

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
January 4, 2018 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present: Monica Wilson, Lorrie Denson, Michael Grabhorn, Carol Kinzel, May Farr, Christopher Massa, Veatrice Jews, Troy Mondragon, Susan McGee-Stehsel.

Excused Absence: Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Catherine Inscore, Akin Merino, Jane Godager

Absent: Paul Williams

Guests: Donna Villasenor, Justine Rangel, Jennifer Yang, M. Oliver, Linda Marie Griffey, Christina Entz, Alfredo Jauregui, Marlene Rangel, Karen Cervantes, C. Gutierrez, Janet McKinley, Tim Hougren, Michelle Dusick, Joshua Taylor, Rene Keres, Brenda Madison, Beverly Scott, Cesar Bernal, Gil Navarro, Miriam Clark, Brenda Daniels, Lamika Lydia, Alyce Belford, Hazel Lambert, Athena Montrel, Beverly Rios, Socorro Gomez, David Muro, Adan Gomez, Zoraida Castro, Nancy Olsen, C. Placide, Manuel Cordoba, Aimara Freeman, John Futch, Melinda Ancrum, John W., Leslie Hodges, Lisa Robbins, Erica Porteous, Doris Turner, Laurence Gonzaga, Douglas Fazekas, Daniel Bedolla, Evonne Tirado, Lydia Laurean, Kevin Mahany, Lauretta Ross, Tristen Alfred, Andrea Masler, Lesford Duncan, Jamesia Brown, Joyce Carota, Derrik Cannon, Alejandro Bong, Tiffany Espinosa, Julie Hale, Dawn Howard, Kareem Jackson.

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. and led the Pledge of Allegiance; self-introductions followed.

Tab 6: Review Minutes of 10/5/2017.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Susan McGee-Stehsel / Troy Mondragon

AYES: Monica Wilson, Christopher Massa, Carol Kinzel, Veatrice Jews, Michael Grabhorn, May Farr.

ASBSTAIN: Lorrie Denson.

ABSENT: Akin Merino, Jane Godager, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore.

Tab 7: Review Minutes of 11/2/2017.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Susan McGee-Stehsel / Troy Mondragon

AYES: Monica Wilson, Christopher Massa, Carol Kinzel, Veatrice Jews, Michael Grabhorn, May Farr.

ASBSTAIN: Lorrie Denson.

ABSENT: Akin Merino, Jane Godager, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Community member, Ed O'Brien shared that he is present at today's meeting because he cares about mental health services, the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) and consumers. He encouraged the BHC to continue their work on conservatorship issues. Sales taxes are increasing to build more jails. He believes that this is not an appropriate use of sales tax revenue and is not in support of this.

Gil Navarro of the California Parents Association provided commissioners with an article regarding schools boosting attendance by improving mental health. He indicated one of the reasons he is presented today is to see the Homeless Services presentation, as in his roles with the Water District he has been made aware of many issues related to the homeless population. This population has had negative impacts on maintaining the cleanliness of water basins and reservoirs.

Linda Hart of the African American Mental Health Coalition (AAMHC) is speaking to address mental health outreach. She provided commissioners with pictures of those served by the AAMHC and provided the following statement:

“Happy New Year, going on public record, in given recognition to all consumers and consumer family members thank you your 2017 financial support allowed the African American Health Coalition to provide mental health resources and information to eight hundred men, women and children within the identified unserved and underserved areas of San Bernardino County. Your looking at several pictures from our Mental Health Awareness Outreaches. 2017.

Providing these services without any MHSA funding over the past 2 years, has been challenging, but the organization has partnered with consumers, families, and community members in ensuring individuals mental health needs were met in communities unserved.”

Brenda Daniels introduced herself as a caregiver of a minor needing services. She explained the mental health needs and history of a family member and spoke on the challenges they have faced in obtaining appropriate services through San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Monica Wilson advised the group that the California Mental Health Planning Council has changed their name to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council. The next quarterly meeting will take place January 18-20, 2018 in San Diego. She encouraged Commissioners and Community members to attend, as this is a great opportunity to have their voices heard. For those that may be interested, there are currently Family Member and Direct Consumer vacancies on the Planning Council. Chair Wilson is presenting on Mental Health First Aid training to Montclair High School staff. She thanked everyone for their participation in the annual award ceremony, especially the clubhouses, and stated she is looking forward to this coming year.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

First District:

Commissioner Michael Grabhorn reminded attendees of the upcoming Point in Time Count taking place January 25. He plans to participate and encouraged others to volunteer. He has been participating in Safety Surveys in the High Desert area with Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI). He is participating in planning meetings for the upcoming Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE) Walk taking place January 24. This past month he also attended the Fam Community Center open house in Victorville.

