

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION



Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2017
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

BHC MEETING ATTENDANCE FEBRUARY 1, 2017

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

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT	

OTHERS PRESENT	
Brian Tisdale, BOS Representative – 3 rd District	Richard Bolter, RUHS-BH
Vicki Redding, RUHS-BH	Nat Tollefson, RUHS-BH
Cynthia Oma Gray, Provider	Selvino Moscare, RUHS-BH
Araceli Ruiz, BOS Representative – 1 st District	Dawn Gordon, Guest
Ryan Quist, RUHS-BH	Ellaine Eubank, Guest
Claudia Smith, RUHS-BH	Steve Steinberg, RUHS-BH
Tony Ortego, RUHS-BH	Lisa Echols, RUHS-BH
Lynne Brockmeier, RUHS-BH	Sharon Lee, RUHS-BH
Brian Betz, RUHS-BH	Ashley Fuller, BOS Representative – 2 nd District
Deborah Pagliuso, Provider	Deborah Johnson, RUHS-BH
Kim McElroy, MCRAB	Jeannie Muleady, Guest
William Harris, RUHS-BH	Tiffany Ross, RUHS-BH
Nick Bettosini, RUHS-BH	Rita Bendlin, MCRAB
Conrad Akins Johnson, RUHS-BH	Sean Fordine, Guest
Nancy A., Guest	Ron Hoffman, Art Works
Sundae Sayles, BOS Representative – 3 rd District	April Jones, Guest
Brenda Scott, NAMI	Andrew Williams, RUHS-BH
John Robles, Guest	Babs Ludi K., Guest
Edward Armas, Guest	Maureen Dopson, RUHS-BH
Joe Zamora, RUHS-BH	Laurence Gonzaga, Guest
Sylvia Aguirre, RUHS-BH	Bill Brennehan, RUHS-BH
Andrew Elliot, RUHS-BH	

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 – Mr. Divine reported that he attended Supervisor John J. Benoit's funeral. Mr. Divine noted that it was a beautiful ceremony and thanked all those who were able to attend.

COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS – Daryl Terrell expressed concern regarding the homeless in Moreno Valley and stated that they need more behavioral health services in the area. Steve Steinberg replied that the Board of Supervisors recently approved the Department's request to build a new behavioral health facility in Moreno Valley and that they are currently in the development stages.

PUBLIC REMARKS – Brenda Scott announced that NAMI reached their goal of \$100,000. Monies stay local and are allocated between the six affiliates within the region to fund program services.

Peer Support Specialist, Andrew Elliot, shared that he recently volunteered at a winter shelter in Temecula and noticed that there is a serious need for behavioral health services for the people coming in the shelter. Mr. Elliot expressed his concern and would like to coordinate with the Department in some way to help link homeless individuals with behavioral health services. Mr. Elliot later added that the Point in Time count may not be accurate as many of the homeless in the shelter claimed that they did not encounter anyone participating in the count.

April Jones from Hemet Unified School District announced that the HHOPE Collaborative is hosting a resource fair on March 25 at Santa Fe Education Center in Hemet from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm. Ms. Jones also announced that The Seraphim Project is hosting a fundraiser called the Freeways Art Exhibit. The Seraphim Project is a community organization, which helps raise funds for programs that support victims of sexual abuse. The Freeways Art Exhibit will be held on February 12 in Murrieta from 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Flyers for the event were distributed to Commissioners and the public.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Tori St. Johns moved to approve the minutes as written. Ric Riccardi seconded. All were in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – Lisa Echols from the Parent Support Program introduced this month's Celebrate Recovery Speaker, Jeannie Muleady. In early to mid-2000 Ms. Muleady met and married her husband, whom unbeknownst to her, was a pedophile. This reprehensible secret unfolded in 2013 when she discovered that her husband had repeatedly molested both their son and daughter. Her husband was arrested and is still awaiting trial. Despite Ms. Muleady's efforts to protect her children, Child Protective Services deemed her unfit to care for her children and she later lost custody. Ms. Muleady was left devastated and consequently slipped into depression. She sought help through Catholic Charities where she was referred to the Department's Parent Support Program. Lisa Echols helped Ms. Muleady navigate through the system where she was able to take classes and participate in support groups. Ms. Muleady worked tirelessly and diligently toward recovery in the hopes to regain custody of her children. While she was unable to regain custody of her young son due to his own mental health challenges, Ms. Muleady was able to regain custody of her daughter, whom she reunited with on October 21, 2016. Ms. Muleady expressed her gratitude and appreciation for the Parent Support Program and specifically Lisa Echols, without whom she firmly believes she would be in far more dire straits. Ms. Muleady continues to work with the program as a volunteer providing peer support to others experiencing such crisis.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **WHO WE SERVE REPORT:** Ryan Quist presented the Commission with the "Who We Serve – Consumer Population Profile Fiscal Year 2015-2016 Report". For the first time, the report includes data for both Mental Health and Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment (SAPT) Programs. Since 2005, when MHSA was first implemented, there has been a steady increase in the number of people served each year. Mr. Quist noted that this is the first year where those numbers leveled off with no significant increases. For fiscal year 15/16, Mental Health served 47,000 consumers and SAPT served 7,400 consumers. The age group that receives the greatest number of services is Adults. Data on co-occurring disorders show that 37% of mental health consumers also struggle with substance use issues; 35% of substance use consumers also struggle with mental health issues; and 47% of mental health consumers also have a history of trauma.

2. DATA NOTEBOOK: Mr. Quist presented the Commission with a draft of the Data Notebook released annually by the Mental Health Planning Council. This year the Data Notebook focuses on children, youth, and families. Topics discussed are access to services for youth, foster youth, LGBT youth, youth affected by substance use disorders, justice system involved youth, prevention and early intervention, and suicide prevention. Mr. Quist requested the Commission review the Data Notebook and provide feedback. A final draft of the Data Notebook will be presented to the Commission in March for approval to submit to the Mental Health Planning Council.

OLD BUSINESS

1. INDIO MEETING/ ALTERNATIVE MEETING SITES: Several members expressed that they appreciated holding the BHC meeting in Indio. It was informative and gave them the opportunity to meet the staff and community members in the Desert Region. It was an eye opening experience and allowed them to learn more about the mental health and substance abuse services in this region. The Commission decided that they will hold one meeting a year in a different region in consideration of staff and community member's travel time and expense. Walter Haessler and Kim McElroy suggested to have the next meeting in Mid-County.
2. LANGUAGE TO AMEND BYLAWS (ARTICLE 1, SECTION 3. DUTIES): The Commission discussed and voted on the language to be used to amend the BHC Bylaws. Dr. Haessler suggested adding a line item under Article 1, Section 3. Duties to authorize the BHC to make recommendations or take a formal position on proposed legislation. Dr. Haessler suggested adding the following language: "To advocate for or against pending legislation involving behavioral health issues." Mr. Divine called for a vote and Dr. Haessler moved to approve the language to amend the BHC Bylaws, Carole Schaudt seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, and the motion carried.
3. MHSA UPDATE: Bill Brenneman reported that on February 23, a team will go to Sacramento to attend the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) meeting and hopefully receive approval for the Innovation project proposal – Commercially Sexually Exploited Children. The requested funding is \$6.2 million over five years.

The Department is working on another Innovation project in conjunction with San Bernardino County. The new proposal involves implementing a tele-conferencing/tele-psychiatry program to help reduce overcrowding in emergency rooms. The MHSOAC fully supports this new project as there has never been a dual county project addressing this major issue.

MHSA plans to hire a Social Service Planner who will dedicate all of their time to developing new Innovation projects, so as current Innovation projects near their end, new proposals can be made and set in place. MHSA has also hired an additional Clinical Therapist to assist in the Law Enforcement Collaborative Training. Tiffany Ross, who has been the sole instructor for the Law Enforcement Collaborative Training for a few years, now has assistance as requests for trainings continue to pour in.

In February, MHSA will be repurposing the Recovery Learning Center to the Peer Navigation Center; concentrating more efforts on hospital discharges to increase access and timeliness to help reduce the amount of psychiatric hospitalizations. David Schoelen, Administrative Services Manager for Workforce Education and Training (WET), will be spearheading this effort and they hope to get this operational in March. They have been working closely with the Inpatient Treatment Facility (ITF) and Emergency Treatment Services (ETS) to create an interface with partner agencies and start providing services in those settings.

4. SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION and TREATMENT (SAPT) UPDATE: Rhyann Miller announced that the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) recently congratulated the Department's Executive Management for successfully rolling out the Drug Medi-Cal Waiver Services earlier that morning (Wednesday, February 1). This implementation will affect the 10,000 clients served by SAPT moving forward. Various new and previous contract providers began these new services and a list was provided to the Commissioners for review. One of the newer providers, Inland Valley Recovery Services (IVRS), will be providing beds for residential treatment services for men and women with children along with other standard services such as detox and medication assisted treatment. MFI Recovery Center, one of SAPT's long standing providers, will be

providing every single service modality offered and contracted for by the Department. Two providers listed – Latino Commission's Michael's House and Bea's House are currently waiting for certification from the State and will be providing services as soon as it is received.

The Substance Use CARES Line incorporated linkage to residential and detox services on January 1, which has resulted in a large influx of calls in a short period of time. Prior to this addition, in December 2016, calls to the SU CARES Line received 239 calls. In the last week of January, the SU CARES Line received 426 calls in four days.

Executive Management recently approved the hiring of new staff for the Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery Team (START) for the Desert Region. The START team works in conjunction with psychiatric hospitals and other clinics to keep clients, in need of residential or detoxification services, from going into psychiatric hospitals. New staff will be working at the Indio Clinic with Jim Grisham and will be providing services to the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) and the Crisis Stabilization Unit in Palm Springs.

SAPT recently gained approval to move forward with a teen substance abuse program and MOMS program to be located together in Moreno Valley. Blythe's tele-health program went into effect earlier that morning and their Clinical Therapist had their first four appointments with clients located between Indio and Blythe. Lastly, both Perris and San Jacinto school districts are slated to have substance use prevention services begin later this month.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Steve Steinberg reported that certification of DUI providers is currently on hold due to language used in the recommendation submitted to the Board of Supervisors. Concerns regarding the request are centered around the financial impact it would have on providers and the Department's responsibility in assessing this impact. Mr. Steinberg stated that they are awaiting County Counsel's opinion and determination regarding this language before moving forward with requesting approval from the Board of Supervisors.

The Crisis Campus currently under construction on County Farm Road is slated to open in May in honor of May is Mental Health Month. The Crisis Campus will house both the crisis residential treatment program and the Riverside Crisis Stabilization Unit. Commission members will receive an invitation to its grand opening, which will be held on May 3 at 10:00 am at 9890 County Farm Road. Tours of the facility will be available on opening day.

Budget concerns as it relates to the 1991 and 2011 Realignment funding continue to be an issue. Mr. Steinberg recently attended the California Behavioral Health Directors Association where he voted against the distribution of growth funds and had the opportunity to express the Department's concern regarding the inequitable allocation of funds. Mr. Steinberg stated that the formulas on how monies are allocated between counties has not been updated to accommodate Riverside County's fast growing population. Since the implementation of the first Realignment in 1991, Riverside County's population has more than doubled and the formula for funding has not been adjusted to accommodate the growth. Mr. Steinberg reported that he will continue pushing this forward and has received the full support of the Board of Supervisors and Executive Office.

In early January, the Press Enterprise published an article regarding the safety and security of our Hemet Clinic. Staff from the clinic filed a grievance with the Union claiming that the clinic was unsafe and that the County has not done anything to address the issue. Mr. Steinberg stated that the Hemet Clinic's safety concern is legitimate as they are located in a somewhat unsafe neighborhood where homeless and transients tend to congregate. Altercations with staff have also occurred in the last few weeks, one of which led to a lockdown of the facility. Mr. Steinberg noted that the Department has been far more responsive than what was portrayed by the Press Enterprise. Several actions had been taken prior to the filing of the grievance and many more thereafter. Mr. Steinberg reported that they met with the Hemet staff on Monday, January 30, to discuss these issues and gain feedback. They are evaluating all of the programs to determine the type of security measures the Department needs to implement, such as proper lighting and security cameras.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

DESERT REGIONAL BOARD: Mr. Divine reported that thanks to Supervisor Benoit's efforts, their Art Show for May is Mental Health Month will be held in a facility at the Fair Grounds called the Taj Mahal. It is an 18,000 square foot building and they look forward to holding their event in this new and bigger venue.

MID-COUNTY REGIONAL BOARD: Kim McElroy reported that Mark Thuve has been attending their meetings for several months providing updates from the Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment program, which they greatly appreciate.

WESTERN REGIONAL BOARD: Greg Damewood reported that they are awaiting Vicki Redding's replacement as she has recently been re-assigned to Mid-County. They also recently lost another committee member as they relocated to Texas, so Mr. Damewood requested to have membership assistance from the Commission.

ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE: BHC Liaison reported that Hilda Gallegos, secretary for ASOC, stated that they need a new chair person to lead the committee as they have not had one in several months. They are unable to move forward with approving minutes or perform other functions. In response, Mr. Divine noted to add this matter to March's agenda under New Business.

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE: Tori St. Johns reported that Diana Brown, the new Prevention and Early Intervention Administrative Services Manager, attended the meeting with Suzanna Juarez-Williamson and provided a presentation on the Mental Health Services Act and its various programs. This allowed the committee to learn more about MHSA and comment on the programs they provide.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE: Mr. Damewood stated that minutes from the last meeting will be sent to the Commission for review. Prop 47 and AB109 matters continue to be at the forefront of discussions. The next meeting will be held in March.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Walter Haessler reported that the committee is also experiencing difficulty with membership and asked Mr. Divine to consider appointing members to the Legislative Committee at the March meeting.

OLDER ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE COMMITTEE: Ric Riccardi reported that their next meeting will be held at the Behavioral Health Nutrition Services Center in Desert Hot Springs.

VETERANS COMMITTEE: Rick Gentillalli congratulated the Department's Veterans Services as they have been successful in their homeless veteran project. While the numbers tend to fluctuate, the Department did manage to reduce homelessness among veterans down to functional zero; an extremely rare and remarkable achievement. Mr. Gentillalli commended the Department for their efforts and invited everyone to attend the next Veterans Committee meeting.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: Mr. Damewood requested a reminder of the BHC training and the latest BHC Bylaws be sent to the Commissioners.

ADJOURN: The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 1:58 pm.

Maria Roman

Ric Riccardi, BHC Secretary
Maria Roman, Recording Secretary

FY 2016/17 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBERS	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓				
Carole Schaudt, District 4	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓				
Daryl Terrell, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Dildar Ahmad, District 1					A	✓				
George Middle, District 2 (Redist. 5)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Greg Damewood, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Jason Farin, District 2	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓				
Ric Riccardi, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Richard Divine, District 2 (Redist. 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.