

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
 Thursday, June 27, 2019
 Meeting Minutes
 Stacy Dagleish, 1st Vice Chair, Presiding
APPROVED – July 25, 2019
MSC – Cooperberg/Weissman – 3 abstentions

DISCUSSION

Call to Order by Commissioner Dagleish

Welcome and Introductions

- A. **Roll Call:** Canetana Hurd
 Absent Excused: Commissioners Scott, Stevens, Turner, Friedman, Curry, and Ogawa
- B. **Introduction of OCFA (Office of Consumer and Family Affairs) Staff.**

Department of Mental Health Report – Dr. Curley Bonds II, Chief Medical Officer

Dr. Bonds reported the following:

DMH Reorganization

1. Postings for Countywide Deputy and Mental Health Clinician Chief – Forensic Services
2. Interviewed two candidate for Associate Medical Director position – offer pending
3. Two new Associate Medical Directors: Christopher Benitez, MD, Academic Liaison (CDU program) and Emily Dosset, MD (Maternal Health, pregnancy and postpartum)

B&C Update – Patch doesn't go far enough but majority of B&C are receiving mental health resources

Service Area Visits Update - Feedback collated by team falls into the following basic categories:

1. Training (9 concerns)
2. Staffing (13 concerns)
3. Facilities (6 concerns)
4. Resources Needed (5 concerns)
5. Services Provided to Individuals (24)
6. Contracts (3 concerns)
7. PEI Unspent Funding (3 concerns)
8. Partnerships between Agencies and Departments (5 concerns)
9. Justice Involved Programs (3 concerns)
10. Career Ladder/Promotions (8 concerns)
11. Miscellaneous (3 concerns)

Update on Action Items

1. Alternatives to Incarceration – We support treatment in the community (scale and expand residential services) – community-based holistic and residential care
2. Diversion efforts – conversations ongoing with justice partners to create diversion program with initial phase at Central Courthouse. Will require revamp of MHCL program and redeployment of staff. Details continue to develop
3. Legislative Priorities - LPS Audit hearing– hopefully the audit shows how is it working and how is it not working. DMH will participate in hearing.
4. Citizenship question on census – positive determination was made by supreme court
5. Lack of access to hospital beds for youth – looking at creating a motion statewide because beds continue to be a critically unavailable for youth

ACTION ITEMS:

- A. Send recent reorganization chart, draft ok for commission (Stevens) **PENDING**
- B. Provide contract agency and directly operated clinic information on MHC, SAAC Resources (Dagleish) **PENDING**
Recommendation to contact Mimi to assist on communication to directly operated clinics and SAAC meetings

DISCUSSION

6. Where are we with homeless outreach? - Homeless outreach merger of HOME and HST teams, will result in more staff in each service area to be overseen by the new Countywide Deputy
7. Mercer and RAND reports – *pending*
8. DMH Reorganization Chart – *pending meeting with CEO*
9. Dr. Bonds title is renamed from Chief Deputy Director, Clinical Operations to Chief Medical Officer for DMH

Public Comment

Action Item Update from Santa Clarita Town Hall

Ad hoc from Santa Clarita Valley Town Hall provided updates, speakers included:

Larry Schallert LCSW, Assistant Director, Student Health & Wellness/Mental Health Program, College of the Canyons

Zee Dankworth, NAMI member

Barbara Wilson, Community Advocate

ACTION:

1. Request teleconference capabilities to address proximity issues for both AV and SCV groups whom attend meetings (E.Matos).
2. Recommend AV form ad hoc committee to focus on gaps (E.Matos)

Paul Stansbury – Request MHC to look into SB 11, SB 66, AB 1766

Dorothy Banks – How will DMH provide nutrition resources at each service area

Maria Tan – Thanks for funding training MH 101 for Peer Specialists. Hope additional Peer Specialists trainings continue

SAAC Co-Chair Reports

SAAC 1 – Jean Harris, Co-Chair

- Announced new SAAC Co-Chair, Gil Blanks
- Discussed community engagement to increase client participation and underserved cultural community and transportation needs
- Request CAF (Client Activity Fund) conduct mandatory orientations for clients in the AV community. The distance and travel time to DTLA is a hardship.

ACTION

DMH will coordinate providing CAF orientations to be held in the AV via teleconference

- SAAC is updating its charter to move to approval process.

SAAC 2 – Patricia Russell, Co-Chair

- Last SAAC meeting received an amazing presentation on services for children in the service area – still no hospital beds for youth
- SAAC will elect two new Co-Chairs to replace Patricia Russell and Evy Lowe
- Discussions on hospitals not following the Welfare and Institutions Code that reference discharges continue to be the main topic at SAAC meetings

SAAC 3 – William Legere, Member

- Social discovery system and YourDMH was discussed at last SAAC meeting
- SAAC is doing a very good job

SAAC 4 – Ricardo Kim, Member

- Apologized for Co-Chairs not present to report at today's meeting. Leadership is frequently absent and there is lack of community engagement.

DISCUSSION

SAAC 5 – Vice Chair Dagleish

- SAAC held summer celebration. Presentation by Jim “The Hat” on health and nutrition

SAAC 8 – Paul Stansbury, Co-Chair

- Homelessness and trauma informed care continues to be the main topic.
- Two shelters will open in January 2020 in Wilmington and San Pedro
- Presentation from South Bay Coalition on homelessness
- Continue meeting with peers before SAAC meetings to eventually implement peer relationships with service area

Commissioner Reports

Eric Matos – 5th District Representative

- Announcement – Federal government approved efforts to engage an audit on LPS. Efforts will look into disparities especially in 5150 situations adding medical criteria to the grave disability issues. Will stay focused on the status and continue to update MHC.
- Supervisors’ Office is actively pursuing the state to apply for IMD Medicaid reimbursements for facilities with 16 or more beds. Medicaid reimbursement will maximize beds in facilities.

Commissioner Cooperberg

- Joined SCV suicide prevention committee due to a spike in suicides in the valley.
- Attended SCV interfaith clergy breakfast well attended by a diverse group of clergy representatives.
- SCV ad hoc headed by Larry Schallart is working with the City of Santa Clarita to develop an anti-suicide media campaign.

Commissioner Murata-Shih

- Continue tracking Kaiser Permanente mental health employee’s union contract. Before going on strike, the union asked the employees to return to the table to renegotiate the contract.

Commissioner Dagleish

- Attended the quarterly California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHBC) meeting in Santa Ana. Board and commission trainings were very helpful. Recommended all groups to attend a CALBHBC training to learn more about board rules and regulations.

Public Comments – Non Agenda Items

Anna – AV WOW volunteer reported transportation is needed for volunteers to come to recommended trainings

Rosemary Jenkins – Works with juvenile offenders. Promotes juvenile offender success stories to use as a resource for DMH.

Marvin Thompson –

1. Expand linguistic and language issues in the Asian and Arabic communities because they are the largest among languages.
2. Service Area 6 has not been to a Commission meeting lately.

William Legere– Regarding supportive employment since the current president’s election employment has gone down in the African-American and Asian population.

Gilbert LaBlanc – Help the homelessness issue in the SFV area by providing cots and bathroom facilities in the abandon post office in Van Nuys and other abandon buildings nearby.

Jean Harris – Issues with the homeless count connected to the Kern and Los Angeles County boundary is a misrepresentation. Kern County is included in the LA County count but do not receive any resources.

Barbara Wilson – B&C continuously receive a push from other county departments offering more dollars to use licensed available beds

Maria Tan – Restroom access in PRC and elevators in DMH create building problems

DISCUSSION

Ricardo Kim – Supports both SA 1 & 2 sharing their issues and moving their charters forward. Thanked MHC for support service and listening this past year. Request any co-chair to start planning SA 4 town hall for 2020. Not be seeking election as co-chair for SAAC 4. Accepted an internship with Public Health HIT division. Will continue to attend MHC meetings.

Esiquio Reyes – Homeless questionnaire packets do not address issues on food that is essential to mental health. Addressing homeless people should be on issues that pertain to being outside

Doreen – Success story about mental health and receiving housing

Josie Dunmore – Spoke about transportation should be provided to get to psychiatric/counseling appointments and medications

Mark Karmatz – Announced SB 10 hearing in assembly (Peer Certification). Public urged assembly to vote yes. Join in workshop via webinar

Discussion: Homeless Count Strategy

Commissioner Comments/Recommendations

Look specifically into the service areas to evaluate what is better and what is declining so MHC can target specific areas

Every service area had a percentage decrease in homeless count report

Data in service area 1's individual homeless count report stated percentages diminished about 38%

So many factors to determine if the data is accurate

Take a preventative stand on reducing homelessness not just what is happening to homeless people. Utilize public comments from MHC meeting for suggestions or recommendations

Recommend using homeless issues or complaints spoken at today's public comment

ACTION – What % of MHSA funding is spent on homeless programs versus people in homes

ACTION – Add "Report on Homelessness" standing item on monthly agenda

Elections

Election Update:

MOTION – Move election to July 25 MHC meeting due to a lack of quorum. Motion approved, seconded and carried (Weissman/Cooperberg/Unanimous vote from Commissioners present)

- Leadership for July 25, 2019 meeting will be Commissioner Stacy Dagleish serve as Acting Chair for the July meeting (SA4 Town Hall).

ACTION:

Move election to July 25.

Announcements/Review Action Items

Commissioner Stacy Dagleish closed recognizing Commissioner Merilla Scott leadership the past year and that it was an honor to work with her.

Meeting Adjourned

Next Meeting – July 25, 2019 Town Hall in Service Area 4 – Location and Time TBA

Meeting highlights submitted by Canetana Hurd