

MINUTES
County of San Bernardino
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
February 6, 2014 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Susan McGee-Stehsel, May Farr, Christopher Massa, Veatrice Jews, Monica Alonso, Troy Mondragon, Michael Grabhorn, Jane Godager, and Supervisor James Ramos, Third District

Excused Absence: Monica Wilson, Akin Merino

Guests:

Vikki Ostermann, County Administrative Office; Molly Wiltshire, Communication Director, Third District; Alicia Taverer, Andrew Williams, Reach Out West End; Beverly Scott, Vanessa Owei, Florence Calcote, Sharon Palo, family member; Edward Deyon, Faith Ikeda, Sylvia Beck, Keith, Stella Grosso, Ineke Slaby, Julie Boyd, Mary Oliveros, Deborah Beene, Pathways to Recovery; Doug Morton, John Helwig, Amazing Place; Greg Vander-Haagen, Paul Hiestand, Edgar Marble, TEAM House; Lynn Neuenswander, Loma Linda University; Sister Carol Therese Grisotti, , member of the public; Maritza Tona Foothill AIDS Project; Lorena Weg, Spanish Interpreter; Christine Bierdrager-Salley Ph.D, Inland Behavioral and Health Services; Cheryl Pfent, Mental Health Systems, Inc; Jose Solorzano; IEHP; David Pan, Telecare; CaSonya Thomas, Jerry Dowdall, Lauretta Ross, Cynthia White, Vivien Limon, Andy Gruchy, Cheryl Long, Kristen Mungal, Joanne Mitchel, Claudia Silva, Patricia Barnes, Brian Mejia, Jon Buffong, Cliff Craig, Lisa Robbins, Janeth Tran, Sue Abito, Laura Stark, Jonathan Benvenisti, Jaime Gonzalez, Michelle Dusick, Tracy Bomberger, Susanne Kulesa, Karen Torres-Gonzalez, Karen Cervantes, Ruby Vargas, Rachel Cierpich; Amelia Arellano; Department of Behavioral Health (DBH). Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Chair McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. Commissioner Mondragon led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

A motion was made by Commissioner Farr and seconded by Commissioner Alonso: Minutes of January 6, 2014, were approved as written. Motion passed; no further abstentions.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vanessa Owei, Sharon Palo and Florence Calcote, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) members expressed as family members they continue to observe their loved ones struggling with mental illness. Cognitive Enhancement Therapy (CET) studies have proven effective by improving attention, memory, problem solving and social cognition. They requested that the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) implement CET throughout their system of care.

Greg Vander-Haagen, Amazing Place, announced that consumer board members recently met for a strategic planning session to improve community interaction and activities, and fund raising efforts.

Faith Ikeda, Pathways to Recovery, announced that opportunity drawing tickets are on sale now for a Valentine basket. Drawing will be held on 2/14/14.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel, requested a moment of silence for Gabriel Gonzales, Behavioral Health Commissioner, First District, who passed away on 1/3/14. In January, Susan attended the Fee for Service hospital and DBH meeting to discuss the transition from inpatient to outpatient care and the creation of consumer advisory boards for continued input and better services. They were very receptive and interested.

The Behavioral Health Commission currently has 5 vacancies:

- First District: 2 vacancies
- Second District: 1 vacancy
- Third District: 1 vacancy
- Fourth District: 1 vacancy

Should you know anyone who may be interested, please contact Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Commission, at (909) 382-3134 or via email at dpasco@dbh.sbcounty.gov.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Grabhorn visited Mercy House in Ontario, which provides food, weekly necessities and lockers to the homeless. The Sheriff's Operation Hope also works with homeless individuals to provide housing, clothing and referrals to behavioral health services.

Second District:

After the Workforce Development educational presentation at the January Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting, Commissioner Alonso went to the west end site to receive assistance with resumé building and interview skills. Amazing Place held a memorial service for one of its members, Bonnie, who recently passed.

Commissioner Farr stated that approximately 900 people attended the 2014 Walk Against Human Trafficking on 1/11/14. During the January CA Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC), topics of discussion included trauma informed care, stigma reduction and patient advocacy. CA Local Mental Health Boards/Commissions (CALMHB/C) met immediately after to discuss data collection and training. The next CMHPC will be held April 15-18, in Newport Beach.

Third District:

As the membership coordinator for the Consumer Advisory Board at TEAM House, Commissioner Massa will invite members of the Room and Board Coalition to TEAM House. Peggy, a member and cook at TEAM House, recently passed away. Chris has been asked to become a mentor for DBH. He recently attended a meeting at CSUSB to discuss NAMI on campus. The Homeless Court is returning to TEAM House. Anger Management classes will be conducted at TEAM House and Pathways.

Commissioner Mondragon has been actively planning activities for National May is Mental Health Month. Suggested adopting the first Tuesday of every May as the day when schools/programs/agencies coordinate solidarity events in support of Mental Health Month. Currently, Troy is working an intern at Central City Lutheran Mission.

Fifth District:

Treasurer Veatrice Jews participated in a statewide webinar training for local mental health boards/commissions that was held on 1/25/14. Two more training webinars will be held on 3/22/14 and 5/17/14. In-person training, focused on analyzing data, will be held on April 19, in Newport Beach. On 2/11/14, the African American Mental Health Coalition is partnering with DBH in observance of African American Mental Health Awareness Week, to present an educational and cultural event to be held on 2/11/14, at Valley College from 9am-12pm.

As a member of the CA Senior Legislature, Commissioner Godager has spent a lot of time working on a proposal to prohibit board and care operators from serving as payees for their clients.

Board of Supervisors:

As a strong advocate for the Behavioral Health Commission, Department of Behavioral Health and the clients who seek services, Supervisor James Ramos shares our message with other members of the Board of Supervisors.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director Thomas congratulated Andrew Gruchy on his appointment as Deputy Director for Regional Operations. Director Thomas thanked Ms. Owei, Palo and Calcote for providing public comment on Cognitive Enhancement Therapy. She welcomed them to attend a presentation provided to the BHC by Veronica Kelley, Assistant Director, on 5/1/14, entitled, “Cognitive Behavioral and Other Therapies.” She also encouraged attendance at the Community Policy Advisory Committee (CPAC) to provide input on DBH program design.

On 1/9/14, the Governor released the 2014-15, January Budget. Highlights include:

- Modest budget surplus to repay the state’s existing liabilities
- Growth in 2011 Realignment funding stream
- Health Care Reform expanded benefits for behavioral health in Drug Medi-Cal. DHCS seeking a waiver that increases accountability and program integrity.
- With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, it is expected that 10.1 million additional beneficiaries will be eligible for Medi-Cal, resulting in indigent care costs previously paid by the county shifting to the state. To account for this anticipated cost shift, San Bernardino County has chosen to redirect a portion of their health realignment funds using a formula that measures actual county health care costs and revenues.

Beverly Scott asked if dental care for Medi-Cal beneficiaries will be restored. Sarah Eberhardt-Rios will follow up with Ms. Scott after today’s meeting to discuss further.

Ms. Scott also requested an update on behavioral health services provided in the Morongo Basin. Andrew Gruchy, Deputy Director, responded that all behavioral health services in this area are up and running. Supervisor James Ramos, Third District would like to provide updated services information to his constituents in the Morongo Basin. Mr. Gruchy will widely disseminate the requested information.

PUBLIC HEARING: INNOVATION PLAN 2014

Susanne Kulesa, Innovation Program Manager I, described the actions taken by DBH to ensure compliance with Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plans/Annual Updates, per Welfare and Institutions Code 5847 and 5848.

- Shall be developed with local stakeholder input.
 - ✓ DBH gathered stakeholder input through regularly scheduled and specially held meetings.
 - ✓ Meetings were publicized through email notifications to community and contact organizations, announcement and flyers at existing stakeholder meetings, posting to social media, and press releases.
- Shall be prepared and circulated for review and comment for at least 30 days to representatives of stakeholder interest.
 - ✓ DBH posted the draft Innovation Plan for the 30-day public comment period from 12/9/13-1/9/14.
 - ✓ Business cards with posting information were distributed at all stakeholder meetings prior to public posting. Copies of draft plan were available online. Hard copies were made available in local libraries, clubhouses and clinics.
- The mental health board shall conduct a public hearing at the close of the 30-day comment period. Comments received during the public posting process will be incorporated into the final INN Plan.

Supervisor Ramos asked how the locations of stakeholder meetings were determined. Susanne responded that DBH utilized current stakeholder meetings. We've also had meetings in Big Bear to address needs.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

A motion was made by Commissioner Godager and seconded by Commissioner Alonso. The members of the BHC affirmed the process of the Innovation Plan 2014. Motion passed; no further abstentions.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION: SB 82: Investment in Mental Health Act of 2013

SB 82 provides funding through two grant opportunities to expand crisis services. DBH has submitted the following grant applications:

1. Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC): Available funding \$32,000,000 for 600 triage personnel and \$10,848,000 for 203 triage personnel.
 - Funding available for triage personnel, administrative cost and evaluation costs.
 - DBH proposes: triage personnel located at Family Resource Centers; Sheriff's stations; jails-post release; distance challenged locations; local hospital emergency departments; and LPS (involuntary commitment) hospitals
2. CA Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA): Available funding \$142,500,000
 - For crisis stabilization, residential treatment and mobile crisis support capacity.
 - DBH proposes: expand Rialto Crisis Walk-in Center to 24/7; create a 20 slot crisis stabilization unit facility with 24/7 psychiatrist coverage; create a 16 bed crisis residential facility in the East or Central Valley with stays up to 30 days.

ADJOURNMENT: Today's meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.

 Susan McGee-Stehsel
 Chair, Behavioral Health Commission

 Debi Pasco
 Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission