

**MINUTES**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Executive Session**  
**October 4, 2012**  
10:00 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.

**Members Present:** Gabriel Gonzales, Roberto Casas, Veatrice Jews, Michael Hill, Monica Wilson, Mike Grabhorn, Chris Massa, May Farr, Jane Godager, Akin Merino, and Monica Alonso

**Excused Absence:** Susan McGee-Stehsel, Bill Swift, Dena Nunez

**Guests:** Beverly Scott, Eddie Blanquel, Sabrina Keys, Stephanie Almaraz, Xiaveri Zheng, Joanna EAlopse, Katrace Moore, Beverly Ary, Lynn Neuenswander, Veronica Kelley, CaSonya Thomas, Debi Pasco, and Christine Vega

**CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS**

In the absence of Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel, Vice Chair Monica Wilson, called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. Self introductions followed.

**APPROVAL OF EXECUTIVE MINUTES AND AGENDA**

Executive Session minutes dated 09/6/12 were approved as written. The Executive Session agenda for today was approved.

**VICE CHAIR REPORT**

- The Holiday Tea will be held Tuesday, December 11 from 2-4pm in the CSBHS (formerly BHRC) Auditorium.
- October and November conferences have already been booked, awaiting BOS approval.

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS**

- Gabriel attended the Latino Behavioral Health Conference conference in Los Angeles and participated in some interesting workshops, one of which featured the practice of bringing one's rituals and beliefs from generation to generation. The way the facilitators explained this was fascinating, and how people encounter and engage someone whose beliefs and rituals are different from their own.
- May attended the Hispanic Heritage celebration at the County Government Center where Supervisor Josie Gonzales was honored. May also went to the Recover Happens Resource Fair at the Government Center. Children's Network was a wonderful conference; participating in several CASE workshops. She also attended the IEHP Expo, featuring hundreds of vendors; May noted she saw several consumers there among the hundreds of people in attendance. May also went to the Suicide Prevention Network meeting here at BHRC on 9/11/12; additional meeting notices will be forthcoming.
- Dr. Casas attended the reception for new CSUSB President Dr. Tomas Morales, where former Commissioner Tom Rivera was in attendance. He also attended the September 16 Hispanic Celebration in Chino. Tomorrow he will be attending a Youth Fair in Chino featuring resources and activities for children with Asperger's Syndrome.
- Michael Grabhorn has been working with Corie Lopez on legislation regarding new synthetic drugs; i.e., "Smiles." Holistic Campus has been conducting orientations and Michael is waiting for his invitation to an evening orientation.
- Akin Merino attended both days of the Children's Network Conference. She attended some of the workshops, which were presented by her doctorate students at Argosy University. She hopes next time there are a lot more vendors featuring professional texts.
- Dr. Wilson also attended the Children's Network Conference, where some of her students presented as well. Much work needs to continue to advocate for children and their needs. She attended the sex trafficking workshop and heard what San Bernardino County departments are doing. In addition, she attended the IEHP Expo accompanied by her daughter, who was inspired by the experience.
- Chris Massa announced the NAMI Walk is October 27 at Diamond Lake in Hemet. There is a Talent Show and Dinner in November.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Beverly Scott asked about the IEHP speaker who addressed the entire BHC couple months ago. She was concerned that people on Medi-Cal who live in a rural area would not have to sign up with IEHP but could remain on Medi-Cal. The speaker was misleading, stating that recipients had to sign up with either IEHP or Molina. Could this issue possibly be clarified? There are many areas in unincorporated San Bernardino County considered rural.

MHSOAC preliminary survey results indicate that MHSA is working pretty well in providing services except for employment where results are dismal. State Department of Rehabilitation efforts and accomplishments seem minimal. Beverly said Dartmouth in partnership with Johnson & Johnson has an expanded program that quickly gets people out into the workforce. So far their IPF program is in 11 states and seems more suited to the consumer's wants and needs. Dr. Casas mentioned that mentoring someone in the workplace works best. CaSonya will check with Workforce Development Department to see if they would be willing to make a presentation to the BHC in the future.

## **DIRECTORS REPORT**

Federal, State, County Budget and Other Policy Issues

- Transition of Healthy Families to Medi-Cal – Recommendations on Key Issues for County Mental Health Departments: CaSonya touched on key items from the handout from the CMHDA.

We have exceeded our estimated enrollment of 20,000 in San Bernardino County. Health Care Reform: Low Income Health Plan (LIHP) Implementation and Enrollment

MHSOAC: No compliance problems found with MHSA programs recently highlighted in the media.

AB109 – Capacity Challenges in California Jails: CaSonya referenced the information contained in the article from the Public Policy Institute of California. San Bernardino County is being awarded by CSAC for its AB109 Program—one of only two counties in California to be so recognized.

Status of Clubhouse Transformation Study: Due to lack of time, CaSonya requested Lynn present during the afternoon session under the Director's Report.

The Recovery Happens Event held on September 8 was well attended, despite the heat.

The Reentry Summit was held on September 20 – County has a Reentry Collaborative headed by Public Health. This collaborative was born of faith-based organizations.

DBH is looking to customize its Continuum of Care.

October 5 from 9-2pm DBH is hosting a Hispanic Heritage Event at the TAY Center.

### **Follow-up from September Public Comment:**

Morongo Basin Mental Health (MBHB) is a contract provider. MBMH Executive Director Beverly Ary talked about operating under a reduced budget. When the recession hit in 2008, MBMH their budget was reduced by \$400K, and all their costs have increased as well as their needs. When they're able to save money, they direct it to funding psychiatrist services. FSP, CWIC, EPSDT, WrapAround, SART and GMH are all programs offered at MBMH and each has dedicated budget for psychiatric services. Recently a lag occurred when a psychiatrist left and had to be replaced, which is a time-consuming process. The new psychiatrist is now on board and providing services six hours a week. Beverly said program services are monitored and evaluated closely and continually. Veronica Kelley briefly discussed the County's contract budget process.

Meeting adjourned at 11:50 am.

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Christine Vega  
Recorder

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Dr. Monica Wilson  
Vice Chair