

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION



Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2017
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

BHC MEETING ATTENDANCE

October 4, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT	
Rick Gentillalli, District 3, Chairman	Richard Divine, District 2, Vice Chair
Ric Riccardi, District 5, Secretary	April Jones, District 3
Ashley Fuller, BOS Representative, District 2	Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4
Brenda Scott, District 3	Carole Schaudt, District 4
Daryl Terrell, District 5	Dildar Ahmad, District 1
George Middle, District 2	Greg Damewood, District 5
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	Walter Haessler, District 1

OTHERS PRESENT	
Alicia Yoder, Guest	Andy Lite, Guest
Angela Igrisan, RUHS-BH	April Marier, RUHS-BH
Araceli Ruiz, BOS Representative, District 1	Aurelio Sanchez, RUHS-BH
Babs, Guest	Barbara Mitchell, Guest
Beverly Mays, Guest	Bill Brenneman, RUHS-BH
Brian Betz, RUHS-BH	Brian Tisdale, BOS Representative, District 3
Candace Bowman, RUHS-BH	Carolina Jernejcic, RUHS-BH
Chris Rubio, Guest	Christiany Chan, RUHS-BH
Cynthia "Oma" Gray, Provider, Guest	David Schoelen, RUHS-BH
Dawn Gordon, Guest	Deborah Johnson, RUHS-BH
Deborah Pagliuso, Provider, Guest	Eva Eakins, RUHS-BH
Enotsha Richard, RUHS-BH	Greg Rodriguez, BOS Representative, District 4
Ish Bribiesca, NAMI, Guest	Janice Rooths, Guest
Jason Farin, BOS Representative, District 2	Jim Hill, RUHS-BH
John M., Guest	Jolene Booker, Guest
Jorge Ronchi, Guest	Joyce Brooke, Guest
Karina Vega, Guest	Kim Layman, Provider, Guest
Kim McElroy, Guest	Kristin Duffy, RUHS-BH
LaGwenda Hill, RUHS-BH	Laurence Gonzaga, IEHP, Guest
Leonel Contreras, Provider, Guest	Lisa Jackson, RUHS-BH
Maria Algarin, RUHS-BH	Maria Rodriguez, RUHS-BH
May Farr, NAMI, Guest	Michelle Green, Guest
Nat Tollefson, RUHS-BH	Paul Thompson, RUHS-BH
Paul Wong, Guest	Rachel Douglas, RUHS-BH
Randy Nater, Molina, Guest	Rhyan Miller, RUHS-BH
Richard Bolter, RUHS-BH	Rick Algarin, RUHS-BH
Robyn Kelley, Provider, Guest	Ruth Ann Smith, Guest
Ryan Quist, RUHS-BH	Ryan Rubio, Guest
Sheri Parker, Guest	Steve Lusk, Guest
Steve Steinberg, RUHS-BH, Director	Steve Wildish, Guest
Sylvia Aguirre-Aguilar, RUHS-BH	Tony Ortego, RUHS-BH
Vicki Redding, RUHS-BH	Victoria Bargas, RUHS-BH
William Harris, RUHS-BH	

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS – Rick Gentillalli called the Behavioral Health Commission meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS – Chair, Rick Gentillalli, lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS – Ric Riccardi formally announced his resignation from the Older Adult System of Care Committee.

Greg Damewood announced that the Western Regional Advisory Board meeting has been moved to 4:00 pm due to the Public Hearing.

Carole Schaudt reported that Senate Bill 295 authored by Bill Monning has passed. SB295 is an effort to help stop sexual assaults and domestic violence experienced by female farm workers.

George Middle reported that he recently attended the Mental Health First Aid course and learned a great deal about mental illness and how to approach individuals who may be struggling with mental health challenges.

Brenda Scott announced that the NAMI Walk will be on Saturday, October 28 and reminded all interested participants to register online. Hemet City Council Woman Carly Meyer; Assembly Woman Sabrina Cervantes; Third District Supervisor in San Bernardino, James Romo; and President of NAMI National, Steve Pitman will be in attendance. Lastly, Ms. Scott and May Farr will have a resource table at the Seeds of Hope Event in Loma Linda on Thursday, October 12. Mental health activist and singer/song writer, Michelle Williams, will be in attendance to give a speech.

PUBLIC REMARKS – Cynthia “Oma” Gray from Soroptomist House of Hope invited everyone to their Open House on Saturday, October 21 from 12:00 – 4:00 pm. The Open House is in celebration of their 36 years of service to the women of Riverside County struggling to overcome substance abuse.

Jim Hill announced that the Family Advocate Program is holding a Family Support Group for Substance Abuse Families in all three regions of Riverside County. Brochures are available for more information.

Paul Baum announced that the brand new LGBTQ family support group will be held every Monday of each month beginning October 16 from 5:00 – 7:00 pm. Flyers are available for more information.

Pedro Arciniega announced that the Family Advocate Program is organizing a presentation for Friday, October 28, regarding the issues surrounding mental illness, the justice system, families, and how to navigate the legal system. Flyers are available for more information.

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – Maria Algarin from the Family Advocate Program introduced this month’s Celebrate Recovery Speaker, Jorge Ronchi. Mr. Ronchi and his wife have two adult sons. Their eldest live in Europe and their youngest lived here in the U.S. Their youngest son, Sergio, struggles with an extremely severe case of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD) and in 2009 he experienced his first panic attack. Mr. Ronchi explained that his son’s overall wellbeing began to deteriorate after his first episode.

Mr. Ronchi and his wife later learned of NAMI’s Family to Family classes, which they attended and learned a tremendous amount regarding their son’s disposition. However, because their son was no longer a minor, decisions such as arranging doctor appointments and taking medication was not something they could make him do. For a number of years, the Ronchi family struggled to care for their son, until he was later declared gravely disabled and placed under conservatorship. Mr. Ronchi’s son lived in a board and care facility for a few years where he also struggled with his medication and therapy. In the meantime, Mr. Ronchi’s eldest son did some research and attended the OCD Foundation Convention in San Diego. It was a 3-day conference where he learned that the best type of treatment for his brother is a combination of medication and psychotherapy.

After Sergio was released from the board and care facility, he was evaluated by the psychologist and founder of

the OCD Institute in Costa Mesa. The psychologist determined that Mr. Ronchi's son required intense psychotherapy at an OCD Institute. The psychologist recommended a facility in Massachusetts, Houston, and Wisconsin; which Sergio refused. Mr. Ronchi explained that in terms of the County, this type of service is not available for someone like his son. While Sergio is currently managing by simply taking his medication and maintaining regular visits with a psychiatrist, Mr. Ronchi recommends the County to look into the possibility of offering intensive psychotherapy treatments as it would be a beneficial service for others in the future.

NEW BUSINESS

1. DATA NOTEBOOK: Ryan Quist reported that the Mental Health Planning Council recently released the latest Data Notebook. The Mental Health Planning Council serves as the advisory board for the State, just as the BHC serves as the advisory board for Riverside County. The questions and responses for the Data Notebook were drafted by the Mental Health Planning Council and are distributed to all 58 counties throughout California. The Mental Health Planning Council requires input and feedback regarding the questions and responses from all 58 counties with the objective to provide a complete, comprehensive, and accurate review of services and outcomes as it relates to California's population. Mr. Quist requested that all feedback responses be forwarded to the BHC Liaison and it will be incorporated into the Data Notebook by Mr. Quist prior to the November BHC meeting. Last year's Data Notebook focused on the children's population, this year the report focuses on the older adult population and services offered.
2. RECOVERY HAPPENS EVENT UPDATE AND HIGHLIGHTS: Kristen Duffy shared a video created by Riverside MOMs Program Counselors. Ms. Duffy reported that there were an estimated 1,800-2000 people in attendance and served 2,000 hotdog meals with drinks. There were over 70 vendors and an HIV testing van providing vital resources and services to the community. Attendees participated in competitive sports, banner contests, dance competitions, and raffles. A number of counselors from both County and Provider clinics/ programs were recognized for their dedication and hard work serving families and clients throughout the County of Riverside. Rhyann Miller was also recognized and presented with the "Awesomeness Award" for his leadership and dedication in developing outstanding employees and services for the individuals, families, and communities throughout the County.
3. HOLIDAY PROJECTS: Rachel Douglas announced that Parent Support and Training Program are once again preparing for their annual holiday projects: Thanksgiving Basket and Snowman Holiday Gift Drive. All are encouraged to participate; food baskets and gifts are given to children and families receiving behavioral health services from the County. Flyers were available for more information.
4. BHC TRAINING – DATE AND TIME: The BHC decided to hold their annual BHC Training at the Rustin Conference Center on Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 9:00 am.
5. BHC MEETING LOCATION: Locations suggested by the Commission are: TAY Center in La Quinta, Simpson Center in Hemet, Hemet Library, and the Board Room for Hemet Unified School District.
6. REGIONAL BOARD MEMBERSHIP: Ric Riccardi suggested having new applicants for the BHC serve two years on the regional boards prior to being appointed to the Commission. After a lengthy discussion, it was tentatively decided to make Mr. Riccardi's suggestion a recommendation to new applicants, as opposed to a requirement. To make it a requirement would involve consulting with County Counsel, re-writing the bylaws and imposing the recommended changes on the Board of Supervisors (BOS), whom ultimately makes the appointments for the Commission. Considering it would be an overstep to impose the suggested changes on the BOS, Mr. Divine also suggested to seek assistance from Department Supervisors and BOS Representatives to address the shortage in membership of the Western Regional Board.

OLD BUSINESS

1. SITE REVIEW FORM: Greg Damewood made a motion to approve the new Site Review Form for use; April Jones seconded the motion; all were in favor, none opposed.

2. MHSA UPDATE: David Schoelen reported that his previously vacant position has been filled; Sheree Summers has been promoted to Workforce Education and Training Manager. Ms. Summers has worked for the Department for several years and formerly served as a Staff Development Officer for education in MHSA. Lastly, Mr. Schoelen announced that the Public Hearing for the Innovations Project will be held at 3:00 pm and all are encouraged to attend.
3. SAPT UPDATE: Will Harris reported that the Friday Night Live (FNL) Program held their Annual Advisor Training on September 22 and had an excellent turnout. On Thursday, October 5, FNL will be holding their first "Leaders Energized and Prepared Summit," a leadership training for youth. Approximately 300 students are registered for the event and the main topics they will focus on are leadership and advocacy.

The Department will be celebrating the Annual Red Ribbon week on October 23-31. Each year, schools throughout Riverside County request to have motivational speakers come and provide a presentation for the students. This year the Department has lined up several speakers, including a few Peer Support Specialists, to provide presentations for the youth.

Magic Mountain is one of FNL's annual trips for the youth and this year the field trip is scheduled for November 4. Currently, there are 1,900 students registered to attend.

Last year, the FNL chapters experienced a slight decline (down to 89) after a consistent increase in the previous years. This year, the FNL chapters have increased to 100 countywide. Mr. Harris credits the increase to his staff's hard work in obtaining new schools. Mr. Harris stated that they are continuing their school based prevention programs with San Jacinto Unified School District and they are currently in discussions with Perris and Hemet Unified School District.

All County operated substance abuse clinics, with the exception of Lake Elsinore, now have a prevention specialist on site and are able to offer prevention services to all youths that come to the facility.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Steve Steinberg reported that it has been a difficult month for many with the number of tragedies occurring all over the United States. The sweeping hurricanes in Puerto Rico, Texas, and Florida; the mass shooting in Las Vegas; and the earthquakes in Mexico; it has been emotionally grueling to say the least. In an effort to help the community cope during this difficult time, the Department is in the process of scheduling three community meetings across the county (one in each region) to get a sense of where the community stands and identify the needs of individuals. All clinics are open to provide consultations regardless of their insurance status; no one is to be turned away during this time. Mr. Steinberg emphasized the importance of providing services and attention at the moment of crisis and provide help to those in need.

In the coming weeks, Mr. Steinberg and Angela Igrisan will be collaborating with the District Attorney's Office and the FBI to begin a discussion on how to respond should such a crisis arise in Riverside County. Mr. Steinberg noted that he understands everyone is consumed by all these tragedies to some degree and one of the best things to do as a way to cope, is to take care of ourselves when we can.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

DESERT REGIONAL BOARD: None

MID-COUNTY REGIONAL BOARD: Kim McElroy reported that there are plans to expand the Children's Clinic in San Jacinto and they are currently working on pursuing partnerships with area service providers. There is currently TAY staff working out of the Perris Administration building while their previous building is undergoing improvements. Ms. McElroy reported that there will be a groundbreaking for a new facility in Perris scheduled to be completed in 2018, which will include adult, older adult, and substance abuse services. Full Service Partnership is experiencing an increase in referrals and is being housed in the San Jacinto Adult Clinic. The Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) is now open and taking referrals; they hope to add emergency medication services in CSU to help those who may have missed or failed to pick-up prescriptions.

WESTERN REGIONAL BOARD: Greg Damewood reported that the Western Regional clinics and programs are fully staffed. Members of the Regional Board are scheduled to assist in serving holiday meals in December.

Minutes will be forwarded for review. The next meeting will be held at 4:00 pm later that day and all are invited to attend.

ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE: Vickie Redding reported that TAY gave a presentation regarding services they offer. Ms. Redding briefly stated that they are also working on membership.

CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE: Tori St. Johns reported that Moses Ponce and Renee Mendoza from the Mexican Consulate came and gave a presentation on the Dreamers Act and provided resources. Ms. St. Johns announced that October 11 is National Coming Out Day and the TAY Center in La Quinta will be hosting a celebration from 3:00 – 6:00 pm and all are invited to attend.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE: Mr. Damewood reported that family court, veterans court, and all other services provided to the incarcerated mentally ill inmates are going well. The next meeting will be held in November and all are invited to attend.

HOUSING COMMITTEE: Ms. Scott reported that the Committee is doing well and is experiencing an increase in attendance. They plan to hold their next meeting via tele-conference to allow members of the public in different regions to listen in and participate in the meeting.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Walter Haessler reported that Joe Zamora presented at the Board of Supervisor's meeting regarding the Realignment issue. Supervisor Ashley stated that the remedy for the issue may have to be addressed through legislation at the federal level. Dr. Haessler expressed disappointment that the topic of marijuana legislation was not placed on the agenda and that the Commission may have missed an opportunity to provide feedback on the topic to the BOS.

OLDER ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE COMMITTEE: None

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE: Daryl Terrell reported that County experienced a cost savings of \$45 million as a result of CREST's efforts with hospital diversions. CREST mobile teams have successfully provided intervention services by diverting consumers in crisis from heading to the hospital by linking them to appropriate services instead.

VETERANS COMMITTEE: Rick Gentillalli reported that the Veterans Committee continues to grow. An important topic currently discussed by the Committee is the Clay Hunt Summit Act, which is related to suicide among veterans. The VA in Loma Linda reported that within their facility, suicide rates have decreased to one-third. They hope to implement their model to surrounding VA hospitals in an effort to help decrease suicide among veterans, overall.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS – Walter Haessler requested to have more information regarding the marijuana regulation committees. Greg Damewood requested to have site reviews assigned at the next meeting. George Middle requested to have more information on Community Action Partnership.

ADJOURN: The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm.

Maria Roman

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	✓	✓								
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	✓	✓								
Brenda Scott, District 3	✓	✓								
Carole Schaudt, District 4	✓	✓								
Daryl Terrell, District 5	✓	A								
Dildar Ahmad, District 1	✓	✓								
George Middle, District 2 (<i>Redist. 5</i>)	✓	✓								
Greg Damewood, District 5	✓	✓								
Ashley Fuller, BOS Representative	✓	✓								
Ric Riccardi, District 5	✓	✓								
Richard Divine, District 2 (<i>Redist. 4</i>)	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.