

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION



Meeting Minutes
July 6, 2016
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

BHC MEETING ATTENDANCE JULY 6, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT	
Richard Divine, District 4, <i>Chair</i>	Rick Gentillalli, District 3, <i>Vice Chair</i>
Ric Riccardi, District 5	Carole Schaudt, District 4
Daryl Terrell, District 5	Greg Damewood, District 5
James Stuart, District 1	Walter Haessler, District 1
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	Jason Farin, BOS Representative
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	George Middle, District 2

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT	
Julie Crouch, District 2, <i>Secretary</i>	

OTHERS PRESENT	
Steve Steinberg, Director	Maria Mabey, Assistant Director
Bill Brenneman, MHSA Administrator	Gloria Hernandez, MCRB
Robert Hansen, Celebrate Recovery Speaker	Lynne Brockmeier, RUHS-BH, Housing
Louisa Hayton, Guest	Vicki Redding, MHS Administrator
Kevin Festa, RI International	Dawn Gordon, Guest
Dr. Dildar Ahmad, Guest	Stephen Cromwell, Guest
Lupe Stoneburner, Soroptimist House of Hope	Cynthia "Oma" Gray, Soroptimist House of Hope
Ron Hoffman, RI International	Richard Bolter, RUHS-BH, SAPT
Ryan Quist, RUHS-BH, Research	Linda Dixon, Guest
Dr. Jaswinder Walia, RUHS-BH, Older Adults	Tony Ortego, MHS Administrator
Tiffany Keeler, RI Consulting	Angela Igrisan, Assistant Director
Rick Algarin, RUHS-BH, Family Advocate	Maria Rodrigues, RUHS-BH, Family Advocate
Laurence Gonzaga, IEHP	Anthony Taffolla, YAUTS
Tom Peterson, RUHS-BH	Maureen Dopson, RUHS-BH
Pedro Arciniega, RUHS-BH	Dana Thomas, Guest
Quianta Thomas	Kim McElroy, MCRB
James Lucero, ASOC/WRB	Anthony Salazar, YAUTS
Sundae Sayles, BOS Representative, District 3	Leonel Contreras, Provider
Deborah Pagliuso, Provider	
Lilia Escobedo, BOS Representative, District 4	

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS – Chairperson, Richard Divine called the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting to order at 12:00 pm. Commission members and the public made self-introductions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS – None.

COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS – James Stuart inquired why the American flag is not displayed in the conference room. Steve Steinberg stated that it was not intentional and it simply had not occurred to management to place a flag in the conference room, however they will consider it.

PUBLIC REMARKS – Dana Thomas reported that her son, who is diagnosed as a paranoid schizophrenic, recently began receiving services at the Blaine Street Clinic and is doing exceptionally well. After several years of receiving poor service in other clinics, Ms. Thomas is grateful to have found the Blaine Street Clinic as her son is doing extremely well.

Ms. Thomas also raised the issue of AB1424. In April, Ms. Thomas asked to have this topic covered, but unfortunately missed the May BHC meeting where the topic was discussed. Ms. Thomas is requesting this issue be discussed further as there are still several clinics and hospitals that do not follow this bill.

Richard Bolter, Supervisor at the Corona Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program, announced that the Recovery Happens event will take place on Friday, September 30, from 9 am to 3 pm at the Rustin facility. The event will have ping pong and volleyball tournaments, a dunk tank, and live music. Flyers were available for more information.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – James Stuart moved to approve the minutes as written, Rick Gentillalli seconded the motion, all were in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried. Minutes were approved as written.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – Rick Algarin introduced the Celebrate Recovery Speaker, Bob Hansen. Mr. Hansen's son, Nick, is diagnosed with bipolar schizophrenia. His first episodes occurred when he was 17 and Mr. Hansen and his wife initially thought it was caused by drugs. Mr. Hansen brought Nick to a drug clinic where they learned that his episodes were not caused by drugs, but a psychological disorder. They were later referred to a psychiatrist who diagnosed Nick with bipolar schizophrenia. Nick was prescribed medication to manage his diagnosis, which worked well for several years. Things took a turn eight years later, in September of 2015 when Nick decided he no longer needed his medication and the weeks following this decision were a complete disaster. Mr. Hansen stated that it was the scariest time for him and his family. Nick was no longer a minor and they were no longer able to get help for their son without his consent or cooperation. They turned to a support group in Lake Elsinore where they met Christy. The first night they attended, Mr. Hansen and his wife were the only ones in attendance. This was fortunate for them because it allowed them to speak to Christy on a one-on-one basis. Mr. Hansen and his wife learned the process of navigating the mental health system, the services and programs offered by the County, where to take their son for treatment, and conservatorship. The following night Mr. Hansen received a follow-up call from Mr. Algarin, where he learned more about his son's condition and the options that he and his wife could take in order to better care for Nick. Mr. Algarin informed Mr. Hansen that it was important to get Nick in front of a doctor to begin the process of getting him help. Mr. Hansen thought this would be an impossible feat until one night Nick requested an ambulance. Nick was evaluated by a psychiatrist, was placed under 5150, and brought to a lockdown facility in Chino. Since this incident, it was touch and go for several months as Mr. Hansen and his wife worked toward conservatorship for Nick. During this time Mr. Hansen continued to participate in the Family Advocate programs where he gained the education and support he and his wife needed. In mid-June of 2016, Nick was once again placed under 5150 at the Emergency Treatment Services (ETS) Facility in Riverside. This particular incident allowed Nick to see that his father only had his best interest in mind. Nick was officially placed under his father's conservatorship and has been medically compliant ever since. Mr. Hansen credits much of his success in properly caring for his son to the Family Advocate Program and its staff. Mr. Hansen stated that it is extremely important to have programs such as this in place as it allows people to gain the support and education they need when caring for a loved one that struggles with serious behavioral health issues.

NEW BUSINESS

1. CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS (CALBHB/C) UPDATE: Julie Crouch submitted a written report, which Mr. Divine provided to the Commission and the public on her behalf. The Southern Regional Elections were held at the Ontario Airport Hotel and Ms. Crouch, Mohamed Asiad from Imperial County, Phillip Deming from San Diego County, and Alisa Chatprapachai from Orange County were elected as Directors; Karyn Bates from Ventura County will serve as an alternate. The CALBHB/C also held their elections; Cary Martin from San Joaquin County will serve as President; Leslie Wilson from Lake County will serve as First Vice President; Ms. Crouch will serve as Second Vice President; Mae Sherman from Lassen County will serve as Secretary; and Beryl Nielsen from Napa County will serve as Treasurer.

The California Mental Health Planning Council (CMHPC) plans to release the Data Notebooks in August or September. This year's Data Notebook will focus on Transition Age Youth (TAY).

2. MERGE WESTERN REGION BOARD (WRB) WITH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION: Mr. Divine explained that the WRB has been struggling with membership for over a year and meetings have been reduced from monthly to bi-monthly. Because of this, he noted that the Executive Committee has offered the idea of merging the Western Region Board with the Behavioral Health Commission and encouraged open discussion about this suggestion. It was noted that the WRB meetings occur on the same date(s) and location as the BHC and two of the five members are active BHC members. The suggestion was made as a way to help promote and build membership for the WRB on a temporary basis. Mr. Divine assured the WRB members that the idea of merging the Regional Board with the Main Commission is not meant to seem like a punishment, it was simply an idea to try and help with membership.

Ric Riccardi moved to table the discussion item to September for more information, Greg Damewood seconded the motion, all were in favor, none opposed, and the motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

1. SUBSTANCE USE/ABUSE – DEPARTMENT OPINION: At the June BHC meeting a number of Commission members expressed their concern regarding the term "Substance Use" as currently used by the Department. There is a vast difference between an individual using substances – prescribed or otherwise – compared to an individual using a substance to the point of harmful dependence and/or an addiction. Dr. Haessler described "substance use" to be somewhat weak in terms of how it applies to the Department and those served by the programs. It does not accurately characterize the degree of services and programs. While the term "abuse" may be deemed somewhat insensitive, a number of Commissioners felt that a distinction must be made between those who "use" substances and those who "abuse" them. Dr. Haessler added that the DSM 5 and ICD 10 both do not use the term "abuse" and at some point the Department may want to follow DSM 5 and move toward "substance use disorder" because the term "abuse" is obsolete. Commissioners noted that services are in place to serve individuals who have developed a harmful dependence/addiction to substance, not those who simply use a substance.

Mr. Steinberg reported that after much consideration and research, Rhyan Miller's recommendation was to rename "Substance Use" to "Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program". The name embodies who we serve along with the purpose of the Department, which should help eliminate confusion. Mr. Steinberg added that it would also be consistent with the language used by the organizations that provide funding for these programs. With that stated, Mr. Steinberg announced that the Department is officially changing the name of Substance Use Program to Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program.

2. ROY'S DESERT RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE: At the June BHC meeting, there was a request from a Commissioner for an update from the Department on Roy's Desert Resource Center. Mr. Steinberg stated that RUHS-BH is not involved in the funding or administration of Roy's Desert Resource Center, therefore management is not in a position to provide an update or information regarding their services. Mr. Steinberg added that Roy's Desert Resource Center is funded by the cities in the desert, (i.e. Coachella, Palm Desert, etc.) and Riverside County's Department of Public Social Services (DPSS).

3. MHSA UPDATE: Bill Brenneman announced that the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY16/17 is finalized and going through the approval process. Currently, the Plan Update is at the Auditor Controller's Office (ACO) for review and approval. Once it is approved by the ACO, it will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisor's Office for review and approval followed by submission to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC).

Meetings with the MHSOAC continue regarding the implementation of new PEI guidelines. The implementation date has been pushed back to June 30, 2017. This is a significant change as the previous implementation date was December 2016, which is inconsistent with the reporting period for the Department's planning cycle. The new implementation date will allow MHSA to follow the community planning timeline and sync it with the new regulations. The MHSOAC is aware that the new regulations will not be fully implemented by June 30, 2017; however they will accept the data that can be compiled within that time period. A planning committee has been formed with the Research Department to start developing the implementation plan. Information will be shared with Executive Management once it is available.

4. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAM UPDATE: Rhyan Miller announced that the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) is currently in the process of reviewing the Department's proposal for the Drug MediCal Waiver. According to CMS, out of the 58 counties throughout the state, Riverside County has shown the most aggressive posture in revitalizing the Department's system of care. Mr. Miller thanks and credits the success of their proposal to the support and encouragement of Executive Management, the cooperation of various contract providers (specifically the Latino Commission, MFI, and Soroptimist House of Hope), and several supervisors and administrators that helped with research and development for the proposal. CMS and the Federal Government have shown great interest in one of the most notable features of the proposal, which is the case management of clients from the first day of treatment to outpatient and recovery services. The contract providers have shown great initiative in demonstrating that this feature can be implemented successfully, which is above and beyond their current contract with the Department.

Mr. Miller reported that Joe Zamora, Deputy Director of Finance, inquired whether there was a way for the Friday Night Live (FNL) Program to reach more kids without increasing its current budget. Mr. Miller stated that by cutting certain costs (i.e. travel costs for training) and using resources already in place, it is possible for FNL to increase its outreach to the children without increasing the current budget. The FNL Program's goal for the upcoming year is to expand their services and include additional activities for community youth.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – At the June BHC meeting, a number of Commissioners expressed concern regarding assistance being denied to veteran clients because of insurance reasons. Mr. Steinberg explained that a few years ago this issue was addressed and clinic staff, managers, and administrators were instructed to discuss options with veteran clients if they did not qualify for our services. Part of this directive was to follow through with veteran clients and provide proper linkage to other appropriate services. It seems that over the years this practice has fallen by the wayside. Mr. Steinberg informed the Commission that he recently sent a directive to all clinic staff, managers, and administrators to re-establish this procedure and to ensure that the Department does not deny assistance and services to our nation's heroes.

Mr. Steinberg addressed the articles recently published by the Press Enterprise regarding incidents that occurred at ETS. Through lack of proper monitoring, a young woman attempted to hang herself. Both behavioral health and the medical center underwent an evaluation from the state and federal government and were provided recommendations on how to address the shortcomings that led to this incident. Mr. Steinberg reported that significant changes have been made and new guidelines have been implemented as approved by the state and federal government.

Lastly, Mr. Steinberg announced that the Department recently filled two leadership positions: 1) Assistant Director of Programs, and 2) Mental Health Peer Policy and Planning Specialist, also known as the Family Advocate Program Manager. The new Assistant Director of Programs is Angela Igrisan, who previously served as the Program Administrator for Children's Services. The new Family Advocate Program Manager is Rick Algarin, who served as a Senior Peer Support Specialist for the Family Advocate Program for several years. Both

Mr. Algarin and Ms. Igrisan have done tremendous work and Mr. Steinberg congratulated them both on their promotions.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

DESERT REGIONAL BOARD: Mr. Divine reported that they continued to review their May is Mental Health Month Art Show event and proclamation pick-ups. They are beginning to plan for next year's Art Show and hope to secure the Date Festival Grounds to host to event.

MID-COUNTY REGIONAL BOARD: Kimberly McElroy reported that they also continued to discuss and review their May is Mental Health Month event and are looking to establish a subcommittee in September to begin planning next year's event. The Regional Board is also reviewing the bylaws and discussing ways in which they can better meet the standards as set forth. In addition, they are examining their site review process and are hoping to improve it so they can complete more reports with increased efficiency and consistently in the coming year.

WESTERN REGIONAL BOARD: Greg Damewood reported that Dr. Kurt Reh is now the new supervisor for the Jefferson Wellness Center and Cherrlynn Hubbard will be overseeing the Blaine Clinic. The Lifestyle Center is doing well and the Health Educator is doing a great job at engaging with all those who attend the workshop and demonstrations. Full Service Partnership (FSP), Emergency Treatment Services (ETS), and Inpatient Treatment Facility (ITF) are working to improve their post-hospital release services. Parent Partner, Valai Brown, recently received an award from the United Advocates for Children and Families (UACF) in Sacramento on April 25. Senior Peer Support Specialist (SPSS) Kristen Duffy will provide informational presentations at ITF's Units A, B, and C on substance abuse and will have someone available to assist with linkage services on Mondays from 9:30 am – 11:45 am. SPSS will perform warm hand off to CARES line and/or the hospital staff if a patient is open to substance abuse services. Lastly, Mr. Damewood reported that for the first time in a long time, all of the Peer Support Specialist positions in the Western Region are filled.

ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE: Carole Schaudt reported that she did not attend the June 30 meeting, but shared that she had recently met with the CEO of Sunline to address the bus service issues in the Desert. During the meeting, Ms. Schaudt learned that the placement of bus stops and services are determined by the citizens of the desert cities along with the city council. If the public and city council decide they do not need bus service in a particular location, Sunline will not add or provide transportation service in that area.

James Lucero attended the June 30 meeting and reported that the Transportation Subcommittee has achieved additional success with the transportation service for Rustin. There is now a short bus also serving the area in addition to the regular bus line. Bus line 13 travels from Rustin to Tyler Mall on an hourly basis. Bus line 50 is a local bus and stops at Rustin every 30 minutes. They are also waiting for shelters to be placed at the bus stop. Kathy Mauro attended a board meeting at Riverside Transit Agency (RTA) and discussed the possibility of providing additional stops at the cul-de-sac near ETS throughout the day. The Access Subcommittee is moving forward and Mr. Lucero met with Robert Youssef, Community Resource Educator, regarding the development of an open and central share point system that would serve multiple information systems throughout the County. Mr. Youssef has agreed to allow Mr. Lucero and others to attend their planning sessions for the Peer Navigation Line with IT to gain more background on what is required to move forward with their project.

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE: Tori St. Johns congratulated Angela Igrisan for her promotion to Assistant Director of Programs and stated that she will be missed at Children's Services. On behalf of Julie Crouch, Ms. St. Johns provided the report for Children's Committee. Ms. St. Johns reported that the Pets Assisting in Recovery (PAIR) Program provided a presentation and they learned that most of the Riverside clinics have therapy animals. PAIR works in conjunction with the Riverside Animal Shelter who provides animals that they deem appropriate to serve as therapy animals. Animals are selected and given extensive training prior to being assigned to a clinic. DPSS reported they had 185 foster youth who recently graduated and 198 baskets were donated for graduation gifts. The additional baskets will be used for future graduations. The Children's Services' Backpack Drive has received 95 backpacks donated by Kaiser. Lastly, the Parent Partners Program recently received a donation of 15,000 swim goggles for children. Those interested in receiving goggles for youth groups should contact Rachel Douglas via email: RDouglas@rcmhd.org.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE: Mr. Damewood announced that CJC did not meet in June as their meetings are bi-monthly. Their next meeting is Wednesday, July 13 at 12:00 pm and will be held at the Forensics building located at 3625 14th Street. Mr. Damewood reported that at their May meeting, staffing updates for Detention were provided. Detention positions are 50% filled and the Department has partnered with Human Resources to recruit additional staff. There are 200 individuals currently undergoing the Sheriff Department's background process. From March 1 through April 30, the AB109 report shows that there were 170 new detention screenings and 644 detention assessments. There are currently 814 duplicated detention clients and 863 unduplicated mental health clients currently receiving services. AB109 client totals are: 174 outpatient; 101 residential/detox; and 68 Narcotics Treatment Program (NTP) for a total of 343. There are 198 clients participating in Family Preservation Court: 77 in Riverside, 71 in Hemet, and 50 in Indio.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Dr. Haessler reported that they are still awaiting response from County Counsel regarding their inquiry about the purpose of the Legislative Committee if the BHC is not tasked with taking a position on legislation. Dr. Haessler noted that the Committee needs more members and suggested having the BHC's Board of Supervisor Representative also attend the meeting as they are aware of upcoming and current legislations and can provide more information. Jason Farin stated that he will take it into consideration and that his attendance will be contingent upon his availability.

OLDER ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE COMMITTEE: Ric Riccardi reported that on Wednesday, June 29, DPSS hosted their Third Annual Elder Abuse Symposium at Indian Wells. Mr. Riccardi noted that there were 430 people in attendance with well over 100 people on the waiting list. Breakout sessions included Early Detection of Neurodegenerative Illness, Financial Elder Abuse Investigations, and Conservatorship.

VETERANS COMMITTEE: Mr. Gentillalli reported that Nat O'Brien from San Bernardino Behavioral Health attended the meeting and shared that they post a sheet, listing the phone numbers of their other locations, outside all their behavioral health facilities. Individuals may check the list for alternative service in the event a facility is closed. They also received an update on the Regional Emergency Assessment at Community Hospitals (REACH) and Community Response Evaluation and Support Teams (CREST). REACH is a behavioral health services team that works in conjunction with law enforcement who respond to hospital emergency departments throughout the county to help divert individuals to ITF rather than being admitted to ETS. CREST is similar to REACH, however, they respond to incidents occurring in the field at the request of law enforcement to assist officers in evaluating individuals who are experiencing a mental health crisis. Lastly, Mr. Gentillalli announced that San Bernardino has invited all members of the Commission and the public to attend their Veterans Committee meetings. Meetings are on the first Monday of every month from 3:00 - 5:00 pm and are held in the auditorium at 303 East Vanderbilt Avenue.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – Mr. Damewood requested a discussion regarding the BHC's Training – to set a date and determine topics they would like to discuss.

ADJOURN – Mr. Divine announced that the BHC is dark in August and will reconvene in September. Mr. Stuart moved to adjourn the meeting, Rick Gentillalli seconded the motion, all were in favor, none opposed, and the meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Maria Roman

Julie Crouch, BHC Secretary
Maria Roman, Recording Secretary

2016 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBERS	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓			
Carole Schaudt, District 4	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Daryl Terrell, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
George Middle, District 2				✓	A	✓	✓			
Greg Damewood, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
James Stuart, District 4	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Jason Farin, District 2	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓			
Julie Crouch, District 2	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A			
Ric Riccardi, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Richard Divine, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Rick Gentillalli, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Walter Haessler, District 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

Present = ✓
Absent = A
Medical Leave = (ML)

Minutes and agendas of meetings are available upon request and online at www.rcdmh.org. To request copies, please contact the BHC Liaison at (951) 955-7141 or email at MYRoman@rcmhd.org.