

MINUTES  
San Bernardino County  
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
July 6, 2017 - 12:00-2:00 pm

**Commissioners Present:** Monica Wilson, Ed O'Brien, Carol Kinzel, Sean Welsh, May Farr, Christopher Massa Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Troy Mondragon, Jane Godager.

**Excused Absence:** Michael Grabhorn, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Akin Merino, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore, Veatrice Jews,.

**Absent:**

**Guests:** Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Leeann Ficarra, Sheena Felix, Daniel Wood, Tracy Foht, Kristy Ruiz, Karen Cervantes, Harry Cass, Brenda Scott, Faith Ikeda, Jane Smith, Aimara Freeman, Karen Hudson, Nathan Trujillo, Greg Rossler, John Robinson, Hanna Keith, Kristen Mungcal, DeAndrea Porch, Lamika Lydia, Cecilia Holguin, Linda Hart, Nancy Olsen, Shannon Simms, Laretta Ross, Vickie Baumbach, Donna Villasenor, Mariel Mendoza, Laurence Gonzaga, Michelle Dusick, Becky Hira, Steffanie Peevers, Sherwin Farr, Ashley Banks, Clint Lewis, Michael Schertell, Christina Entz, Andrew Gruchy, Terri Franklin, Victoria Bianchi, Dorris Turner, Cynthia Gutierrez, Miriam Clark, Kristina Miller, Marina Espinosa, Sonia Rubio, Richard Lindsey, Larry L., Jenny Young, N. Young, Josh Morgan, Megan Daly, Randy Nater, Justin Seals, Greg Vanger-Haeghen, Anthony Hernandez, Wayne Henkelmann, Claudia Silva, Jon Buffong, Carl Mascarella.

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

**Tab 5:** Review Minutes of 6/1/2017.

**APPROVED**

Motion/Second: Ed O'Brien/ May Farr

AYES: Christopher Massa, Veatrice Jews, Carol Kinzel, Sean Welsh, Jane Godager

ASBSTAIN: Monica Wilson, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Troy Mondragon,

ABSENT: Susan McGee-Stehsel Michael Grabhorn, Akin Merino, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Brenda Scott shared that the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) walks kick off luncheon is taking place September 13.

Linda Hart of the African American Health Coalition advised the group that the AAHC community outreach contract was terminated due to an issue with paperwork. She announced the AAHC is working with new partners in Sacramento in providing training on behavioral health equity policy opportunities.

Anthony Hernandez advised he is present to represent families of those with a Serious Mental Illness (SMI) who refuse to accept services. These families live in fear and need the help of Laura's Law. He suggested Canyon Ride be investigated for releasing patients without being stable. He listed names of families with similar experiences with Canyon Ridge Hospital. Mr. Hernandez also listed names of families that were denied LPS Conservatorship.

Greg Vander-Haeghen suggested Evening with the Stars include more awards for consumers. This last year only two were given to consumers.

Steffanie Peevers introduced herself as a family member of someone diagnosed with Schizophrenia. She informed the group that her family member continues not to take medication consistently, gets kicked out of homes and has been taken by the

ambulance many times. The hospital will not tell her or her family why the family member is hospitalized. At this time she would appreciate short term solutions.

### **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Monica Wilson shared she is planning to attend the Student Wellness Conference in July. She thanked the audience for allowing her to serve.

### **COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

#### **First District:**

Vice Chair Ed O'Brien noticed some counties have an app for smart phones. He asked if anyone knew if San Bernardino County was going to have one. He thanked those that made public comments during today's meeting. They are a reminder of the Behavioral Health Commission's purpose.

#### **Second District:**

Commissioner Sean Welsh advised he is in support of the suggestion for additional award categories for consumers for the Evening with the Stars. He went to the District Advisory meeting last month and also toured the Mariposa clinic. He has been participating in discussions to develop un-used county owned buildings for behavioral health services.

Commissioner Carol Kinzel thanked the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) program for sending her to the Student Wellness Conference. Over this past month she attended the Casa Paseo Open House and the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHBC) meeting. San Bernardino is very fortunate for its resources. She shared a story of someone that has to commute several hours every day for medication. July 27, 2017 a Homeless Summit meeting is taking place in the mountain areas.

Commissioner May Farr also attended the CALBHBC meeting and agreed that San Bernardino County has many more resources compared to other counties. She advised that the CALBHBC developed a committee that reviewed Laura's Law and there was a recent presentation at this meeting. She participated in that committee and believes that Laura's Law will not solve problems related to enforcing medication. DBH has programs that can help.

#### **Third District:**

Commissioner Christopher Massa attended the DAC meeting at Our Place Clubhouse. He is participating in the Cultural Competency Consumer Awareness Committee, facilitated by Laurreta Ross.

Commissioner Troy Mondragon advised he is also in support of the suggestion for additional award categories for consumers for the Evening with the Stars.

#### **Fourth District:**

Commissioner Jennifer Spence-Carpenter is continuing to attend trainings on addiction. Some topics include Stigma in the workplace, drug trends and drinking trends.

#### **Fifth District:**

Commissioner Jane Godager shared that she participated in a family stakeholder meeting with the Department of Behavioral Health and Arrowhead Regional Medical Center. Agenda topics included: General Discharge Planning Approach and Process, Family Member Involvement in Hospitalization and Patients' Rights and the Grievance Process. She also attended the Casa Paseo Open House.

### **SUBJECT MATTER PRESENTATION: Behavioral Health Services in Rural San Bernardino County**

Presenters included: David Denkers, Program Manager II; Nancy Olsen, Program Manager II and Cynthia White, Program Manager I.

- Rural Services are provided in: the High Desert (First District) - Victorville, Hesperia, Adelanto, Phelan, Apple Valley, (Third District) Lucerne Valley and Barstow with a population of 383,617; the Mountains – (Third District) Big Bear, Crestline and Lake Arrowhead with a population of 34,284; Morongo Basin (Third District) – Morongo Valley, Joshua Tree, Yucca Valley

and Twenty Nine Palms with a population of 74,772; Needles (First District) with a population of 5,119 and Trona (First District) with a population of 1,747.

- DBH provides outpatient services in rural areas that are both county and contracted.
  - County-run Outpatient Clinics: Victor Valley – 14,903 services; 2,135 clients, Barstow – 6,585 services; 1,138 clients, Needles – 3,011 services; 326 clients.
  - Contracted Outpatient Clinics: Adelanto -177 services; 24 clients (opened October 2016); Joshua Tree – 1,472 services; 202 clients; Lucerne - 625 services; 51 clients - satellite (20 hrs/week); Trona – 68 services; 14 clients - satellite (20 hrs/week).
- A summary of DBH Substance Use Disorder Services in Rural Areas was provided: In the Mountains 626 services were provided with 42 clients; the High Desert had 4,909 services with 148 clients; Morongo Basin has 4,150 services with 139 clients.
- A summary of DBH Children's and Transitional Age Youth (TAY) services in the rural areas were provided: Children's Services has 3,854 services with 262 clients in the Mountains, 47,769 services with 3,428 clients in the High Desert, 4,660 services with 262 clients in the Morongo Basin. There were 706 TAY services with 40 clients in Joshua Tree.
- There are Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI), Innovations and Clubhouses in the rural areas.
  - PEI has 14,655 services and 10,888 clients in the High Desert, with 12 contracts; 3,545 services and 1,800 clients in the Morongo Basin with 6 contracts; and 11,104 services and 5,718 clients in the Mountains with 9 contracts.
  - Innovations has 300 Recovery Based and Engagement Support Teams (RBEST) encounters and 55 clients.
  - There are Clubhouses in Barstow, Victorville, Lucerne and Yucca Valley with 6,653 outreach and engagement services and 2,363 clients in system development.
- There are Community Crisis Response Teams (CCRT) in the High Desert and Morongo Basin. In the High Desert there were 1,437 services provided for 1,124 clients. In Morongo Basin there were 90 services for 83 clients.
- The Crisis Walk In Center (CWIC) in Victorville and Joshua Tree served the High Desert with 1,887 services for 1,330 clients and the Morongo region had 662 services for 415 clients.
- There are Triage Engagement and Support Teams (TEST) in the High Desert and Morongo Basin. TEST staff are co-located in CCRT for continued case management and outreach services following a crisis intervention and a Social Worker is co-located in Morongo Basin Probation.
- The SB82 Investment in Mental Health Wellness of 2013 will fund Crisis Residential Treatment Centers in the High Desert community with 16 beds beginning December 2017 and in the Morongo Basin with 10 beds in April 2018.
- There are additional strategies in place to expand services to the rural areas:
  - TEST Expansion in 2017
  - Increase clinical coverage in Morongo via CCRT
  - Added a General Mental Health Clinic in Adelanto
  - Assist with IEHP Psychiatry shortage in High Desert
  - FSP Expansion in High Desert.

### **NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEM(S)**

Identify Commissioner to Prepare 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: Troy Mondragon/ May Farr

AYES: Christopher Massa, Veatrice Jews, Carol Kinzel, Sean Welsh, Jane Godager, Monica Wilson, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Ed O'Brien

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Susan McGee-Stehsel Michael Grabhorn, Akin Merino, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Assistant Director, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios presented on behalf of Director, Veronica Kelley. She thanked presenters for their presentation and acknowledged Andrew Gruchy for his contributions to the development of these services.

In response to Vice Chair, Ed O'Brien's question on the status of a department app, Sarah advised that there is an application in development, however the timeline for completion is at least 18 months out.

To add to today's public comments on Laura's Law, the department is committed to continuing the dialogue regarding the community's needs. Sarah referenced the Laura's Law presentation conducted by Director Veronica Kelley at the May Behavioral Health Commission and reiterated that Laura's Law does not force medication. It's important we continue discussions at the local level and DBH's services that are already available.

For hospital grievances, Patients' Rights may be contacted at 800-440-2391. Sarah acknowledged that she provided this number to Anthony Hernandez in response to his public comment during today's meeting.

Sarah updated attendees on staff changes. Lesford Duncan was introduced as the new Cultural Competency Officer. Michelle Dusick accepted a promotion to a Deputy Director at Preschool Services, Megan Daly will assume the interim role of Administrative Manager for Mental Health Services Act.

The American Health Care Act; it has been renamed the Better Care Reconciliation Act as it has not been passed by the Senate. The same issues still persist in the legislation as it is written, the only thing that is changes is the extension of the implementation deadline for several more years.

A legislative request for an audit of MHSA was recently approved by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee. San Bernardino County was audited in 2013. This audit will include the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Committee (MHSOAC), the State Controller, and three counties.

## **OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

- Aimara Freeman reminded the group that the TAY annual health and wellness event is taking next Thursday July 13, 2017. She provide a demonstration on how to access the DBH social media pages, news and events, press releases and the DBH event calendar.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

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*Monica Wilson, Chair*  
Behavioral Health Commission

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*Raquel Ramos*  
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission