

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION
June 3, 2010; 12:00-2:00 pm
BHRC, 850 E. Foothill Blvd. - Auditorium
Rialto, CA 92376

Commissioners Present:

Gabriel Gonzales, May Farr, Monica Alonso, Bill Swift, Chris Massa, Jane Mercer, Roberto Casas, Jane Godager, Tom Rivera, Tanya Perry and Talli Simmons on behalf of Supervisor Neil Derry.

Absent:

David Ford, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Veatrice Jews and Michael Hill

Guests:

Allan Rawland, Director, CaSonya Thomas, DBH Assistant Director; Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Mental Health Commission; Carol Grisotti, CDCR Soledad, Jeramy Sanquist, Amanda Fish, Zachariah Hernandez, Oscar Silva, Dory Denny, One Stop TAY Center; Claire Karp, Pacific Clinics; Brian Thomas, EMQ; Marcelino "Chico" and Liliana Garza, Carolyn Tillman, Sherman Garnett, Linda Miranda, Margaret Hill, SBCSS; Faith Ikeda, Renee Compton, Pathways to Recovery; Cliff Craig, Public; Megan Johnson, Veronica Kelley, Michael Day, Michael Schertell, Elizabeth Sneed, Cathy Smith, Manuel Aybar, Jennifer Kachelek, Cynthia Curbow, André Bossieux, Paula Rutten, Gary Atkins, Mike Oliver, Michelle Dusick, Kim Rosa, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Bob Sudol, Guadalupe Perez, Mark Thomas, Ana Astrande, Tim Hougen, Laretta Ross, David Miller, Richard Hernandez, Andy Gruchy, Doug Fazekas, Lisa McGinnis, Doris Turner, Lynn Neuenswander, Benita Ramsey, and Jonathan Buffong, DBH.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Commissioner Tanya Perry called the meeting to order at 12:12 p.m. Self introductions followed. Commissioner Perry welcomed Carol Grisotti, past Mental Health Commissioner for the Fourth District who relocated to Monterey County due to an employment opportunity as a Community Resource Manager at Soledad Prison.

Today's Public Session agenda was approved and the minutes from the May 6, 2010 Mental Health Commission Public Session were approved as written.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Veronica Kelley, Cultural Competency Officer announced that the Maria Franco was recognized at the Evening with the Stars as the Annual Cultural Competency Award recipient. Veronica thanked Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales for his suggestion to provide the Cultural Competency Award nomination forms in all Clubhouses and Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Centers.

Veronica presented the June Cultural Competence Award of Excellence to Marcelino "Chico" Garza. Chico has worked for 12 years as the Special assistant to the Superintendent for SB County Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gary Thomas.

He serves as liaison between the Superintendent and Superintendent Offices with local school districts and school sites.

He provides training and support to the Community- FBO, non-profits, chambers of commerce, government agencies, and sheriffs'. He provides training for parents; empowers those trained to be as successful as they can be; and organizes collaboration for community to close gap for kids, teachers, and families. Chico also works with the San Bernardino County Alliance for Education conducting conferences and workshops

Mr. Garza is honored and humbled to be recognized today. Through the leadership of Roberto Casas, Tom Rivera and Margaret Hill he came to understand that no man is an island. Services are in great demand and can only be accomplished by collaboration, with focus on the welfare of the child.

Dr. Roberto Casas stated that Chico has played an integral role in the positive changes in childrens' services in San Bernardino County.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No Public Comments were provided.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Commissioner Perry will Chair today's meeting due to the absence of David Ford and Susan McGee-Stehsel.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

First District

Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales announced that he and few other artists have been recruited to paint a mural on the west wall of the BHRC Auditorium by Laretta Ross, Peer and Family Advocate III. The mural will present different aspects of San Bernardino County. A professional artist will work with the artists to blend styles and techniques.

Commissioner Bill Swift acknowledged Kim Rosa, Chief Patients' Rights Advocate for assisting a client who was going to be charged with a third strike. Due to Kim's involvement the client is now being tried for medication non-compliance.

Second District:

Commissioner May Farr attended the May 27th TAY Mentoring and Resource Fair. She also attended the Forensic Idol talent show and the Evening with the Stars event on May 19th. Staff at Patton State Hospital were very appreciative for the presentation they received by the Crisis Intervention Training Team.

Commissioner Monica Alonso appreciates that she is able to participate in the Full Service Partnership (FSP). Upland Community Counseling has approximately 100 clients involved in the program. She is also pleased that she was asked to participate on the Housing Coalition as she lives in a room and board. She attended the CA Local Mental Health Boards and Commissions Regional Training on June 5th.

Third District:

Commissioner Tom Rivera announced the next District Advisory Committee meeting will be held at the new Redlands Clubhouse on June 7, 2:00 p.m.

Commissioner Chris Massa attended many of the events already mentioned by other Commissioners. He will also attend the August 27-28 NAMI State Conference upon approval by the Board of Supervisors.

Commissioner Tanya Perry enjoyed Evening with the Stars. The Mental Health Alliance has hired a psychiatrist using their MHSA funds, and recent data shows that there has been an 80% increase in clients.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Jane Mercer recognized Lynn Neuenswander and staff for the superb orchestration of Evening with the Stars. Her homeless agency in Ontario is acquiring a 4 bedroom house for clients, which will be in escrow soon.

Commissioner Roberto Casas shared the 2010 State of the County DVD, provided to the Commission, at the County Superintendant meeting. He mentioned that a recent patient at Metropolitan State Hospital was found to be a TAY member, which enabled staff to garner medical records.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Jane Godager attended the TAY Groundbreaking Ceremony on May 19th. This groundbreaking was very special to her as she knew all the players and the project is in her neighborhood. Jane thoroughly enjoyed hearing Christopher Kennedy Lawford speak at Evening with the Stars.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Rawland stated that he is happy to be here today. He stated that CaSonya has been doing a great job managing day-to-day operations during his dual assignment as Director of both Behavioral Health and Public Health.

We have heard from Supervisor Gary Ovitt's office that Dr. Monica Wilson will soon be appointed to the Mental Health Commission, Fourth District, hopefully in July.

Director Rawland acknowledged the hard work of Lynn Neuenswander and staff for putting on such an enjoyable Evening with the Stars. He also acknowledged Renee Compton, Editor, Pathways to Recovery Newsletter, for receiving an award. He thanked the members of the Commission for attending, and was very pleased that the County Administrative Officer attended this event for the first time.

Director Rawland thanked Dr. Carol Grisotti, past Mental Health Commissioner, for attending the meeting today while visiting from Monterey County. Dr. Grisotti shared information regarding veterans and the prison system during the Executive Session. San Bernardino County provides veterans' services through the Mental Health Services Act Prevention and Early Intervention funding.

Director Rawland acknowledged André Bossieux for the success of the TAY Groundbreaking ceremony. Supervisor Gonzales and Mayor Pat Morris were in attendance. Carl Alban, Director, Architecture and Engineering stated he's going to surprise us by completing the project in less than 2 years.

Assistant Director CaSonya Thomas provided a brief overview of the events planned for the 8/5/10 Mental Health Commission (MHC) Workshop from 10am-4pm. Presentations include:

- review of MHC roles and responsibilities
- Behavioral Health 101 presentation
- testimonials from LA County Service Area Advisory Committee members (similar to DACs)
- forming community networks training

FY 2009-2010 State and County Budget

Director Rawland stated that the members of the Mental Health Commission have been completely informed of the budget. The L.A. Times reported today that the Federal Stimulus packet ends on 6/30/10. The Governor's May Revise proposals are destructive to mental health and alcohol and drug services; worst case scenario totals \$40 million reduction to DBH in Realignment (sales tax and vehicle license fees) funding. Other major budget impacts include AB3632 school services and CalWORKS.

Greg Devereaux, County Administrative Officer met with Department Heads to discuss the county's fiscal impact due to the Governor's May Revise. The situation is not good; total impact to the County is \$617 million. CaSonya Thomas, Assistant Director is conducting scenario building and contingency planning. Mr. Devereaux will present the budget to the Board of Supervisors on June 28. The County continues to negotiate with unions regarding Cost of Living Adjustments; 85 county staff positions will be laid off - worst case scenario could result in additional 800 layoffs.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Update

The FY 10-11 Annual Update has been submitted to the State. Director Rawland thanked everyone for their support. The State felt that the Innovation collaboration between Behavioral Health, Probation and Children and Family Services is a "gold standard" example.

Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Interim Deputy Director stated that the MHSA 5-Year Anniversary Report will be ready for distribution to the Board of Supervisors and other partners by mid June.

Supplemental MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Statewide Programs Assignment Agreement

Michelle Dusick, PEI Coordinator announced that County of San Bernardino has reassigned funding to the California Department of Mental Health (DMH) for implementation of statewide PEI projects through the California Mental

Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), a Joint Powers Authority (JPA). The three MHSA PEI Statewide Programs include:

1. Suicide Prevention
2. Student Mental Health Initiative
3. Stigma and Discrimination Reduction

No public hearings are required for this agreement.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Project Return Players

In 1989, while Allan was Assistant Director for L.A. County Mental Health, the ABC television show 20/20 filmed a segment on mental health recovery narrated by Hugh Downs starring the Project Return Players, a unique improvisational troupe of men and women recovering from mental illness, who were out to break down the myths and misconceptions surrounding people with mental illness. During this time, David Miller, currently a San Bernardino County Peer and Family Advocate II, was a member of the Players. David shared the 20/20 segment, which featured the Players and their story of recovery, with the members of the Commission and the audience.

Allan and David reconnected 5 years ago in San Bernardino County. David Miller recently reconnected with Carrie Bray, the organizer and performance instructor of the Players. Carrie shared these words of wisdom with David:

- Never label
- Take responsibility
- Never play victim

Bob Sudol also met David Miller 21 years ago in L.A. County and the two made an immediate connection. David is quite a successful person and is a mentor to Bob. Recovery works!

Upcoming Special Presentations include:

- July 1, 2010: The Mentally Ill Parolee by Ralph Ortiz, Deputy Director
- **August 5, 2010: NO MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION: Members of the Mental Health Commission will participate in a training workshop at the BHRC Auditorium from 10am-4pm**
- September 2, 2010: Cultural Competence Plan by Veronica Kelley
- October 7, 2010: African American Health Institute of San Bernardino County by Dr. V. Dianne Woods, CEO, President
- November 4, 2010: Jail Mental Health Services by Teri Self, Program Manager II, Forensic Services

DEFERRED BUSINESS: ACTION ITEMS

- The members of the Mental Health Commission reviewed and approved the Draft Behavioral Health Commission Bylaws prior to submission to County Counsel and subsequent approval by the Board of Supervisors with changes that were discussed during the Executive Session.

OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

No outside agency reports were provided.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Tanya Perry
Acting Chairperson

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Mental Health Commission