

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
June 4, 2015 - 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present: Ed O'Brien, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Christopher Massa, Troy Mondragon, Monica Wilson, Veatrice Jews, Jane Ann Godager, May Farr, Akin Merino, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter and Lizett Santoro on behalf of Supervisor James Ramos

Excused Absence: Michael Grabhorn, Catherine Inscore, David Miller

Guests: Laurence Gonzaga, Michael Moreno, Debbie Medina, Denise Byrd, David, Robert, Terrence, Brian Chambers, Mary Oliveros, Zoraida Castro, Joseph Lewis, Laverne Herbert, Justin Seals, Greg Vander-Haeghen, Susan Malkentine, Jose Marin, Beverly Scott, Wayne Henkelmann, Irma Cortes, Lupita Mendez, Hector Ortega; Edwin Henderson, Doris Turner, Cynthia White, Aimara Freeman, Miriam Clark, Joanne Mitchell, Claudia Silva, Tracy Bomberger, Michael Schertell, David Denkers, Joshua Taylor, Michelle Disick, Emilia Arellano, Karen Torres-Gonzalez, Kenneth Munawar, Viviana Esparza. Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC)

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Commissioner Chris Massa led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

Tab 7: Review Today's Agenda: There was a motion to move New Business Items after Review of the Minutes

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Jane Ann Godager/ May Farr

AYES: Monica Wilson, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Troy Mondragon, Chris Massa, Akin Merino, Lizett Santoro

Abstain: Susan McGee-Stehsel

Tab 8: Review Minutes of April 2, 2015:

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Monica Wilson/Jennifer Spence-Carpenter

AYES: Jane Ann Godager, May Farr, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Troy Mondragon, Chris Massa, Akin Merino, Lizett Santoro

Abstain: Susan McGee-Stehsel

Tab 9: Review Minutes of May 7, 2015:

APPROVED

Motion/Second: Troy Mondragon/Chris Massa

AYES: Jane Ann Godager, May Farr, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Monica Wilson, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Akin Merino, Lizett Santoro

Abstain: Susan McGee-Stehsel

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS – ACTION ITEMS

Establish 2015 Data Notebook Ad Hoc Committee: Volunteers include, Ed O'Brien, Veatrice Jews, Monica Wilson, Susan McGee-Stehsel

APPROVED

Motion/Second: May Farr/ Monica Wilson

AYES: Jane Ann Godager, Troy Mondragon, Veatrice Jews, Ed O'Brien, Chris Massa, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Akin Merino, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Lizett Santoro

Tab 11: Review Contract with Department of Health Care Services for Mandate County Performance FY 2015-16

REVIEWED

Motion/Second: May Farr/Monica Wilson

AYES: Jane Ann Godager, Troy Mondragon, Veatrice Jews, Ed O'Brien, Chris Massa, Monica Wilson, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Akin Merino, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Lizett Santoro

STORY OF RECOVERY

As a tribute to Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission put together a book called "The Prop 63 Story" to give to him as he closed out his term last year. Each page contained a picture of and a brief summary written by a consumer and/or provider of a Prop 63 mental health program.

Greg Vander-Haeghen was recognized and presented a copy of the book as his story was included.

CONGRATULATIONS, GREG!

PUBLIC COMMENT

None provided

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel commended staff and students for the many wonderful May Mental Health Month events and activities.

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Ed O'Brien stated he was asked to join the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) by a friend, thinking he could bring important issues to the table; however, he's gotten more from the BHC and DBH than he imagined. He appreciates the motivation he receives from members who share their stories, realizing that he can do it too.

Second District:

Secretary May Farr attended the Diocese of San Bernardino Behavioral Health Conference, at which Commissioner Mondragon spoke. Troy and his mom also presented at the Diversity Film Series, focusing on understanding the family's perspective, impact and importance in recovery of mental illness. Evening with the Stars had a record turnout this year with 310 guests.

Third District:

Commissioner Chris Massa was proud to attend Evening with the Stars with his dad, who was honored as Family Member of the Year. Chris suggested that the Clubhouse fundraising efforts throughout the year go towards sponsoring more consumers to attend Evening with the Stars next year.

Commissioner Troy Mondragon is celebrating the second anniversary of his appointment to the BHC, and his last meeting as a student. He will graduate with his MSW in Social Work later this month. He looks forward to continuing to address mental health, cultural and social issues.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Jennifer Spence-Carpenter attended the Directing Change Event, where local students were honored for participation in the statewide film contest to creatively address the topics of suicide prevention and ending the silence of mental illness through the use of 60 second videos they created.

Vice Chair Monica Wilson recognized staff and community partners for the emphasis on reducing stigma in our communities during May Mental Health Month. She also thanked André Bossieux for his assistance in coordinating a successful Inland Empire Mental Health Spirituality Conference, hosted by Dr. Akin Merino and herself on 5/30/15. She thanked El Sol, Healthy Rancho Cucamonga and DBH for their attendance and providing resources.

Fifth District:

Treasurer Veatrice Jews shared that Dr. Gloria Morrow recently presented at various churches. Parishioners were introduced to some of the common signs and symptoms of mental illness and its impact on families. Also provided were strategies for helping the faith community create programs that focus on prevention of mental, emotional and psychological distress. The Spirituality Conference on 5/30/15 was outstanding.

Board of Supervisors:

Lizett Santoro, Constituent Service Representative for Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, James Ramos, stated that the Supervisor was honored to attend and provide opening remarks at the Directing Change event on 5/14/15. He was so impressed with the brief videos created by students, he selected one to play at the Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting on 5/19/15. The BOS will hold a special study session on homelessness on 7/21/15.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION: San Bernardino County Reentry Collaborative (SBCRC)

Jose Marin, Public Health Special Project Coordinator presented. SBCRC is a partnership of agencies, organizations and individuals committed to making our county safer through the successful reentry and long-term success of the formerly incarcerated. In 2011, the BOS adopted a strategic plan to reduce recidivism through rehabilitation and reentry services.

Three (3) Day Reporting Centers (DRC) have been established in the county: High Desert Area, West End and Central Valley. Services provided by DRC include: transitional housing, health screening including mental health and alcohol/drug services, workforce development, life skills, access to health care through the Affordable Care Act and other social services.

The BRIDGES pilot project will serve 89 incarcerated individuals who have agreed to participate:

- Begins three months prior to release. Intensive case management is provided by "Reentry Peer Advocates" to identify post-release resources and develop a plan tailored to the participant.
- Immediate and ongoing contact after release: Ensure planning is implemented and participants remain linked to services, with special emphasis on housing.
- In partnership with Cal State University San Bernardino BRIDGES data is being collected and evaluated to measure project impact.

Faith-based organizations play an important role in the SBCRC. With grant funding a Faith Advisory Council is being organized to train religious leaders to develop the capacity to work with our local governments.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director CaSonya Thomas thanked Mr. Marin for his presentation. The SBCRC was developed from community feedback.

She also thanked everyone for their support and participation in May Mental Health activities. Norma J. Torres, 35th Congressional District, provided certificates of special congressional recognition to the members of the BHC, the local National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) affiliates and DBH, for leadership in improving the mental health service system. Due to the generosity of staff, contract providers and community partners 40 consumers were sponsored to attend Evening with the Stars.

DBH has been notified that our application for the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Grant has been approved for third round funding of a little over \$3 million for a crisis residential treatment (CRT) center to be located in the High Desert. We also received funding during the second round for a CRT on Gilbert Street in San Bernardino; construction is in process and this facility will be set to open in 2017.

Last week the BOS approved a contract with Helping Hearts, which will provide long term mental health treatment in Colton. The services provided will serve as a transition from psychiatric hospitalization prior to returning to the community.

Per the Governor's May Revision, the state general fund has increased \$6.7 billion since January 2015. Most of the increased revenues are directed to K-12 education as well as the Rainy Day Fund. However, revenues will also be directed to:

- Health Home Program
- Activate 30 beds at CA Medical Facility to ease the waitlist for intermediate and acute beds within psychiatric programs
- Cover the local cost of behavioral health services to inmates who have been released from state prison due to Prop 47. Any savings identified as a result of Prop 47 implementation will not be available until late 2016.

County budget: Putting the county on stable fiscal footing and restoring and maintaining vital public service levels are the county's top priority.

OUTSIDE AGENCY AND OTHER REPORTS

Karen Cervantes announced upcoming events:

- 6/17/15, 1-3pm: Mariposa Community Counseling Open House
- 6/23-24/15: Reach Out 2015 National Innovative Communities Conference, Ontario Convention Center

Join one of our 12 Cultural Competency Sub-Committees.

Richard Lindsay, Peer and Family Advocate, would like to speak with anyone who would be interested in sharing their story of recovery with clubhouse members.

Kristen Mungcal, Program Manager, stated that Clubhouse and Transitional Age Youth partners are working hard to earn their sponsorship to attend Evening with the Stars.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 1:50p.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel, Chair
Behavioral Health Commission

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission