

MINUTES  
San Bernardino County  
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
May 5, 2016 - 12:00-2:00 pm

**Commissioners Present:** Michael Grabhorn, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Ed O'Brien, David Caine, Troy Mondragon, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, May Farr, Christopher Massa, Jane Ann Godager, Catherine Inscore

**Excused Absence:** Monica Wilson, Akin Merino, Veatrice Jews

**Guests:** Christina DeRoulhac, Brenda Garcia, Joshua Rubio, Imo Momoh, Rachel Cierpich, Tricia Navarro, Laverne Herbert, Hector Lopez, Cheryl McAdam, Vianey Diaz, Carlos Casanova, LeAnn Mast, Aimara Freeman, Beverly Scott, Jamesia Brown, Joshua Taylor, Stephanie Flohr, Laretta Ross, C. Gutierrez, Doris Turner, Nathan Trujillo, Mary Williams, Lisa Viveros, Michael Oliver, Victoria Hall, Holly Rudd, David Casanova, Jonathan Buffong, Laurence Gonzaga, Joann Mitchell, Angela Naso, Claudia Toscano, Gregory Nyx, Bev Paulson, Kristen King, Hanna Keith, Charles Pearson, Viviana Esparza, Claudia Silva, Tessa Hernandez, Supriya Barrows, Kathleen Montenegro, Nicole Ledesma, Corey Brisk, Michael Sweitzer, Jennifer Pacheco, Cesar Bernal, Thomas Slocum, Karen Proctor, Sherwin Farr, Merida Saracha, Edwin Henderson, Korin Congdon, Na Kim, Melina Navarette, Carl Mascarella, Amanda Vann, Ashley Banks, Liz Luevano, Gary Madden, Lilly Payton, Douglas Fazekas, Erica Watkins, Faith Ikeda, Denise Byrd, Leeann Ficarra, DeAndrea Porch, Gabriel Porch, Andrew Gruchy, Charles Cherry, Jordan Wright, Josh Morgan, Cristina Ruiz Mazon, Nancy Olsen, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Greg Vander-Haeghen, Mariann Ruffolo, Sherie Park, Andrea Masden, Michelle Dusick, Chauncey Bowie, Karen Cervantes, Cynthia White, Cheryl Placide, Kristen Mungcal, Tracey Bomberger, Syreeta Theroith, Valerie Stewart, Mike Gorman, Patricia Barnes, Esther Parrell, Aaron Santos, Rosa Villegas, Richard Lindsey. Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC)

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Vice Chair Ed O'Brien called the meeting to order at 12:08p.m. Commissioner Troy Mondragon led the Pledge of Allegiance and self-introductions followed.

**Review Minutes of 4/7/16**

**APPROVED**

Motion/Second: Christopher Massa / Michael Grabhorn

AYES: Michael Grabhorn, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Ed O'Brien, David Caine, Troy Mondragon, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, May Farr, Christopher Massa, Jane Ann Godager

ABSTAIN: Catherine Inscore

ABSENT: Monica Wilson, Akin Merino, Veatrice Jews

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No comments provided

**CHAIR'S REPORT**

Vice Chair Ed O'Brien announced the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) has begun a series of meetings with law enforcement officers to discuss challenges they are experiencing in the field. He hopes the meetings will result in a momentum for change and we see a positive impact in the forensic system.

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

**First District:**

Commissioner Michael Grabhorn stated a prescription drop off box is now located at Walgreens on Bear Valley Road in the High Desert. The Sheriff sponsors a prescription drug take-back once day a year. Please dispose of prescription drugs properly. He participated on a webinar regarding the effectiveness of 12-step programs integrated into an existing therapy, which can lead to much higher rates of full sustained remission.

### **Second District:**

Commissioner David Caine, along with several other Commissioners visited the Hazeldon Betty Ford (HBF) Center at Rancho Mirage on 4/27/16. HBF staff provided a tour and insight on the challenges clients encounter initially and the successes gained by treatment of addiction and dual diagnosis. Discussion included comprehensive opiate response issues and dealing with addiction, co-occurring issues, as well as family member challenges.

Secretary May Farr attended the 2016 Cambodian New Year Celebration. She also attended the first meeting of the DBH's Law Enforcement Committee on 3/24/16. The quarterly meeting of the CA Mental Health Planning Council and CA Association of Local Mental Health Boards/Commissions was held in San Francisco in January; discussion included the health effects of psychotropic meds on children and alternatives to medication.

### **Third District:**

Commissioner Christopher Massa will attend Evening with the Stars on 5/25/16. In celebration of May Mental Health Month, TEAM House participated in solidarity day to reduce mental health stigma. TEAM House will also tour the historical Patton State Hospital Museum.

Commissioner Troy Mondragon thanked TEAM House for participating in solidarity day on 5/3/16. Troy attended Cal State University San Bernardino (CSUSB) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Parade of Flowers. DBH Assistant Director, Veronica Kelley, was among those who provided opening remarks. Troy continues to partner with the CA Highway Patrol Crisis Intervention Training. He's looking forward to Evening with the Stars.

Commissioner Catherine Inscore wished everyone happy May Mental Health Awareness Month!

### **Fourth District:**

Commissioner Jennifer Spence-Carpenter also visited the Hazeldon Betty Ford Center. She appreciated the discussion pertaining to challenges faced by family members. One third of clients seeking treatment relapse.

### **Fifth District:**

Past Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel welcomed the CSUSB nursing students, who are here to learn about substance use disorders and mental health. Dr. Teresa Dodd-Butera, Coordinator of the MSN program at CSUSB and currently working with Public Health and the Fetal Alcohol program in LA, was also invited to visit HBF. She discussed perinatal mental health issues and toxicology. Other topics of discussion focused on pain management and detox issues. The Coachella Valley is in need of collaborative services with Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Commissioner Jane Godager attended Coffee with a Cop in her community on 4/13/16. Discussion included possible solutions of homelessness, and legalizing marijuana dispensaries. She attended the San Bernardino Animal Control Commission; accomplishments under the leadership of the current director include: a decrease in euthanasia and an increase in adoptions.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director Thomas thanked the Commission for supporting May Mental Health Month activities. DBH received notice today that we were successful in the Fifth Funding Round of the Investment in Mental Health Wellness Grant Program administered through the CA Health Facilities Financing Authority (CHFFA). The grant award totaling \$7.9 million will fund:

- Construction of a new 10-bed Crisis Residential Treatment (CRT) facility in the Eastern Desert Region for adults 18 and older
- A new 20-bed Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) facility in the West Valley Region, which includes 16 adult beds and four adolescent beds.
- Allow DBH to purchase eight vehicles for mobile Community Crisis Response Teams (CCRT) that will expand access and timely connection to services throughout the County, especially in the remote Mountain and Desert regions.

CCRT is our most active program. Nancy Olsen, Program Manager II, CCRT is developing a new team and we are addressing the workforce retention issue. The county is still in negotiations with the Service Employees International Union, which hopefully will be resolved satisfactory for all parties soon.

Past Chair, Susan McGee-Stehsel - this is good news to address concerns we are experiencing in the Morongo Basin as well as CCRT.

Michelle Dusick stated that sustainability of CRT's are addressed in the MHSA Annual Update.

Beverly Scott asked what the timeline is for the CRT in Morongo Basin to be fully operational. Director Thomas stated the process could take up to 18 months.

DBH is involved in current initiatives involving countywide collaborative meetings:

- Whole Person Care-strategies to align community health and hospitals to better serve our communities.
- Opiate Safe Taskforce with Riverside/San Bernardino counties, IEHP and Molina. The problem is patients are prescribed opiates after a medical procedure and are given no follow-up treatment to get off the addictive drugs. We have made Narcan available in our clinics, which can reverse overdoses from opiates. Bernardino County now has 15 prescription drop-off boxes.

### **PUBLIC HEARING: MHSA Annual Update Fiscal Year 2016-17**

Michelle Dusick, MHSA Administrative Manager - Counties are required to update the MHSA Plan annually.

- The MHSA Plan/Update was developed with local stakeholder feedback at multiple meetings throughout the year. Throughout February and March 2016, twenty MHSA Annual Update special sessions were held to review and provide additional feedback, including a session in Spanish and an after business hours online session.
- DBH conducted extensive outreach to promote the Annual Update stakeholder process through press releases, email distribution in English and Spanish, posted on County and DBH website and DBH social media sites, and regularly announced during meetings.
- The Annual Update was posted for 30-day public comment and review period from April 1 through May 1, 2016, for online viewing, hard copies were available at clubhouses, clinics and county public libraries. Comment forms were available in English and Spanish.
- 323 stakeholders completed a comment form; 88% indicated they were satisfied with the overall Annual Update and stakeholder process. A summary of the comments include:
  - Positive responses concerning the services provided under MHSA and the outcome programs.
  - Support for children's programs and recovery based programs.
  - Positive feedback about MHSA programs, in general.

The Annual Update is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval in June 2016. It will be submitted to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission within 30 days of BOS approval.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Affirm the Process of the MHSA Annual

#### **APPROVED**

Motion/Second: Jane Godager / Jennifer Spence-Carpenter

AYES: Michael Grabhorn, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Ed O'Brien, David Caine, Troy Mondragon, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, May Farr, Christopher Massa, Jane Ann Godager, Catherine Inscore

ABSENT: Monica Wilson, Akin Merino, Veatrice Jews

- Proposed Amendments to the BHC Bylaws

#### **APPROVED**

Motion/Second: Jane Godager / Catherine Inscore

AYES: Michael Grabhorn, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Ed O'Brien, David Caine, Troy Mondragon, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, May Farr, Christopher Massa, Jane Ann Godager, Catherine Inscore

ABSENT: Monica Wilson, Akin Merino, Veatrice Jews

## **EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION: Community Crisis Services Overview**

Due to recent public comments, Vice Chair Ed O'Brien stated that crisis services and inpatient discharge planning do not appear to be operating as advertised.

### Community Crisis Response Teams (CCRT):

Nancy Olsen presented that as a result of the CHFFA grant the CCRT will be able to expand services with the addition of the new vehicles.

- Currently, there are three 24-hour mobile units; one each in the following regions of the county: West Valley, East Valley and High Desert.
- We receive about 15 calls per month in Morongo Basin, which has one CCRT staff who rolls out with the Sheriff Department.
- There have been concerns regarding stand-by shifts; however, effective 7/1/16, CCRT has been approved to hire for a graveyard shift.
- We work closely with our primary customer, law enforcement.
- After the December 2 terrorist attack, CCRT was on site within minutes to provide services to those affected.

### Crisis Walk-in Centers (CWIC):

- CWIC is a volunteer setting that serves as an alternative to hospitalization for a 23-hour stay, offers medication services and crisis stabilization.
- CWIC's are located in Rialto, Victorville and Morongo Basin.
- Currently experiencing a psychiatric shortage countywide.

### Triage Engagement and Support Teams (TEST)

- TEST offers intensive case management by paraprofessionals for up to 60 days to strengthen opportunity for recovery and wellness.
- TEST staff are co-located at seven sheriff stations, two police stations, West Valley Detention Center, Cal State University San Bernardino Counseling Center, Public Defender's Office, two Probation offices and three CCRT teams.

Beverly Scott asked what Morongo Basing residents can expect when calling for crisis services?

Deputy Director Andrew Gruchy followed up with Valley Star Behavioral Health CWIC in Morongo Basin who stated their phones are answered 24 hours per day. We also rectified an incorrect phone number on our website due to a change in CWIC providers. Unfortunately, the new provider was unable to take the same phone number with them. DBH Quality Management (QM) regularly conducts secret shopper test calls to DBH and contract provider sites to determine appropriate service; calls to 24-hour sites will be increased. We are also following up with the Morongo Basin CWIC to ensure staffing ratios are met and they are fulfilling the terms of their contract. If you have trouble accessing services please let us know as soon as possible.

Director Thomas suggested she meet with her team to conduct a follow-up presentation during the June 2, Behavioral Health Commission Executive Session. Vice Chair Ed O'Brien stated we have every confidence that DBH will do everything possible to rectify concerns.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

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*Ed O'Brien, Vice Chair*  
Behavioral Health Commission

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*Debi Pasco*  
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission