

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
May 2, 2013: 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Supervisor James Ramos, May Farr, Bill Swift, Mike Grabhorn, Gabriel Gonzales, Monica Wilson, Jane Godager, Akin Merino, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Veatrice Jews, Monica Alonso, Roberto Casas

Excused Absence: Chris Massa

Guests:

Molly Wiltshire, Communications Director, Office of Supervisor James Ramos; Vikki Ostermann, Legislative Analyst, County Administrative Office; Beverly Scott, family member; Da Li, nursing student Cal State University; Jose Lopez, Angelina Sabala, Aaron Este, Charles Torres, Frank Escalente, Faith Ikeda, Matthew Parra, Esther Parreli, Nadine Serna, Carolyn Bennett, Michael Moreno, Gus Villagran Jr, Keith Vickery, Pathways to Recovery; Jose Solorzago, IEHP; Norda Freeman, Family Service Agency; Rasmey Sam, Asian American Resource Center; Rudy Palacios, Casa De San Bernardino; Hanna Keith, Charles Pearson, Community Hospital San Bernardino; Tracy Bomberger, Cynthia White, Nancy Olsen, Dr. Teresa Frausto, Ryan Froelich, Jennifer Gonzalez, Jim Bierman, André Bossieux, Andrew Gruchy, Mariann Ruffolo, , Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Lilly Payton, Michael Schertell, Cheryl Long, Susan Abito, Doug Fazekas, Adolfo Estrada, Cindy Messer, Lynn Neuenswander, Loretta Ross, David Denkers, Clifford Craig, Sherwin Farr, Janeth Tran, Paula Rutten, Susanne Kulesa, Michael Oliver, Jonathan Buffong, Doris Turner, 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 12:05 p.m. Commissioner Casas led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

A motion made by Commissioner Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Farr: The 4/2/13 Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) minutes were approved as written. Motion passed; no further abstentions.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The May 2013 Cultural Competency Award of Excellence recipient will be recognized at the 6/6/13 Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lynn Neuenswander announced she could not let May Mental Health month go by without wishing Commissioner Farr Happy Birthday!

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel attended the CA Local Mental Health Boards/Commission (CALMHB/C) training on 4/6/13, hosted by the CA Institute of Mental Health. The in-person training was held jointly with Riverside County Mental Health Board and was also available via webcast.

The CA Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC) held their quarterly meeting in Ontario April 17-19. Susan provided opening remarks and gave a brief overview of Behavioral Health Commission activities in San Bernardino County.

For May is Mental Health Month, Cal State University is hosting "Embrace the Change" community event on 5/9/13 from 1-4pm.

On 6/7/13, the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development (OSHPD) is seeking community feedback on the next Mental Health Workforce Education and Training Five Year Plan. The community forum will be held at the DBH Training Institute from 1-4pm. All are welcome to attend.

Items discussed during the BHC Executive Session include:

- Update on the transition of Morongo Basin Mental Health Services
- Concerns regarding availability of mental health crises resources for children
- Clarification on the role of BHC consumer representatives

She will be leaving the meeting at 1:30 today. Vice Chair Wilson will chair the remainder of the meeting.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Gonzales cordially invited everyone to attend the "Meet the Artists and Wellness Expo" on 5/7/13, at the County Government Center from 9am-1pm. There will be many inspiring and beautiful art selections on display.

Commissioner Grabhorn attended Safe Talk Suicide Prevention training. If you suspect someone is contemplating suicide, it is best to ask them point blank if they are thinking about it. Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) works with foster children, providing stable adult mentoring. He suggested CASA provide a presentation to the BHC at an upcoming meeting. Commissioner Grabhorn has a meeting scheduled with Supervisor Robert Lovingood.

Commissioner Swift mentioned there was great stakeholder dialogue during the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update community forum meeting in the High Desert. Recently, Bill was able to assist a person who has been resistant to mental health treatment, obtain services at Public Health in the High Desert. The facility provides 4 hours of psychiatric services per week. This person was also able to sign up for ArrowCare.

Second District:

Commissioner Farr attended State of the County event on 4/10/13, as well as the April CMHPC meeting. The Cambodian New Year event was held on 4/13/13.

At Amazing Place Clubhouse, Commissioner Alonso participated in training for consumers regarding how to interact with law enforcement and vice versa. Her role as a consumer representative of the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) is to share information from this meeting with Amazing Place Board members.

Fourth District:

As the Chair Elect for the CMHPC, Commissioner Wilson was extremely proud to have Director CaSonya Thomas provide an Affordable Care Act presentation to representatives of 58 counties during the CMHPC meeting. Dr. Wilson recently facilitated a workshop on suicide prevention for youth.

Secretary Merino said there was a large student turnout for the Inland Empire Counseling Psychology Students (IECPS) Conference on 4/27/13. Education is the key to reducing behavioral health stigma in the future. During the BHC Education Committee meeting this morning it was evident San Bernardino County has an extensive array of educational trainings for all ages.

Commissioner Casas presented at the IECPS Conference at Argosy University on 4/27/13, where Director CaSonya Thomas served as keynote speaker. He recently provided a presentation to future teachers pertaining to teachers bullying students. Chino sponsored an Autism Family Night on 4/26/13.

Fifth District:

Treasurer Jews is participating in the NAMI Family 2 Family training hosted by the African American Mental Health Coalition and facilitated by May Farr and Brenda Scott. The MHSA Annual Update stakeholder meeting at the Fifth District Advisory Committee (DAC) resulted in a very stimulating discussion, which will lead to a meeting between DBH and the Inland Empire Concerned African American Churches to provide clarity.

Commissioner Godager stated that the BHC is honored that Supervisor James Ramos personally participates in these meetings. She attended State of the County 4/10/13, as well as the MHSA Annual Update at the DAC. She recently received an interesting call from the Dean of Florida State University (FSU). As an alumni of FSU, he asked to take her and her friend to lunch.

SUPERVISOR JAMES RAMOS REPORT

Supervisor James Ramos stated the importance of mental health wellness and the funding required to provide quality services to the residents of San Bernardino County.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Thomas will focus her report today on the transition of services in the Morongo Basin area due to the closure of Morongo Basin Mental Health (MBMH) on 6/30/13. MBMH has been a contract provider with the County of San Bernardino for over 20 years, with 19 contracts totaling approximately \$7.6 million.

- DBH is working closely with MBMH to transition services to various providers by expanding scope of service for existing contracts.
- In order to minimize disruption of services, it may be necessary for the Board of Supervisors to approve sole source contract, which only occurs in unique circumstances.
- DBH is encouraging subsequent providers to utilize existing MBMH buildings. However, new providers currently offering services in the area will continue to utilize their own facilities.
- A job fair will be held to provide an opportunity for new providers to meet the 140 MBMH staff for potential employment.

DBH will continue to share information as it becomes available.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION: Psychiatric Triage Diversion Program

Paula Rutten, DBH Program Manager II, Hospital Services stated this program, effective 11/1/05, was the first MHSA funded adult program to be implemented due to the high number of individuals seeking services from Arrowhead Regional Medical Center Behavioral Health Triage Unit (ARMC-BHU) who did not require psychiatric inpatient services. The solution was a collaborative team of DBH and ARMC staff co-located in ARMC-BHU to provide options designed to meet the needs of the client. Services include:

- Assessment
- Crisis intervention
- Placement and housing assistance
- Transportation assistance
- Linkage and referral to service providers
- Advocacy, education and consultations

San Bernardino County was the first to develop such a model. The Psychiatric Triage Diversion was so successful it received County of San Bernardino Program of the Year in 2007. The Diversion Program currently provides services up to 450 individuals per month, diverting approximately 85% of those to outpatient services.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion made by Vice Chair Wilson and seconded by Commissioner Casas: The BHC bylaws were approved as amended and will be submitted to the BOS for approval. Motion passed; no further abstentions.

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Kevin Kim of Making a Difference Making a Change (MADMAC) Foundation, expressed their mission is to provide innovative, cost-effective accessible approaches to assist with the problems at-risk youth and young adults face in society. Since its inception in 1996, MADMAC has reached over 100,000 at-risk youth and young adults showing them how to turn their passions into constructive pursuits. MADMAC currently operates a graphic design and printing business.

Carolyn Bennett is thankful that Pathways to Recovery is able to utilize space at this facility. Pathways members joined members at Pacific Clinic clubhouse for a training on personal care.

Lauretta Ross announced the upcoming Powwow to be held at San Manuel Stadium on May 3-5.

Karen Cervantes distributed a calendar of 31 ways to promote mental health awareness and overall well-being during National May Mental Health Awareness Month in English and Spanish. Evening with the Stars (EWTS) invitations have been sent out. Keynote speaker for the event is Dr. Scott Zeller, Chief of Psychiatry Emergency Services at Alameda County Medical Center. We are accepting reservations and consumer sponsorships.

Kristen Mungcal reported consumers interested in attending the EWTS must submit an application describing their have accomplishments over the last year. Serenity Clubhouse in Victorville recently celebrated Earth Day by cleaning up a local park.

Sarah Eberhardt-Rios announced that the MHSA Annual Update will be posted for public comment and review from May 1-31. The Public Hearing will be held on 6/6/13 at the next BHC meeting.

Norda Freeman announced that Family Service Agency will be hosting "Autism Across the Spectrum" conference next week.

Lynn Neuenswander stated that reservations are now being taken for the 2013 Behavioral Health Symposium, "Enlightened and Equipped: Knowledge Changes Lives" which will be held on 5/28/13 from 8am-5pm at University of Redlands Orton Conference Center. Sixty community based organizations will be on hand to share resources. If anyone is interested in securing a resource table, please contact Victoria Hall at vhall@dbh.sbcounty.gov. This is a free event and open to the public.

ADJOURNMENT

Today's meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel
Chair

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission