

County of Los Angeles
MHC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Minutes-Thursdays, September 8, 2022, Noon
Kathleen Austria, Chair, Presiding

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Commissioner Austria, Chair (P), Commissioner Acebo, 1st Vice Chair (P), Commissioner Okonji, 2nd Vice Chair (P), Commissioner Friedman, Member-at-Large (P), Commissioner Root, Member at-Large (P), Commissioner Dalgleish, Past Chair (P), **Quorum present.**

Administrative Matters

2. Approval of the July 14, 2022 minutes:

Motion to approve July minutes, moved by Commissioner Root and second by Commissioner Dalgleish. Motion carried, so approved by listed roll call:

Presentations

3. DMH Update – Crystal Kibby – See page 4 for report

Meeting Updates for September 22, 2022 Agenda

4. DMH Administration Highlight - Dr. Lisa Wong, Acting Director, Mental Health -

Dr. Wong gave a brief update on new hired staff, vacancy rate and ODR:

- Senior Deputy - Child Wellbeing and Prevention
- Program Manager 4 - new MHSA Unit
- Vacancy rate dropped 30% to 20%.
- Outpatient Services - 107 items that are processing selected candidates
- Hired 11 doctors

Brief update on ODR:

- Working on budget with DHS and ODR for \$25 million

5. DMH Finance - Kim Nall, DMH Finance Manager

Kim Nall gave a brief update on what's included in the DMH supplemental budget:

- 34 positions were added to expand PMRT teams
- Submitted a request for AB 109 funding
- Positions added to FSP half teams for the Antelope Valley and Arcadia MHC
- Provided funding to our legal entity contract providers
- ARPA \$18.5 million funding not spent rolled over into the budget

Connie Drexler offered a brief update on CARE Court:

- CARE Court made it through the legislature with a few minor amendments
- The primary amendment piece lists counties in the first cohort
- LA County will be in cohort 2 in 2024.

6. Stakeholder Community Planning Process:

Darlesh Horn gave a brief overview on the process for the stakeholders:

- Work with stakeholders on an ongoing basis to prepare them for the 3-year plan proposals
- Host a retreat at the end of September on trust building and involvement in the MHSA process
- Incubation Academy (aka Transforming LA) - 29 community-based organizations still participating have agreed to continue another year.
- Agencies will receive training from DMH subject matter experts on budgets, contracts, establishing electronic health records.

7. Mental Health Retreat Update -

- Retreat date will be October 14, 2022 at the Cathedral. Facilitator has been identified and negotiating the contract has begun. Commissioners suggested inviting SALT Co-Chair to join the retreat.

8. SB 803 Peer Support Specialist Certification (Scott Hanada-presenter) – Crystal Kibby reported the SB 803 presentation will involve opportunities and any additional programming being developed for the new initiative.

Meeting Update for October 27, 2022 Agenda

Imee Perius gave a brief update on Marketing and Communications:

- 988 marketing is still being finalized
- Working on a general DMH marketing campaign
- Working on education campaign to youth regarding the START program

Public Comments

Hector Ramirez: Hello. Good afternoon. My name is Ramirez. I'm an LA County DMH consumer. I get my services at the clinic over here in Chatsworth. There were 30 -- over 38 items that you addressed today. And I 70 only have two minutes, but I want to just kind of really highlight the difficulty as the stakeholders to really engage you and provide you with the necessary information to help you do your job the best that you can. And I'm only going to focus on two because there's not enough time. The first one really related to CARE Court. Stephanie Wells from the State Office of the Department of Healthcare Services has offered to do a presentation for the stakeholders on CARE Court. She did offer this group this opportunity quite a while ago. And we as consumers have reached LA County DMH staff to offer the official invitation, that has not happened. So as consumers, we never had an opportunity to really both engage the department, the commission, or the state about our concerns or recommendations for our CARE Court. And given the fact that LA County DMH and the Board of Supervisors have been so involved in how CARE Court is being developed, particularly around the MHSA funds., you know, it really highlights how the voice of stakeholders really have been ignored in this process, particularly Latino, Black, disabled, LGBTQIA2-S communities who are going to be significantly targeted. And who's funding outlook? I'm sorry. Funding will come out.

The second one really goes around the stakeholder process. All our UsCCs -- many of our UsCC co-chairs, particularly consumers, have requested and commented about our concerns and opposition to the current facilitator who pretty much is leading the process and the way that she wants to, and not in the way that we recommend. So, again, just reminding the department that this is not how the CPP process is supposed to be developed. It just continues, too, really be stigmatic and -- >> JOHN FLYNN: Time. >> HECTOR RAMIREZ: We look forward to it. Thank you.

Osbee Sangster, Black Los Angeles County Client Coalition: Public comment addressing special economic inequality is key to building resilience. Disadvantaged groups are the most affected and least able to recover. What strategies can be adopted to break this vicious cycle of homelessness? Housing underpins the urgency of action. Tackling change is a defining challenge for the present day. The feedback loop, the Black Los Angeles County Client Coalition advocacy efforts. Priority investment, a housing trust fund. 72 We must do better to achieve short and long-term goals and provide supportive services and operational expenses related to

MHC Executive Committee Meeting

September 8, 2022

Page 3 of 9

immediate instant housing units, such as build up structures, renovation, restorative, rehabilitation sites, conversions, prefabrication, and modular units. We must do better across all age groups.

The Los Angeles County community services and support to help capitalize and reestablish the housing trust fund resources and to site permanent supportive housing for individuals with psychiatric disabilities. Reestablish the housing fund infrastructure investments. We look forward to seeing positive change. Thank you.

Wendy Cabil, Antelope Valley, SALT 1: And I have a few questions and comments. I'm requesting a monthly report be presented to the Mental Health Commission from the newly established Peer Advisory Council. As the former co-chair of the Black and African Heritage Underserved Cultural Community, I weighed in on the development of this PAC (Peer Advisory Council) since I'm no longer attending the CLT meeting, I'm not hearing any feedback. And I do recall hearing earlier mentioning about the SLT well back in the day that was successful to the public and it was much more interaction. So, I'd like to see 73 how moving forward we can include that proper stakeholder engagement with the CLT as well.

Number two, I want to know if County Council is versed on the MHSA, the Mental Health Services Act. I'm wondering because I need the County Council to help guide LA County into compliance mode with the mental health services requirements, especially the stakeholder engagement. And I also need to find out who's the contact person for the Mental Health Commission, who will ensure that all the commissioners are receiving necessary information, materials, and resources that are being sent your way. I've asked that question before. And will the MHSA be an agenda topic included that this MHSA retreat coming up? That's important that everyone's on the same page. And how do we get the SALTs, the UsCCs and the CCC involved in sponsoring community participation and this MHC retreat? That's where stakeholder engagement can really begin. Thank you.

Adjournment

9. Meeting adjourned @ 1:56 pm.

MHC Executive Committee Meeting

September 8, 2022

Page 4 of 9

