MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
April 4, 2013: 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:
May Farr, Bill Swift, Gabriel Gonzales, Monica Wilson, Jane Godager, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Veatrice Jews, Monica Alonso, Roberto Casas

Excused Absence: Mike Grabhorn, Akin Merino and Chris Massa

Guests:
Omar Castro, Field Representative for Supervisor Josie Gonzales; Wayne Henkelmann, Mental Health Court; Rasmey Sam, Asian American Resource Center; Norda Freeman, AOCS; Leah Cash, Brightest Star Inc; Faith Ikeda. Greg Sweetwood, Matthew Pannum, Esther Parm; Doug Norcross, Jose Lopez, Cliff Craig, Thomas Castellanos, Diane Fease, Michael Moreno, Gus Uirasana Jr, Cindy Messer, Doug Norcross, Pathways to Recovery; Hugh Cole, US Army; Veronica Manwanen, Sammit Payee; Beverly Scott, Mimi Swift, family member; Ben Jauregui, Jannette Ziot, Jose Solorio, IEHP; Troy Mondragon, Cal State student; A. Townson; Osvalda Partida, Life of Living; Peggy Rowe, Trauma Research Institute;, Peter Lopez, Pacific Clinics; Adolfo Estrada, student intern; Patricia Strait; CaSonya Thomas, Veronica Kelley, Jennifer Gonzalez, Tim Hougen, Andy Gruchy, Tracy Bomberger, Janeth Tran, Mariann Ruffolo, Teresa Frausto MD, Sherwin Farr, Michelle Dusick, Jon Buffong, Lauretta Ross, Jaime Gonzalez, Rebecca Gehlke-Baez, Cynthia White, Doris Turner, Jane Smith, Kristen Martinez, Georgina Yoshioka, Doug Fazekas, Paula Rutten, Karen Cervantes, Wendi Groth, Susan Abito, Cheryl Long, Manuel Aybar, Melinda Ancrum, DBH. Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Commissioner Casas led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed. Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Commission announced that Christopher Massa was reappointed to the Behavioral Health Commission for another 3-year term on 3/26/13:

A motion made by Commissioner Farr and seconded by Commissioner Wilson: The 3/7/13 Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) minutes were approved as written. *Motion passed; no further abstentions.*

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Nomination: Sergeant Paul Hugle consistently shows respect to everyone he has been in contact with. He looks beyond a mental health diagnosis and sees all our youth as people with potential. His cultural competency (cultural excellence in his case) is evident in all his interactions. For example, Sergeant Hugle began mentoring one of our TAY partners when the partner expressed a desire to join the U.S. Army. He came numerous times to the TAY Center to pick up the client and help him with the Army's extensive qualifying process. Sergeant Hugle went beyond the call of duty many times to help encourage this young man when he was having a difficult time in school and with following the rules at his housing placement. Sergeant Hugle also served as an excellent role model to all the youth when he came to the TAY center. He always made time to answer questions from other TAY about the Army and check in with the TAY staff regarding our young man. He was always sensitive and respectful to all the consumers at our center as well as anyone who approached him. This young man may not have been able to qualify for military service had Sergeant Hugle not taken the time to look beyond a mental health diagnosis and see a young man who wanted to fulfill his dream to serve his county. Sergeant Hugle has kept in touch with this young man and recently dropped by to let us know that our former TAY partner is now in South Korea serving his country in the United States Army! Congratulations, Sergeant Hugle!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Leah Cash stated that Brightest Star Inc, received a mini grant from CalMHSA Prevention and Early Statewide Initiatives to train 10 speakers to provide presentations focused on the reduction of stigma and discrimination. Please contact Leah to schedule a presentation.

Greg Sweetwood will continue to work with law enforcement to alleviate injustices to the mentally ill.

Troy Mondragon, Cal State Social Work student announced the University, in honor of National Mental Health Month, will host a celebration event, entitled "Embrace the Change, Moving Forward with Hope and Healing, on 5/9/13 at Cal State from 1-4pm.

Veronica Manwenen announced that Summit Payee provides clients receiving SSI and SSA assistance in managing their monthly benefit. Commissioner Godager expressed that agencies like this seem more beneficial to clients than room board operators serving as payee for residents, which has caused major problems in the past.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel mentioned items discussed during today's Executive Session:

- The Commission has been working on revising bylaws. This item will be added to the 5/2/13 agenda for approval, prior to submission to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.
- Today was the first meeting of the BHC Education Committee; Commissioner Merino serves as Chair. The objective is to link students of all ages to mental health services. The next meeting will be held on 5/2/13 at 9am in Conference Room F119-120.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Gonzales has been asked to display his art on May 7, during the "Meet the Artists" celebration at the County Government Center. He continues to work on a book of short stories regarding children with mental illness.

