

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FOR October 4, 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 12:05 pm and asked that Dr. Chang lead the committee into the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner attendance taken by roll-call and followed by introductions.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS –

Madame Chair, Tori St. Johns welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending and announced that this meeting was the BHC's first hybrid meeting and welcomed those attending virtually as well.

COMMISSION MEMBER REMARKS –

Madam Chair, Tori St. Johns announced there was a ribbon cutting on Monday w/ guest speaker Dr. Chang at the Desert Regional Hospital.

Walter Haessler addressed his concern with the mileage claim reimbursement process and turn around time of reimbursement to which the other commissioners agreed.

Daryl Terrell shared that he attended the Moreno Valley Unified School District meeting and there was a student who expressed the need for more mental health services within the school district.

Greg Damewood expressed concerns of emergency contact issues, grand jury report, HIPAA and extension of BHC meeting by 15 minutes.

Rick Gentillalli and Brenda Scott both thanked Robert Youssef for compiling the Grand Jury report and gathering their feedback.

PUBLIC REMARKS –

Marcus Cannon announced that the Veteran's Treatment Court graduation will be held at the Courthouse on 11/3/23 at 3:30pm.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Minutes from September 6, 2023 were reviewed, Rick Gentillalli motioned to approve the minutes as written and Richard Divine seconded the motion.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Dr. Chang thanked Robert Youseff, the commission, Public Health, the Office on Aging and all the department programs involved with the Suicide grand jury response report. He also announced that Care Court went live Monday and Riverside was 1 of 7 counties to go live and already there were 10 referrals. Dr. Chang also mentioned that during Covid there were 15 crisis teams and currently there are 50 and thanked Rhyann Miller and his team and shared that the expected response time by end of year would be an hour.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY- (Maria Arnold)

Maria Arnold, Parent Support and Training Program manager introduced Raylene Thompson. Ms. Thompson shared that she is a 20 year old mother of a one year old and joined the Moms program when she was 18 and has been with her parent partner Gwen for 2 years. She shared how she has grown through the program and Gwen taught her how to make doctor appointments and be a parent which she was never taught. Ms. Thompson shared that not having her child currently is traumatizing but she is focusing on herself and healing in the meantime. She has had a very positive influence with influential parent partners and Gwen also introduced her to services she was not aware of and that has taught her many life skills. Ms. Thompson gave praise to the program and thanked them for their support and shared she referred people to the Moms program and they have had a positive experience as well.

NEW BUSINESS-

1. Hospital Navigation Team Overview- (April Frey & Julie Curran)

April Frey introduced Julie Curran who is the supervisor of the BHI Navigation team. Ms. Curran explained the other programs collaboration with the Behavioral Health Integration Infrastructure is important with assisting their team to run effectively. The team consists of 3 behavioral health specialist III's, 3 behavioral health specialist II's, 2 peer support specialists and 1 perinatal navigator. Currently the team is available 7 days a week and patients can come into the emergency room without an appointment and be referred for services. Staff also look for patients in need of services through epic and meet with patient's bed side at emergency rooms and offer linkage to other services. The team collaborates with the START teams, CARES line, Care Coordination teams. Screenings are completed in the emergency room and they are screened for mental health, perinatal, substance use, medically assisted treatment/case management, domestic violence, homelessness/housing and behavioral health integration services. Every patient admitted to residential treatment is assigned a CCT Counselor who meets with them regularly to link them with necessary services. Ms. Curran shared there are 3 mental health urgent cares available 24/7 in Riverside, Palm Springs and Perris as well as the Arlington Campus which offers a psychiatric hospital, crisis stabilization unit and crisis rehabilitation treatment. There is also the Arlington Sobering Center and Arlington Recovery Community (ARC) that has 15 beds for the sobering center and 48 residential beds. She then discussed the challenges and success and went over the BHI Navigation Team Outcomes report. Ms. Thompson then concluded by sharing her contact information JCurran@ruhealth.org.

2. Appoint members to the BHC Bylaws Committee- Action Required

Commissioners April Jones and Greg Damewood volunteered to join the Bylaw Ad-Hoc committee.

Richard Divine suggested Dr. Quinn, co-chair of the Desert Regional Board should she agree but if not Madame Chair, Tori St. John's volunteered to participate.

The commission agreed to have the above named, review and revise the BHC Bylaws according to AB1352.

OLD BUSINESS-

1. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Update (David Schoelen)- Tabled

2. Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program (SAPT) Update – (April Frey & Heidi Gomez)

April Frey announced on October 12, 2023 the Recovery Happens event is taking place at Fairmount Park beginning at 11am and all are welcome to participate! She also announced they were awarded a grant for Mentor Internship Program (MIP).

Heidi Gomez announced there are currently 71 FNL chapters and the first event was Advisors Training Institute (ATI) that took place in September and is a two-day conference. Advisors come from across the county and obtain skills, tools and information that allow them to promote FNL within their schools. FNL received a grant for 200,000 dollars for social and emotional learning (SEL) and at this conference they incorporated SEL into their training.

COMMITTEE UPDATES-

Desert Regional Board-

Richard Divine provided update on Desert Regional Board.

Mid-County Regional Board-

Brenda Scott provided update on Mid-County Regional Board.

Western Regional Board-

Greg Damewood provided update for Western Regional Board and invited all to attend meeting following BHC.

Adult System of Care Committee-

Brenda Scott provided update for Adult System of Care.

Children's Committee-

Tori St. John's provided update for Children's Committee.

Criminal Justice Committee-

Greg Damewood reported committee meets every other month and will meet on 11/8/23.

Housing Committee-

Brenda Scott provided update for Housing Committee.

Legislative Committee-

April Jones reported due to lack of attendees the Legislative and Commission will vote for committee to meet quarterly.

Older Adult System of Care Committee-

Brenda Scott provided update for Older Adult System of Care.

Quality Improvement Committee-

Daryl Terrell reported committee met and discussed Laura's Law and Care Court.

Veterans Committee-

Rick Gentillalli reported committee met prior to BHC meeting and looking forward to offering the hybrid option next month.

Membership Committee-

Richard Divine reported there are 11 members currently on the Behavioral Health Commission.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS-

Tori St. Johns suggested discussion/update on Care Court per Marcus Cannon and Ms. Deborah Johnson request.

April Jones suggested quarterly meetings on agenda for Legislative Committee.

Greg Damewood suggested a presentation on county community care facilities and county structure.

Brenda Scott suggested a summary report on the Grand Jury investigation report from Robert Youssef.

ADJOURN – The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 2:05 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							
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	P	P	A							
Brenda Scott, District 3	P	P	P							
Carole Schaudt, District 4	ML	A	A							
Daryl Terrell, District 5	P	P	P							
Debbie Rose, BOS Rep. Dist. 2	P	A	P							
Greg Damewood, District 5	P	P	P							
Richard Divine, District 2	P	P	P							
Rick Gentillalli, District 3	P	P	P							
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	P	P	P							
Dr. Walter Haessler, Dist. 1	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		
Bill Brenneman	Misty Martin	Melissa Vasquez
Lucy Lopez	Russ Hockman	Sujei Larkin
Selenne Contreras	Robert Youssef	Don Kendrick
Diana Gutierrez	Ashley Housley	Heidi Gomez
Sylvia Bishop	Danielle Gonzalez	Liz Delrio
Rhyan Miller	Tom Behr	Julie Curran
Marcus Cannon	Brandon Behr	Robin Reid
Dr. Matthew Chang	April Frey	Lizbet Limon
Deborah Johnson	Lydia Mekonnen	Jessie Contreras
Kristen Miller	Francisco Huerta	Vanessa Lopez
Brandon Jacobs	Melissa Noone	Patricia Oare
Kelly Grotsky	Kristin Duffy	Blue Vickers
Nisha Elliott	Dakota Brown	Maribel Monreal
Maureen Dopson	Akram Razzouk	Will R.
Tony Ortego	Ashley Jean	Kathy M.
Maria Martha Moreno	Kelly Felton	Robert B.
James Grisham	Miriam Resendiz	Maria Arnold
Shannon McCleerey-Hooper	Israel Torres	Heidi Gomez
Jaqueline Markussen	Raylene Thompson	
Michelle Downs	Amelia Diaz	
Dr Benitez	America N.	
Amy McCann	Steve McNally	
Ernelyn Navarro	Sean Milanovich	