

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

Commissioners Present: Monica Wilson, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, Paul Williams, Michael Grabhorn, Catherine Inscore, Carol Kinzel, Jane Godager, Akin Merino, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter

Excused Absence: May Farr

Absent: Christopher Massa

Guests: Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Jennifer Pacheco, Gary Martin, Luis Rodriguez, Sr. Chilee Okoko, Claudia Silva, Victoria Hall, Jamesia Brown, Michelle Dusick, Chris Williams, Laretta Ross, Victoria Bianchi, Julio Jimenez, Andre Bossieux, Jimmy Waldron, Christie Martin, Sherwin Farr, Bill Roozeboom, Hanna Keith, Claudia Toscano, Alexis Belmonte, Sharon Green, Justine Rangel, La Doyna Milner, Michael Sweitzer, Josh Morgan, Luis Hernandez, David Carranco, Leann Ficarra, Marlene Ventura, Beverly Scott, Jennifer Weed, Gregory Nyx, Tracy Foht, Carlos Escamilla, Ugene Bester, Candice Steele, M. Oliver, Karen Cervantes, Jessica Garcia, Allison Cunningham, Angela Chavez, Julie Hale, Monica Hsieh, Larissa Guinn, Faye Herrmann, Michelle Pollard, Michael Schertell, Cynthia White, George Hogan.

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 12:05p.m. Commissioner Troy Mondragon led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

Tab 5: Review Minutes of 2/2/2017.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Michael Grabhorn, Carol Kinzel

AYES: Susan McGee-Stehsel, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore, Troy Mondragon, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews

ASBSTAIN: Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Jane Godager, Akin Merino, Monica Wilson

ABSENT: May Farr, Christopher Massa

PUBLIC COMMENT

No requests for public comment.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Monica Wilson plans to attend the District Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting in Fourth District for the month of March as well as the California Mental Health Planning Council meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

First District:

Vice Chair Ed O'Brien expressed appreciation for the professionalism he has observed within the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH). The Sheriff's Office is facing many challenges right now within the jails in relation to how the court system operates. There was a woman being held on low level misdemeanors, she was very ill and requiring 24 hour medical care. The Sheriff collaborated with the Public Defender to get the case seen before a Judge. The District Attorney refused to grant the immediate order to the state hospital and continued the case for a month. The woman was sent back to her jail cell.

He has also been preview to homelessness statistics at the recent Data Notebook Workgroup meetings and expressed interest in learning more about homeless services within DBH and the county.

Commissioner Michael Grabhorn met with Hesperia City Council member Russ Blewitt regarding liquor store regulations. He met with St. John of Gods, an inpatient transitional living facility for drug and alcohol rehabilitation in the High Desert. He attended the

Communities United coalition meeting. Commissioner Grabhorn acknowledged three meeting attendees that work for the High Desert Homeless Shelter. The High Desert Homeless Shelter has lifted the ban to not accept those taking psychotropic medications.

Commissioner Paul Williams attended the Cultural Competency Advisory Committee meeting and plans to continue to attend. He also sat on the interview panel for the Cultural Competency Officer position with DBH Director, Veronica Kelley.

Second District:

Commissioner Carol Kinzel attended the Rim Communities Resource Network and Rim Communities for Youth meetings. She is participating in planning for the upcoming health fair. More information will follow. Carol attended the Second District DAC meeting. She has many questions on the Homeless Point in Time Count and how the weather in the local Rim area impacted the process. She also visited the DBH TEST staff at the local Sheriff office.

Third District:

Commissioner Troy Mondragon utilized Crisis Walk In Center (CWIC) services over this past month and thanked DBH for the work they do. He will receive the 2017 Crafton Hills College Outstanding Alumnus award. He acknowledged Social Worker Appreciation Month. He is participating in the Data Notebook Workgroup Committee and thanked Dr. Morgan for leading the project.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Akin Merino attended the Valley College Black History Month presentation by Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, "Race, Racism and Race Relations in the United States." She is working with the school districts to promote mental health, specifically focusing on suicide prevention and reducing stigma.