Commissioner Swift stated the previous First District Advisory Committee meeting was focused on how to prevent the availability of designer drugs in the High Desert.

Second District:

Commissioner Farr stated that Marci Atkins of the San Bernardino Police Department has been providing Clubhouse members training on how to interact with law enforcement. The first arrest has been made in Orange County since the passing of AB35, imposing stronger jail sentences for those involved in the sexual exploitation of others.

Commission Alonso has noticed her symptoms have reduced due to continued therapy. She continues to be active in activities at Amazing Place Clubhouse. She is focused on enjoying her life!

Fourth District:

Vice Chair Wilson announced that the CA Institute of Mental Health is conducting Mental Health Boards and Commission 101 training throughout the state. San Bernardino and Riverside County training is scheduled on 4/6/13. The CA Mental Health Planning Council quarterly meeting will be held April 17-19 at the Ontario Airport Hotel. CaSonya and Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel are scheduled to provide opening remarks on alternate days. Office of Statewide Health and Development (OSHPD) will hold a Workforce Education and Training community forum at the DBH Training Institute on 6/7/13, from 1-4pm.

On behalf of Secretary Merino: Argosy and National University will co-sponsor the Inland Empire Counseling Psychology Students: Innovations in Counseling Psychology Conference on 4/27/13 at Argosy University. CaSonya will serve as keynote speaker.

Commissioner Casas attended the Latino Education & Advocacy Day (LEAD) Conference at Cal State San Bernardino on 3/25/13. Supervisor Josie Gonzales and Senator Gloria McLeod were both honored. Chino will sponsor Autism Family Night on 4/26/13 at 4pm.

Fifth District:
Treasurer Jews announced that the African American Mental Health Coalition is hosting a NAMI Family 2 Family twelve week class. The African American Community Mental Health Outreach Workers "Mjumba" Program will hold its first graduation on 4/5/13.

As a member of the CA Senior Legislature, Commissioner Godager participated in training regarding mental health well being for seniors.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT
Director Thomas made several announcements:

- The Coordinated Care Initiative, also known as the Cal MediConnect program, will provide integrated care for beneficiaries eligible for both Medi-Cal and Medicare. More information will be presented to you during the next segment.
- DBH completed its tri-annual review by the Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) in March. Areas reviewed included access, quality management, program integrity, customer service, etc. DHCS complimented the department for its consumer focus and professionalism.
- Due to DBH's prominent role in implementing the Affordable Care Act, Director Thomas participated in a Study Session to the Board of Supervisors.
- On 4/16/13, Director Thomas will also participate in the AB109 Study Session at 10am in Board Chambers.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION: Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) – Presented by Veronica Kelley, DBH Assistant Director and Ben Jauregui, Disability Manager, IEHP.

- CCI affects individuals who qualify for Medicare or Medi-Cal, or both.
- The CCI integrates the delivery of medical, behavioral and Long-Term Services and Supports to improve quality of care and control costs.
- Enrollment begins 10/1/13. Notices will be sent out requesting beneficiaries to enroll in a Managed Care, either IEHP or Molina. If the individual does not select a managed care, one will be selected for them.
- DBH has approximately 2,200 clients who have Medi-Medi and we will notify them to enroll as soon as we receive the "go ahead" from DHCS.
- The CCI Advisory Committee meets regularly. Please provide your feedback to Sarah as your voice on the committee.

Beverly Scott states her son receives straight Medi-Cal and physician choices are very limited in Yucca Valley. Ben suggested to research IEHP and Molina websites to see if her son's current doctor is included in either network. Should you have any questions, please contact Ben Jauregui at

OUTISIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Karen Cervantes, DBH Outreach Programs announced activities planned for May Mental Health Month:

- Entire month of May: Consumer art exhibit at the County Government Center
- 5/7/13 – Come and "Meet the Artists" Expo at the County Government Center from 9am-2pm
- 5/23/13 – Evening with the Stars at San Bernardino Hilton. Dr. Scott Zeller will be guest speaker. Cost is still $40. Our goal is to have all consumer attendance sponsored again this year. All consumers requesting to attend are asked to complete a written application on why they want to attend. Etiquette classes will also be provided.
- 5/28/13 – Enlightened and Equipped: Knowledge Changes Lives Symposium will include practical tools for stigma and discrimination reduction.

Manuel Aybar, DBH Program Manager I, announced that Project H.O.P.E. assists individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of homelessness transition into permanent housing. Services include: housing support, case management, counseling, peer support, group socialization, and access to medical, dental and vision care.

Cynthia White, Chief Patients' Rights Advocate stated that Dr. Robert Fuller will be presenting at the next Room and Board Coalition on 4/14/13, from 1-3pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel	*Debi Pasco*
Chair	Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission