

MINUTES  
San Bernardino County  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION  
March 3, 2011 - 12:00-2:00 pm

**Commissioners Present:**

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

**Excused Absent:** David Ford, Michael Hill, Jane Godager, Monica Wilson

**Guests:**

Allan Rawland, Director, CaSonya Thomas, Assistant Director; Debi Pasco Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission; Charles Pearson, Hanna Keith, Community Hospital San Bernardino; Linda Umberg, San Bernardino County Department of Veterans; Gwen Rodgers, EMQ Families First; Michael Janzen, Keith Prostler, Ted Henson San Bernardino Police Department; Faith Ikeda, Pathways to Recovery; Jenni Guentcheva, Victor Community Support Services; Rodolfo Pinon; Audrey Townson, Linda Hart, President African American Mental Health Coalition; Dr. Diane Woods, CEO African American Health Institute; David and Linda Tennes, Public; Terri Franklin, Megan Cuy Castellanos, Michael Knight, Jason Hill, Arelis John Martinez, Mark Thomas, Manuel Aybar, Michael Schertell, Mariann Ruffolo, Erica McCollum, Gary Atkins, Michelle Dusick, Lucille Cruz, Linda Charkins, David Denkers, Tracy Bomberger, Manuel Gomez, Keith Harris, Heather Lint, Andy Gruchy, Paula Rutten, Susanne Kulesa, Douglas Fazekas, Cheryl Long, Jonathan Buffong, Lisa Hamilton, Larisa Crossno, Lisa McGinnis, Laretta Ross, Dr. Jatin Dalal, Benita Ramsey, DBH

**CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. Self introductions followed.

Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Commission, announced the following reappointments to the Behavioral Health Commission:

- Supervisor Gary C. Ovitt, Fourth District reappointed Commissioner Roberto Casas on 2/8/11.
- Supervisor Neil Derry, Third District reappointed Commissioner Tanya Perry on 2/8/11.

Members of the Commission approved today's agenda. Behavioral Health Commission minutes of 2/3/11 were approved as written.

**CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE – March 2011**

Officer Michael Janzen has been with San Bernardino Police Department for 16 years.

**Nomination:**

*“Officer Janzen responded to an incident at the Transition Age Youth (TAY) Center on December 8, 2010. One of our TAY partners had a huge challenge complying with our clinic group standards regarding respect to other TAY and staff. After leaving our lobby, the TAY partner walked to our back glass door and kicked it, cracking the entire door. Officer Janzen began to talk to our TAY partner in efforts to calm the partner down. Officer Janzen was able to talk the TAY into complying with his instructions to get into the back of his squad car, ultimately ending the physically violent episode. Officer Janzen’s response to the incident was appropriate, text book crisis intervention at its best. His professionalism and understanding in responding to our challenging DBH TAY partners is greatly appreciated by all of us who work with this population.”*

Congratulations Officer Janzen!

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Faith Ikeda, President, Pathways stated that members of Pathways to Recovery were scheduled to travel to the Dorothy Ramon Learning Center in Banning on 2/12/11. Members were upset when their transportation did not arrive, resulting in the cancellation of the field trip. Laretta Ross, Peer and Family Advocate III will investigate the incident and prepare an administrative memo to bring outcome back to the Commission.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Susan McGee-Stehsel attended the Cal State Mental Health Summit on 2/18/11. Director Rawland participated as a speaker at the event, which included elected officials, county departments and colleges throughout the county. Susan feels positive outcomes of the Summit include:

- Successes in programs,
- Collaboration of agencies,
- Research,
- Working smarter as time goes by

Susan also attended a Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) class at New Hope Center in San Bernardino. Cal State nursing students will hold a health fair at this location on 3/10/11. PEI Resource Centers are doing wonderful work in the community.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

### **First District:**

Commissioner Bill Swift stated the goal of DAC meetings is to get people together, share knowledge and learn from mistakes. The 1<sup>st</sup> DAC has been working with multiple agencies in the High Desert regarding crisis intervention for kids. All school districts will know who to call when students are in crisis. Bill commended Victor Community Support Services, Telecare Crisis Walk in Center, NAMI, SELPA, and DBH Victor Valley Behavioral Health and Barstow Community Counseling for being actively involved in the community and providing well run mental health services in the High Desert.

Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales found the information presented at the Behavioral Health Summit regarding mothers in prison very interesting.

### **Second District:**

Commissioner May Farr announced the 10/29/10 NAMI Walk at Diamond Valley Lake raised \$81,000. During May is Mental Health NAMI will hold a clothing drive. For every two bags donated, NAMI will receive a \$10 Goodwill clothing voucher for consumers. All DBH clinic staff were recognized at the 2010 Behavioral Health Commission Holiday Tea for providing outstanding service. Staff have been very pleased that members of the Commission have personally presented certificates of appreciation. California Mental Health Planning Council will meet in Anaheim 4/27-30/11.

Commissioner Monica Alonso stated that Peer and Family Advocates are experiencing challenges with burnout that need to be addressed. Monica participated in the African American Mental Health Awareness Week activities at Amazing Place.

### **Third District:**

Commissioner Tom Rivera stated he received valuable information from community leaders at the Cal State Mental Health Symposium on 2/18/11. Director Rawland gave an excellent presentation in support of healthcare reform.

Commissioner Chris Massa announced that TEAM House is coordinating Peer Employment Training. Also, consumers now have the opportunity to participate in Crisis Intervention Training with police officers, as well as Mental Health Court on the conclusion of cases. TEAM House has formed a drama club and holds weekly performances. Chris hopes that clubhouse field trips will pick up, as they have been cut back due to the budget.

Commissioner Tanya Perry stated that Big Bear Mental Health Alliance (BBMHA) met with Public Health staff and Acting Director, Allan Rawland regarding WIC services on the mountain. BBMHA will collaborate with Kern County for these services.

#### **Fourth District:**

Commissioner Jane Mercer announced that Dianna Lee, Field Representative for Supervisor Janice Rutherford hosted the last 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> District Advisory Committee (DAC) meeting at her office in Rancho Cucamonga. Dr. Mercer stated that New Hope Homeless agency in Ontario assists 40-50 people per day. New Hope assists mentally ill individuals with SSI and housing.

Commissioners Roberto Casas, Jane Mercer and Debi Pasco presented certificates of appreciation to staff at Ontario Community Counseling on 2/17/11. Dr. Casas recently attended a presentation by Dr. Cornell West, an excellent, passionate speaker, who encouraged students to take risks in helping mankind. Commissioner Casas proposed to open future Behavioral Health Commission meetings with the Pledge of Allegiance; members of the Commission agreed.

#### **Fifth District:**

Commissioner Veatrice Jews: The 1<sup>st</sup> annual African American Mental Health Coalition Symposium was held at Cal State University on 2/11/11. Veatrice also attended the Behavioral Health Summit and felt the Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE) was a poignant presentation. The next 5<sup>th</sup> District Advisory Committee meeting will be held on 3/29/11 at 5:30pm at the New Hope Family Center.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Rawland announced the Mental Health Services Act Annual Update Plan for FY11-12 has been posted for 30 day comment and review period.

CA Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) has released all Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the three PEI Statewide Initiatives: Stigma and Discrimination, Suicide Prevention, Student Initiative

Health Care Reform: San Bernardino County has submitted the Low Income Health Plan (LIHP) application to the state which will provide health care to more individuals with no insurance.

### **FY 2010-2011 State and County Budget**

The Governor's Realignment proposal calls for reductions across the board to close the \$26 billion shortfall. T

- Keeps sales tax and vehicle license fees at their 2010 level and drops them to their 2008 level in five years.
- Proposes a one-time shift of \$861 million MHSA funding for counties to fund EPSDT, AB3632 and Managed Care services.
- Requires a 2011 Realignment Constitutional Amendment to guarantee funding, resulting in sustainability and continuity.
- Legislature needs to approve proposal by next week to be placed on the June 2011 ballot.

Clifford Allenby, Acting Director CA Department of Mental Health, is very transparent and receptive in interactions between the state and county mental health directors. The Governor is responsive to budget hearings.

### **SPECIAL PRESENTATION: County and District Demographics and Related Data**

Dr. Keith Harris, Administrative Manager DBH Research and Evaluation stated this presentation is Part I of two parts. There are currently 170,000 people in San Bernardino County who are uninsured. Also provided was demographic information by Supervisorial Districts.

Linda Hart, President, African American Mental Health Coalition stated that from a community perspective additional data would be helpful (list percentages).

- Breakdown of ethnic groups by zip codes
- Clinic locations compared to client zip codes
- Services utilized (outpatient, crisis services, etc.)
- Correlate usage and high need/prevalence

It was determined that Dr. Harris provide requested data in Part II County Demographic presentation at the 5/5/11 Behavioral Health Commission meeting.

Dr. Diane Woods, Executive Director stated that Part II is critical in determining where there is need for services in our county and who we are to target for PEI services. It would also be relevant to compare number of uninsured in San Bernardino County with that of the state.

Upcoming Special Presentations include:

- 4/7/11: Inland Valley Recovery Services by Pamela Nichols, Youth Services Coordinator
- 5/5/11: County and District Demographics Part II by Dr. Keith Harris, DBH Research and Evaluation
- 6/2/11: County of San Bernardino Cultural Competency Plan by Veronica Kelley, DBH Deputy Director and Cultural Competency Officer
- 7/7/11: MHS Innovation Projects by Isaac Jackson, Program Specialist II, DBH

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No items were discussed

### **OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS**

David and Linda Tennes attended today's meeting to discuss their experiences with mental health facilities prior to the death of their son Jason, the need for public awareness about mental health, and information on the upcoming Chino Valley Walk for Mental Health in Memory of Jason Tennes. The Walk will be held on 5/14/11 at Ayala Park in Chino Valley. Supporters of this walk include NARSAD, Mental Health America, NAMI, Autism Society of America, San Bernardino County Department of Behavioral Health and Department of Veterans Affairs. Online donations can be pledged at [www.jasontennes.org](http://www.jasontennes.org) and benefit NARSAD, the Brain and Behavior Research Fund.

Linda Hart, President, African American Mental Health Coalition and Dr. Diane Woods, CEO African American Health Institute offered condolences to Mr. and Mrs. Tennes and stated they would like to partner with them to get the word out.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

---

*Susan McGee-Stehsel*  
Chairperson

---

*Debi Pasco*  
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission