

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FOR MAY 1, 2019 | 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND INTRODUCTIONS – Chairperson, Rick Gentillalli called the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting to order at 12:00 pm, lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and commenced introductions.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Dr. Chang began by congratulating Ryan Quist for his recent promotion to Director of Behavioral Health for Sacramento County. Dr. Chang noted Mr. Quist's departure from the Department is a large loss, but his promotion is well-deserved.

Dr. Chang reported he recently attended the Gray vs. County of Riverside meeting where they discussed the staffing plan and budgets for the John J. Benoit Detention Center. They will be meeting with the Sheriff's Department and Correctional Health Services to develop a plan on how to staff the new facility.

Regarding Integration, a number of staff have completed the RUHS (Riverside University Health System) credentialing system and will be going to the FQHC (Federally Qualified Health Center) Board on May 8 to begin providing services by May 9. Dr. Chang noted they are not only cross training RUHS staff, but also FQHC therapists. This is a big step forward for the RUHS system of care and the community.

Lastly, Dr. Chang announced that May is Mental Health Month. The Department is hosting several events throughout the County in celebration of this and all are invited to attend. The Desert Region is hosting an Art Show on Tuesday, May 14; the Western Region is holding a Wellness and Resource Fair on Thursday, May 23; and Mid-County Region will be holding several small events throughout their area (dates and locations to be announced).

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS – Mr. Gentillalli gave a brief background on the Commission – members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors and is an unpaid position. The Commission consists of psychiatrists, doctors, therapists, and a majority hold graduate degrees. Those who do not possess a graduate degree has a great deal of lived experience; if converted, would equal a graduate degree. Mr. Gentillalli stated that the title of "Commissioner" means very little and their business cards are useless as nobody calls the number and if something is mailed to the address, they do not receive it. Mr. Gentillalli noted that there are no perks to this position. Their reason for being there is on behalf of the Supervisors to help the constituents and the people in the community.

COMMISSION MEMBERS REMARKS – Daryl Terrell requested information regarding the START Program and stated he will continue advocating for this program as he believes it is necessary and should be implemented into the RUHS system of care.

PUBLIC REMARKS – None

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

CELEBRATE RECOVERY – Aurelio Sanchez, Veterans Services Liaison, introduced this month's Celebrate Recovery Speaker, Aaron Pratt. Mr. Pratt is a former Navy Seal and served 9 years in the military as part of Seal Team 5. During his service, Mr. Pratt was a POW in Libya where he endured extensive torture causing a great deal of trauma. After he was discharged from the military, Mr. Pratt struggled to return to civilian life. His struggles led down the path of addiction and alcoholism as a way to suppress the pain and trauma he was experiencing. He also ran into trouble with law enforcement for several years and served six different

prison terms. After his last incarceration from Corcoran State Penitentiary, he decided “no more” and began to pursue recovery.

Mr. Pratt began his recovery by going back to school and becoming an ordained minister. Issues arose during this time that made maintaining his recovery difficult, so Mr. Pratt was prescribed medication to help address his depression, anxiety, and anger issues. Mr. Pratt later participated in AB109 where he met Dr. Weingold who helped him by linking him to several other services available to help further support his recovery efforts. Mr. Pratt noted that Dr. Weingold helped him learn how to advocate for himself, so he participated in Pathways to Success and WRAPP. Mr. Pratt was encouraged by others to become a Peer Support Advocate, which he plans to pursue. Mr. Pratt added that he was also a college graduate. He possesses a Chemical Engineering Degree from Syracuse University. The reason he was unable to pursue Officer Training in the Navy was because during his training, he lost his mom, his son, and 21 of his fellow sailors that he trained with. It was a staggering amount of loss that took a toll on him emotionally and mentally.

Mr. Pratt noted that his recovery efforts became much stronger after meeting his advocate, Aurelio Sanchez, whom he respectfully and warmly refers to as Senior Chief. Senior Chief, he stated, never let him quit and continued to stick by him even during his darkest days. He checks on Mr. Pratt periodically at his home and continues to help him with his challenges. Mr. Pratt is currently in detox at Inland Valley Recovery Center and is working towards weaning himself off his numerous medications. Mr. Pratt expressed his gratitude for Senior Chief for continuing advocating for him and he also thanked the Department for having people like Senior Chief advocating for those who are unable to advocate for themselves.

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPOINT NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR FY 19/20 BHC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ELECTIONS: Carole Schaudt, Walter Haessler, and April Jones were appointed to serve in the Nominating Committee.
2. 2019 MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH MONTH WELLNESS & RESOURCE FAIR: Rick Algarin reported that this year’s May is Mental Health Month event will be held at Fairmount Park on Thursday, May 23 from 12:00 – 4:00 pm. They currently have over 60 vendors registered with many more still in process. They have a full schedule of entertainers to keep the stage active with several dance performances, singers, and poetry reading. There will also be a number of characters walking around available for pictures, like Star Wars’ Stormtroopers and the Avengers. The Laker Girls are also making an appearance to sign autographs and take photos.

Promotion for the event is being done through traditional flyers that is available online for others to download and share. Robert Youssef was able to promote the event through our various social media platforms – Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook. Mr. Youssef also negotiated with the City of Riverside to have the event advertised on the digital billboards at no cost, over the freeway at three different locations – University Village, Marketplace, and Auto Center Drive. Radio PSAs are also being used to promote the event.

The Desert Region will be holding their event on Tuesday, May 11 at the Coachella Valley Rescue Mission and Mid-County will host a few smaller events throughout the month at different clinics in an effort to keep costs low. Lake Elsinore Adult Clinic will host one on Wednesday, May 15 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm; Temecula Children’s Clinic will host on Tuesday, May 21 from 12:00 – 4:00 pm; the Hemet and San Jacinto Clinic will host their event at the Golden Era Golf Course on Wednesday, May 22 from 11:00 – 2:00 pm; San Jacinto Children’s Clinic will also host one on Wednesday, May 22 from 2:00 – 5:00 pm; and the last event will be held on Thursday, May 30 at The Arena – TAY Resource and Support Center.

Lastly, Mr. Algarin wanted to extend his gratitude and appreciation for the many volunteers helping to coordinate and organize the event, especially Priscilla Gouveia and Linda Shreve. Ms. Gouveia and Ms. Shreve had the incredible task of organizing meetings, assembling the volunteers, placing and following-up on a number of supply and food orders, and making sure we stay on budget. Mr. Algarin noted that this would not have been possible without the many who are volunteering their time to make this event a success.

3. **RESILIENT BRAVE YOUTH PRESENTATION:** Rhyan Miller, Deputy Director of Forensics and Substance Abuse Prevention introduced Jessica Ortiz to give an overview of the Resilient Brave Youth (RBY) Program. Jessica Ortiz began by stating that RBY was developed to treat a special population — human trafficking victims and commercially sexually exploited youth. In the state of California, Riverside County ranks third in population of human trafficking victims and commercially sexually exploited youth; ranking below Los Angeles and San Diego County. Two years ago, Riverside County received a 5-year grant in an effort to address this issue, which is how the Resilient Brave Youth Program was developed. It is the first program of its kind, worldwide. They are working with a number of developers that focus on Trauma Focused-Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) to gather the data.

Child sex trafficking is one of the most common types of commercial sexual exploitation and is among the largest in the industry. Child sex trafficking victims include girls, boys, and LGBTQ youth. Historically, the primary focus of this issue is the crime itself — human trafficking and commercial exploitation of minors — but it has not been addressed from the behavioral health standpoint, which is “How and why did this happen to this child? How did they get to this point?” As we know, children who suffer from traumatic events develop a range of emotional and behavioral problems. Currently, there are no other programs in the world that is addressing this specific issue.

In a 2018 report from California Department of Social Services, 27% of the human trafficking population are minors. Over 179 victims have been officially identified by Riverside County's Department of Social Services. This number is projected to increase once they receive the latest numbers from the Probation Department. Statistics have also shown that 70-85% of victims have, or have had contact with a county system. Ms. Ortiz explained that this means victims have been in contact with county systems such as the foster care system, behavioral health clinics, hospitals, and teen clinics. Ms. Ortiz emphasized that this is a multi-billion dollar industry, meaning perpetrators not only frequent target locations, such as foster care systems; they also frequent parks, hotels, and restaurants. Ms. Ortiz noted that many victims of child sex trafficking are hiding in plain sight.

Resilient Brave Youth was developed to confront the challenges of engagement with victims once they are identified. Ms. Ortiz noted more often than not, victims are reluctant to speak up and at times, can be combative as they don't understand the trauma they are experiencing or the situation that they are in. Ms. Ortiz emphasized the importance of trauma informed care and increasing interagency collaboration to tackle the challenge of engaging victims. RBY consist of five intensive multidisciplinary treatment teams that provide youth victims with evidence based treatments, which comprise of Trauma Focused – Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Motivational Interviewing, psychiatric evaluations, and intensive case management services.

Referrals for this program primarily come from RUHS-Behavioral Health, Probation, Department of Social Services, and Riverside County's Anti-Human Trafficking Task Force. They also have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) established with these agencies so when they identify a victim, they can refer them for behavioral health services. In the first two years of the program, they have received 152 unique referrals and 63 individuals either did not meet the criteria, declined services, or moved/AWOL before meeting. There are currently 37 receiving treatment, 32 received some treatment,

11 have fully completed the program, and 9 have had one or two contacts, but chose not to engage.

The expected outcomes and goals for this program include improving the service delivery for child victims of sexual exploitation. This can result in the increase retention of children/youth in behavioral health services to begin and continue their treatment and work towards a successful return back into the community. Success of this program is measured by the increase of the child/youth's functional outcomes, i.e. increased participation in school or work, reduced AWOL and placement challenges, and decreased recidivism rates of youth returning to trafficking.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **MHSA UPDATE:** David Schoelen announced the Western Region's Public Hearing for the MHSA Annual Plan Update will be held immediately after the BHC meeting at 3:00 pm in the same conference room. Mr. Schoelen noted that traditionally when we hear the term "feedback," many of us think of it from the critical lens (i.e. What isn't working? How do I want things to be different?), but this is also an opportunity to help sustain programming that we find significant and effective. Examples of programming funded by MHSA include our Veterans Services Liaison position, held by Aurelio Sanchez. Mr. Schoelen explained that the position was created and funded through Workforce Education and Training, which is part of MHSA. May is Mental Health Month's Wellness and Resource Fairs are primarily funded by MHSA's Prevention and Early Intervention Plan and Outreach and Engagement Plan. Lastly, Resilient Brave Youth was created and funded by MHSA's Innovations Plan. Mr. Schoelen stated that these are just a few of the programs within the MHSA Annual Plan Update that they will be reviewing during the Public Hearing. Mr. Schoelen noted if these are programs we find important and effective, our feedback can provide the support they need to maintain them.
2. **SAPT UPDATE:** Rhyann Miller announced April is Friday Night Live Month. It is the 35th Anniversary of the program. Riverside County was one of three pilot counties to implement the program and has the largest chapter in California. The Friday Night Live Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, May 24. All those interested in attending can send their RSVP to Maggie DeRimanoczy.

Mr. Miller also announced that they recently promoted April Marier to SAPT Mental Health Services Administrator and Marcus Cannon to Mental Health Services Administrator for Homeless and Housing Team Programs.

Lastly, Mr. Miller reported that May is Drug Court Month. This is for our collaborative courts throughout the county, which include Homeless Court, Veterans Court, Family Preservation Court, and Juvenile Justice Court. Mr. Miller noted that The Board of Supervisors has plans to them with a Proclamation, but the date has yet to be determined.

COMMITTEE UPDATES: Tabled

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS: None

ADJOURN: The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 2:03 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	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	
Anindita Ganguly, District 2				A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Brenda Scott, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Carole Schaudt, District 4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	
Daryl Terrell, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dildar Ahmad, District 1	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	
George Middle, District 2 (Redist. 5)	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Greg Damewood, District 5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Richard Divine, District 2 (Redist. 4)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
Rick Gentillalli, District 3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
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. To request copies, please contact the BHC Liaison at (951) 955-7141 or email at MYRoman@rcmhd.org.

OTHERS PRESENT		
Aaron Pratt, Guest	Amy McCann, RUHS-BH	Anessa Smith, Guest
April Marier, RUHS-BH	Araceli Ruiz, BOS Rep – District 1	Ashley Hanson, RUHS-BH
Aurelio Sanchez, RUHS-BH	Bill Brenneman, RUHS-BH	Brandon Jacobs, RUHS-BH
Bruce Trainor, Guest	David Schoelen, RUHS-BH	Diana Brown, RUHS-BH
Edmund fisher, Guest	Gregory Burks, Guest	Jason Neri, Guest
Jessica Ortiz, RUHS-BH	Jim Hill, RUHS-BH	Johanna Mor, Guest
Joshua Korley, RUHS-BH	Kim McElroy, Guest	Linda Shreve, RUHS-BH
Lisa Morris, RUHS-BH	Lorie Lacey-Payne, RUHS-BH	Lucy Lopez, RUHS-BHA
Marcus Cannon, RUHS-BH	Maria Roman, RUHS-BH	Matthew Chang, MD, RUHS-BH Director
Maureen Dopson, RUHS-BH	Maureen Martinez, RUHS-BH	Michael Lynn, RUHS-BH
Pamela Norton, RUHS-BH	Paul Baum, RUHS-BH	Rhyan Miller, RUHS-BH
Rick Algarin, RUHS-BH	Robert Youssef, RUHS-BH	Russell Moreau, Guest
Ryan Quist, RUHS-BH	Sarah Rodriguez, BOS Rep – District 3	Sheree Summers, RUHS-BH
Steve Lusk, Guest	Sylvia Aguirre-Aguilar, RUHS-BH	Taide Arias, RUHS-BH
Tiffany Ross, RUHS-BH	Vicky Redding, RUHS-BH	Willard Wynn, RUHS-BH
William Harris, RUHS-BH	Yaneth Garcia, Guest	Zachary Tucker, RUHS-BH