MINUTES
Discuss County of San Bernardino
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
July 5, 2012: 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:
May Farr, Gabriel Gonzales, Bill Swift, Veatrice Jews, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Monica Alonso, Jane Godager, and Chris Massa

Excused Absent: Roberto Casas, Mike Grabhorn, Michael Hill, Akin Merino, Monica Wilson

Guests:
Jose Marin, Field Representative for Supervisor Josie Gonzales, Aaron Moore, VVTA Mobility Management; Ryan Uliburri, Project Life Impact; Jana Trew, Kathleen Dunning, Jacqueline Moncada, Stephen Garrett, Victor Community Support Services; Bobbi Martinez, Lutheran Social Services; Beverly Scott, Nicolette Castro, family member; Wayne Henkelmann, SBC Courts; Shannon McCroskey, Rolling Start, Inc.; Kathleen Mesler, SAC; Erika Daniels, South Coast Community Services; Grace Koh, Dana Yting, West Coast University student; Ben Jauregui, IEHP; Amelia Arellano, Amazing Place; Cindy Messer, Faith Ikeda, Pathways to Recovery; Charles Pearson, CHSB; Elaine Rosen, Senior Affairs Commission; Gwen Rodgers, EMQ FamiliesFirst; Mimi Swift, Charles Tagle, public; Jennifer Gonzalez, Camille Childs, Karen Cervantes, Claudia Silva, David Denkers, Lilly Payton, Janeth Tran, Nancy Olsen, Dianne Sceranka, Lauretta Ross, Manuel Aybar, Jonathan Buffong, Doris Turner, Susan Abito, Mike Schertell, Becky Giroux, Becki Gehlke-Baez, Alex Santiago, Veronica Kelley, Cheryl Long, Mariann Ruffolo, Michelle Dusick, Sherwin Farr, Sharon Nevins, Doug Fazekas, Harry Poole, David Miller, Tanya Bratton, Hsinya Chichester, 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 12:14 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

A motion made by May Farr and seconded by Chris Massa: The 6/7/12 Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) minutes were approved as written. *Motion passed; no abstentions.*

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE – JULY 2012

Dr. Hanh Truong, DBH Cultural Competency Officer, acknowledged the July Cultural Competency Award of Excellence, Cheryl Cook, Victor Community Support Services Victorville Campus. Stephen Garrett accepted the award on behalf of Cheryl. **Nomination:**

"Cheryl Cook exemplifies cultural competency through her sensitivity and her respectful interactions with colleagues and consumers. Through recognition of her ongoing culturally sensitive work she has been recommended to the Site Cultural Competency Workgroup by her Clinical Supervisor. She wasted no time becoming active in the workgroup by developing cultural competency training for the site. An example of Cheryl's dedication can be found in her commitment to stay abreast regarding cultural expectations and best practices regarding culturally sensitive language and terminology. Cheryl is very passionate concerning fair treatment for consumers. She is always willing to share information and educate others with the latest findings that are culturally relative to consumers being served."
CONGRATULATIONS, CHERYL!

2a

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Beverly Scott would like to know if DBH will be represented on the Department of Rehabilitation stakeholder conf call on 7/10/12. Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Deputy Director, will follow-up with Beverly directly after today's meeting.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel announced that the Behavioral Health Commission will be DARK in August 2012. She attended the Substance Abuse and Violence conference last month, which was focused on youth prevention. She also visited Amazing Place Clubhouse with Cal State nursing students.

Items addressed during today's Executive Session:

- The BHC interviewed Dena Nunez, resident of Yucca Valley, as a potential candidate to fill one of the Third District vacant seats on the Behavioral Health Commission. The BHC will recommend the appointment of Ms. Nunez to Supervisor Neil Derry.
- Michael Schertell, Deputy Director, reported back on an issue brought forth during the June 2012 meeting regarding inpatient access for children.
- Director Thomas reported back on a contract and Human Resources issue brought forth during the June 2012 meeting. The personnel matter has been addressed and DBH is actively exploring the matter.
- Explore possibility of a BHC Education Committee will be added to September 2012, Executive agenda.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales participated in the Juneteenth event at Victor Valley Clubhouse. Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States.

Commissioner Bill Swift stated that designer drugs, bath salts and spice, are easily accessible and legal to sell in stores. The use of the designer drugs can cause an immediate reaction causing delusions, seizures and psychosis.

