

## RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FOR NOVEMBER 7, 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 12:00 pm, lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and commenced introductions.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS** – Mr. Gentillalli announced that December will be a dark month and there will be no BHC meeting. Mr. Gentillalli also reported that he recently spoke to RUHS's CEO, Zareh Sarrafian, and he expressed his apology to the Commissioners for the process that was used in hiring the Director and that in the future he will make sure to follow the proper protocol.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS** – Dr. Walter Haessler shared an article from the October issue of American Journal of Psychiatry. The article discussed the use of electronic health records in predicting possible suicide attempts.

Greg Damewood reported that he attended the Inland Regional Center Trustees meeting.

Brenda Scott reported that the NAMI Walk was a huge success and that there were approximately 2,200 people that attended the event. Ms. Scott thanked all those that supported and participated in the event.

Tori St. Johns reported that Palm Springs Pride was held over the weekend and RUHS-BH participated by having a resource booth at the event. Over 600 students marched in the parade and 30 different schools attended in support of the event. Ms. St. Johns added that this year's Grand Marshals were the students themselves.

**PUBLIC REMARKS** – Rachel Douglas from Parent Support and Training Program announced their 2018 Holiday Projects. They work alongside community partners and private donors to provide food baskets and holiday gifts to children and family receiving services through RUHS-BH. They are once again holding their Annual Snowman Banner gift drive and they are collecting various food items for their food basket drive. Last year they were able to provide over 100 food baskets and over 1,400 gifts to children.

Lisa Morris, ambassador advisor for Jefferson Wellness Center (JWC) shared their upcoming holiday projects. They are holding the Cards for Kids Project, where consumers make Christmas Cards for the children and Prayer for a Soldier, where participants take home a toy soldier and pray over them. JWC also participates in the Moreno Valley Beautification Program and they recently adopted a half-mile road, making JWC the only mental health clinic in the world with a street named after them.

Shor Denny from Community Now announced that they have started an Inland Empire Kindness Alliance. A project they recently started is the Duffle Bag Drive. They are organizing and getting volunteers and funds to collect duffle bags to give to foster students that constantly transfer to different foster homes. Currently, the children are given trash bags to put their belongings in, which only exacerbate the stress of being a foster child. Community Now is also holding their Second Annual Backpack Refill Event that helps lower-income youth that are not able to buy additional school supplies throughout the year. The Backpack Refill Event is a mental health event and Community Now are currently accepting donations and vendors are welcome to participate. Lastly, Ms. Denny emphasized

the importance of having appropriate prevention programs in schools to teach children coping and problem solving skills to help avoid the possibility of future co-occurring disorders.

Paula Kemp from Veterans Sisters gave a brief overview of her program. Veterans Sisters is a peer-to-peer support and advocacy organization for female veterans who tend to get lost in the shadows and do not self-identify as being a veteran. Veteran Sisters provide much needed support and advocacy by accompanying female veterans in need, to their doctor appointments, hearings, and finding resource and services for treatment. While the program is designed for women, Ms. Kemp stated that they also provide support and advocacy for the male veterans.

Ron Hoffman announced that ArtWorks is celebrating their 10-year anniversary. On Wednesday, November 14, they will be holding a party to celebrate the milestone. Sue Moreland, whom spearheaded the program, will be attending the event to discuss and share how she brought her vision to life. There will be art demonstrations, games, food, and prizes, and all are invited to attend.

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

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY** – Kimmie Samberson, Senior Peer Support Specialist at the HHOPE Program introduced this month’s Celebrate Recovery speaker, Chris Rubio. Mr. Rubio is currently a Peer Support Specialist at the HHOPE Program.

A little over four years ago, Mr. Rubio was admitted at ETS for his substance abuse disorder. While there, a member of the START Program approached Mr. Rubio and offered him the opportunity to participate in a treatment service through Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program. Mr. Rubio accepted the offer and was placed at Cedar House for a 21-day stay. The treatment proved to be so successful that Mr. Rubio wanted to become a Peer Support Specialist.

The road to become a Peer Support Specialist was somewhat difficult for Mr. Rubio, due to his record. He was unable to work for HHOPE, but was able to get a job with RI International. Mr. Rubio did so well that he was promoted to team lead then to a city program. After a couple of years, Mr. Rubio was able to go to court and speak to a judge to clear his record. Mr. Rubio was successful in his effort and was able to achieve his goal of becoming a Peer Support Specialist for the HHOPE Program. Mr. Rubio is currently pursuing a position in their outreach program so he can work with the homeless population.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **DIRECTOR’S INTRODUCTION AND REPORT:** Dr. Chang started by giving a brief overview of the Department and its services. The FY 18/19 annual budget is approximately \$505 million and the County is obligated by the State and judicial system to provide the services we currently have in place. Most reimbursements are based on a percentage of cost or are grant based. Seventy-seven percent of clients are covered by Medi-Cal and the remaining 13% are uninsured.

In FY 17/18, the Department provided services to 59,298 clients (51,523 mental health services and 7,775 in substance abuse services). Dr. Chang noted that while this seems like a high number, there is actually a huge unmet need in the community. Based on rates, Riverside County should be serving an additional 100,000 – 110,000 clients that are struggling with mental illness that we are currently not serving. This discrepancy is due to the 1991 and 2011 Realignments. Both

Realignments have not been adjusted to take into account population growth, which has resulted in the County being shorted approximately \$160,000 a year.

Dr. Chang continued by explaining in great detail the different levels and systems of care provided by the Department, such as REACH (Regional Emergency at Community Hospitals), CREST (Community Response Emergency Support Team), PHF (Psychiatric Health Facility), CSU (Crisis Stabilization Unit), ETS (Emergency Treatment Services), FSP (Full Service Partnership), and ITF (Inpatient Treatment Facility).

Dr. Chang stated that the future direction of the Department overall is to continue its current direction, which is providing the right care, at the right time, and the right place at the lowest possible cost. The future state of the Department is for clients who have the highest needs to receive the highest services. This essentially means, clients who require ER/inpatient services all receive Full Service Partnership (FSP) services. The Department also hopes to repurpose current outpatient services to function as FSP's. There is also an effort to transition to partnership with Federally Qualified Healthcare Centers (FQHC) to increase behavioral health services in their facility and to heavily increase outreach to target unmet need.

There are several potential benefits to these efforts. Clinically, there will be true sense of integration of services and access will expand a great deal for clients. Individuals with severe mental illness die between 10-20 years younger than the rest of the population. The cause of these deaths are preventable, such as heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes. If clients are given access to both behavioral health and physical healthcare, these deaths can be easily prevented. Fiscally, this will allow Behavioral Health to move care away from severely under resourced and capped funding streams such as the 1991 and 2011 Realignment and moving them to uncapped FQHC reimbursements. It will also allow the repurposing of remaining Behavioral Health funding streams towards FSP-centric model.

Dr. Chang finished his presentation by sharing some success stories that highlight our services and the outstanding efforts of staff to wrap care around individuals in crisis.

2. BHC TRAINING/ RETREAT: The Retreat will be held on Wednesday, December 5 at 10:30 – 1:30 pm. *(The retreat was cancelled prior to the posting of the minutes.)*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

1. MHSA UPDATE: Diana Brown, Prevention and Early Intervention Manager, reported that MHSA have started working on their Annual Update. They have started their community stakeholder planning process and will be going out to a variety of meetings within the service system, with their collaborative and other groups to educate them about what is happening with MHSA and getting feedback on the Plan.

Ms. Brown also reported that they are working on an expansion in the PEI Plan and their aim is to increase early detection of mental health symptoms and issues that are occurring with individuals who are already in a stigma reducing location. Our Primary Care have the benefits of reduced stigma, access to folks who are not already receiving access to screenings and then linking them to appropriate resources and services. This gives the added benefit of increased penetration rates in our system with the hope of someday reaching the additional 100,000 community members that we are unable to provide services to.

2. **SAPT UPDATE:** Rhyan Miller reported that on October 18 and 19, 20 of California's legislators visited the Department to do a complete review and notation of the Waiver. Mr. Miller and Will Harris did an overview of all the Prevention Programs and Substance Abuse Programs; both county and contracted clinics. Legislators were also given a presentation by Acadia Health on the Hub and Spoke Model for the opioid crisis. Department of Public Social Services also attended to provide a presentation on our collaboration with them, with regard to the Waiver. Afterward, Legislators were given a tour of MFI at Arlington where they were able to hear stories from the consumers themselves.

Mr. Miller shared one of the feedbacks given by the Legislators, which stated, "Riverside County is progressive in its efforts to provide substance abuse disorder treatment services and there is great potential for its effect. It is great to see the extent to which integration across departments lead to better care and better outcomes... "

Lastly, Mr. Miller announced that there is an RFQU for all substance abuse treatment services. The RFQU is for 20 three-year contracts. The deadline to submit questions is Tuesday, November 13, the non-mandatory pre-bid meeting is on Tuesday, November 20 at 2:00 pm and the deadline to submit qualification packages is Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 1:30 pm.

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:** Tabled

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:** Mr. Damewood requested to have members of the Commission appointed to the Bylaws Committee.

**ADJOURN:** The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 2:22 pm.

*Maria Roman*

Brenda Scott, BHC Secretary

Maria Roman, Recording Secretary

**FY 2018/19 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION ATTENDANCE ROSTER**

MEMBERS	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
April Jones, District 3	✓	✓	A	✓						
Anindita Ganguly, District 2				A						
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Brenda Scott, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Carole Schaudt, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Daryl Terrell, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Dildar Ahmad, District 1	✓	✓	A	✓						
George Middle, District 2 (Redist. 5)	✓	A	✓	✓						
Greg Damewood, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Greg Rodriguez, BOS Representative		✓	✓	✓						
Ric Riccardi, District 5	✓	✓	A	✓						
Richard Divine, District 2 (Redist. 4)	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Rick Gentillalli, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Dr. 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](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		
Amelia Saldana, Guest	Amy McCann, RUHS-BH	April Marier, RUHS-BH
Bill Brenneman, RUHS-BH	Bruce Trainor, Guest	Chris Rubio, RUHS-BH
Deborah Johnson, RUHS-BH	Denise Walker, RUHS-BH	Diana Brown, RUHS-BH
Dylan Colt, RUHS-BH	Edmund Fisher, Guest	Ellis Fluet, Grand Jury
Evelyn Norton, RUHS-BH	Greg Burks, Guest	Heidi Gomez, RUHS-BH
Jacob Penland, Guest	James Daniel, Guest	James Lucero, Guest
James Woods, Guest	Janel Dancer, Guest	Jennifer Hernandez, Guest
Jim Hill, RUHS-BH	Johanna Mora, Guest	Jon Williams, Guest
Joshua Korley, RUHS-BH	Karen Hudson, Guest	Kim Bohlen, Grand Jury
Kim Bauer, Guest	Kim McElroy, Guest	Kim Tron, RUHS-BH
Kimmie Samberson, RUHS-BH	Kristen Duffy, RUHS-BH	Lisa Flores, RUHS-BH
Lisa Morris, RUHS-BH	Lucy Lopez, RUHS	Maria Algarin, RUHS-BH
Maria Roman, RUHS-BH	Dr. Matthew Chang, RUHS-BH, Director	Maureen Dopson, RUHS-BH
Michelle Kim, Guest	Pamela Norton, RUHS-BH	Paula Kemp, Guest
Rachel Douglas, RUHS-BH	Regina Spann, Guest	Rhyan Miller, RUHS-BH
Rick Algarin, RUHS-BH	Robin Reichert, Guest	Robyn Kelley, Guest
Ron Hoffman, Guest	Rosa Collins, Grand Jury	Ryan Quist, RUHS-BH
Sarah Rodriguez, District 3	Selvino Moscare, Guest	Sharon Bigdela, Grand Jury
Sheree Summers, RUHS-BH	Sheri Parker, Guest	Shor Denny, Guest
Stephen Damroth, Guest	Steve Lusk, Guest	Sukhmeen Kahlon, District 3
Susan Bauer, Guest	Tireeka Watson, RUHS-BH	Tom Peterson, RUHS-BH
Tony Ortego, RUHS-BH	Tory Johnson, Guest	Tracy Brandis, Guest
Vickie Redding, RUHS-BH	William Harris, RUHS-BH	Yaneth Garcia, Guest