Commissioner Jennifer Spence-Carpenter attended trainings on helping people with addictions and identifying genetically at risk children. Trainings were looking at addiction through a developmental lens. She plans to attend State of the County next week.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Veatrice Jews is participating the Data Notebook Workgroup Committee and reviewing data that is being reported to the state. She also sat on the interview panel for the Cultural Competency Officer position with DBH Director, Veronica Kelley. She attended the DAC Mental Health Services Act Stakeholder presentation; great discussions took place at this meeting. She has been working with the School District and met with the Assistant Superintendent of Student Services. More training on trauma is needed for the teachers. Including behavioral health and self-care information in the school curriculum would also be beneficial. Options for funding were discussed.

She also attended the African Awareness Subcommittee Black History Month celebration at Lewis Library. Andre Bossieux presented and celebrated DBH programs and services.

Commissioner Susan McGee-Stehsel is planning to attend the State of the County next week. She commented that the most significant idea she took from last month's presentation was getting comfortable with having a discussion on such a sensitive topic. As a consumer we have to pay attention to our own mental health, it is important to acknowledge we you are struggling. Commissioner McGee-Stehsel watched the televised version of Valley College Black History Month presentation by Dr. Michael Eric Dyson, "Race, Racism and Race Relations in the United States."

Commissioner Jane Ann Godager was schedule to attend a Request for Proposals, however it was cancelled.

SUBJECT MATTER PRESENTATION: Intersection of Faith Based and Community Based Organizations

Presenters included Justine Rangel, Interim Cultural Competency Officer; Jonathan Buffong, Mental Health Education Consultant; George Hogan, Mental Health Education Consultant; Sr. Chilee, Okoko; LaDonya Miller; Rev. William Rooseboom.

- Strategies for partnering with faith-based organizations (FBOs) include: collaborative goals for partnership; ongoing collaborative efforts; outreach and engagement; cultural specific community events; capacity building and creating a collective purpose; and community education.

- Goals of partnering with FBOs are stigma reduction; focusing on the importance of integrating faith into behavioral health treatment; understand the role faith plays in the recovery process; increasing awareness of local behavioral health services; and continuing building rapport with the community.
- Outreach and engagement with FBOs involves identifying FBOs within our county; creating an inclusive list of FBOs; providing outreach and creating opportunities for engagement; continual presence in the community; remaining open to feedback and the willingness to exchange ideas for the shared goal of community wellness.
- The Spirituality Awareness Subcommittee offers an array of services including resource development, trainings, policy advocacy, and other culture-specific activities that raise behavioral health awareness, increase access to care and educate staff and the community on how to integrate spirituality into behavioral health services.
- Some cultural specific community events include the Native American Heritage Month Celebration, the National Day of Prayer and the Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration.
- An example of efforts toward capacity building and synergizing efforts include ongoing conversations within the African Awareness Subcommittee and the Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches. Through consistent attendance of IECAAC monthly meetings, we have developed a relationship that identifies service gaps within the community.
- DBH Trainings facilitated for FBO include: Spirituality 101; Mental Health First Aid (MHFA); ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training); and General Mental Health Presentations.

Sister Mary Chilee Okoko, Diocese of San Bernardino; Mrs. LaDonya Milner, Mount Zion Baptist Church; and Reverend William Roozeboom of Christian Counseling Services and Fuller Theological Seminary provided community member testimonials.

- Sister Mary Chilee Okoko acknowledged the importance of educating ourselves on mental health and involving professional behavioral health providers in that education. Attendance at community events is growing every year. She thanked DBH and Christian Counseling Services for their willingness and consistency in providing outreach and being present in the community.
- LaDonya Milner expressed her gratitude for DBH's support in providing Mental Health First Aid Training at Mount Zion Baptist Church. There is always a waiting list and high volume of attendance for this training. Families, congregants and the community all benefit as a result of this training being provided.
- Reverend William Roozeboom spoke on the importance of identifying the many ways of bringing spirituality into our understanding of mental health and our understanding of wellbeing. He encourages clinicians to reduce the stigma of talking about the clients understanding of spirituality, not their own. As an agency, Christian Counseling Services is trying to develop a good model of spiritual integration that is collaborative that can be used as a resource.

Justine confirmed all of the community is welcome to attend the cultural specific events mentioned during today's meeting and are encouraged to look out for flyers advertising trainings geared toward FBOs.

Commissioner O'Brien commented on the possibility of future collaborative efforts between departments that collect AB109 funding and FBOs. Jonathan commented that DBH could put forth additional efforts in working with, educating and supporting FBOs on the requirements for funding sources like AB109. Commissioner Jews commented that the IECAAC had previously invested a lot of time and efforts to prepare for AB109 funding. She suggested someone from OCCES meet with the IECAAC very soon for assistance. Justine advised she will follow up very soon and set up a meeting.

Mental health friendly congregations in San Bernardino County were selected by the state for a Prevention and Early Intervention pilot project. FBOs were notified of the opportunity through the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA). The Mental Health First Aid training would be an outcome of this brief pilot and is recommended for other FBOs.

It was noted that many of the LGBTQ Community are hesitant to seek out FBOs. Justine advised that OCCES does have a resource list of LGBTQ friendly FBOs which can be provided upon request.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEM(S)

Identify Commissioner to Prepare Subject Matter Presentation Findings

Commissioner Akin Merino volunteered to prepare the findings from today's Subject Matter Presentation to be reviewed during the next BHC Executive Session.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Ed O'Brien, Troy Mondragon,

AYES: Susan McGee-Stehsel, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore, Troy Mondragon, Veatrice Jews, Carol Kinzel, Michael Grabhorn, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Jane Godager, Akin Merino, Monica Wilson

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Christopher Massa, May Farr

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Assistant Director Sarah Eberhardt-Rios provided the Director's report on behalf of Director, Veronica Kelley.

- During the month of February both Sarah and Justine attended the A Future with Hope, California Faith & Health Conversation. This is another example of the many partnerships DBH has with FBOs.
- DBH participated in the Youth in Government Day with Supervisor Rutherford's Office. On February 15, five students spent the day with DBH managers and supervisors. They attended the DBH Admin Staff meeting and led discussions on youth and behavioral health.
- The Drug Medi-Cal Organized System of Delivery Waiver was submitted to the Department of Health Care Services and is now with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. We expect additional information on rates very soon.
- There is a concern in the governor's budget regarding the In Home Supportive Services portion of the Coordinated Care Initiative. There is a gap in the governor's budget to stop the Continuing Care Initiative at the state level. Administrative duties that were being paid for by the state are no longer being covered. This is now to be covered by counties. This impacts 1991 Realignment Funding.
- There are conversations about replacement legislation for replacement of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), not just repeal. A draft reconciliation bill was leaked. There are changes included for commercial health care that are important for DBH to watch. Some of the focus is on tax credits. Funding may be provided through block grants for the populations we serve.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

- Aimara Freeman reminded the group of the upcoming MHSA stakeholder engagement meetings. Flyers are available at table as you exit. April 12, there is also an MHSA Summit, flyers have yet to be finalized, more information to follow.
- DBH is still accepting submissions for consumer art for the May is Mental Health Month Consumer Art Show. Flyers are available at the table as you leave or you may contact Aimara Freeman.
- Lawrence from Inland Empire Health Plan (IEHP) informed meeting attendees that there are bags available at the table as you leave with IEHP resource information in them. IEHP just opened their new Riverside County Indian Resource Center close to Tyler mall.
- Commissioner Mondragon acknowledged that this is Social Worker Appreciation Month.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Monica Wilson, Chair
Behavioral Health Commission

Raquel Ramos
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission