

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION
January 6, 2011 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Chris Massa, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Gabriel Gonzales, May Farr, Veatrice Jews, Monica Alonso, Roberto Casas, Jane Mercer, Tom Rivera, Monica Wilson, Michael Hill, and Talli Simmons on behalf of Supervisor Neil Derry.

Excused Absent: David Ford, Bill Swift, Tanya Perry, Jane Godager

Guests:

Allan Rawland Director; Debi Pasco Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission; Michael Delgado, County Administrative Office, Dianna Lee, Terrance Stone, Ruben Herndon, YVYCA; Phillipa Riley, ARF; Jennie Guentcheva, Debbie Reno-Smith, Victor Community Support Services; Owusu Hodari, IECAA; Rodolfo Pinon, Casa de San Bernardino; Jason Hill, Jennifer Gonzales, Maria Coronado, Lisa McGinnis, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, David Denkers, Tracy Bomberger, Paula Rutten, Crista Wentworth, Doug Fazekas, Cheryl Long, Doris Turner, Andy Gruchy, Laretta Ross, Gary Atkins, Michelle Dusick, Dr. Dalal, André Bossieux, Benita Ramsey, Larisa Crossno, Cynthia Curbow, Lisa Hamilton, Cynthia White, CaSonya Thomas, Lynn Neuenswander, Susanne Kulesa, Mike Schertell, Jonathan Buffong, DBH

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Acting Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. Self introductions followed.

The members of the Commission approved today's agenda. Behavioral Health Commission minutes of 11/4/10 were approved as written.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE – DARK

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments were provided.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Acting Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel announced the Cal State nursing student Health Fair held at TEAM House was attended by many members of various clubhouses. She attended the Behavioral Health Commission Holiday Tea and Award Ceremony and thanked staff for a successful turnout. She also attended the Homeless Summit in November. At the Holiday Tea, the Behavioral Health Commission recognized DBH clinical staff for providing exceptional assistance as demand for services increase and resources dwindle due to the economic downturn. Susan presented certificates of appreciation to clinical staff at Phoenix Community Counseling in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales turned 50 this year! He thoroughly enjoyed the Holiday Tea and mentioned that clubhouse and Transitional Age Youth (TAY) members created beautiful gingerbread houses. Gabriel also attended the Victor Valley Clubhouse Christmas party. Gabriel will present recognition certificates to clinical staff located in the First Supervisorial District, Victor Valley Behavioral Health and Barstow Community Counseling.

Second District:

Commissioner Michael Hill welcomed everyone to the first Commission meeting of the New Year.

Commissioner Monica Alonso will soon begin Peer and Family Advocate Part 2 classes with Frank Ybarra. She also announced that volunteers are needed to count the homeless during the Point In Time Count on January 26 & 27. Monica and May Farr will present recognition certificates to clinical staff at Upland and Vista Community Counseling located in the Second Supervisorial District.

Commissioner May Farr attended the talent show, the final event of the Wellness Triathlon. She also assisted in serving Christmas luncheon at Amazing Place and TEAM House. She attended a workshop that helps change negative behavior in children: "There's No Such Thing as a Bad Kid".

Third District:

Commissioner Chris Massa stated that clubhouse members appreciate the opportunity to participate in the TEAM House Health Fair conducted by the Cal State nursing students. There was a good turnout and we look forward to them returning. He participated in the Wellness Triathlon Talent Show, which was a full house! He feels DBH is reaching out and recognizing individuals for their hard work.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Monica Wilson just returned from the CA Mental Health Planning Council Strategic Planning meeting in Sacramento. Stephen Mayberg, Director, CA Department of Mental Health has retired.

Commissioner Roberto Casas commended staff for the great job on the 2011 DBH calendar and congratulated Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales for his artwork that appears each year in the calendar. He participated in a special viewing and discussion of "Waiting for Superman", which also included attendees Supervisor Gary Ovitt, Senator Dutton, and the Riverside and San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools.

Commissioner Jane Mercer stated that the last DAC meeting was held at the New Hope facility in Ontario. New Hope served over 200 individuals Thanksgiving and Christmas dinner. Jane and Roberto will present recognition certificates to clinical staff at Ontario Community Counseling, which is located in the Fourth Supervisorial District.

Fifth District:

Commissioner Veatrice Jews announced that the African American Mental Health Coalition is planning a big event during the 2nd week in February in honor of African American Mental Health Awareness week. Veatrice will present recognition certificates to Mesa Counseling Center clinical staff which is located in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Rawland wished all a happy New Year! He thanked the members of the Commission for going out to clinics to present recognition certificates to clinical staff. He commended Lynn Neuenswander, her staff, and Axel Colin of county Printing Services for a job well done on the 2011 calendar.

Congratulations to May Farr who was recognized by the CA Hospital Association with the prestigious Simanek Distinguished Service Award on 12/7/10!

Director Rawland announced Dr. Ralph Ortiz is retiring at the end of January, after 33 years of dedicated service. Allan has appreciated Dr. Ortiz's contributions, friendship, and consultation. He has been instrumental in building emergency programs, advocating for consumers, family involvement and believes strongly in recovery. For the last several months Dr. Ortiz has mentored Lisa McGinnis, who was appointed Deputy Director of 24-Hour and Emergency Services. On behalf of the department we look forward to Dr. Ortiz's next adventure!

Dr. Ortiz stated that he has been attending Commission meetings since 1980. Prior to Director Rawland's arrival, there was no communication between the Commission and the Director. The department appreciates the passion, hard work and dedication of the current Commission as you are the link to the community!

Sarah Eberhardt-Rios has been appointed Deputy Director Program Support Services. Veronica Kelley has been appointed Deputy Director Alcohol and Drug Services and Regional Operations. Veronica will continue to serve as Cultural Competency Officer.

Allan encouraged everyone to participate and provide input at the Countywide Vision Project public forums that will be held in various locations throughout the county. Director Rawland appreciates the support of the CEO and Board of Supervisors for sending representatives Michael Delgado, Dianna Lee and Talli Simmons to Behavioral Health Commission meetings.

As a result of Stephen Mayberg's retirement, Cliff Allenby will serve as Acting Director of CA Department of Mental Health. Michael Cunningham will serve as Interim Director of CA Alcohol and Drug Programs.

FY 2010-2011 State and County Budget

The Governor's budget will be released on 1/10/11. Due to the \$30 billion shortfall at the state level the Governor stated there will be "restructuring and paring back" and major impact to all programs in the state. The state would like to shift responsibility to counties and cities; however, there's got to be funding. The Medicaid contribution will be reduced on 6/30/11, impacting the department by \$6 million.

MHSA funding has decreased 5-15%. To provide your input and feedback, MHSA Annual Update FY 2010/11 Public Hearings are being held throughout January in various areas of the county.

On 10/8/10, the Governor vetoed AB3632 that mandates local county mental health to provide services to special needs children and youth. Allan, CaSonya, Mike Schertell and Tanya Bratton have been working cooperatively with county schools and SELPAs to transition services back to the schools by 1/31/11. DBH currently has 341 active AB3632 cases and 96 children in placement.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: Healthcare Reform Update by Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Deputy Director

Basics of federal law effective 1/1/14:

- Insurance exchanges must be established by each state, to enable persons with low to moderate income (family of 2 approximately \$19 - \$36,000 per year) to enroll and choose plan
- Medicaid must include non-elderly adults and children up to 133% of Federal Poverty Level

Impacts on CA:

- 20% increase in Medicaid enrollment
- 41.5% reduction of uninsured adults

California Medicaid 1115 Waiver:

- Low Income Health Programs (LIHP) to expand Medi-Cal coverage
- Enrollment for seniors/persons with disabilities
- Healthcare financing

County efforts to date:

- Workgroups consisting of various county departments and Inland Empire Health Plan and Molina Healthcare
- Determining costs
- Feasibility of implementing LIHP

Director Rawland stated that we are implementing as quickly as possible upon guidance from CEO and BOS. There are currently 17,000 persons enrolled in the county MIA program who will be eligible for healthcare coverage.

Upcoming Special Presentations include:

- 1/6/10: Healthcare Reform Update by Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Deputy Director, DBH
- 2/3/11: TAY Building H Expansion by André Bossieux
- 3/3/11: Inland Valley Recovery Services by Pamela Nichols, Youth Services Coordinator
- 4/7/11: County of San Bernardino Cultural Competency Plan by Veronica Kelley, Cultural Competence Officer
- 5/5/11: 2/3/11: Jail Mental Health Services by Teri Self, Program Manager, Adult Forensic Services

NEW BUSINESS

- Election of Officers: Commissioner Christopher Massa, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, assumed the position of Chairperson to accept further nominations from the floor and to conduct the election of officers. Commissioner Tom Rivera withdrew his nomination as Treasurer. No other nominations were received from the floor. The members of the Commission voted a second time for the position of Vice Chairperson due to a tie in the number of ballots cast. The results of the election are as follows:
 - Chairperson – Susan McGee-Stehsel
 - Vice Chairperson – Monica Wilson
 - Secretary – Tanya Perry
 - Treasurer – Veatrice Jews

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Reverend Owusu Hodari, Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches, announced the 31st annual Martin Luther King Prayer Breakfast on 1/17/11 at 7:30 a.m. located:

St. Paul Church
2050 Mt. Vernon
San Bernardino

A walk to city hall will follow at 10:00 a.m.

Cynthia White, Program Manager, announced the 1/8/11 walk to STOP HUMAN TRAFFICKING, sponsored by the Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE). The event will take place in San Bernardino and Upland.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Susan McGee-Stehsel
Chairperson

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission