

# RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FOR APRIL 4, 2018 | 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

**CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND INTRODUCTIONS** – Chairperson, Rick Gentillalli called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm, lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and commenced introductions.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS** – Mr. Gentillalli noted that the Housing Program update was originally on the agenda, but has been rescheduled for the May meeting. Lynne Brockmeier will be at the next Commission meeting to provide an update on the Point-In-Time Count.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS** – George Middle reported he is participating in Canyon Lake's Fiesta and registered a booth for Recovery Innovations. Mr. Middle invited others who may be interested in having a resource booth at the event and would be happy to help them register.

Greg Damewood reported him, Richard Divine, Daryl Terrell, and Steve Steinberg attended the Marijuana Workshop held at the Board of Supervisor's Office on March 20.

**PUBLIC REMARKS** – Brenda Scott announced that the NAMI Walk will be held on Saturday, October 27 at Diamond Valley Lake in Hemet.

**MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING** – Minutes were accepted as written with one abstention.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** – This month's Celebrate Recovery Speaker is Luis Ojeda from the Parent Support and Training Program. Mr. Ojeda began using drugs in high school and continued on for sixteen years. His drug habit stopped near the end of 2017, when he ran into problems with law enforcement and his children were taken away. "This was an eye opening experience," stated Mr. Ojeda, it was at that point when he realized he needed to make a change.

Luckily, his children were not taken by Child Protective Services; the children stayed with their grandparents instead. Mr. Ojeda admitted himself at the Soboba Clinic, where he was later referred to RUHS-Behavioral Health. As he worked toward sobriety, he also attended parenting classes where he learned how to better communicate with his children. Mr. Ojeda expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the services provided by the Department; they not only helped him work towards recovery, but also improve his relationship with his children.

## NEW BUSINESS

1. LA COUNTY'S SCHOOL THREAT ASSESSMENT AND RESPONSE TEAM (START): Dr. Maria Martinez from LA County's Department of Mental Health provided a presentation on their School Threat Assessment and Response Team (START) Program. The program was launched in 2009 as a response to the deadliest school shooting in the United States – Virginia Tech. In 2007, Seung-Hui Cho, a student at Virginia Tech, shot and killed 32 students and injured 17. In response, LA County's Department of Mental Health developed a program collaborating with law enforcement, public defenders, attorneys, academic institutions, and the communities, in an effort to prevent such occurrences from happening.

LA County conducted a massive training on threat assessment in school districts, colleges, private universities, law enforcement, communities, psychiatric hospitals, and churches to help educate citizens on how to identify a student/individual who may be at-risk of hurting themselves or others. They provide academic institutions assistance in developing a comprehensive safety plan for students discharged from a psychiatric hospital or released from incarceration. START follows cases long term, even if the student/individual has been released from suspension or incarceration; have received mental health care; are taking their medication; and consistent with their treatment plan. The START program has over 300 clinicians working 24/7 to respond to

psychiatric emergencies throughout LA County. Clinicians are trained twice a year on basic threat assessment and are instructed to evaluate each individual further to see if they are not only struggling with suicidal ideation, but homicidal ideation as well. START's criteria include K-12, higher education, professors, school administration, staff (i.e. cafeteria workers, custodians, etc.), and contracted workers. The START Program also coordinates with other state agencies in the event a student moves to another state or transfers to another academic institution. Psychiatric assessments of each individual also include an evaluation of their online activities. START has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bureau of Intelligence and the Sheriff's Department to allow intel analysts to gather information on social media to review the student's posts and other online activities.

START has recently added a new component to their program – countering violent extremism. They now receive referrals for those who are potentially being radicalized by an ideology, i.e. white supremacy, ISIS, etc. LA County recently established a Memorandum of Understanding with Mayor Eric Garcetti to launch this program so they can begin receiving referrals for those individuals. This new component collaborates with Homeland Security, the CIA, and the FBI.

Since the program's launch, START has conducted nearly 10,000 threat assessments and confiscated countless weapons, ammunitions, and other incendiary devices. LA County's Board of Supervisors has recently ruled a motion to expand the program and after the deadly shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas in Parkland, Florida, the state has inquired about START with the hope of establishing a similar program.

2. MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH UPDATE: Lorie Lacey-Payne, Supervisor of Parent Support and Training Program and the coordinator of this year's May is Mental Health Month Wellness and Resource Fair provided an update on what to expect at this year's events. There will be four events held throughout Riverside County and the first will be held on Thursday, May 3 at 3125 Myers Street for Children's Mental Health Awareness Day. The Desert Region will be holding their annual Arts and Writing Contest event on Tuesday, May 8 at the Indio Fairgrounds' Taj Mahal building. Mid-County will be holding their event on Saturday, May 5 at Perris City Hall's front lawn and the Western Region will be holding their event at Fairmount Park on Thursday, May 24. Flyers were available for more information.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. MHSA UPDATE: David Schoelen reported that the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) FY 18/19 Plan Update has been posted online and available for public review. This year, MHSA administration is piloting a forum at each of the upcoming May is Mental Health Month events. The MHSA forum will have their own tent that will have separate stations highlighting the different components included in the Plan Update. Individuals will be encouraged to provide their feedback and those who participate will be given a raffle ticket for a chance to win a prize at the end of the event. Interpreters will be available for ASL (American Sign Language) and Spanish speakers. If the forums prove successful, they will begin including them at other county sponsored events throughout the year.

This year's public hearings will be held at the Western and Desert Region. The Western Region's public hearing will be held immediately after the BHC meeting on Wednesday, May 2, from 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm. The Desert Region will hold their public hearing on Wednesday, May 16 from 1:30 pm – 3:00 pm. April Jones, Carole Schaudt, and Brenda Scott volunteered to facilitate the public hearing on May 2 and Carole Schaudt volunteered to help facilitate the public hearing on May 16.

2. SAPT UPDATE: Rhyan Miller shared a video from the Friday Night Live program and introduced a few members of the staff. Friday Night Live is a statewide program that started in 1984 and Riverside County was one of the first to implement it. Many of the staff were graduates of the program themselves, making the program unique. The program began as a shuttle service for students and has evolved to an after school program to help keep youth off the streets and occupied in a positive environment.

There are currently 63 active chapters throughout Riverside County and have recently added Tahquitz High School, Rosemary Kennedy Elementary, Auburndale Intermediate, and California Military Institute. They have also partnered with Community Action Partnership to start chapters in Thermal and Desert Hot Springs.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Steve Steinberg thanked staff members of Friday Night Live and LA County's Dr. Maria Martinez for attending the meeting and providing information on their START Program. Mr. Steinberg noted that Riverside County has a similar program called "Kids with Guns" Protocol, however the assessment and case management are exclusively for school-age youth. There are several agencies involved including Child Protective Services, Probation, and Behavioral Health. After learning of LA County's START Program, Mr. Steinberg was inspired to expand the program, noting that the Department has established relationships with the various departments they'll need to collaborate with to move forward with the expansion.

Mr. Steinberg reported that he attended the Marijuana Workshop as well and noted that major concern expressed by many attendees were the regulations and limitations that the county may impose. Mr. Steinberg noted that the Department's concerns are in regards to the monies collected through state taxes and how they will be distributed to fund public health education and treatment.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:** Tabled

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS** – None

**ADJOURN:** The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.

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Ric Riccardi, BHC Secretary  
Maria Roman, Recording Secretary

**FY 2017/18 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

MEMBERS	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
April Jones, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓		
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 47	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A		
Brenda Scott, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Carole Schaudt, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Daryl Terrell, District 5	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓		
Dildar Ahmad, District 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓		
George Middle, District 2 (Redist. 5)	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓		
Greg Damewood, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Ashley Fuller, BOS Representative	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A		
Ric Riccardi, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A		
Richard Divine, District 2 (Redist. 4)	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A		
Rick Gentillalli, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Walter Haessler, District 1	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	ML	✓		

Present = ✓ | Absent = A | Medical Leave = ML

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

OTHERS PRESENT		
Amy McCann, RUHS-BH	Angela Igrisan, RUHS-BH	Angela Ojeda, Guest
Bernadette Regan, RUHS-BH	Beth Anderson, RUHS-BH	Beverly Mays, Guest
Bill Brenneman, RUHS-BH	Brian Betz, BOS Rep, District 3	Caesar Urizal, Guest
David Schoelen, RUHS-BH	Deborah Johnson, RUHS-BH	Deborah Pagliuso, Guest
Elin Zerai, RUHS-BH	Ge'Ray Adkins, RUHS-BH	Geneva Amador, RUHS-BH
Genre Adkins, RUHS-BH	Hollyjo Reynolds, Guest	Jessica Carreon, RUHS-BH
Jim Hill, RUHS-BH	Jolyne Booker, Guest	Karen Hudson, Guest
Karen O' Rear, RUHS-BH	Karen Reynolds, Guest	Kim McElroy, Guest
Kristen Adams, RUHS-BH	Lance Penland, RUHS-BH	Laura Gonzalez, Guest
Lisa Molina, Guest	Luis Ojeda, Guest	Dr. Maria Martinez, Guest
Maria Roman, RUHS-BH	Maureen Dopson, RUHS-BH	Nat Tollefson, RUHS-BH
Nettie Williams, RUHS-BH	Nhan Pham, RUHS-BH	Olga Sanchez, Guest
Paul Baum, RUHS-BH	Rhyan Miller, RUHS-BH	Richard Bolter, RUHS-BH
Rick Algarin, RUHS-BH	Rita Bendlin, Guest	Robin Reid, BOS Rep, District 1
Ron Hoffman, Guest	Ryan Quist, RUHS-BH	Sara Rodriguez, Guest
Sarah Cranbury, RUHS-BH	Silvia Aguirre-Aguilar, RUHS-BH	Sophia Perez, BOS Rep, District 3
Steve Lusk, Guest	Steve Steinberg, RUHS-BH Director	Steve Wildish, Guest
Toni Lucas, RUHS-BH	Vicki Redding, RUHS-BH	Will Harris, RUHS-BH
William Tarpai, Guest		