

**MID-COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD (MCMHAB)
MINUTES**

Location of Meeting:
Mid-County Administration Office
1688 N. Perris Blvd., Suite L 1
Perris, CA 92571

Date and Time of Meeting:
Thursday, February 6, 2014
3:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mrs. Gloria Hernandez, Chairperson
Walter T. Haessler, M.D.
Ms. Sandra Gregston
George Middle, Ph.D.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mr. Chris Halliday
Mrs. Jay Snofly

STAFF PRESENT

Mr. Moises Ponce
Mrs. Alicia Arredondo
Mr. Thaddeus Wicki
Ms. Dorothy Hogans
Mr. Gilbert Espinoza
Mrs. Hilda Gallegos

GUEST PRESENT

Ms. Lisa Lorenzana
Mr. Ron Hoffman
Mr. Pepe Del Rio

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mrs. Hernandez, Chairperson called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. All in attendance introduced themselves.

MINUTES

The November 7, 2013, and January 9, 2014, minutes were tabled to the next scheduled meeting. The need for clarification on quorum was discussed. Copies of the Bylaws will be provided at the next meeting.

Ms. Gregston noted a correction to the January minutes on the second page, seventh paragraph. Minutes should read as follows; "Ms. Gregston believes the next NAMI Connections Facilitator training is scheduled for March 15-16, 2014, in Ontario. If you need more information, you may contact Mrs. Brenda Scott at namihemet@gmail.com".

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Gregston announced that she has contacted two professors in the psychology department at Redland University in efforts to recruit more members for this Board. She will follow up and report back to this Board. She also provided a meeting schedule for 2014 with the different locations for this Board.

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Mrs. Arredondo provided Save the Date flyers for a Katie A Stakeholder's meeting that is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19, 2014, from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. In addition, she provided packets in English and Spanish with valuable information and resources for parents and caregivers.

Ms. Lorenzana announced that NAMI's new Signature Programs Compartiendo Esperanza, which is an outreach program geared at the Latino Community, and Sharing Hope, which is outreach program for the African American community, are in the process of implementing Advisory Boards. She noted that, on Tuesday, February 18, 2014, from 5:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m., the Compartiendo Esperanza program will hold its first advisory meeting at the Riverside Public Library in Riverside. She provided a Spanish flyer on NAMI's Compartiendo Esperanza program. They continue to look for members for the advisory group for the Sharing Hope program. If anyone is interested in joining any of these advisory groups, you may contact her at (951) 570-4736 or email her at Lisa.nami.riverside@gmail.com.

Mr. Ponce announced that the Department continues to solicit feedback for the MHSA 3-Year Program and Expenditure Plan. He provided copies of the surveys for anyone interested in providing feedback.

PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

Ms. Hogans, Employment Services Counselor, provided an overview of the Pathways to Success Vocational Program. She reported that this program is a vocational program that is a co-op between Mental Health and Department of Rehabilitation (DOR). She noted that this is an employment first program geared towards helping consumers with their individual employment goals. The First Steps program is a series of workshops to help consumers learn various skills that will promote their ability to participate fully with the Department of Rehabilitation. She noted that these workshops will better prepare consumers to go back into the workforce. She briefly explained all five workshops and noted that the goal of this program is to assist consumers in successfully re-entering the workforce and maintaining their employment. Ms. Hogans reported that consumers first meet with Ms. Johnson or Ms. Avena for an assessment, they determine if the consumer is ready to be referred to DOR orientation or if they will be referred to First Steps. She reviewed the phases which include: Phase I - Vocational Assessment, Phase II- Personal, Vocational, and Social Adjustment, and Phase III- Employment Services.

Ms. Hogans reported that, although the DOR contract was just signed in November and consumers began attending DOR orientation in December, she is happy to report that four consumers are now employed. She noted that this program will not refer anyone for a job that they do not feel capable of doing. She reviewed the requirements for the program and noted that, in order to receive this service, a person must be part of a mental health clinic or one of its contracts or managed care programs and must have a mental health diagnosis. Mr. Hoffman commented that this program does work and noted that he is a success story for this program. Ms. Lorenzana inquired about these services being offered in Spanish. Mr. Espinoza, Employment Services Counselor, noted that services in Spanish are available.

Ms. Lorenzana inquired if this program has used or talked with consumers about the Lilly Reintegrating Scholarship. Ms. Lorenzana noted that this scholarship is funded by the Lilly Foundation which pays for any level of educational services. She noted that she will bring flyers with more information on this scholarship to the next meeting. Ms. Gregston commented that she is impressed and has learned a lot from assisting in the First Step Program. Mr. Espinoza noted that consumers might be hesitant about this program because of their social security benefits, but added that this program has benefit-coordinating staff who will meet with them and explain what will happen to their benefits if they obtain part-time or full-time employment.

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was received for this meeting.

MISSION STATEMENT

Due to lack of time, this item was tabled.

MANAGERS REPORT

Mr. Wicki reported that the projected opening date for both the Temecula and the Lake Elsinore adult clinics is end of April. He added that the Lake Elsinore adult clinic supervisor will soon begin the hiring process. Mr. Wicki reported that the Lake Elsinore adult clinic will be modeled after the Perris Family Room. He also reported that the Research Department was involved with collecting two forms of data from the Perris Family Room that would measure the recipient's progress and satisfaction of the services received by both the consumer and family members. Mr. Wicki noted that data collection that will measure the consumer's progress will be conducted quarterly, while data that will measure satisfaction will be done twice a year for a period of 45 days. Mr. Wicki commented that data collection is important as outcomes will show evidence if this method of delivering services is effective.

Ms. Gregston inquired if the Perris Family Room services are available to consumers who live in other areas of the region. Mr. Wicki noted that this option is open for those who wish to receive services at this site but noted that they will need to consider transportation and, if that's not a issue for them, then they are more than welcome. He noted that transportation is provided at this time for those consumers who attend groups at this site.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership Committee – No Committee report was available for this meeting.

Children's Committee- No Committee report was available for this meeting.

Older Adults Committee – No Committee report was available for this meeting.

Adult System of Care Committee- No Committee report was available for this meeting.

Criminal Justice Committee – No Committee report was available for this meeting.

Housing Committee – No Committee report was available for this meeting.

Legislative Committee – Dr. Haessler noted that there is no actual Legislative Committee but he did agree to bring news articles related to issues on mental health to share and discuss with this Board. He mentioned that news article he read was regarding the annual census of homeless veterans in the County. He reported that the numbers of this census are not in yet.

Veterans Committee – Dr. Haessler reported that due to the V.A.L.O.R. Committee being held no Veterans Committee meeting was held; but he noted that he did attend the V.A.L.O.R. Committee.

OLD BUSINESS

Mrs. Gregston turned in her site review of the Perris Family Room clinic. She provided copies of her review, along with additional questions she inquired about this program. She noted that she has no recommendations for this site at this time. Mr. Wicki reported that the Perris Family Room clinic also has an onsite DPSS staff that can assist consumers with obtaining their benefits on the spot.

Selecting a secretary for this Board has been postponed.

Dr. Middle inquired about the program that uses animals for therapy. He noted that he knows a person in Canyon Lake who is interested in having the County use their horses. Mrs. Gregston noted that Ms. Taryn Hefler is the (PAIR) Pets Assisting In Recovery coordinator and can assist him with this request. Mr. Wicki commented that the Perris Family Room is looking for a bird, if anyone is interested in donating a bird to please contact him.

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NEW BUSINESS

No new business was discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Ponce, Cultural Competence Outreach and Engagement Coordinator for the Mid-County Region, commented that at the last Hemet School District Collaborative meeting, Board membership was mentioned in efforts to recruit more members to this Board. He added that he will invite people to attend these meetings to learn about what the County offers.

Ms. Lorenzana commented that even just inviting people to attend these meetings is good because the community will feel that their voice is being heard. She noted that what's needed in the community is the reassurance that their voice matters.

Dr. Haessler commented that just inviting someone to attend and bring any concerns, ideas, questions, suggestions or comments would be a good idea as they will see that they are heard and might be interested in serving on this Board.

Mrs. Arredondo commented that she welcomes Board members to attend any of the parent support groups that are held to try and recruit more members.

NEXT MEETING

The next Mid-County Regional Advisory Board meeting will be held on Thursday, March 6, 2014, at the Mt. San Jacinto Children's Program at 950 Ramona Blvd., Suite 2, San Jacinto, CA 92582.

ADJOURNMENT

No further discussion was made, so meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes Approved.

Mid-County Mental Health Board Meeting Attendance Calendar Year 2014												
Members	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1. Gloria Hernandez	X	X						Dark				Dark
2. George Middle	A	X										
3. Chris Halliday	A	A										
4. Sandra Gregston	X	X										
5. Walter Haessler	X	X										
6. Jay Snofly	A	A										

X = Present A = Absent AE = Absent Excused