Commissioner Lorrie Denson introduced herself as the newest Commissioner. Last month she attended an orientation with DBH Director, Veronica Kelley and attended the Annual Awards ceremony. She is currently involved in a homeless pantry at Victorville Community College that provides meals daily and bus passes to homeless students. She advised she is eager to learn more in her role as a commissioner and is exploring how behavioral health relates to community activities she is already involved in. She plans to work with other Commissioners in the First District in ongoing community activities with Burning Bush Church.

Second District:

Commissioner Carol Kinzel acknowledged Glen Thompson and Beverly Rios of the Mountain Homeless Coalition. She informed attendees of the upcoming event being coordinated by the Mountain Homeless Coalition, Mountain Solutions for Poverty, taking place Saturday, January 7 at the Presbyterian Church in Lake Arrowhead. She plans to participate in the Point in Time Count in the Second District. The Rim Mountain Communities Special Olympics program is currently in development. There is an informational meeting taking place January 11, 5-7pm at the Lake Gregory Community Center.

Commissioner May Farr advised that she has been out of town. She did however attend Supervisor Rutherford's holiday celebration and the BHC Annual Award Ceremony. She extended thanks to those that participated in the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) walk.

Third District:

Commissioner Christopher Massa thanked everyone for their participation in the BHC Annual Award Ceremony.

Commissioner Troy Mondragon advised he plans to attend the upcoming District Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting and the Latino Awareness Subcommittee meeting. He thanked Ed O'Brien for his time and contributions to the BHC.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Veatrice Jews attended the BHC Annual Awards Ceremony and the DAC meeting for the Fifth District where there was a presentation on DBH Clubhouses. She advised that more Clubhouses are needed, specifically on the west end of the county. Transportation to the nearest clubhouse from the west end is a challenge.

Commissioner Susan McGee Stehsel thanked everyone who attended the BHC Annual Awards Ceremony. There are plans to add new elements to the program for next year. She missed the Clubhouse presentation at the last DAC meeting, however she is in support of continuing to strategize how to expand the program. She referenced the new locked unit that provides high level care at Community Hospital and advised she is in support of this, however the Clubhouses are just as much a part of the continuum of care.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEM(S)

- Identify Commissioner to Prepare Presentation Findings:

Chair Monica Wilson advised Commissioner Akin Merino volunteered to prepare the findings from today's Subject Matter Presentation and the November presentation. The memos will be reviewed during the next BHC Executive Session.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Michael Grabhorn / May Farr

AYES: Monica Wilson, Christopher Massa, Carol Kinzel, Veatrice Jews, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, Lorrie Denson.

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Akin Merino, Jane Godager, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore.

- **Tab 8:** Election of 2018 Officers

On behalf of the Chair of the Nominating Committee, Commissioner Mondragon, announced the slate of officers and asked for further nominations from the floor. Commissioner Massa nominated Commissioner Susan McGee Stehsel for Vice Chair. There was only one nomination for Chair, one nomination for Vice Chair and one nomination for Treasurer all commissioners present voted for the one nominee in each officer position. The Secretary position votes are as follows:

Voting of Secretary was conducted verbally

Michael Grabhorn voted for Veatrice Jews

Lorrie Denson voted for Veatrice Jews

May Farr voted for herself

Carol Kinzel voted for May Farr

Christopher Massa voted for May Farr

Troy Mondragon voted for May Farr

Monica Wilson voted for May Farr

Veatrice Jews voted for May Farr

Susan McGee-Stehsel voted for May Farr

The voting resulted in May Farr being elected for Secretary.

- **Tab 9:** Approval to Pay California Association of Local Mental Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHBC) Annual Dues. Clerk of the Commission Raquel Ramos, clarified that the amount of \$500 for dues as noted on the agenda is not accurate. The amount of \$1000 in dues as noted on the letter from CALBHBC is the accurate amount for dues.

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Susan McGee-Stehsel / Troy Mondragon

AYES: Monica Wilson, Christopher Massa, Carol Kinzel, Michael Grabhorn, Veatrice Jews, May Farr, Lorrie Denson.

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Akin Merino, Jane Godager, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore.

- **Tab 10:** Review FY 2017-18 Performance Contract with the Department of Health Care Services

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Michael Grabhorn / Susan McGee-Stehsel

AYES: Monica Wilson, Troy Mondragon, Carol Kinzel, Veatrice Jews, Christopher Massa, May Farr, Lorrie Denson.

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Akin Merino, Jane Godager, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Paul Williams, Catherine Inscore.

Director, Veronica Kelley clarified that this contract will be finalized at the County of San Bernardino Board of Supervisors meeting January 23, 2018. Commissioner McGee Stehse also advised that this item and all other items reviewed during BHC meetings can be found on the BHC website.

Susan requested a timeline for all Request for Proposals be shared. Veronica advised a basic timeline to submit a contract and the approval process can be shared however, in this case the timeline is based on the State initiating the contract and approval process. Veronica also advised there are laws related to procurement standards and giving a group an advantage or notice when DBH plans to go out for bids.

Tab 11: SUBJECT MATTER PRESENTATION: Behavioral Health Homeless Services

Presenter: Andrew Gruchy, Deputy Director, Community Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, DBH

- Today's presentation will cover the following topics: County of San Bernardino Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH); Step Up on Second- Permanent Supportive Housing -Full Service Partnership; and (DBH) Homeless Services and Supports.
- Interagency Council on Homelessness is the policy making body for the Collaborative "Continuum of Care" (CoC) (HUD requirement for funding). ICH develops a permanent sustainable system of housing and homeless prevention; plans permanent housing and permanent supportive housing; establishes a Homelessness Management Information System (HIMS); establish performance targets and evaluates outcomes and establish Coordinated Entry System (CES).
- The former Shelter Plus Care (S+C) Program has been consolidated with other HUD competitive homelessness assistance grant programs to create the new CoC. The CoC provides rental subsidies (Rental Assistance Grants) for the severely mentally ill (SMI) population who are homeless or at risk of homelessness. DBH works with Housing Authority to send referrals for permanent housing programs. The program requires and enrollment and continuing with DBH services, the ability to pay 30% to 40% of their adjusted income towards rent. Individuals without income must be work ready or apply for benefits within 90 days.
- Step Up on Second – Housing First Model was established in 1984. Step Up has a proven track record of working with chronically homeless individuals with severe mental illness. Step Up serves over 1,800 individuals annually; has 200 permanent supportive housing units; over 100 individuals are seen daily in over 22 different programs. The Step Up program grant is targeted for chronically homeless individuals who meet the FSP eligibility criteria. The program receives \$2.2 million in HUD funding to develop 112 permanent supportive housing units for the chronically homeless with serious mental illness. Referrals for this program are thorough the CES to provide housing search, placement, landlord relationship, supportive services. FSP service in coordination with Step Up on Second's Housing First Model is funded through the Continuum of Care Grant. FSP will be provided to 112 consumers. Target Population is adults who are at imminent risk of hospitalization, incarceration, homelessness and/or are frequent users of emergency psychiatric services with an emphasis on individuals who are chronically homeless and have a SMI. Ages are 18-59.
- Emergency Shelter is not treatment driven; the homeless may be mentally ill or have co-occurring disorders. Once in shelter the client must participate in DBH MHS or SUD services. This is a short-term-temporary service through contracted vendors. A bed is not guaranteed and could be available throughout various regions in the county.

- The shelter bed vendor pool is funded by 2011 Public Safety Realignment and MHSA. There is a potential for 106 beds per day however there is a limited annual funding pool- available funds determine number of beds. This service spans across all regions of the County. There are specific monitored requirements to become a vendor. Beds are not guaranteed, but rather accessible if available.
- Homeless Assistance Resource and Treatment (HART) is a step down from state hospitals and Institution for Mental Disease (IMD)s. For those at risk of homelessness, incarceration, hospitalization, or re-hospitalization.
- Homeless Outreach Support Teams (HOST) is a field based outreach program to engage those homeless individuals with a severe MHS or Co-occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and provides necessary case management services and housing assistance. In collaboration with the Housing Authority of the County San Bernardino Housing (HACSB), HOST receives HUD grant funding for vouchers to subsidize housing costs (Shelter Plus Care Grant). HOST provides FSP services to individuals.
- Homeless Intensive Case Management and Outreach Services are an intensive case management and emergency shelter program (Red Carnation). Funding is a combination of MHSA and SAMHSA Mental Health Block Grant and Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) grant. There are 50 emergency shelter beds and services for behavioral health consumers in this program. This program serves an average of 250 consumers annually.
- Housing and Employment (H&E) Program operates in coordination with DBH outpatient and specialty treatment services. Assistance is provided to eligible mentally ill and dual-diagnosed individuals in accessing permanent housing. H&E staff will meet with the client to confirm information submitted. Clinic Case Manager will continue to provide appropriate case management services. Services include linkage between HACSB federal and state funded programs for affordable housing. The Employment program provides employment preparation and referrals to our partnership with the State Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) counselors for on-going services.
- Types of Permanent Supportive Housing Available within DBH:
 - HUD CoC Rental Assistance Grants (Formerly known as Shelter Plus Care) - assists hard to serve homeless individuals with disabilities and their families into community based housing without a length of stay to live as independently as possible. These disabilities include serious mental illness, chronic substance abuse, and HIV/AIDS or related diseases.
 - MHSA Housing - intended for persons with serious mental illness and their families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.
 - Individuals in permanent supportive housing are enrolled in an FSP program: Agewise; Regional FSPs; HOST; and TAY.
- To be eligible for permanent housing you must be:
 - Chronically homeless - An individual or family whom: Resides in places not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport or camping ground OR Resides in a supervised publically or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporarily living arrangements OR Is exiting an institution (e.g. jail, hospital) where they resided for 90 days or less and had resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering the institution. For either 1 continuous year or has had at least 4 episodes in the last 3 years. Or
 - Living with a disability - Can be diagnosed with one or more of the following conditions: substance use disorder, serious mental illness, developmental disability, post-traumatic stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, physical illness or disability.
- Rental Assistance Grants (Shelter Plus Care) – is a program offers rental assistance and supportive services to qualifying homeless individuals and families. Until a client is placed in is required to follow HUD housing rules: meet HUD definition of homelessness; document living with a disability. This requires service match. Rent is subsidized. The client must use 30% of their income toward rent. There are two types of vouchers, a tenant based voucher and a project based housing placement.

- The Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TRA) Component – Service programs under this component may request funds to provide rental assistance on behalf of participants who choose their own housing units. In order to deliver supportive services in a convenient manner, service programs may require participants to live in specific structures or areas for part or all of their term of assistance. Participants must contract with unit owners directly. Rental subsidy is paid including 30% of client income.
- Project-Based Rental Assistance (PRA) Component Service programs under this component may request grant funds to provide rental assistance through a contract with a building owner for an existing structure. The building owner must agree to accept eligible S+C participants during this time. Participants must live in a unit on a specified property, and do not retain the rental assistance if they move. Currently, all project-based housing projects are owned by the local Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino. Rental subsidy is paid with 30% of client income.
- Rental Assistance Grants are grants funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for rental assistance, in combination with supportive services from other sources, to assist hard-to-serve homeless persons with disabilities.
- MHSA Permanent Housing - The statewide MHSA Housing Program is jointly administered by DCHS and California Housing and Finance Agency (CalHFA). CalHFA administers MHSA capital development loans and long-term capitalized operating subsidy reserves. DBH reserves units at each project. Due to individual contracts with property management agencies, individuals may be required to have ongoing income at program entry. DBH's supportive services plan for MHSA Housing is the Full Service Partnership (FSP). Current locations include: Vintage at Kendall, San Bernardino (55+); Magnolia at 9th, San Bernardino (60+); Mountain Breeze Villas, Highland (18-59); Siena, Fontana (18-62); Project Bloomington Housing, Bloomington (Adult); Horizons at Yucaipa, Yucaipa (55+); Phoenix, San Bernardino (TAY); Tentative: Liberty Lane, Redlands.
- Vintage at Kendall is a 178 affordable housing unit property in the City of San Bernardino; 20 units reserved for individuals under MHSA Target Population. The MHSA Cost for project was \$2,339,720; Totals to \$3900 annually or \$325 per month (this is collected from client income); based on a 30 year contract.
- The Magnolia at 9th is a 119 Senior Apartment Project located in the city of San Bernardino; 10 units are dedicated to MHSA housing. The MHSA Cost of project was \$1,124,486; Totals to \$3748 annually or \$312 per month (average client contribution); based on a 30 year contract.
- Mountain Breeze Villas is a 168 Adult Apartments Project located in the City of Highland; low income housing project containing 20 MHSA apartments; total cost was \$2,966,000 MHSA Cost equaling \$4943 per year or \$412 per (average client contribution) month; based on 30 year contract.
- Fontana Siena Apartments is a 61 Adult Apartments Project located in the City of Fontana; 15 one-bedroom apartments to MHSA tenants; Estimated Cost of MHSA units: \$3,234,000; totaling an annual cost of \$7,187 or \$599 per month (average client contribution); based on a 30 year contract.
- Project Bloomington is a 106 Adult Apartments Project located in the City Bloomington; 11 MHSA apartments; MHSA cost is \$1,338,315 Totals out to \$4056 annually and \$337 per month (average client contribution); based on a 30 year contract.
- Horizons at Yucaipa is a 77 senior unit apartment complex built in partnership with the Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino; 10 units of the complex will be set aside for seniors with mental health needs; Estimated MHSA cost of project is \$1,716,650, totaling to \$5,722 annually or \$477 per month (average client contribution); based on a 30 year contract.
- DBH Homeless programs have 518 individuals housed in permanent supportive housing. Rental Assistance Grants (Shelter Plus Care) housed 314 individuals. Of the 314, 260 are in Tenant-Based Rental Assistance, 54 are in Project-Based Rental Assistance. DBH's MHSA Permanent Supportive Housing housed 92 individuals. Step up on Second housed 112 individuals. DBH has a total of 156 Emergency Shelter beds that are often fully used.

For more information, please contact Andrew Gruchy at 909-388-0805.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Veronica provided the following updates:

- The California Association for Alcohol and Drug Educators (CAADE) is no longer an accredited certifying organization for Substance Use Disorder Counselors. Counselors certified through CAADE have six months to re-register or re-certify through a credited organization. CAADE is notifying counselors in writing and providing information on re-registering or re-certifying.
- The Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Waiver is going to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval on January 9, 2018. This is going to extend billable services for an increase in revenue.
- DBH is leading a collaborative effort known as the Stepping Up Initiative. A formal resolution was obtained from the BOS at the December 19, 2018 BOS meeting. Individuals with a serious mental illnesses, admitted into jails tend to stay incarcerated longer and present at a higher risk of re-incarceration than those without mental illness. The Stepping Up initiative focuses on developing an action plan addressing the needs of mentally ill inmates to positively impact criminal justice systems by formalizing relationships and referrals between county systems. The collaborative effort includes: DBH, County Administrative Office, Office of the District Attorney, Office of the Public Defender, Probation, Sheriff, and the Superior Court.
- Volunteers are needed for the 2018 Point In Time Count taking place January 25, 2018, 6am-10am. Additional information is posted on the San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership website.
- January is Poverty Awareness month. San Bernardino County is promoting awareness by highlighting how services promote self-sufficiency. Veronica played a video highlighting DBH's efforts.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

- Aimara Freeman reviewed flyers on upcoming events with the audience. Copies of flyers with detailed information were made available at the sign in table.
 - To promote Poverty Awareness month, the Human Services Department is hosting a documentary screening of the Frontline Film, Poor Kids on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at the County of San Bernardino Health Services (CSBHS) Auditorium in Rialto and on Thursday, January 18, 2018 at Victor Valley College in Victorville.
 - The Community Policy Advisory Committee is presenting the Mental Health Services Act Innovation project Recovery Based Engagement Support Teams on January 18, 2018 at the CSBHS Auditorium in Rialto.
 - The Point In Time Count is taking place on January 25, 2018. To register please visit the San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership website.
- Michelle Dusick advised the group of the upcoming Mental Health Services Act Annual Update planning schedule. This schedule will include the Cultural Competency Advisory Committee meetings and DACs. This year's update will focus on Suicide Prevention. More information will follow soon.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Monica Wilson, Chair
Behavioral Health Commission

Raquel Ramos
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission