

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION



Meeting Minutes
November 2, 2016
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

BHC MEETING ATTENDANCE NOVEMBER 2, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT	
Richard Divine, District 4, <i>Chair</i>	Rick Gentillalli, District 3, <i>Vice Chair</i>
Julie Crouch, District 2, <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
Ric Riccardi, District 5	Greg Damewood, District 5

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT	

OTHERS PRESENT	
Sharon Lee, RUHS-BH	Bill Brenneman, RUHS-BH
Q. Thomas, Guest	Dawn Gordon, Guest
Dildar Ahmad, Guest	Tony Orona, RUHS-BH
May Farr, NAMI	Thomas Peterson, RUHS-BH
Steve Steinberg, RUHS-BH	Donna Sliva, RUHS-BH
Cheryl Buckner, RUHS-BH	Anita Thomas, RUHS-BH
Dana Thomas, Guest	Stephen Morales, RUHS-BH
Araceli Ruiz, BOS District 1	David Balch, Guest
John Schwarzlose, RUHS-BH	Vicki Redding, RUHS-BH
Carolynn DeJaynes, RUHS-BH	Jennifer Wortham, RUHS-Health
Selvino Moscare, RUHS-BH	Ron Hoffman, RI
Brenda Scott, NAMI	Jasmin Rubio, NAMI
Sylvia Aguirre-Aguilar, RUHS-BH	Maria Mabey, RUHS-BH
Tony Ortego, RUHS-BH	Nat Tollefson, RUHS-BH
April Marier, RUHS-BH	Rhyan Miller, RUHS-BH
Julie Curran, RUHS-BH	Jeff David, Guest
Kim McElroy, MCRAB	Aurelio Sanchez, RUHS-BH
James Lucero, ASOC	Deborah Pagliuso, SAPT Provider
April Jones, Guest	Laurence Gonzaga, IEHP
Angela Igrisan, 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 invited Julie Crouch to make an announcement during Chairman's Remarks. Ms. Crouch announced her resignation and stated this would be her final meeting. Ms. Crouch received a job offer at San Luis Obispo County's Behavioral Health Department, Children's Clinic, and she couldn't refuse.

Mr. Divine expressed his great appreciation for Ms. Crouch's efforts with the Commission and presented her with a certificate of outstanding service.

COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS – Greg Damewood announced that Inland Empire Disability Collaborative holds a meeting on the third Tuesday of every month and this month's topic will be homelessness. The Inland Regional Center will be having a Trustee meeting on the second Monday of the month, which has been moved to The Rock Church in San Bernardino.

PUBLIC REMARKS – Brenda Scott provided an update on the 11th Annual NAMI Walk held on Saturday, October 29. Ms. Scott stated that they had over 2,000 people in attendance and the honored speaker, Mia St. John, shared an inspiring story about her own behavioral health recovery.

Dana Thomas expressed her ongoing frustration with AB1424. Ms. Thomas stated that there seems to be a misinterpretation of the law and asked the Commission to find a way to ensure that this law is being followed.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Mr. Damewood made a change on page 5 of 7 – Holiday meals will be served in December. Tori St. Johns moved to approve the minutes as noted, Ric Riccardi seconded the motion, all were in favor, none opposed, the motion carried. Minutes were approved as noted.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – This month's Celebrate Recovery Speaker was Donna Sliva from Consumer Affairs. Ms. Sliva's challenges began at a very young age. Ms. Sliva was raised in a family that struggled with substance use, undiagnosed mental health issues, and incarceration. Ms. Sliva was in and out of foster homes until she was adopted at age 9. Her adoptive family offered no reprieve as the abuse continued. She began attending therapy, which only backfired because the therapist was disclosing the information she shared to her parents. As a result, Ms. Sliva shut down and kept the abuse a secret. At age 15 she ran away several times until the police got involved. The police intervened and helped her find mental health services and placed her in a group home. At 18, she aged out of the group homes and was on her own. Ms. Sliva battled with her depression and turned to drugs to self-medicate.

Nine years ago, Ms. Sliva began receiving services through Riverside County to deal with her substance abuse and mental health issues. Insurance guidelines at the time did not allow her to subsidize the cost of treatment, so she had to pay out of pocket. The cost of treatment began to add up and Ms. Sliva could no longer afford to continue and had to quit. Two years later, she and her husband separated and she was homeless with her daughter. Ms. Sliva's depression grew deeper and she began having thoughts of suicide. Ms. Sliva and her daughter moved out of California for awhile to clear her head. Ms. Sliva later returned and started treatment for a second time in Riverside County. Through treatment, she was introduced to the GAIN program, which helped her get back on her feet. She began receiving the proper medication, therapy, and classes she needed to regain control of her life. After having much success with treatment, Ms. Sliva now serves as a Peer Support Specialist for the Department.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **STEPPING UP INITIATIVE:** Stepping Up is a Probation-led Initiative approved by the Board of Supervisors on April 26, 2016. Steve Steinberg reported that Chief Hake from the Probation Department received an invitation to attend a January meeting in Sacramento to discuss funding and determine what type of programs would be appropriate to implement for the Initiative. Mr. Steinberg stated that he will be attending this meeting with Chief Hake and will provide a detailed report at the February BHC meeting.

2. RUHS-BH PUBLIC INFORMATION: Senior Public Information Specialist, Tom Peterson, provided a presentation regarding the Department's efforts in sharing information with the public about important events that occur within RUHS-BH. Mr. Peterson stated that all items published and made available to the public are routed through him and Executive Management. Type of publications reviewed includes flyers, newsletters, calendars, booklets, pamphlets, brochures, and press releases. Mr. Peterson ensures that our messages are consistent and maintain a professional appearance. The Department is also utilizing the new Wordmark RUHS-BH logo, associating the Department with the overall Health System. Six months ago, the Department also joined three of the largest social media platforms online – Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Mr. Peterson reported that social media efforts has been successful. Announcements for various events as well as coverage of the events (photos and videos) are advertised and shared online.

As part of the integration efforts, Kim Trone from Riverside University Health System Administration reported that Public Health, Behavioral Health, and the Medical Center have overlying media calendars that announce the various events and joint initiatives of the different Departments. Ms. Trone stated that part of the challenge with releasing information to the public is that the County has very limited resources. To engage into mainstream media would require more than just print media, but also television. The Inland Empire does not have a television news channel committed here, which is a bit of a drawback; but Ms. Trone stated that they are using every available outlet to get information out to the public. Mr. Peterson noted that the Department also has the support of the County Executive Office in releasing information and promoting our events.

3. JANUARY BHC MEETING: Mr. Divine announced that the Commission will be dark in December so there will not be a meeting. The BHC Liaison announced that the Commission's next meeting will be on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 at the Indio Clinic, which is located at 47-825 Oasis Street, Conference Room AS-54 from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm. Save the Date flyers were available and distributed to the Commission and the public.

OLD BUSINESS

1. BHC TRAINING DATE, LOCATION, & TOPICS TO COVER: Training will be provided to members of the main Commission and Regional Behavioral Health Advisory Boards.

Training Date: To be Determined – on a Saturday between March or April

Location: 2085 Rustin Avenue, Riverside

Suggested Topics for Discussion: BHC Roles and Responsibilities, Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Programs, Mental Health Programs, Overview of the Brown Act, Overview of Roberts Rules of Order, Forensics, Adult System of Care, Older Adult System of Care, Transitional Age Youth, Housing, and Veterans.

2. MHSA UPDATE: Bill Brenneman reported that the MHSA Annual Plan Update FY 16/17 has been approved. Copies were provided to each Commission member. The MHSA Annual Plan Update is a comprehensive report providing overview of each MHSA program and their performance progress.

Mr. Brenneman announced that MHSA is preparing to submit a new Innovation Project to the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC). A draft of the proposal was included in the Commission packet for review. The proposal addresses commercially sexually exploited children; a multi-disciplinary field-based approach to responding to youth who may have been victimized. The proposal will be posted for a 30-day public review and a Public Hearing will be held in December. In January, it will be brought before the BHC for a vote to approve its submission to the MHSOAC. During the Public Hearing, they will also be discussing Capital Facilities/ Technology funding. Mr. Brenneman explained that by increasing funds they can leverage MHSA funding with some of the crisis grant funding, which helped finance the new Crisis Stabilization Unit and Crisis Residential Facility in Western Region. Increasing the funds for the Technology component will also assist the Department in joining RUHS' new information system, which will allow inter-departmental sharing of records and information more efficiently.

Lastly, Mr. Brenneman announced that Diana Brown has been hired as the new Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) Manager and will start her new position on November 10. Ms. Brown was one of the first PEI employees and was involved in all of the original PEI planning, stakeholder community planning process, and has written parts of the original PEI plan. Ms. Brown worked in the PEI program for a number of years, so she is experienced and knowledgeable with its various programs.

3. SAPT UPDATE: Rhyen Miller reported that the inter-governmental agreement between the Department and the State for all waiver services has been approved by both Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) and the State. A pre-bidder's conference for the RFQ process was recently held and 13 of our current providers were in attendance along with 13 new providers not currently contracted with the Department. Proposals will be submitted in the next 2 weeks.

Will Harris brought the Commission and public's attention to the 2017 calendars recently published by the Department. Mr. Harris reported that the calendar is the Annual Carol Addiss Student Drug Use Prevention Poster Contest Calendar; a contest that began in 1985. The Department participates in this yearly contest by sending out letters to all school districts within Riverside County, inviting them to ask students to participate. The theme of each year's contest is based on the previous year's Red Ribbon Week theme; last year's theme was "Respect Yourself, Be Drug Free." The contest is organized in four different categories representing different age groups and three winners are chosen from each group to compose the twelve-month calendar. They are already beginning work on next year's calendar and its theme will be "You Only Live Once (YOLO), Be Drug Free." Mr. Harris added that Red Ribbon Week recently ended, it was held from October 23-31. The Friday Night Live (FNL) program participated in several activities during Red Ribbon Week with various schools throughout the County.

Mr. Harris shared that FNL has two Youth Councils that are very active within the community. One Youth Council represents the Desert Region and the other represents the Western Region. The Department is very proud of the positive work they do. They recently attended a Youth Traffic Safety Summit where they were able to collaborate with other students around the State and they also participated in a statewide coastal cleanup. On Saturday, November 5, the FNL program will be taking 2,200 students to Magic Mountain.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Steve Steinberg reported that the Department is experiencing some personnel changes. Elaine Barron, the Regional Administrator in Mid-County will be retiring after 26 years of service. Ms. Barron's last day will be November 24. Maria Mabey, Assistant Director of Finance and Administration will also be retiring after 25 years of service. Ms. Mabey's last day will be December 7. Joe Zamora will be taking Maria Mabey's place as Assistant Director. Ms. Mabey worked closely with Joe Zamora to train and prepare him for her departure. Bill Brenneman, Mental Health Services Administrator for MHSA, has been promoted to Deputy Director of Adult Services. Mr. Brenneman hopes to continue overseeing MHSA and is in discussion with Mr. Steinberg regarding the matter. Amy McCann, Administrative Services Manager, has been promoted to Joe Zamora's previous position, Deputy Director of Finance and Administration. Paul Thompson, Mental Health Services Administrator for Western Children's Program, has been promoted to Angela Igrisan's previous position, Deputy Director of Children's Program.

On October 26 and 27, RUHS-BH hosted a 2-day Director's Retreat for all County's Department Heads and Assistant Directors at the request of County Executive Officer, Jay Orr. Mr. Orr asked Mr. Steinberg to help the Directors and Assistant Directors of the County learn more about behavioral health and share information on some of the Department's services and activities. Mr. Steinberg assembled a team of presenters, which included David Schoelen and Tiffany Ross from Workforce Education and Training (WET) and Shannon McCleerey-Hooper with a panel of Peer Support Specialists from Consumer Affairs. Presentations included a Mental Health 101 course and peers sharing their own personal stories of recovery. Mr. Steinberg reported that the 2-day Director's Retreat generated a great deal of interest and started a very real dialogue about mental health. Requests from different departments came pouring in for similar presentations for their staff. Animal Control was among the many Departments interested in having a presentation. Animal Control staff work in the field and commonly encounter individuals with a mental illness; while they want to help and provide assistance, they don't really know how to identify or interact with them. Mr. Steinberg stated that the retreat was a great success and it started a dialogue around mental health within the County. The next challenge is to find a way keep that dialogue going.

On October 27, the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) in Palm Springs held its grand opening. RI International also operates this facility along with the CSU in the Western Region. This is the second CSU location opened within Riverside County. The Department issued a press release and both The Desert Sun and the Press Enterprise published articles announcing that the facility is now open and available for psychiatric emergencies.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

DESERT REGIONAL BOARD: Carole Schaudt stated that there was no quorum at the last DRB meeting. Tori St. Johns reported that Rachel Douglas came to pick-up food items and gifts for the Snowflake Banner.

MID-COUNTY REGIONAL BOARD: Kimberly McElroy thanked staff for providing the MCRB with the regional bylaws and stated that they will be reviewing the bylaws for any possible updates it may need. Ms. McElroy stated that this will be helpful with training newer members about the process and how the Regional Boards relate to the main Commission.

WESTERN REGIONAL BOARD: Greg Damewood reported that they will be serving meals to seniors in December. Minutes from the previous meeting will be approved later in the day and will be forwarded to the Main Commission for review.

ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE: James Lucero announced that the Access and Transportation Subcommittees are currently inactive. Since there are so many programs currently addressing these issues, Mr. Lucero doesn't foresee either subcommittees being reactivated. Kathryn Mauro has resigned and they are working on outreach efforts to increase membership.

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE: Julie Crouch reported that they are also working on outreach to increase membership. Ms. Crouch stated that since she has resigned her post, the Commission will need to appoint a new Chair for the Children's Committee.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE: Mr. Damewood reported that they are still reviewing AB109 activities and discussing ways to assist individuals in the prison system that struggle with mental health challenges and competency. Mr. Damewood announced that the next meeting is Wednesday, November 9, and all are welcome to attend.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Dr. Walter Haessler reported that the Committee reviewed Senate Bill 877 and Assembly Bill 1300 and realized that the summaries are inadequate as far as forming any meaningful opinion. They will need to review the entire bills to fully understand them and provide recommendations to the Commission. The Committee is also working on increasing membership. Dr. Haessler revisited the bylaws change as discussed in the previous meeting. Dr. Haessler requested the bylaw amendment be added to the January meeting agenda for a vote on which language to use for the amendment.

OLDER ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE COMMITTEE: Ric Riccardi reported that Mariah Andrews, Staff Development Officer from MHSA presented on the Know the Signs' campaign designed to reach older adults with mental illness. Older adults are the fastest growing population and have a higher rate of suicide than any other population. Suicide prevention has historically been focused on youth because the data demonstrated the highest need. Data now shows a high need among older adults. Suicide efforts in later life are more thought out and more lethal than among the youth and the success rate is higher. Ms. Andrews presented 2013 data on suicide rates in California: 1,152 older adults age 60+, died by suicide in California representing 29% of all suicides and 40% of all suicides are older veterans.

After Ms. Andrews' presentation, she led a focus group for MHSA and included the following questions for discussion:

- 1) Does the committee have any input or concerns about implementing Community Services and Supports (CSS) programs?
- 2) Does the committee have any suggestions for other depression programs, like the Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives for Seniors (PEARLS)? Or a service delivery method that could

produce the services needed to sustain the program?

- 3) Does the committee have any reservations or suggestions about implementing the next PEI program in the next MHSA 3-year plan?
- 4) Are current programs meeting the needs of older adults in Riverside County?

Mr. Riccardi reported that there were approximately 33 people in attendance and the group provided a great deal of feedback.

VETERANS COMMITTEE: Rick Gentillalli reported that Mr. Riccardi recently joined the Veterans Committee. The next Veterans Committee will be held on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 due to the BHC holding their January meeting in Indio.

The Committee's current goal is to disseminate more resources to veterans and their family and friends. There are several programs available to veterans that not only address their behavioral health needs, but also give them a sense of purpose. Programs such as Bike for Vets, 4 Paws for Patriots, and Equine Therapy have been successful in helping veterans. A newer program called Dive Warriors was introduced to the Committee and a presentation regarding the program was given by Kyle Schneider. Mr. Schneider is a professional diver offering diving lessons for disabled veterans to become certified.

MISCELLANEOUS: Richard Divine appointed Tori St. Johns as the new Chair of the Children's Committee. Mr. Divine addressed the membership issues experienced by the various committees. Mr. Divine asked Mr. Farin about inquiring if there are interns at the BOS that would be interested in participating in the Legislative Committee. Mr. Divine also asked all supervisors in attendance to assist with outreach to help increase membership in the regional boards and standing committees.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: Greg Damewood asked about developing a universal application that can be used for the main Commission as well as the regional boards and standing committees. Mr. Damewood suggested that the applications include an inquiry about the applicant's residence (LA County, San Bernardino County, etc.).

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

Maria Roman

Ric Riccardi, 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.