

MINUTES
County of San Bernardino
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
July 3, 2014 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Susan McGee-Stehsel, Ed O'Brien, Christopher Massa, Veatrice Jews, Troy Mondragon, May Farr, Akin Merino and Molly Wiltshire on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos, Third District

Excused Absence: Monica Alonso, Jane Godager, Michael Grabhorn, Monica Wilson

Guests:

Alicia Cortes, Lupita Mendez, El Sol; Rosalie Moreno, David, Gus Villasenor Jr, Faith Ikeda, R. Thomas, Thaedra Kroft, Connie S., David Redondo, Patricia Barnes, Ester Parrell; Pathways to Recovery; Greg Vander-Haeghen, Amazing Place; Beverly Scott, family member; Victoria Ostermann, County Administrative Office; Laurence Gonzaga, IEHP; Christopher Z., NAMI-Pomona Valley; Kate Schwartz, Sherrie Park, Valley Star; Candy Curiel, Family Service Agency; Joanne Mitchell, Tracy Bomberger, Greg Rossler, Dennis Terrones, Janeth Tran, David Denkers, Michael Oliver, André Bossieux, Michael Schertell, Susanne Kulesa, Michelle Dusick, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Sherwin Farr, Josh Morgan, Jessica Headly, Doris Turner, Imo Momoh, Laretta Ross, Jennifer Gonzales, Kristen Mungcal, Chris Morton, Emilia Arellano, Nancy Olson, Sharon Nevins, 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 McGee-Stehsel, called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Akin Merino led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

Tab 12: Review Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) minutes of 7/3/14

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Veatrice Jews/May Farr

AYES: Ed O'Brien, Christopher Massa, Troy Mondragon, Akin Merino, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Molly Wiltshire on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comment provided

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel announced that the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) is hosting a Data Workshop on Thursday, August 7, from 12-3 pm, here in the Auditorium. The BHC will review sections of the 2014 Data Notebook that will be submitted to the CA Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC) in mid-August. Along with her colleagues at Cal State University San Bernardino, Susan has been exploring perinatal issues and available services. In addition, there is ongoing concern in the mountain area about the number of sobering/recovery centers; she will research further over the summer months.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Ed O'Brien is involved in the development of the 2014 Data Notebook. It is exciting to work with the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH), a department that is always looking to improve quality of care for clients and outreach to the community.

Second District:

Commissioner May Farr announced there are openings on the BHC in the First District, Second, Third and Fourth. In order to comply with Welfare and Institutions Code 5604(a), the BHC is in need of Hispanic and/or Native American Commissioners who are family members of consumers. The NAMI CA conference will be held on August 1-2, and the NAMI Cultural Competency conference on July 30, in Newport Beach. She attended the CA Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC) and CA Local Mental Health Boards/Commissions quarterly meetings.

Third District:

Commissioner Chris Massa is running for the Board at TEAM House. He plans on enjoying his summer vacation before heading back to school in the fall.

Commissioner Troy Mondragon is also a member of the 2014 Data Notebook taskforce. He continues to connect individuals from Central City Lutheran Mission men's shelter to TEAM House and DBH services. He looks forward to attending the NAMI CA Conference on August 1-2.

Fourth District:

As a part of faith ministries, Secretary Akin Merino and colleagues are working to bridge the gap between homeless individuals and available resources. They provide care packages and refer to local agencies, churches, etc. She thanked DBH for providing a staff member to speak at the Argosy University Bridge to the Future Conference about the multitude of career opportunities at DBH. The conference was a great success and DBH is influencing the future. She reminded therapists and specialists to take vacations and care for themselves so they can continue to do great work!

Fifth District:

Treasurer Veatrice Jews stated the Mental Health Friendly Congregations Kick-off was held on 6/14/14. Local clergy will begin a series of training to familiarize themselves with the mental health community. She met with Supervisor Gonzales staff about activities in the Fifth District. Jonathan Buffong presented Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), at the last District Advisor Committee (DAC) meeting. This training provides tools to assist law enforcement when encountering a person in crisis and helps them visualize the event from a consumer perspective. Sheriff Department is being trained; however, San Bernardino Police Department is not; trying to rectify this in city of San Bernardino. She is also working on the 2014 Date Notebook taskforce.

Board of Supervisors:

Molly Wiltshire, representing Supervisor James Ramos, stated they her and the Supervisor were unable to attend the June BHC meeting as they were attending the Project Connect in Morongo Basin. She thanked the group for welcoming Lizett Santoro, Constituent Service Representative for Supervisor Ramos to the June meeting. She also announced that this is her favorite Commission meeting as she is always enlightened when consumers share. And May Farr, I see you everywhere!

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director CaSonya Thomas appreciates the continued support of the BHC, the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the County Administrative Office. She is proud to announce that the BOS recently approved our Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Integrated Plan.

There has been a series of articles in the news regarding Los Angeles County's proposal to invest approximately \$1.7 billion in a correctional treatment facility that would hold inmates with mental illnesses and substance use disorders. Comments from behavioral health advocates about the proposal include the use diversion programs, community and wraparound programs as more effective treatment than incarceration. In the spirit of recovery, San Bernardino County's Forensic Assertive Community Treatment (FACT) program is 75%-80% community-based and provides rehabilitative mental health and support services to adults who have repeated contacts with the criminal justice system as a result of their mental illness. The FACT program provides intensive case management and assists consumers to live independently in the community. The program is designed to reduce homelessness, additional incarceration, emergency room care and involuntary mental health care.

The CMHPC will host a Community Dialogue on Mental Health on 7/29/14 from 3-6pm. All community stakeholders are invited to attend to provide input.

EDUCATION PRESENTATION – Health Care Reform Implementation Update

Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Deputy Director, presented Session III of a series of Health Care Reform updates. Due to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, more people are eligible for Medi-Cal. Currently in San Bernardino County, there are 478,539 individuals with Medi-Cal; increased by 100,000 from last year.

We are working closely with our Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans (IEHP, IEHP Kaiser, Molina and Molina Healthnet) to address: how we will share information with our health care partners; solve issues with mental health parity; ensure we have enough providers. Medi-Cal behavioral health beneficiaries fall into three tiers of benefit levels:

- Tier 1: mild symptoms – treated by Medi-Cal Managed Care Plan (MCP)
- Tier 2: mild to moderate - treated by MCP
- Tier 3: significant to severe – treated by County Mental Health Plan (DBH)
- All Alcohol and Drug Services – treated by DBH

The Department of Health Care Services reviews and monitors all Medi-Cal expansion efforts.

How do we determine which Tier client should be in and prevent inappropriate transition between Tiers? In partnership with their psychiatrist and treatment team, clients who have agreed to transition to a lower Tier through their recovery plan are referred for case review meetings between DBH and the Managed Care Plan for further review. The same procedure occurs for clients transitioning from a lower Tier to Tier 3 services.

NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS

Schedule BHC Data Workshop on 8/7/14, from 12:00-3:00 pm

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Akin Merino, Christopher Massa

AYES: Veatrice Jews, Ed O'Brien, Susan McGee-Stehsel, May Farr, Troy Mondragon, Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

Reschedule Thursday, 1/1/15 BHC Meeting to Monday, 1/5/15

TENTATIVELY APPROVED – Revisit in October 2014

Motion/Second: Veatrice Jews / Ed O'Brien

AYES: Akin Merino, Christopher Massa, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Troy Mondragon, May Farr, Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Karen Cervantes announced upcoming events:

- 7/11/14, 10am-12pm – Barstow Counseling Center Open House
- 7/16/14, 11am-3pm – Transitional Age Youth Health Fair 2014
- 7/29/14, 3-6pm - CA Mental Health Planning Council Dialogue on Mental Health
- 9/20/14, 10am-3pm – Recovery Happens

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel, Chair
Behavioral Health Commission

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission