



**San Bernardino County
Behavioral Health Commission
Meeting Minutes**

**Date: Thursday, October 05, 2023
Time: 12:00pm – 2:00pm**

Minutes Recorded and Transcribed by: *John Granado, Office Assistant III*

OPENING REMARKS	PRESENTER	ACTION/OUTCOME
A. Call to Order	Commissioner Spence on behalf of Chair, Dr. Caffey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting called to order; attendees were welcomed.
B. Pledge of Allegiance	Commissioner Spence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Led group in Pledge of Allegiance.
C. Roll Call – BH Commission/ Introductions	Clerk of the Commission, Marybel Valadez	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conducted roll call by District; introductions followed.
CONSENT ITEM(S)		
D. Approve July 06, 2023 and September 07, 2023 Minutes (Tab 6)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes from 7/6/2023 were reviewed and motion to approve was made by unidentified commissioner, motion was seconded by unidentified commissioner, minutes were approved. Minutes from 9/7/2023 were reviewed and motion to approve was made by unidentified commissioner, motion was seconded by unidentified commissioner, minutes were approved.
PUBLIC COMMENT (3-minute time limit)		
	<p>Linda Hart</p> <p>Garth Pezant, Sr.</p> <p>Helen Beyene</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Questioned last months minutes which had a public comment where there was no feedback, asking if there is someone who can reach out to her. She thanked the commission for their time and all their efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice Chair Navarro apologized for the lack of response, asked for her contact information and asked staff to respond to her inquiry. He asked the microphones be checked as they are cutting out. He is concerned about how one's looks can be perceived in public, specifically at the courthouse, believing they are treated differently in the eyes of judges, DA's and public defenders. He remarked you have a higher chance of being detained because of your appearance in court. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice Chair Navarro thanked Garth for his comments. As a caregiver, she appreciates the commission and wanted to make them aware of certain obstacles she has encountered regarding medication. Certain hospitals have been dismissive and issues getting the right medication to the appropriate patient. It's a matter of giving medication that is not correct and was reported to the board. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vice Chair Navarro thanked Helen and asked the secretary to reach out to address her concerns. There were no more public comments.
INFORMATION ITEMS		



<p>E. New Business – Action Items</p>	<p>Vice Chair, Gil Navarro on behalf of Chair, Dr. Caffey</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioners Mink and Jews volunteered for the awards ceremony. After Miranda Canseco went over the duties, Commissioner Dr. Samuel volunteered. A motion was made by Dr. Merino that Commissioners Dr. Samuel, Mink and Jews be accepted as volunteers. The motion was seconded by unidentified commissioner and passed. • Chair Dr. Caffey requested Election of Officers be moved to the November meeting as she is not present. Dr. Merino advised that she will not be present for the November meeting, however, she can still be part of the vote. Item tabled until the November meeting.
<p>F. Commissioners Reports</p>		
	<p>Michael Grabhorn</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the Partners Against Violence seminar held by San Bernardino Sexual Assault Services discussing the importance of fathers in the family, schools and committees. As an example, his granddaughter asked why everyone was female except him; where he replied women have more compassion, are more involved and have empathy. He expressed his thanks for the female’s participation in the various happenings. • The High Desert Community Coalition, sponsored by DBH, distributed 144 doses of NARCON, some through ministers and some through the churches. They are working on a NARCON vending machine at Victor Valley college as a new Senate bill was introduced that all community colleges and state schools should distribute NARCON through the schools with instruction on what it is for and how to be used. • Attended the Special Session meeting and thanked everyone for their attendance. He compared this to a meet and greet noting it was nice to spend time with everyone individually and hoped to keep building the relationships. • The 3rd district DAC that takes place the third Thursday of the month in person and through WebEx. This meeting has Susan Padilla who is with God’s Hand Extended in the High Desert that provides furniture, with a specialty in beds, for those in need including those from the shelter who will be moving into housing. • Mentioned a bill trying to pass through on the Governor’s desk regarding penny loans which would make shelters exempt from fire extinguishers. If passed it would save thousands of dollars on construction company loans. • Vice Chair Navarro thanked him for all his efforts.
	<p>Pastor Mark Graham</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussed a victory in court advocacy freedom; a young man, with help from the district attorney, facing 16 months in prison and who made a mistake in a victimless crime, had 18 months of mental health treatment presented to the court where they agreed to let this young man continue his treatment and



		<p>employment avoiding the sentence and remain a mental health advocate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing mental health counseling with the survivors of the fires and the East Palestine people that are still there dealing with issues happening there. Highlighting trauma and developing strategies for women at Victor Valley high School, a mentoring program has been developed for young women that have experienced trauma and are currently dealing with disciplinary issues. Working with the city of Victor Valley, high risk service coordinator and the High Desert resource center for the homeless and suffering from mental health concerns for a crisis center where they will have a place for advocacy work. Met with the San Bernardino County public defender concerning mental health diversion and truancy programs for the youth in the High Desert. Working on updating the DAC presentation for the High Desert Meeting scheduled with Lt. Avila with the High Desert Detention Center to evaluate the transportation program which has transported 31,479 from jail ensuring safe passage. 9/27/23 meeting to set up the Mary program in the High Desert communities which was the Behavioral Health consensus meeting where a relationship conference was scheduled for 9/29/23. Vice chair Navarro thanked him for his efforts.
	Dr. Valerie Samuels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended the Recovery Happens event at the NOS events center. She was able to meet many partners in DBH and throughout the area with the opportunity to speak with people from the community and young men who just got out of West Valley discussing life and what is going on with one another. The 2nd district DAC featured the Substance Abuse Unit's innovative program where young individuals try to develop a contingency plan for treatments. San Bernardino County is taking action to allow them to finish treatment so they can function better at their abilities. Attended a workshop with PAWS working with both dog training and as a therapeutic group for people throughout the county. Will be working on presenting to communities. Vice chair Navarro thanks her for her volunteerism.
	Allie Mink	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Thanked the attendees for taking time out of their day to participate and recognized Mental Health Awareness Week, established by congress in 1990. Huge strides have been made but we are not there yet. A teen helpline was established available from 9:00am to 10:00pm at 1-800-950-6264.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress has also been made in NPSS. Recognizing some of the advocates, she explained the importance peers and families. • Attended the VA caregiver program on 9/7/23 which featured several speakers and a panel. Interest was shown as many VA members deal with mental health. • Attended Harris Middle School on 9/13/23 making contact with 750 students informing them mental health conditions develop early, before the age of 22 and needing to know what signs to look out for. • Attended the Rialto 2nd annual mental health event at the Steelworker’s Auditorium in Rialto. The event was well attended with representatives throughout the community with presentations on mental health. • Attended the CA Native American day at the Morongo Center on 9/19/23. There were speakers, songs, a basket activity, a blessing with tribal members and a professor who presented on CA Native American history. • Attended Recovery Happens at NOS where she noted the enthusiasm, presentations, and music. • Attended Sounds of Recovery at Valley College featuring lots of purple and was well attended. There was much insight and talent displayed through the arts with conversation centered on why the participants were here. • The 3rd district DAC will be Wednesday @ 11am and starting next month will be virtual. She recommended everyone log on and participate to hear about the wants and needs of the community. • 10/21/23 there will be a Seeds of Hope event with conversations about mental health. • Participating in The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention Out of the Darkness walk, also on 10/21/23 • The National Day of Prayer will be happening next week. • There will be two NAMI walk events. 10/21/23 in Victorville and 11/4/23 in Diamond Valley Lake. Events will have presenters and information on mental health with the purpose of letting the community of our presence. • With Halloween coming up, the stigma of mental health is subject to come up. If we “see something, say something”, please be compassionate and be on the lookout. • Vice chair Navarro thanked her for her work and support.
	<p>Commissioner Dr. Merino</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended the DAC which focused on substance abuse prevention programs, recovery, and suicide prevention. This showed county outreach among the communities. It was also International Overdose Awareness Day. • An after-school session was conducted talking about awareness. • There was a special meeting last week on transformational leadership resulting in a reset of the commission.

	Commissioner Jews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vice chair Navarro thanked her for her efforts. • Attended a presentation on aging. Discussed was the need for caregivers as we get older and resources. • A luncheon on Friday provided interesting feedback by the community. The more information they can give to the commission, the more resources can be made available. • Attended a presentation by Dr. Hougden and Vice chair Navarro talking about the wellness centers. • Attended the commission special session last week which benefitted everyone as it was a time to assess ourselves and reset. As volunteers, we needed to take a step back and see how we interact with each other and the community. • Yesterday was the first meeting of the Data Notebook committee and there will be more information to follow. • Vice chair Navarro thanked her for her volunteerism. • The student wellness center meeting, which was televised and sponsored by the school district, was attended by both the superintendent and assistant superintendents, along with directors who meet once a week to talk about what is happening in the district. This was the second of two meetings with the ultimate goal to make a presentation to school board members. The response has been positive. The facilitator stated that they implemented a wellness center at every middle and high school. The purpose is to allow students to voice mental health concerns and go to a safe place to speak with an individual to get some direction. • Attended a children's mental health conference in Ontario with a presentation on suicide prevention by Dr. Hougden. He liked the way workshops were presented as the one he attended in Anaheim had over 1,000 people attending. The smaller attendance made it seem more personal. A video was presented showing the part of the brain that impacts mental health. Chair Dr. Caffey was asked to consider this presentation for a future meeting. • As Commissioner Jews stated, on 9/28/23 a special session took place focusing part on the Brown Act. As commissioners they have to follow state law. • Supervisor Joe Baca Jr. will be attending a San Bernardino school board meeting, location TBD, presenting a check for \$1.5 million for a student wellness center in the school district offering other services including than mental health. • Thanked those in attendance for their participation today. She was invited to IEHP where a master plan on aging was posted. State and SCAN representatives talked about what is going on in CA. reporting in 2015 there was a "Silver Tsunami" where people turning 65 is at 700%. She said we need to start thinking about how we deal with what do we do with our families as we pass on. How do we make sure we have hospice care? She mentioned seniors who stay home,
	Vice chair Navarro	
	Commissioner Summers	



		<p>afraid to go out asking if they had gardens to get them outside. Can they join some of the youth , girl/boy scouts that can assist in bridging the gap.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Went to St. Paul AME for a meeting allowing them to target what was going on in the communities. • Spoke with classmates at CSUSB regarding pressures of money, grades and expectations. She has been talking to the clubs offering our numbers and assistance to avoid “doom and gloom”. • Vice chair Navarro thanked her.
<p>G. Subject Matter Presentation: Mental Health Court Program</p>	<p>Martha Parra for Dr. Alyce Belford-Saldana, Deputy Director, Behavioral Health</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hardcopies of the presentations were available at the meeting and Satellite locations for those in attendance and can be accessed via the BHC website. • Q&A • Vice chair Navarro: this program is for those over 18. Is there a program for juvenile court? Answer: Yes, there is a program, the juvenile justice program. Should any clients have a juvenile participant they can reach out for referrals. • Vice chair Navarro: with recent shootings, why are school districts not identified? Answer: The mental health referral process states referrals come through the court in coordination with probation, DA, public defender and DBH. This is in relation to those that have been detained in county detention centers. However, as part of the program, any person going through treatment one component provided is to go through adult school. If they have a felony offence, they would go through their public defender and make a referral to the court for individuals to participate, but the youth would be incarcerated. It was noted gun violence is not always linked to mental health. Vice chair thanked Martha for her presentation.
<p>H. Director’s Report</p>	<p>Dr. Georgina Yoshioka, Director, Behavioral Health</p> <p>Miranda Canseco</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She acknowledged everyone’s presence and thanked them. • A check for \$2 million dollars of state funding through Assemblyman Reyes-Gomez for renovation to the Crisis Residential treatment facility in Fontana, open since 2018 with 16 individuals living there 365 days a year. Upgrades include appliance being more industrial and electrical upgrades. • This Tuesday, another state issued \$2 million dollars from Senator Lowe’s office in the High Desert for the CRT in Victorville. Similar renovation work will be completed. • Working with the county administration office to get some earmarked funds for something in the Needles area. • It was announced we have two new assistant directors: Jennifer Alsina and Marina Espinosa. • Public affairs update: September was National Recovery Month. Two events took place; Recovery Happens which had a great turnout with over 2,000 attendees and over 50



	Maribel Gutierrez	<p>vendors with an annual volleyball game. There was an annual banner contest which was won by Upland Residential Women. Pictures are available on celebratebh.com. The second event was Sound of Recovery at San Bernardino Valley College with 175 attendees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The department will be sponsoring the IE Out of Darkness walk 10/21/23 at 9am in Rancho Cucamonga. DBH will have a booth with Assistant Director Espinosa speaking. The department will be participating in 30 October events. Hispanic Heritage Month will include nurturing mental health strategies for the Latinx community with a virtual training from 9am to 11am; more information to come. There will be training 10/18/23 engaging with Muslim American communities providing continued education. Continue to monitor the Health Services Act currently on the Governor's desk. The BOS and CAO offices are actively communicating through the CA Association of Counties and Director's Association for updates. Luther Snoke and Diane Rundles will provide as much information as possible. Vice chair Navarro is working with Marybel and the school district to bring in cultural competency training. It is supported if we can get three consultants to come in and train.
I. Outside Agencies and Other Reports		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The office of consumer county affairs for DBH will be having an event by the spiritual subcommittee. With 14 subcommittees, each has events throughout the year that portrays what they do. The audience has been invited to attend and if they can please register first.
Adjournment	Vice Chair, Gil Navarro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The meeting was adjourned.
Next Meeting		<p>DATE/TIME: Thursday, November 2, 2023 12:00pm – 2:00pm LOCATION: 850 E. Foothill Blvd., Rialto, CA 92376 – Auditorium</p>

ATTENDANCE

FIRST DISTRICT	SECOND DISTRICT	THIRD DISTRICT	FOURTH DISTRICT	FIFTH DISTRICT
<p>Lorrie Denson <i>Absent - Extended Leave</i></p>	<p>Dr. Valerie Samuel <i>Present</i></p>	<p>Troy Mondragon <i>Not Present</i></p>	<p>Dr. Monica Caffey <i>Not Present</i></p>	<p>Gil Navarro <i>Not Present</i></p>
<p>Michael Grabhorn <i>Present</i></p>	<p>Jennifer Oglesby <i>Not Present</i></p>	<p>Allie Mink <i>Present</i></p>	<p>Jennifer Spence <i>Not Present</i></p>	<p>Veatrice Jews <i>Present</i></p>
<p>Pastor Mark Graham <i>Present</i></p>	<p>VACANT</p>	<p>VACANT</p>	<p>Dr. Akin Merino <i>Present</i></p>	<p>Lynn Summers <i>Present</i></p>

GUESTS

Dr. Georgina Yoshioka, Samuel Shoup, Aidery Hernandez, John Granado, Brittny Rodriguez, Maria Hernandez, Justin Cops, Connie Harrison, Rachel Miller, Isabel Vasquez, Garth Pezant Sr., Stacey McDaniel, Jolena Grider, Mark Franks, Adriana Velasco, Gilberta, R., Valerie Adayo, Jennifer Pacheco, Catherine Fergusen, Amber Carpenter, Cynthia Rath-Felton, Miriam Clark, Bethanne Fishell, Metra Jacobs, Kassandra Gomez, Karen Cervantes, Nicole Woodward, Allison Cunningham, Laretta Ross, Patricia Parker, Bryan Clark, Janet Arzola, Dr. Timothy Hougen, Rebecca Irwin, Leann Mast, Lexie McCoy, Mitzy Vazquez, Erin Zamora, Jaclyn Garcia, Alice Alvarez, Steven Jackson, Spencer Fernandez, Edith Lockerman, Linda Hart, Rebecca Scott Young, LaKeshia Mosley, Gabriel Ham, Sean Knuckenber, Miranda Canseco, Vivian Bermudez, Melanie Porges, Marlen Hernandez, Jordi Marquez, Margaret Spencer, Leon Beamon, Karen Urqua, Matty Landa, Gabriela Gonzalez, Helen Beyene