Second District:

Commissioner May Farr stated that the Mental Health Planning Council has a new director, Jane Adcock. The guest speaker at the CA Local Mental Health Boards/Commission (CALMHB/C) meeting discussed the differences in services provided to women than men; specifically with focus on parenting, nutrition, etc.

Commissioner Monica Alonso attended the DBH State of the Department event at the One Stop Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Center. She is also involved in the Amazing Place Clubhouse newsletter, experimental theatre and art group, an Advanced Wellness class and looking into becoming involved in the Room and Board Coalition.

Third District:

Commissioner Chris Massa hopes the two vacancies on the Behavioral Health Commission Third District will soon be filled. Chris will be attending the CA NAMI Conference on August 17 & 18 in Irvine. The Third District Advisory Committee meeting will be held on July 17 in Yucca Valley.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Jane Godager received a special tour of the One Stop TAY Center by Program Manager, André Bossieux after the DBH State of the Department event. On June 11-14, Jane attended the CA Senior Legislature conference in Newport Beach. She welcomed Kitty, fellow Seniors Affairs Commission member, to today's meeting. San Bernardino County has is the gold standard for increased collaboration among stakeholders within the county and throughout the state.

Treasurer Veatrice Jews is now certified as a Community Resiliency Model trainer. The African American Mental Health Coalition is actively working on the curriculum for the Community Health Worker Program for the African-American Community.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Thomas thanked Deputy Director Sarah Eberhardt-Rios and Chief Patients' Rights Advocate for presenting Behavioral Health Commission Roles and Responsibilities during the Executive meeting.

Several concerns that came to light at the June Behavioral Health Commission meeting are being addressed:

1. Contract agency dissatisfaction/HR issue – BHC meeting is not the forum for such grievances.
2. Small percentage of inpatient beds for children in San Bernardino County.

Health Care Reform

The Supreme Court recently ruled the Affordable Care Act as constitutional. San Bernardino County's (SBC) bridge to health care reform program is known as ArrowCare. With the approval of Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel, Director Thomas would like to invite Sarah Eberhardt-Rios to provide an ArrowCare presentation to the Commission at an upcoming meeting.

Federal, State, County Budget and Other Policy Issues

The elimination of the CA Department of Mental Health became effective on 7/1/12, transferring most community mental health administrative functions to the Department of Health Care Services. The elimination of CA Alcohol and Drug Program has been delayed until Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14.

AB 1467 requires the CA Department of Public Health to establish the Office of Health Equity (OHE) to align state resources and decision making processes to promote the highest level of health and mental health for all people. The OHE will include a Deputy Director, appointed by the Governor and subject to Senate confirmation, who will work closely with DHCS to establish a strategic plan to be updated every two years.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION: SERVICES FOR SENIORS AND PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, IMPORTATNT MEDI-CAL CHANGES

Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Deputy Director, stated that CA recently enacted changes which requires seniors and people with disabilities on Medi-Cal to enroll in a Health Plan; either IEHP or Molina. She introduced Ben Jauregui, IEHP Disability Manager, who presented additional information. Both Health Plans provide:

- Greater access to doctors
- Preventive medicine and health education programs
- Coordination of physical and mental health services
- Improved quality of physical and mental health care
- Referrals & Online Resources
- Interpreter Services
- Services to keep people out of the hospital

IEHP and Molina meet quarterly with DBH to increase communication, discuss care coordination issues and changes to legislation that impacts services.

Beverly asked which areas of the county does IEHP serve? *No service in areas north of Barstow*

Mr. Jauregui invites DBH and Commissioners to attend the Disability Resources Expo on 9/15/12 at the Ontario Convention Center.

Upcoming educational presentations to BHC include:

- 9/6/12: Synthetic Drugs in Our Communities
  County of San Bernardino Negotiated Net Amount Compliance Review
- 10/4/12: Public Hearing – Prevention and Early Intervention Component Expansion Plan

NEW BUSINESS

The BHC reviewed the FY 2011-12 County Beds Contract with DMH.

ADJOURNMENT

The Behavioral Health Commission will go DARK in August and resume on September 6, 2012. Today's meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

_____ *Susan McGee-Stehsel,* Chair

_____ *Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission*