

## MINUTES

### MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING April 3, 2008

Behavioral Health Resource Center  
Conference Room F119-120  
850 E. Foothill Blvd.  
Rialto, CA 92376

**Members present:** Christopher Massa, Carol Grisotti, Veatrice Jews, Jane Mercer, Nick Andonov, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Bill Swift, Jane Ann Godager, Tanya Perry, and Allan Rawland. Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco.

**Excused:** Gabriel Gonzales and David Ford

**Guests:** Renee Compton, Pathways to Recovery; May Farr; NAMI; Beverly Scott, RCA Morongo Basin; Rodolfo Pinon, Casa de San Bernardino; Marsha Mathews, TBS-Mental Health Systems; Hope Anderson, Success First-Mental Health Systems; John Pi, Vista Guidance Center; Wayne Henkelmann, San Bernardino Superior Courts; Tanya Bratton, Linda Charkins, Laretta Ross, Doris Turner, Monte Jordan, Mark Thomas, Michael Schertell, André Bossieux, Rosa Gomez, Doulas Fazekas, Evelyn Solorio, CaSonya Thomas, Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Gary Atkins, Liz Gallegos, Dot Walsh, Maria Coronado, David Denkers, Lynn Neuenswander, Paula Rutten, DBH.

### **CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING**

Chairperson Andonov called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Self introductions followed. The agenda for this meeting was approved. The minutes of March 6, 2008 were approved.

### **CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS**

Chairperson Andonov asked Carol Grisotti to provide an overview of the conference she attended at Loma Linda University on 4/2/08: "The Individual with Serious Mental Illness". Carol loves the direction mental health services are going in seeking new ways to assist the individual in achieving personally meaningful recovery; not just symptom reduction.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Allan introduced and welcomed Tanya Bratton, Interim Deputy Director of Administrative Services, to the Department. He also commended the Commission for their assistance in reviewing the Requests for Proposals (RFPs).

### **MHSA**

- Due to the excellent work of DBH staff, we have received every dime of \$17 million in MHSA funding and are not subject to reversion.
- The State approved the amendment to our MHSA Sub-Agreement that would include a Community Crisis Response Team – providing 24/7 first responders to minimize hospital admissions.
- Allocated \$18 million Capital and Technology funding

- Allocated \$5 million Workforce Education and Training funding plus additional \$5 million from the State. First “draft” plan due June 2008.
- Innovation guidelines not released yet
- Allocated \$20 million Housing funding for 542 units. Strategy plan due by June 30.
- Allocated \$12-\$14 million Prudent Reserve funding. “Rainy day” monies to keep programs operating.
- Homeless Expansion - we are working with Vista Guidance Center. Public notice and review by the Mental Health Commission on May 1.

### **DBH Vision, Mission and Values Statement**

Allan has created a taskforce to develop a new DBH Vision, Mission and Values Statement to be rolled out at State of the Department on June 30. The Mental Health Commission will have an opportunity to review for feedback at the next meeting in May.

### **District Advisory Committees (DACs)**

Allan is developing guidelines for the DACs which will provide linkage between the Mental Health Commission and the communities within the five Supervisorial Districts.

### **Proposed FY 08-09 State and County Budget:**

The Board of Supervisors and the County Administrative Officer announced that there will be no employee lay-offs due to the budget crisis. DBH is addressing potential impact by increasing our Medi-Cal as a resource to meet consumer costs for eligible clients. DBH has put together training for psychiatrists for proper documentation for SSI.

## **COMMUNITY INPUT**

May Farr stated that she was not reappointed to the Mental Health Commission, Second District; however, she will remain active as a mental health advocate. She thanked everyone for their support and friendship. Ms. Farr asked everyone to participate in the Clothing Drive sponsored by NAMI and San Bernardino County. Clothing may be dropped off at designated sites from May 12-16. Every two bags donated will receive a \$10 gift certificate to be given to client/consumers.

Renee Compton, Pathways to Recovery, thanked MHSA for the use of a county van to travel to Las Flores Park for their annual picnic. She welcomed everyone to a jewelry sale sponsored by Pathways to Recovery on April 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm at BHRC in conference room B-118.

Chairperson Andonov asked Rosa Gomez, Deputy Director, which DBH children’s services are available in Supervisorial District 2. Ms. Gomez announced the following:

- Countywide Children’s Intensive Services and Therapeutic Behavioral Services
- TAY opening in Rancho Cucamonga area and in Morongo Basin

Allan stated that we are exploring new space for Integrated Healthcare sites in Upland (near Archibald), Victorville and the Casa Ramona area (Westside of San Bernardino).

Ralph Ortiz, Deputy Director, stated DBH is working very hard to create a closer, tighter, collaboration with jails and hospitals.

## **OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS**

John Pi visited Trona to view property and to see how the community can come together. He also mentioned that Supervisor Mitzelfelt commended Allan’s leadership.

## **SPECIAL PRESENTATION**

### **California External Quality Review Organization (CAEQRO) Report**

Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Program Manager II, Quality Management, presented the findings of the CAEQRO Annual Review that was conducted at DBH October 9-11, 2007. Overall, their findings were largely positive. The report included strengths, opportunities for improvement and recommendations.

Upcoming DBH Program special presentations to the Mental Health Commission are as follows:

- May 1, 2008 – Medical Services by Jatin Dalal, Medical Director
- June 5, 2008 – Co-occurring and Chronic Care Model by Gary Atkins, Deputy Director

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **ADS Commission:**

It was determined that this item will be added as a standing item on the agenda for discussion of co-occurring issues.

### **Revision of By-Laws:**

Suggestions included:

- Replacement of Officers
- Re-establish ADS Committee
- Name change: Behavioral Health Committee

At this time, it was determined that Debi, Clerk of the Commission, would email County Counsel for the proper language to add Replacement of Officers to the By-Laws. The Commission will review and approve at the May 1 meeting. Then the Contracts division will prepare a Board of Supervisor Agenda Item.

## **COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

**District 1:** No report at this time.

**District 2:** No report at this time.

**District 3:** Chris Massa and Gabriel Gonzales attended the Cultural Competency training in San Diego.

Tanya Perry stated that the Big Bear Mental Health Alliance met with DBH last week. They came away from the meeting feeling very hopeful.

**District 4:** Jane Mercer stated that the Homeless Tent City is gaining worldwide attention as an experiment in homelessness and a tremendous opportunity for the city of Ontario to do something exemplary. She believes it is important to support the city. The project has had its problems with drug dealers and people from other states and out of county who temporarily increased the population from 150-450. The city moved in aggressively reducing the service population to 250 Ontario residents. Yesterday, the city moved everyone out of the central area to construct a proper camp; putting in barbeques and fire pits. Most outsiders have left and picture ID cards have been issued. Tonight is the first meeting of city, churches and non-profits. Jane actively works on getting SSI benefits and services for those.

Allan mentioned that Ralph's staff goes out to Tent City at least twice a week to provide assistance. We are working closely with the city of Ontario.

**District 5:** Veatrice Jews has been reading RFPs and working closely with the PEI Planning Committee.

Susan McGee-Stehsel has been involved with the Nursing aspect of the Workforce Initiative at Cal State. Susan also mentioned that she has not been called to review any RFPs. Rosa Gomez, Deputy Director, just so happened to have RFPs available for Susan.

**OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 2:02 p.m.

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*Nick Andonov*  
Chairperson

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*Debi Pasco*  
Clerk of the Commission