

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION
May 3, 2012: 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

May Farr, Bill Swift, Gabriel Gonzales, Roberto Casas, Mike Grabhorn, Veatrice Jews, and Susan McGee-Stehsel, Monica Alonso, Monica Wilson, Jane Godager, Michael Hill

Excused Absent: Tom Rivera, Veatrice Jews, Akin Merino and Chris Massa

Guests:

Porche Brown, Gretta Sitompul, William West, Zula Khosravi, Brittany Tilden, Monique Frisby, Maureen Kaur, Rocio Navarro, Kylie Edgemon, Stehanie Manthe, James Hanson, Dustin Lewis, Willianne Mendiola, Melissa Repp, Voleak Thorng, Ashley Wiliden, Nashwa Darwish Moustafa, Alycia Romeo, Sergio Niemetz, Chris Olfmen, Mindy Luu, Gloria Onate-Kemritz, Jewel Martinez, Cal State Nursing Students; Julianna Short, Dena Nunez, Gerald Camacho, Rick Tagle, Juan Duran, Christina Bautista, Chuck Ayala, Linda Subio, Morongo Basin Consumer Advisory Board; Hanna Keith, Community Hospital San Bernardino; Wayne Henkelmann, SB Courts; Amelia Arellano Victor Valley Community Counseling Clubhouse; Lori Lorrojuo, Lisa Jill Stetler, Kevin Baird, Gary Bustin, Amazing Place Clubhouse; Lorie Eklund, Dawn Griffin, Edward Deyon Michael Hudkins, Linda Ballard, Ofelia AC, Faith Ikeda, Pathways to Recovery; Janell Gagnon, Argosy University; Pierra Haradrick, Center of Refuge; Max Freund, LF Leadership; Beverly Scott, family member; CaSonya Thomas, Director, Michael Schertell, Michelle Dusick, Gary Atkins, Georgina Yoshioka, Zona Vang, Jason Hill, Susan Abito, Janeth Tran, Veronica Kelley, Rebecca Gehlke-Baez, Nancy Olson, Erica Porteous, Hanh Truong, Andy Gruchy, Crista Wentworth, Doris Turner, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Karen Cervantes, Lynn Neuenswander, Susanne Kulesa, Laretta Ross, 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 Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Commissioner Casas led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

A motion made by May Farr and seconded by Monica Wilson: The 4/5/12 Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) minutes were approved as written. Motion passed; no abstentions.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE – MAY 2012

Dr. Hanh Truong, DBH Cultural Competency Officer, acknowledged the May Cultural Competency Award of Excellence, Kristen Martinez. Kristen has worked for DBH for the last 5 years. She was appointed to serve as Clubhouse Coordinator in September 2011, to facilitate the needs of consumers. Nomination:

"I believe Kristen is culturally competent because it constantly comes up in her conversations. It's not necessarily the words "culturally competent" but its words like equality, everyone feeling safe, etc...She also tries hard to make sure everyone from all facets are included in everything from discussions to activities. Almost every time Kristen sees me she asks how our clubhouse LGBTQ group is doing. One time, several years ago (when we had Wellness Meetings and before she was my supervisor) she asked me how things were going in the LGBTQ subcommittee. She asked me a lot of questions about LGBTQ and discussed LGBTQ issues with me. She didn't make me feel nervous or anything, she just encouraged me and made me feel strong. Kristen also is a big believer in having cultural competency activities at the clubhouses as she supported us strongly with the Black History Month at Amazing Place. She supports field trips and other opportunities that deal with cultural competency regularly. She regularly asks how we can incorporate cultural competency ideas into the clubhouse activities. She supports me in my efforts to get a drum circle at the clubhouse."

Kristen thanked the members of her Clubhouse Family. I'm blessed to be around you each and every day.
CONGRATULATIONS KRISTEN!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Morongo Basin Consumer Advisory Board (CAB) outlined concerns they have in their area.

- Need for Crisis Intervention Training for police in Morongo Basin
- People with severe mental illnesses are not able to see a psychiatrist as a routine when their benefits expire. Psychiatrists, rather than clients have to request more sessions.
- Long waiting list to be seen
- Need for another psychiatrist

Director Thomas responded that Veronica Kelley, Deputy Director will follow up and provide an update at next month's DBH meeting. Debi Pasco will add CAB to her email distribution list for upcoming events.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel discussed the following items:

- Attended the CA Local Mental Health Boards and Commission training on 4/21/12, where Director Thomas presented San Bernardino County's strategy in managing the early release of non-serious, non-sexual, non-violent offenders.
- During the April CA Local Mental Health Boards/Commission (CALMHB/C) meeting, Susan participated on a panel to discuss San Bernardino County's immersion of nurses into behavioral health programs.
- Participates in the Healthy San Bernardino meetings to discuss county health measures.
- Visited Cedar House to promote co-occurring treatment.
- Behavioral Health Commission will be DARK on August 4, 2012, in order to provide Autism training from 2-4pm in the Auditorium. The training is free and members of the public are invited.
- Thanked Doris Turner, Laretta Ross and Susan Abito for coordinating the Shaken Tree presentation about a family living with mental illness.
- On April 23, the Fifth District Advisory Committee and the African American Mental Health Coalition sponsored a reception for CaSonya in honor of her appointment as Director.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Michael Grabhorn stated that Loma Linda University Medical Center and Children's Hospital Trauma Support Services have developed Youth Alternative Solutions to address the use of drugs and alcohol, and high risk behavior problem in the adolescent population in San Bernardino County. It all begins with a hearing at the San Bernardino County Juvenile Informal Traffic Division. Clients are given an opportunity to choose between a substantial fine or pay a lesser fine and attend the Youth Alternative Solutions Program. The Program has a 91% success rate working with schools to change behavior. A gel has been developed that will remove tattoos with 3 treatments. Silverado High School provides artistic training, drama and dance to special education students.

Commissioner Bill Swift stated that Rosita Woods provided an autism diagnosis presentation during the last First District Advisory Committee meeting. There were many questions she was able to answer for attendees.

Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales invited everyone to the County Government Center on May 8 for the May is Mental Health Month Meet the Artists and Wellness Expo. Among the consumer art, Gabe will display five of his creations. People with mental illness express ourselves differently by digging deep into the brokenness to create beauty.

Second District:

Commissioner May Farr attended the April quarterly meeting of the CA Mental Health Planning Council and the CALMHB/C meetings in Los Angeles, where former Director Allan Rawland provided a presentation on the future of Mental Health Boards/Commissions and CaSonya Thomas provided a presentation on AB-109. In her role as NAMI

affiliate, May organized the In Your Voice training which teaches consumers the challenges of mental health and giving presentations.

Commissioner Monica Alonso serves on Commission as consumer representative. Amazing Place Clubhouse has a new Peer and Family Advocate and members are moving up into leadership roles. They've started a food pantry for the homeless and now have 5 computers in their resource room. She states that the lack of Crisis Intervention Training for law enforcement is a common problem among consumers.

Third District:

No Third District members present.

Fourth District:

As a member of the CAMHPC, Commissioner Monica Wilson chairs the Child Subcommittee, where she had the opportunity to tour Skid Row housing programs, which enriches her to ensure consumers receive adequate housing. Dr. Wilson thanked DBH's Office of Cultural Competence and Ethnic Services for their outreach at the Women Who Hide presentation and every other event.

Commissioner Roberto Casas visited Pacific Clinics Child and Family Services in Ontario, where they serve children from 0-21 years, providing a wide range of individual and family therapy and parenting skills. Dr. Casas attended his tribe's, Pascua Yaqui, traditional ceremony during Easter week in Tucson, Arizona. During his visit, he researched methods used to deliver mental health services using non-traditional methods. In addition, Dr. Casas encouraged members of the Morongo Basin Consumer Advisory Board to apply for the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) vacant position in the Third District. Contact Debi Pasco for application.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Jane Godager is thankful to back after a medical leave. The Perris Hill Neighborhood Association has been contacted by Probation Department regarding the AB-109 services to be provided in their area.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director CaSonya Thomas thanked the members of the BHC and the AAMHC for the warm reception during the Fifth DAC meeting in April. She welcomed everyone to May is Mental Health Month.

MHSA Update:

The Fiscal Year 12-13 Annual Update has been posted for public review and comment from May 1-31. There will be a formal review by the Commission during the June 7 meeting. Eighteen community meetings were held to gather stakeholder input, including meetings in Spanish and by Web-ex.

The Horizons at Yucaipa housing projects has also been posted for public review and comment. The project includes ten 1 bedroom units set aside for mental health clients, the remainder for seniors. This item will go before the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval on 5/22/12. The Las Terrazas housing project in Colton will not be moving forward.

ArrowCare

Effective 1-1-12, the county's new health care program, ArrowCare, is available to low-income indigent residents of San Bernardino County (SBC) who are not eligible for Medi-Cal. Services include primary care and behavioral health benefits.

Alcohol and Drug Services

On 4/10/12, the BoS placed a temporary moratorium on the establishment of sober living facilities and ADS treatment facilities treating seven or more persons.

SBC has been chosen to receive a Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive federal grant to help reduce underage and excessive drinking among youth and young adults ages 12-25 years. The grant is funded for \$380,000 over a period of 3.5 years. Michelle Dusick, PEI Coordinator, has been designated as the project director to oversee the administration of the grant and the process with our community partners.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS: PEI EXPANSION COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS

Michelle Dusick introduced Max Freund of LF Leadership consulting firm who serves as facilitator for the community driven process to identify prevention and early intervention community needs. Participants included large diverse groups of community members, contract agencies, consumer and family members, law enforcement, Probation department, etc. Input provided include; increased access to services, basic needs, consumer education and empowerment, cultural competency, family support services (particularly in light of the early release of prisoners back into the community), children/youth and senior services, reduction of mental health stigma, violence and domestic violence prevention, bullying.

Upcoming special presentations to the Behavioral Health Commission include:

- 6/7/12: MHSA FY 2012-13 Annual Update
- 7/5/12: Mental Health Plan and Changes in Medi-Cal
- 8/2/12: BHC will be **DARK** in order to host a community workshop focused on Autism from 2-4pm.

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Lynn Neuenswander, DBH Public Information announced the activities for May is National Mental Health Month.

- Evening with the Stars, 5/24/12 at San Bernardino Hilton – the inspirational Dave Pelzer will be keynote speaker. Gregory Adamson, painting to inspirational music, will amaze the audience. An astounding 125 nominations have been received for award recipients.
- Consumer Art Show at the County Government Center; entire month of May. Ninety seven consumer art submissions from county and contract providers will be on display. Meet the Artists and Wellness Expo will be held on 5/8/12

ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m. in honor of Commissioner Jews sister who recently passed.

Susan McGee-Stehsel
Chairperson

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission