Jane Godager voted for May Farr

Akin Merino voted for May Farr

The voting resulted in May Farr being elected for Secretary. Thus removing her nomination from Treasure, leaving Veatrice as the only nomination, requiring no further voting.

The Behavioral Health Commission Officers for 2017 are as follows:

- Chair – Monica Wilson
- Vice Chair – Ed O'Brien
- Secretary – May Farr
- Treasurer – Veatrice Jews
- Immediate Past Chairperson – Susan McGee-Stehsel

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon

AYES: Monica Wilson, Christopher Massa, May Farr, Paul Williams, Michael Grabhorn, Catherine Inscore, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Jane Godager, Akin Merino.

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Carol Kinzel

Chair Monica Wilson planned to leave the meeting soon and asked Vice Chair Ed O'Brien to chair in her absence.

- **Tab 6:** Review FY 2016-17 Performance Contract between Department of Health Care Services and the County Mental Health Department.

Commissioners reviewed the FY 2016-17 Performance Contract between Department of Health Care Services and the County Mental Health Department.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Monica Wilson/ May Farr

AYES: Monica Wilson, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, Christopher Massa, Paul Williams, Michael Grabhorn, Catherine Inscore, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Jane Godager, Akin Merino

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Carol Kinzel

- Identify Commissioner to Prepare Subject Matter Presentation Findings

Vice Chair Ed O'Brien volunteered to prepare the findings from today's Subject Matter Presentation to be reviewed during the next BHC Executive Session.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Christopher Massa, May Farr

AYES: Monica Wilson, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, Paul Williams, Michael Grabhorn, Catherine Inscore, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Jane Godager, Akin Merino.

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Carol Kinzel

PUBLIC COMMENT

Anthony Hernandez, Executive Director of Transforming Treatable Tragedies advised he is in attendance to represent family members across the country. He participated in getting the Cures Act passed. He has worked with health care agencies for over 20 years. He has three family members that suffer from mental illness. He is attending this meeting to request to implement Laura's Law in San Bernardino County. Twelve other counties have implemented Laura's Law and seen it proven to be effective as far as decreasing suicides, homelessness, incarcerations and deaths by homicide. For information on Anthony Hernandez his website may be visited at www.TransformingTreatableTragedies.org. As a family member he feels it is important for family members' experiences to be taken into account at the county policy and decision making level. He shared that his twenty one year old son is at Patton State Hospital and is a completely different person now that he is no longer self-medicating.

Eric Gavin from Open Door Technology is working with the city of Upland on the area of homelessness. As he is working to eliminate homelessness one of the key tools is family reunification, whether the family is local or not. Two of the people he is trying to work with are not able to go back to their mothers, because they suffer from such debilitating mental illness. One of

these individuals has attacked their mother so many times that the mother is unable to allow her back. These families believe they need Laura's Law implemented. Though counties advise they are already providing services within the parameters of Laura's Law, families need the one critical thing that we don't have. This is court ordered requirements to take prescribed medication. Mr. Hernandez' story is an example of this, what happened to him, how counties say they are providing services within the parameters and yet medication is not court ordered. He requested the BHC continue dialogue on this important matter.

Vice Chair Ed O'Brien thank both Mr. Hernandez and Mr. Gavin for their input and deferred to Department of Behavioral Health Director, Veronica Kelley. He stated that he too looks forward to continued discussion on Laura's Law given the current conditions in the state hospital and state prison systems.

Veronica Kelley clarified that Laura's Law does not allow DBH to force medication. It only allows us to enforce what we already have which is assisted outpatient treatment. With Laura's Law a judge will court order treatment. The judge and DBH cannot force someone to go to treatment, if you choose not to show up, you would violate an order and be sent to a Psychiatric Hospital for a 72 hour evaluation. If after 72 hours you are evaluated and do not meet criteria to remain hospitalized you are released. The entire system is what is really supposed to support someone in being successful. There is no one DBH program that can make or force someone into recovery. It's the series of programs we offer that are intended to support someone in their recovery and guide them in functioning in the community. DBH has communicated with Mr. Hernandez before and shared this same message. Laura's Law does not allow for DBH to forcibly medicate anyone. There are also civil liberties at stake here.

DBH will host stakeholder process on Laura's Law in the future. The community will be invited to attend and DBH share results we have achieved with our programs. Patients' Rights will be included to address civil liberties, Behavioral Health Commissioners will be involved, and those with lived experience and family members will also be included. DBH will be sure to invite Mr. Hernandez and Mr. Gavin.

Commissioner Akin Merino confirmed, the county is not opposed to Laura's Law. Veronica confirmed and reiterated DBH has many aspects of Laura's Law already in place. We do have Mental Health Court, Veterans Court, Drug Court and Homeless Court. DBH has programs that meet the needs of Laura's Law and if this is inaccurate, it will be identified through the stakeholder process.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Vice Chair Ed O'Brien apologized for missing the BHC Award Ceremony.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

First District:

Commissioner Michael Grabhorn wished everyone a happy new year. District Advisory Committee (DAC) meetings in December were cancelled. He attended the BHC Award Ceremony.

Commissioner Paul Williams also attended the BHC Award Ceremony. He extended congratulations to all of the winners.

Second District:

Secretary May Farr thanked everyone that attended the BHC Award Ceremony.

Third District:

Commissioner Christopher Massa thanked everyone that attended the BHC Award Ceremony. He acknowledged that Team House won the Gingerbread contest. Team House has a new PFA, Clint. He will start next week.

Commissioner Troy Mondragon plans to attend this month's DAC meeting, a training at National University on the commercial sexual exploitation of children on January 14, from 9am-12pm. He also plans to attend the Latino Awareness Sub-Committee on January 26.

Commissioner Catherine Inscore is getting training on Mental Health First Aid. She plans to share what she learns with her colleagues at campus in Joshua Tree.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Akin Merino welcomed everyone to the New Year. She acknowledged her absences at last year's meetings due to the death of her mother. She is excited for today's presentation.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Veatrice Jews thanked everyone for attending the BHC Award Ceremony. She advised that she is looking forward to today's presentation and would like to work with DBH and School Districts regarding effective mental health services.

Commissioner Jane Ann Godager apologized for missing the BHC Award Ceremony and confirmed that the Ethics training was due to be completed December 31, 2016.

Commissioner Susan McGee-Stehsel thanked everyone for attending the BHC Award Ceremony. She congratulated the awardees. She reviewed the meeting on Medication Accountability on Foster Youth, she observed a great emphasis on data and concerns on outcomes. She is very pleased that DBH already has data to show the work that is being done.

SUBJECT MATTER PRESENTATION: Working with School Districts for Effective Mental Health Services to Students

Presenters included Dr. Timothy Hougen, Program Manager for Children and Youth Collaborative Services, Jenae Holtz, Director for California Association of Health and Education and Linked Professionals (CAHELP) , Linda Llamas, Director for Desert Mountain Children's Center. They presented on a Collaborative Services Approach for Working with School Districts for Effective Mental Health Services to Students.

This presentation will cover:

- Services to K-12 students with lived trauma;
- How we get the word out to schools and parents of available services; and
- How do we prevent students from slipping through the cracks.

Some of the DBH Programs Serving School Aged Youth:

- Student Assistance Program (SAP);
- School Aged Treatment Services (SATS);
- Children's Intensive Services (CIS);
- Success First/ Early Wrap (SF/EW); and
- Other Programs.

Desert Mountain Children's Center (DMCC) is contracted with DBH to provide:

- Student Assistance Program (SAP)
- School Aged Treatment Services (SATS)
- Children's Intensive Services (CIS)
- 0-5 Specialty Programs:
 - Screening, Assessment, Referral and Treatment (SART)
 - Early Identification and Intervention Services (EIS)

DMCC Services Include:

- Mental health assessments;
- Mental health services to students and families; and
- Trainings for students, parents, school personnel, school districts.

DMCC provides services to the districts:

- On school site;
- At agency;
- In the community; and
- In the home.

Some of the DMCC Trainings for students, parent, school personnel, etc. are:

- Identification of Risk Factors for Tier-Three Mental Health Intervention;
- Managing School Crisis: From Theory to Application;
- Youth Mental Health First Aid; and
- The Brain, Trauma, and Behavior.

Examples of how DMCC collaborates with schools:

- Memorandum of understanding with D/M SELPA;
- Release of information for all districts;
- Minimum of monthly meetings with Directors of Special Education;
- Government council meetings with School Superintendents;
- Trainings; and
- Access to clinical staff.

Additional questions at the conclusion of the program confirmed the following information:

- CAHELP has a governance board made up of school superintendents. There are no children and families on this board.
- Mental illness alone is not what qualifies a child for an Individualized Education Program (IEP), this is determined through the assessment. The academic progress for the child must be impacted in some way to qualify for an IEP. Once the child qualifies AB114 funds cover all mental health services. AB114 funds through DMCC. Not all SELPAs distribute funds this way, some distribute through schools.
- SART Program uses Public Health Nurses co-located at children centers.
- Commissioner Veatrice Jews asked to meet with Dr. Hougen regarding continued work with Pacific High School.
- DMCC checks with IEHP and Molina to make sure efforts/services are not duplicated.
- DMCC provides services to children attending private schools.

A parent shared her testimony on their experience with DMCC. Her son received a diagnosis of schizophrenia at age seven. At that time he was at a school that wanted to put him in a private setting. He was assigned a therapist from DMCC and he is now thriving at Pacific High School.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Veronica discussed changes taking place as a result of changes in Federal Administration and what this could mean for the Medicaid System of Care. Removal of the Affordable Care Act would mean:
 - There are 3.7 million people that have access to Medi-Cal in the state of California because of ACA.
 - There are 20 billion dollars in federal funds that the state draws for ACA.
 - 30% of each county's behavioral health caseloads are people seen with Medi-Cal as a result of ACA.
 - There are 1.5 million enrollees in Covered California Commercial system, not just the Medicaid system.
 - There would be 5 billion dollars in funding that would be reduced in the Covered California Commercial System.
- There are many ideas going around on what would replace ACA, there may be a block grant for Medicaid. This would still be a 5% reduction for over years down to 30% of funding. This would be similar to a system that we had about 30 years ago. This would lead to a large population of indigent funded clients that the department must still serve. There is no need to panic at this time, at this time there are no changes set.
- The Cures bill was signed by President Obama, it's a 6 billion dollar bill. Funds for this bill have not been put in a special account yet. For Medi-cal and Medicare recipients, whose care can be enhanced by telehealth, it allows for reimbursable services to continue. 500 million is going to the Food and Drug Administration to allow for streamlined research. Informed consent will go to the wayside in certain situations. 1 billion dollars will go to each state to fight the opioid addiction epidemic. It will also change laws for commercial insurance. There will also be some grants that replicate MHSA. 4.8 will go toward research, including cancer research.
- Veronica attended a meeting in Sacramento with the Sheriff's Office for the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. There was discussion on how Law Enforcement and Behavioral Health work together, specifically our Triage Engagement and Support Team funded through SB82. Under SB82 we were funded to get navigators co-located at law enforcement, emergency departments and at the Public Defender offices to assist in linking the public to

behavioral health services. There was a recent situation Rialto Police Department was involved in. There was someone in a standoff with Rialto SWAT, Rialto PD was called and came two of our navigators, Tracy Ward and Jose Orrostieta. The navigators were able to successfully de-escalate the person with the assistance of the police and get the person to agree to go into a hospital voluntarily. Rialto PD issued a press release acknowledging the successful outcome was due to their collaboration with DBH.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

- The San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership is preparing for the 2017 Point in Time Count (PITC). This will take place at various locations throughout the county on January 26, from 6-10am.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

Monica Wilson, Chair
Behavioral Health Commission

Raquel Ramos
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission