

MINUTES
County of San Bernardino
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
November 6, 2014 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Susan McGee-Stehsel, Ed O'Brien, Monica Wilson, Akin Merino, May Farr, Christopher Massa, Troy Mondragon, Jane Godager, Veatrice Jews and Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor Ramos, Third District

Excuse Absence: Michael Grabhorn

Guests:

Victoria Ostermann, County Administrative Office; Raymond Beiser, Dominique Enciso, San Bernardino TAY; Maria Lucentes, Carl Mascarella, Eric Muricco, Mathew C, Nevin Gatyer, Manuel Morales, Garan Mendez, VCCS; Trevor Veizer, Christara Holtgreffe, Nashwa Morth, Cal State University San Bernardino; Denise Byrd, Matt Parra, Jose Lopez, Michael Morris, Faith Ikeda, Lindsey Talles, Harry Cass, Pathways; Christian Butler, Christopher Boice, Nicole Ballew, Kate Schwartz, The STAY; Beverly Scott, ITS; Liz Neal, Jarad Sankara, Alexander Muir, Valencia Stevenson, Selvaugh K; Sherrie Park, Valley Star; Claire Karp, Katja-Larissa Guinn, Pacific Clinics; Cheryl Phent, Mental Health Systems; Alec Smith, Cassandra Spot, House of Angels; Greg Vander-Haeghen, Amazing Place; Lupita Mendez, El Sol; Treasa Harris, Harris Transitional Youth; Pastor Ken Wells, Spirit of Love; Robyn Freeman, Family Service Agency; Lawrence Gonzaga, IEHP; Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Imo Momoh, Mariann Ruffolo, Michelle Dusick, Karen Cervantes, Joanne Mitchell, Michael Schertell, Cheryl Long, Kara McLeod, Aidery Hernandez, André Bossieux, Clifford Craig, Hector Ortega, Cheryl Placide, René Keres, Doris Turner, Susanne Kulesa, David Denkers, Maribel Gutierrez, Sherwin Farr, Paula Rutten, Andy Gruchy, Dave Miller, Kristen Mungcal, Jon Buffong, Joshua Taylor, Socorro Gomez, Victor Garrido, Chris Morton, Jonathan Benvenisti, Doug Fazekas, Dianne Sceranka 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 12:04 p.m. Troy Mondragon led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

Review Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Minutes of October 2, 2014

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Akin Merino/ Chris Massa

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

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Victor Garrido, Clinical Therapist, Vista Community Counseling **Nomination:**

Victor came to the United States from Guatemala as a child. Due to a physical impairment/disability, he was brought here by his parents to seek opportunity. Victor graduated from Cal State San Bernardino with a master's degree and went on to gain his LCSW license. Victor is culturally sensitive to the needs of his clients. Victor helps clients identify their strengths, educates them regarding mental illness and encourages each of his clients. Victor also assists and provides valuable guidance to the parents of his clients whose primary language is Spanish. Victor conducts children's groups for children with challenging behaviors. He serves as a positive mentor and role model. He works to empower the client, encouraging the client to gain insight by integrating critical behavioral strategies. Victor strives to develop a positive working relationship with his clients. He is a team player and open to discussion. Victor is respectful of his clients' traditions, patterns of communication and recognizes their values and beliefs. Victor empathizes with client's unique challenges and struggles, acts as their advocate when necessary and brings awareness of mental health. Victor is a man of integrity, calm, thoughtful and it is an honor to call him a co-worker and friend. CONGRATULATIONS VICTOR!

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments provided.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair McGee-Stehsel attended the Integration of Mental Health, Substance Use, and Primary Care Conference in October. Workshop topics included reducing mental health disparities; wellness as the norm; Substance Use Disorder screening in the primary care setting. Cal State is hosting a seminar about Perinatal Issues on 11/13/14; Susan will be co-presenting. She met with DBH Workforce Education and Training to discuss the implementation of BSN student internships.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Ed O'Brien visited the Community Crisis Response Team in the High Desert. They work long hours and are a great team. Much of their time is spent waiting with clients who have been placed on 5150 holds. He was concerned about the lack of client transportation at the Crisis Walk in Clinic.

Second District:

Commissioner May Farr attended the Mental Illness and Law Enforcement Systems (MILES) conference. Topic of discussion was the causes and effects of bullying. May thanked the approximately 1700 individuals who attended the NAMIWalk on 10/25/14, raising approximately \$80,000. NAMI is accepting donations for the next 60 days.

Third District:

Chris Massa had a good time at the NAMIWalk and thanked Commissioner Troy Mondragon for rallying San Bernardino participants. As a member of the BHC Holiday Tea Nomination committee, Chris will be reviewing the nominations to be awarded on 12/4/14. He is also attending the Talent and Award Night event on 11/19/14.

Commissioner Troy Mondragon is currently interning at the Family Service Agency supportive housing program. He attended the recent Homeless Summit and also met with Kerry Turner to discuss the homeless services provided by DBH. He enjoyed the camaraderie between San Bernardino and Riverside County as well as the friendly competition at the NAMIWalk.

Fourth District:

Secretary Akin Merino also attended the Mental Health, Substance Use, and Primary Care Conference. San Bernardino County is in the forefront of the integration of these services and the Affordable Care Act. Keep up the good work! In conjunction with Commissioners Wilson and McGee-Stehsel, they are planning a Behavioral Health Conference with three local colleges to occur in May 2015, for students, stakeholders and agencies in the behavioral health field.

Vice Chair Monica Wilson thanked everyone for allowing the members of the BHC to serve the residents of San Bernardino County. On 10/22/14, Supervisor Gary Ovitt helped facilitate the Community Vital Signs (CVS) Forum. As a member of the CVS Steering Committee, Dr. Wilson asked questions and received feedback from stakeholders for improvements to health care for years to come. She will be presenting at the Stop the Pain Stop the Violence Youth Conference on 11/15/14.

Fifth District:

As an advocate for the faith based community Treasurer Veatrice Jews has been involved in the Mental Health Friendly Congregations project. Four local churches have been participating in the conferences, meetings and trainings implemented through DBH participation in the Prevention and Early Intervention Statewide Initiatives administered through CA Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA). During the 2nd phase of the project, pastor and members will determine the needs of their congregation.

In October, Commissioner Jane Godager attended the CA Senior Legislature meeting in Sacramento. It is a pleasure to be back in attendance at BHC meetings

Board of Supervisors:

On behalf of Supervisor James Ramos, Lizett Santorro, Constituent Services Representative, stated that Supervisor Ramos served as keynote speaker at the American Indian/Alaska Native Mental Health Conference, on 11/4/14, in Los Angeles. An array of topics provided cultural alignment of the four dimensions in the symbolic medicine wheel (spiritual, emotional, intellectual, and physical).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

In the absence of Director CaSonya Thomas, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Deputy Director thanked Commissioner Mondragon for serving as emcee at the NAMIWalk. She also thanked the Clubhouse/ TAY partners and staff for their participation and hard work.

Due to the implementation of Health Care Reform many more residents in San Bernardino and Riverside counties now have health insurance for primary and specialty care, inpatient, substance use, mental health and public health services. Residents enrolled in health benefits in 2014 include:

- 125,000 residents were enrolled through the Insurance Exchange
- 300,000 additional residents were enrolled in Medi-Cal

We are working with our health care partners to meet the needs of the continued growth of newly insured clients.

A new Medi-Cal benefit in the continuum of care is the Drug Medi-Cal Delivery System Waiver, which will provide availability of all Substance Use Disorder services including residential. The Waiver will be consumer-focused; use evidence based practices and improve program quality outcomes. San Bernardino County has been selected as one of the four counties to run county specific fiscal drills of the proposed shared financing model.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

André Bossieux, Program Manager II, Transitional Age Youth (TAY), introduced several TAY members who shared their inspirational stories.

- County and contract TAY Centers provide integrated services to youth ages 16-25 with emotional and/or behavioral issues. Goals include: Independence, reduce hospitalizations or higher level care, reduce involvement in criminal justice system and reduce homelessness.
- TAY Full Service Partnership services include individual and group counseling, intensive case management, 24/7 crisis and supportive service, medication evaluation and management, integrated treatment for co-occurring disorders, daily living skills, assistance with housing, education, and employment , community linkage and support, shower and laundry facilities, computer/internet access, recreational activities, family education services and community reintegration.

There are 4 county and contract TAY Centers located countywide: San Bernardino, Victorville, Rancho Cucamonga and Yucca Valley. Co-located in the San Bernardino TAY Center is the STAY Program, which is the first crisis residential TAY in the state. In Fiscal Year 2013-14, San Bernardino County TAY partners achieved the following:

- 29 TAY graduated High School or received GED
- 100 TAY attended college or a vocational school
- 122 TAY were employed

NEW BUSINESS-ACTION ITEMS

Present 2015 Slate of BHC Officers:

- Chair: Susan McGee-Stehsel
- Vice Chair: Michael Grabhorn, Monica Wilson
- Secretary: May Farr, Akin Merino

- Treasurer: Veatrice Jews

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Troy Mondragon/ Chris Massa

AYES: May Farr, Akin Merino, Monica Wilson, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Jane Godager, Lizett Santorro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

Election of BHC officers will held at the January 5, 2014, BHC meeting

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Jonathan Buffong, Mental Health Education Consultant, announced the upcoming Mental Health First Aid Training, which is an 8-hour non-clinical course that teaches you how to help someone who is developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The training helps you identify, understand, and respond to signs of addictions and mental illnesses.

Michelle Dusick, MHSA Coordinator, announced the next Community Policy Advisory Committee (CPAC) meeting on 11/20/14, from 8:30-12pm. We will be finishing up the Community Services and Support (CSS) outcomes.

Karen Cervantes, Program Specialist II, announced:

- Native American Heritage Month Celebration will be held on 11/18/14 from 9am-3pm at the University of Redlands, Orton Center.
- Talent and Awards Night will be held on 11/19/14, from 5-8pm at the CSBHS Auditorium

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel, Chair
Behavioral Health Commission

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission