

**County of San Bernardino
Behavioral Health Commission
Executive Session
October 2, 2014: 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

Members Present: Monica Wilson, Christopher Massa, Ed O'Brien, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, May Farr, Michael Grabhorn, Akin Merino.

Excused Absences: Veatrice Jews, Jane Godager

Unexcused Absences: Monica Alonso

Guests: Veronica Kelley, Debi Pasco, Kim Booth, Cal. State San Bernardino students- Nashin Darwish, Rachel Castello, Anna Camilo, Nicole Chacon, Sara Quigley, Stevi Brown, Aida Munoz, Gabriela Faingold, Evelyn Kabud, Jacqueline Fie, Chidinma Nwankwo, Ramla Deeq

CALL TO ORDER and SELF INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel, called the meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Self-introductions followed.

Tab 1: Review Executive Session Minutes from 09/4/14

Approved

Motion/Second: Ed O'Brien/Michael Grabhorn

Ayes: Monica Wilson, Christopher Massa, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, May Farr, Akin Merino

Objections: None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel has a new administrative role at Cal. State, and is currently working on a presentation addressing Perinatal Substance Abuse in Mental Health. She continues to research sober living residential services in the mountain areas.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT

Commissioner O'Brien attended a presentation by DBH where Andy Gruchy addressed bed space and CCRT response times in the high desert. He was encouraged by the information presented and the commitment of DBH, but feels there is much work needed. There are no crisis beds for youth in the high desert. Ed attended a meeting with DBH and Probation. Discussion included lack of transportation for clients to the Day Reporting Centers to receive services. In his role as Public Defender, Commissioner Ed O'Brien would like to provide the BHC a presentation on how mental health patients are treated in the system. He will propose a presentation date during the November Executive Meeting.

Assistant Director Kelley responded that DBH is working with the state on regulatory barriers of bed space. The cost is substantial and changes need to be made to reimbursement rates. In regards to Day Reporting Centers, DBH is working with Probation and the Sheriff Department to provide support and address issues such as transportation.

Commissioner Grabhorn discussed his contact with high desert hospitals regarding increased services in the High Desert.

- St. Mary's Hospital has organized a group to address the issue of transporting 5150's down the hill.
- Starting Prescription Drop off Centers

He also discussed a program visit to a methadone clinic, as well as the county ordinance passed by the Board of Supervisors against the sale of synthetic drugs.

Commissioner Massa discussed his attendance at the District Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting and his participation in the DBH Wellness Triathlon.

Commissioner Mondragon discussed the Suicide Awareness event at Cal State San Bernardino on 10/08/14 10:00a.m.-2:00pm. He has received contact information to learn more about the county housing services. Cal State San Bernardino has a team for the NAMI Walk held 10/25/14. He is continuing with his internship at the Family Service Agency.

Commissioner Merino continues to work with the homeless. She thanked DBH for their support and services provided to the community. She has questions concerning collaborations between mental health providers, police, and the courts in regards to incarceration and treatment. She would like to see statistics on the agencies that participate in Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) and which groups are working together. Chairperson McGee-Stehsel requested an update on CIT. She further commented that there has been discussions recommending judges and district attorneys receive training in this area.

Commissioner Wilson reported on attendance at the Latino Behavioral Health Conference and Children's Network Conference. One main area of discussion was translation and interpreting services. The dates for the upcoming Community Vital Signs forums were announced. There are concerns in regards to law AB114 and school districts responsibility to adhere to the law.

Assistant Director Kelley responded and gave information on the counties current interpretation guidelines and procedures. DBH has contracts with outside providers to deliver full interpreting services. These services are coordinated through the DBH Office of Cultural Competence.

Commissioner Farr will discuss her attendance at the National NAMI Conference and the Multicultural Conference. She is scheduled to attend the upcoming CIT and Stigma conference.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Question: Where would someone get information on the services and resources in the areas you talked about today? Assistant Director Kelley referenced the DBH website under "Guide to Services", which includes resources for children and adults in the areas of environmental prevention, substance abuse, and other services.

Question: Are there any programs that provide support groups or early intervention programs for kids and teens? Assistant Director Kelley responded, the DBH Prevention and Early Intervention Programs target children of all ages that display signs of: stress, trauma, juvenile justice exposure, family issues and many other areas.

Question: What is the county going to do in response to the law AB114? What can we do? . Commissioner Wilson responded that you should let your concerns be known to the school. Unfortunately, most times it takes pressure to motivate the districts to change. United Advocates of Children and Families is a state group that may be able to assist. She encouraged the family member to come to the upcoming presentation by Michael Shertell, Deputy Director of Children's Services during an upcoming Behavioral Health Commission meeting. She noted that all agendas are posted for public viewing.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Assistant Director Veronica Kelley discussed the following handouts::

- Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Stakeholder Engagement Initiative –DHCS is seeking expert opinions and consumer voices to improve patient experience of care, improve health outcomes and reduce overall costs.
- County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California (CBHDA) –letter regarding Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA). These services are provided by Managed Care, not by DBH.
- California Institute for Behavioral Health Solutions (CIBHS)- "Community Defined Practices Capacity Building Project" This is a technical assistance program for Community Based Organization (CBOs) to assist with Community Defined Practices (CDPs). This will help build capacity.
- The County of San Bernardino has a new County Logo.

ADJOURNMENT:

Today's meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel
Chair

Kim Booth, Office Assistant III
Recorder