

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FOR November 1, 2023 • 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS –

Madam Chair, Tori St. Johns called the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting to order at 12:00 pm and Rick Gentillalli led the committee into the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner attendance was taken by roll call and followed by introductions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS –

Madame Chair, Tori St. Johns welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending and gave thanks to RUHS Behavioral Health for supporting the Pride event in Palm Springs.

COMMISSION MEMBER REMARKS –

Brenda Scott shared that she attended the Suicide Prevention Coalition Conference and thanked PEI for bringing attention to this topic. She also attended the AFSP walk in Coachella and shared that NAMI is having a Caring Across Cultures event and are collaborating with the Cultural Competency liaisons, it will take place on 11/16/23 in Murrieta.

Daryl Terrell shared his concerns on the world events taking place that involve the Jewish communities and how it affects everyone.

Greg Damewood encouraged anyone with any input on the bylaws to reach out to himself or April Jones, who are both on the Bylaw Ad-Hoc Committee and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Carole Schaudt thanked everyone for their sympathy cards during the loss of her husband and a special thank you to Tori St. Johns and Richard Divine for getting her through challenging times.

PUBLIC REMARKS –

Maria Martha Moreno announced there will be a show case event on 11/14/23 on the outcomes on the Up for Independence app which 100 clients were enrolled and will report how the app has changed the lives of those who participated.

Tauna Butler shared her struggles with the lack of deaf and hard of hearing services offered. She expressed how the D&HOH community feel excluded on zoom meetings because closed captioning is not available and lack of ASL interpreters offered at doctor appointments and how lip reading has also become challenging because of the use of masks. Mrs. Butler continued to share the homeless D&HOH community resources are limited with housing and wanted to bring these challenges to everyone's attention in hopes to find a solution.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Minutes from October 4, 2023 were reviewed, Brenda Scott motioned to approve the minutes as written and Richard Divine seconded the motion.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tabled

CELEBRATE RECOVERY- (Kristen Duffy)

Consumer Peer Services Program Manager and Supervisor of Consumer Senior Peer Specialist Introduced Sandy Murillo. Mrs. Murillo is a Certified Medi-Cal Senior Peer Support Specialist and has been employed by the county for 13 years. Mrs. Murillo shared her challenges of being raised as a Mexican American who grew up in LA and how the expectations of going to college fulltime and working created a lot of pressure. She attended UCR and had her first breakdown six months before her college graduation. She hid her eating disorder and her grief over the loss of her uncle who was like a brother to her. Mrs. Murillo found herself repeating negative thoughts and did not know what to do because mental health was not discussed in her family. She continued to decline and did not provide herself with daily self-care and was 5150 on multiple occasions. Mrs. Murillo ended up being on a 4-year conservatorship and went back to her parents at 21. She was later seen at Blaine Street Clinic for 2-3 years and began taking medications which she struggled with due to her eating disorder because the medications caused weight gain but a nurse at ETS/ITF helped her realize it was in her best interest. Mrs. Murillo was also seen at Jefferson Wellness Center (JWC) and later Jefferson Transitional Program (JTP) and met with peers that encouraged her to go back to school at RCC where she learned to paint and draw which helped her manage her anxiety until she was ready to go back to UCR. Once returning back to UCR she graduated, and that same month was taken off conservatorship and had an interview with the County of Riverside. Mrs. Murillo expressed that Riverside County's Mental Health services helped her tremendously and she has now been off medication, free of any episodes and became a mother in 2018!

NEW BUSINESS-

1. Grand Jury Investigation Summary Report- (Robert Youssef)

Robert Youssef, Senior Public Information Officer provided a power point on the Grand Jury Report and overview. He shared that RUHS Behavioral Health was not the only department involved in responding to this report. Public Health, Riverside Office of Education, Riverside County Veteran Services, Board of Supervisors, Housing Authority and Office on Aging was also asked to provide a response.

Mr. Youssef reviewed in detail the report's highlights, findings, recommendations, and responses. He also shared that there was praise given in the report for Suicide Prevention Coalition's effort. Mr. Youssef thanked the Commission and department programs and staff for their contributions to the report.

2. ISD Report – (Janine Moore)

Janine Moore, Deputy Director with Children's and Transition Age Youth Programs, provided a report on the Integrated Service Delivery (ISD) model which is currently being piloted. The ISD is an integration of several County Departments such as First 5, Office on Aging, Probation, Housing, DPSS, RUHS, Veterans, Child Support, County Counsel and RCIT. This hub system will identify the needs of each individual and offer the residents of Riverside County services and support in a fragmented manner. The goal is to strengthen prevention and early intervention services and improve the service experience for Riverside County residents with complex needs.

3. WET Employee Appreciation Winners – (Nisha Elliott)

Nisha Elliott, Workforce Education and Training Manager, announced the two employees who were recognized and nominated as this quarter Employee Appreciation Winners by sharing their videos and presenting them with plaques.

Maria Arnold, program manager for Parent Support and Training introduced Glenis Ulloa, Senior Parent Partner with Parent Support and Cultural Competency

Jim Grisham, Desert Region Administrator recognized Augustina Morales, LVNII with Indio Outpatient Clinic for her hard work and dedication.

4. **2023 County Wide Award Winner Recognition** – (Brandon Jacobs)
Brandon Jacobs, Deputy Director of Research and Technology announced Maria Martha Moreno, Behavioral Health Innovation Manager, was recognized as the County Wide Award Winner for Innovation. Mr. Jacobs formally recognized Mrs. Moreno and presented her with the award he had accepted on her behalf in her absence.
5. **Legislative Quarterly Meeting – Action Item**
Greg Damewood made a motion to table until January 2024 and Richard Divine second the motion and all were in favor.

OLD BUSINESS-

1. **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Update** - (David Schoelen) - **Tabled**
2. **Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program (SAPT) Update** – (April Frey) - **Tabled**
3. **Care Court Update** – (Marcus Cannon) – **Tabled**

COMMITTEE UPDATES - Tabled

Desert Regional Board-
Mid-County Regional Board-
Western Regional Board-
Adult System of Care Committee-
Children’s Committee-
Criminal Justice Committee-
Housing Committee-
Legislative Committee-
Older Adult System of Care Committee-
Quality Improvement Committee-
Veterans Committee-
Membership Committee-

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS-

Richard Divine suggested information on how the county treats the yellow/red flag laws involving mental illness and domestic violence and what is in place to ensure the safety of families and the public.

ADJOURN – The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 2:02 pm.

Sylvia Bishop

Rick Gentillalli, BHC Secretary
Sylvia Bishop, Recording Secretary

FY 2022/23 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBERS	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
April Jones, District 3	A	A	P	P						
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	P	P	A	P						
Brenda Scott, District 3	P	P	P	P						
Carole Schaudt, District 4	ML	A	A	P						
Daryl Terrell, District 5	P	P	P	P						
Debbie Rose, BOS Rep. Dist. 2	P	A	P	P						
Greg Damewood, District 5	P	P	P	P						
Richard Divine, District 2	P	P	P	P						
Rick Gentillalli, District 3	P	P	P	P						
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	P	P	P	P						
Dr. Walter Haessler, Dist. 1	P	P	P	P						

Present = P • 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 SBishop@ruhealth.org

OTHERS PRESENT IN PERSON		
Bill Brenneman	Kristen Duffy	Misty Martin
Lucy Lopez	Shannon McCleerey Hooper	Glenis Ulloa
Sylvia Bishop	Maria Martha Moreno	Miriam Resendiz
Selenne Contreras	Nisha Elliott	Sandy Murillo
Jaqueline Markussen	Diana Gutierrez	Dakota Brown
Deborah Johnson	Carlos Lamadrid	Tauna Butler
Brandon Jacobs	Kristen Miller	Olivia Novoa
Janine Moore	April Frey	Carina Gustafsson
Francisco Huerta	Maria Arnold	Agustina Morales
Willard Wynn	Leah Newell	Akram Razzouk
James Grisham	Girlyanne Lacson	Luz Negron
Kelly Grotsky	Maureen Dopson	Patricia Oare
Tony Ortego	Heidi Gomez	Omara Moreno
Michelle Downs	Cheryl Coson	Maria Gonzalez
Lisa Erazo	Jose Ulloa	
Laurence Gonzaga	Angeles Camacho	
Elisabeth Rios	John Cogswell	
Lydia Mekonnen		
Michael Gunther		
Julie Egle		
Don Kendrick		
Danielle Gonzalez		
Karla Rivera		