

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION



Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2016
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

BHC MEETING ATTENDANCE OCTOBER 5, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT	
Rick Gentillalli, District 3, <i>Vice Chair</i>	Ric Riccardi, District 5
Daryl Terrell, District 5	Greg Damewood, District 5
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	Walter Haessler, District 1
George Middle, District 2	

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT	
Julie Crouch, District 2, <i>Secretary</i>	Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4
Richard Divine, District 4, <i>Chair</i>	Carole Schaudt, District 4
Jason Farin, BOS Representative	

OTHERS PRESENT	
Karen O'Rear, RUHS-BH	Kristen Duffy, RUHS-BH
Sharon E. Lee, RUHS-BH	Bill Breneman, RUHS-BH
Brenda Scott, NAMI	May Farr, NAMI
Lupe Stoneburner, Provider	Leonel Contreras, Provider
Stephanie Marsh, RUHS-BH	Cynthia "Oma" Gray, Provider
Ryan Quist, RUHS-BH	Steve Steinberg, RUHS-BH Director
Rick Algarin, RUHS-BH	Cristal Salcido, Provider
Kami Winston, RUHS-BH	Jewel Thompson, NAMI
Gloria Gaitan, Provider	Rosalinda Sheppard, RUHS-BH
Silvia Pena, RUHS-BH	Sylvia Aguirre Aguilar, RUHS-BH
Kathryn Mauro, RUHS-BH	Julie Curran, RUHS-BH
Selvino Moscare, Guest	Heidi Gomez, RUHS-BH
Andrew Williams, RUHS-BH	Dawn Gordon, Guest
April Jones, RUHS-BH	Pedro Arciniega, RUHS-BH
Deborah Johnson, RUHS-BH	Claudia Smith, RUHS-BH
Tony Ortego, RUHS-BH	Maria Rodriguez, Guest
Ron Hoffman, Provider	Vicki Redding, RUHS-BH
Barbara Mitchell, Office on Aging	Karen Hudson, Provider
Kevin Festa, Provider	Dana Thomas, Guest
Anita Six, Provider	Eve Hauptmann, Guest
Kim McElroy, MCRB	Robyn Kelley, Provider
Alicia Hermosillo, RUHS-BH	Rosa Jimenez, RUHS-BH
Tony Orona, RUHS-BH	Maria Mabey, RUHS-BH
Brian Betz, RUHS-BH	Stephen Cromwell, Guest

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS – Vice Chairperson, Rick Gentillalli, called the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting to order at 12:03 pm. Commission members and the public made self-introductions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS – Rick Gentillalli announced that he will be facilitating the meeting in the absence of Chairperson, Richard Divine, and Secretary, Julie Crouch.

COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS – Ric Riccardi shared an article from Westways Magazine regarding Proposition 64. The Auto Club strongly opposes Proposition 64; they believe that passing the bill would pose traffic-safety risks and increase the problem of impaired driving.

George Middle mentioned an article from the Press Enterprise's Editorial Page that supports Proposition 64. The article raises the issue of criminalizing marijuana; thousands of people are arrested and convicted for minor offenses, which contributes to the overcrowding of jails. Mr. Middle noted that it is important that citizens look at both sides of Proposition 64 before casting their vote in November.

Rick Gentillalli added that the views and opinions expressed by members of the Commission are not necessarily shared by all members of the Commission.

Greg Damewood reported that he attended the Recovery Happens event on Friday, September 30. Mr. Damewood stated that it was well-attended and that Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment did a wonderful job putting the event together.

PUBLIC REMARKS – Jewel Thompson from Western Riverside NAMI announced that they are holding their first Annual Evening of Recognition on Saturday, January 14. The first honoree to receive recognition will be Riverside University Health System – Behavioral Health Director, Steve Steinberg. That evening, they will also be introducing a new program called "Home Front", which is a program designed to address the needs of our veterans and their families. More details about the event will be provided as they become available.

Brenda Scott announced that the NAMI Walk will be held on October 29 at Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet. Those interested in having a resource table at the event may contact Ms. Scott for further details. Ms. Scott thanked Dana Thomas for coordinating with Walgreens to participate at the NAMI Walk by providing free flu shots. Walgreens agreed to provide up to 200 free flu shots during the event. Should there be a need for more; Ms. Scott stated that they will make arrangements to increase availability.

Ms. Scott reported that the ride at Knott's Berry Farm, depicting an individual in a mental hospital on a 5150, was recently shut down. NAMI National along with Kay and Rick Warren and many others wrote letters to Knott's Berry Farm requesting the ride be closed. Ms. Scott stated that while the ride was successfully closed, there is currently a petition being circulated to re-open the ride.

BHC Liaison announced that the Snowflake Banner is now available. Those interested in participating were asked to speak to the Liaison at the end of the meeting for more details. Tori St. Johns added that they would like to include children and transition aged youth from Substance Abuse Prevention and Training Programs in the Snowflake Banner project.

May Farr announced that the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commission (CALBHBC) and Planning Council will be holding their statewide meeting in Folsom on October 20, 21, and 22.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Walter Haessler noted that on top of page 5 regarding site reviews, the clinic location mentioned was not Temecula. Ric Riccardi moved to approve the minutes as noted, George Middle seconded the motion, all were in favor, and none opposed. The minutes were approved as noted.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – Stephanie Marsh from the MOMS Program introduced the Celebrate Recovery Speaker, Rosie Flores. Rosie Flores entered the MOMS Program in 2011 after struggling with substance abuse for several years and serving over 13 years in prison. Ms. Flores was in an abusive relationship and struggled to raise her 4 year old son. In May of 2011, Ms. Flores made the decision to get sober and entered into a sober

living facility in Corona. During her recovery, she knew she needed help with raising her son. The manager at the sober living facility helped Ms. Flores enter the MOMS Program. The MOMS Program is a 3-month intensive day treatment program for mothers struggling with substance abuse. The program provides substance abuse treatment, parenting classes, transportation, one-on-one counseling, and childcare. After completing the 3-month program, Ms. Flores decided to stay longer because she knew she needed more help. MOMS helped Ms. Flores manage her anger and learn coping and prevention skills so she wouldn't relapse. She got a sponsor, participated in group meetings every day, and learned how to be a better parent. Ms. Flores stated that before entering the MOMS Program she struggled with parenting her child; she was impatient and would yell and spank her child. The MOMS Program helped her cope, without using, and how to be patient by managing her emotions.

Five years after completing the program, Ms. Flores finished school and now works as a Peer Support Specialist at a Full Service Partnership. Ms. Flores thanked Ms. Marsh and the MOMS Program for helping her get to where she is today.

NEW BUSINESS

1. BHC Bylaws Amendment: Two votes, as listed below, were made regarding amendments to the BHC Bylaws:

- i. WIC 5604 Amendment – The Welfare and Institutions Code 5604 recently added language regarding consumer membership (*WIC 5604(2) A consumer of mental health services who has obtained employment with an employer described in paragraph (1) and who holds a position in which he or she does not have any interest, influence, or authority over any financial or contractual matter concerning the employer may be appointed by the board. The member shall abstain from voting on any financial or contractual issue concerning his or her employer that may come before the board.*)

The BHC Bylaws must reflect this change and thus require approval from the BHC to amend. Mr. Gentillalli called for a vote; with one abstention and six in ayes, the amendment was approved.

- ii. In June 2016, Dr. Walter Haessler raised the issue of the BHC not having the authority to take a position on behavioral health related legislation, which makes the Legislative Committee ineffective. Dr. Haessler suggested adding wording to the BHC Bylaws to provide such authority and requested an inquiry be made to County Counsel regarding the addition. County Counsel stated that an addition can be made and is subject to Board of Supervisor's approval.

This addition would be placed under Article I, Section 3. Duties. Mr. Gentillalli called for a vote; with one abstention and six ayes, the amendment was approved.

2. RECOVERY HAPPENS EVENT WRAP-UP UPDATE: Rhyan Miller and Kristen Duffy provided the update in Nat Tollefson and Richard Bolter's absence. Mr. Miller reported that Recovery Happens is a consumer and family oriented national event that occur in the month of September. Throughout the month, cities across the nation celebrate this event. This year's theme was "Our Families, Our Stories, Our Recovery..." Mr. Miller stated that the County's Recovery Happens event started very humbly several years ago, with five vendors and approximately 50-60 people in attendance. This year's event drew over 50 vendors and 1,000 attendees. Mr. Miller thanked all the providers that participated as well as the staff and volunteers that helped. At the end of Mr. Miller and Ms. Duffy's report, they shared a video compilation highlighting the event's activities.
3. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION & TREATMENT – LATINO COMMISSION PROGRAM UPDATE: Cristal Salcido from the Latino Commission provided an overview of their program and services. The Latino Commission is a counseling center located in Coachella Valley offering a wide variety of mental health and substance abuse services. The counseling center is staffed by licensed clinicians, experienced therapists, and substance abuse counselors. They offer services to children, adolescents, adults, couples, and families to help address issues such as anxiety, stress, relationship issues, grief, and loss.

The Latino Commission offers two children's services: the Kids First Program and Strengthening Families Program. The Kids First Program serves families with children 0-5 years of age. The Kids First Program provides parenting classes, counseling, and case management services. The Strengthening Families

Program is a 14-week program for families with children ages 6-11. It is an evidence-based program with the goal to help strengthen parenting skills, build, and maintain strong familial relationships, and help prevent negative teen behaviors such as substance abuse. The Latino Commission also has an adolescent outpatient substance abuse program. The program teaches adolescents the pros and cons of substance abuse; how to cope and manage strong emotions, such as fear and anger; how to deal with difficult situations; and communication skills. Substance Abuse counselors provide individual and group therapy sessions with family, if needed.

The Latino Commission also has residential substance abuse programs – Casa Cecilia and Casa Las Palmas. Casa Cecilia is a women's facility located in Thermal and Casa Las Palmas is a men's facility located in Indio. Both facilities provide treatment plans prepared by their licensed therapists and licensed addiction specialists. Programs also offer Narcotics Anonymous (NA) and Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) meetings to all residents. Casa Cecilia's program services just expanded, as they recently received their Medi-Cal certification for perinatal treatment services.

Currently, there are two new youth treatment facilities in the licensing process in Indio and Coachella, with the anticipated opening date of January 2017. The Indio location will provide services to young men and the Coachella location will provide services to young women. Both locations are 24-hour facilities providing services to substance abuse and dual diagnosis clients. Durations of stay can vary from 30, 45, or 90 days and referrals are accepted throughout the County. Both facilities are staffed with licensed clinical social workers, substance abuse counselors, peer mentors, and independent study teachers to assist those in the treatment centers to complete their credits. Facilities also offer transportation, prescription, aftercare, outpatient counseling, and case management services for up to 12 months.

The Latino Commission also has outreach programs for schools and for the large farming population in Coachella Valley. Their school outreach program is in their second year and thus far has provided services to approximately 200 students.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **ASSEMBLY BILL 1424:** In April 2016, Steve Steinberg provided an overview of AB1424 and how the bill was implemented by the Department when it was passed in January 2002. AB1424 is a statute requiring those with the authority to place 5150 holds on individuals to consider collateral information (mental health history) provided by family members and/or significant others before making a determination. Mr. Steinberg pointed out two things regarding the bill: First, while the statute requires physicians and law enforcement officers to consider the information, it is up to their discretion to determine whether the information is applicable. Sometimes this result in a decision that goes against the family's wishes, which does not automatically mean that the physician or officer is in violation of AB1424. Secondly, Mr. Steinberg noted that there has been no litigation regarding the violation of AB1424 since its inception.

Dr. Andrew Williams, Mental Health Program Manager for Quality Improvement Inpatient and Patient's Rights, oversees the authorization of the 5150 process, which includes the training and monitoring of every 5150 hold within Riverside County, with the exception of law enforcement (although some data is submitted for tracking purposes). As part of their authorization training, a segment is included specifically addressing the importance of gathering and considering collateral information (AB1424) when performing an evaluation for 5150. During the training, they state that AB1424 not only allows physicians and officers to get input from family/significant others, but also *requires* them to gather this information. The language is strict so trainees understand that this is the law and they must abide by it. Those that attend and participate in the training range from County employees to private individuals from emergency, inpatient, and psychiatric facilities. In addition to the training and materials provided, they are also tested on the information prior to completion. The Family Advocate Program provides brochures in English and Spanish summarizing AB1424 to help inform families and significant others of their rights. If families and significant others are uncomfortable providing a verbal account of their loved ones behavioral health history, there are forms available in English and Spanish for written statements. Dr. Williams emphasized the importance of families providing this collateral information and for physicians and law enforcement officers to gather this information, as many times an individual in crisis may present well during an evaluation. Alternately, persons in crisis may not be in a state of mind to participate effectively in an assessment or cooperate in interviews. They can be highly

psychotic or responding to an internal stimulus and have difficulty orienting themselves to time, place, persons, or situations. Families and significant others know more about the historical context of past hospitalizations, previous suicide assessments, and other risk factors that can help physicians and law enforcement officers make a determination.

A member of the audience, Dana Thomas, who raised the issue in March 2016, was in disagreement with Mr. Steinberg and Dr. Williams, stating that her experience has been vastly different from what they say the system is providing. Ms. Thomas expressed her frustration about continually being ignored by staff members in hospitals when attempting to provide collateral information regarding her son's behavioral health history because it was deemed a violation of HIPAA laws. Ms. Thomas stated that she understands that she cannot be given medical information about her son due to HIPAA laws, but when *she* is providing information about her son *to* healthcare professionals, she is operating in accordance to AB1424. Ms. Thomas stated that the safety of consumers and the community at large is at risk because AB1424 is not being properly followed.

Mr. Steinberg addressed Ms. Thomas stating that he understands the fear, anger, and frustration that she is experiencing and understands her passion to remedy the issue. He asked to speak with her personally after the meeting to address this matter as a whole and discuss AB1424 and AB1421 with her further.

2. MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) UPDATE: Bill Brenneman reported that MHSA Administration is in the process of starting their new 3-Year Planning Process. The MHSA Planning and System of Care Committees will be circulating a Feedback Survey for people to provide written feedback during the planning process. Areas they plan to concentrate on are the TAY (Transition Age Youth) Collaborative, Older Adult System of Care Committee, Best Practices Committee, and the Criminal Justice Committee. The TAY Collaborative and Older Adult System of Care will be holding focus groups to address the recent reduction in CSS funded programs. The Best Practices Committee will be addressing access and timeliness of service recommendations and the Criminal Justice Committee will be discussing post-jail discharge activities.

MHSA will be working with the Behavioral Health Director's Association regarding performance outcome measures. Mr. Brenneman stated that they are currently involved in MOQA 3 (Measures, Outcomes, Quality, and Assessment) to look at some of the Department's prevention and non-full service partnership programs. These efforts are designed to address the negative press stemming from the Little Hoover Commission's report on MHSA and the use of funds.

During the last week of September, Rustin hosted a Mental Health First Aid Training. Nine Peer support staff participated in the training, which will now allow them to conduct this training to other groups throughout the county. The Mental Health First Aid Training is an 8-hour course aimed at identifying, understanding, and responding to mental health and substance abuse issues and how to respond to a crisis situation. There are two versions of this training – the first is designed for adults and the second is designed for children. Each individual that completed the training will be required to conduct at least three trainings annually. Maria Algarin from Prevention and Early Intervention will be the main contact for the program. Ms. Algarin will be tracking trainers and the number of trainings conducted each year.

3. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION AND TREATMENT PROGRAM (SAPT) UPDATE: Rhyan Miller reported that four years ago every single outpatient clinic had a waiting list and he and his staff were charged with finding a way to remedy that issue. Mr. Miller proposed an increase in capacity for all the clinics and Executive Management supported the proposal. Over the last several years they have worked on increasing staff capacity with existing clinics and contract providers as well as expanding and opening new clinics. Mr. Miller reported that in the last 12 months, all clinics have successfully eliminated waitlists and have experienced an increase in active client cases by 36%.

Contracts for the Drug Medi-Cal Waiver services are being finalized by the Department of Health Care Services. Once completed, they will be returned to the Department for Executive Management approval and submission to the Board of Supervisors. SAPT has started the Request for Quotation (RFQ) process and on Friday, October 7, the RFQ will be forwarded to all contract providers who have registered with the Purchasing Department as well as other vendors who provided their contact information. Mr. Miller noted that this is the first time they will release an RFQ which includes every SAPT service in one document (i.e. residential, detox, outpatient, intensive outpatient, medication assisted treatment, etc.). They recently held a

rate setting meeting with providers to discuss the different items they may want to consider when proposing their rates to the Department; as there are rate caps proposed by the State of California. Heidi Gomez from the Quality Improvement team and the clinical training team have been tasked by Mr. Miller to develop a timeline to train all providers on the new enhanced services by the launch date of January 1, 2017.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Mr. Steinberg announced that the second Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) will open in late October in the Desert Region. It will be located at 2500 North Palm Canyon Drive in Palm Springs. The first CSU opened in Riverside and the third, for the Mid-County Region, is currently in development. The Desert CSU will hold an open house on Monday, October 24, from 12:00pm – 3:00 pm and all were invited to attend.

Mr. Steinberg introduced the new Cultural Competency Manager, Sylvia Aguirre Aguilar. Ms. Aguilar provided an overview of her background which includes graduation from the University of California, Riverside, and Loma Linda University with a degree in Public Health. Ms. Aguilar has over 30 years experience working in public health and 11 years of experience in mental health. Ms. Aguilar has a varied and well-rounded background as she has worked in both the public and private sector.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

DESERT REGIONAL BOARD: N/A

MID-COUNTY REGIONAL BOARD: Kim McElroy reported that the Mid-County Region's Mental Health Services Administrator, Elaine Barron, is retiring on November 24.

WESTERN REGIONAL BOARD: Greg Damewood reported that meeting minutes from September were available. He also noted they are working on a project to provide assistance to seniors with holiday meals in December.

ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE: N/A

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE: N/A

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE: Mr. Damewood reported that staffing at the jails is at 70%, which presents a dilemma as 49% of inmate population struggling with behavioral health challenges and need services.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Dr. Haessler reported that the committee did not meet due to low attendance.

OLDER ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE COMMITTEE: Ric Riccardi reported that Bill Brenneman provided an MHS Update and Vicky Virgolio gave a presentation on In-Home Supportive Services. The committee also learned about Adult Protective Services (APS), which is designed to prevent elder abuse by providing community training and education. They also learned about the Care Program, which provides advocacy for seniors 65 and older as many dependent adults have become victims of consumer fraud. The Elder Abuse Forensics Center now has a Geriatrician that work in the field performing evaluations of elderly in their homes to determine environmental risks and if they would benefit from being placed in a facility instead of being alone at home.

VETERANS COMMITTEE: Rick Gentillalli reported that they continued discussions regarding the need for veterans services in the County. Mr. Gentillalli confirmed with Mr. Steinberg that letters and emails have been sent to clinics and facilities indicating veterans seeking services should not be turned away. Mr. Steinberg confirmed and will provide a copy of the email to Mr. Gentillalli.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – Greg Damewood requested an update on the “Stepping Up” Initiative.

ADJOURN – The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 2:03 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	✓	✓	✓	A	A	
Carole Schaudt, District 4	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
Daryl Terrell, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
George Middle, District 2				✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Greg Damewood, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Jason Farin, District 2	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
Julie Crouch, District 2	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	ML	ML	
Ric Riccardi, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Richard Divine, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
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.