

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
SERVICE AREA 8 ADMINISTRATION**

**SAAC 8  
March 4, 2016  
10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
DCFS Torrance  
2325 Crenshaw Blvd.  
Torrance, CA 90501**

**Agenda**

<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>FACILITATOR</u></b>
10:15-10:30	<b>TAY Program Overview</b> <i>Rhonda Richards-Smith, MH Clinical Supervisor, DMH TAY Division</i>	Kim Sasaki, District Chief Patti LaPlace & Paul Stansbury (co-chairs)
10:30-10:50	<b>DMH Adult System of Care Announcement</b> <i>Cathy Warner, Deputy Director, DMH Adult System of Care</i>	Kim
10:50-11:50	<b>Speed Networking</b> <i>Facilitator: Steven Goodwin, SAAC Consultant</i>	Patti
11:50-11:55	<b>DMH Report</b>	Kim
11:55-12:00	<b>Announcements/ Inspirational Message</b>	Paul
12:00	<b>Inspirational Message</b>	
	<b>Adjourn Meeting</b>	

**Next Meeting:**

Friday, April 1, 2016  
10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
DCFS Torrance

Purpose:      \*Information      \*Planning      \*Problem Solving      \*Decision      \*Evaluation

**Service Area Advisory Committee (SAAC) 8 Meeting**  
**March 4, 2016**

**DMH REPORT**

- **Age Group and Programs Update** – Please contact the SA 8 staff listed below for referrals or information:
  - **Older Adults** – The FSP referrals and authorization process is centralized for Older Adults (OA). The OA fax line is (213) 738-3492. For questions related to linkage and resources for OA in Service Area 8, please contact Jenny Nguyen at (562) 435-2257.
  - **Adults** – Adult FSP slots are available. Referring MH providers should continue to provide services while FSP is being established. Please contact Jenny Nguyen at (562) 435-2287 or Amy Allen at (562) 435-2257 for adult referrals. The FSP referral fax number is (562) 256-1603.
  - **Transition-age Youth (TAY)** – FSP TAY slots are available. Please call Javier Nevarez at (562) 435-3106 to discuss eligibility before submitting a referral.
  - **Children** – FSP Child slots are available. Please contact Ms. April Hagerty at (562) 435-2078 for linkage and referrals.
  - **Family Preservation** – Ms. Angela Alarid is the SA 8 Family Preservation Specialist from the Specialized Foster Care office. She can be reached at (562) 436-4757.
  - **Wraparound** – Wraparound can take referrals for youth up to age 20.5 years of age. Please contact Rowena Docuyan at (562) 432-8601, Yolanda Arredondo at (562) 436-4769, or Cathy Benavides at (562) 436-4094.
  - **Specialized Foster Care (SFC)** – Dr. Chad Brinderson is the Multidisciplinary Assessment Team (MAT) supervisor ph: 213-276-5503/fax (562) 436-9185. Please contact Louis Suncin (Program Manager) at (213) 804-5038 (county cell) for SFC at the DCFS Torrance Office. The supervisor for the South County SFC office is Dr. Karen Molano and she can be reached at (562) 497-3456/fax (562) 425-5294.
  
- **SA 8 Quality Improvement/Quality Assurance (QI/QA) Committee** – The next meeting will be held on March 16<sup>th</sup> from 2-4 p.m. at Star View's corporate office, 1501 Hughes Way, Long Beach 90810. SA 8 QI/QA Liaison: Ann Lee (562) 435-3027 or [ailee@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:ailee@dmh.lacounty.gov).
  
- **Cultural Competency Committee (CCC)** – The next CCC meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at 550 S. Vermont, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room, Los Angeles. CCC Liaison: Ann Lee
  
- **MHSA Housing** – The next SA 8 Housing Meeting will be held on March 31<sup>st</sup> from 2-4p.m. at Coastal API Family MHC. Housing liaisons or case managers from DMH clinics and contract providers should attend. Please contact Ms. Zhen McCullom, SA 8 Housing Specialist: [ZMcCullom@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:ZMcCullom@dmh.lacounty.gov) or (562) 435-2097.
  
- **Long Beach Clergy and Faith Networking Meeting** – The next meeting will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 3824 Woodruff Ave, Long Beach 90809. For information, please contact Keeley Gilmore at (562) 435-2207 or [kgilmore@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:kgilmore@dmh.lacounty.gov).
  
- **SA 8 Promotores** – Spanish-speaking Promotores are available to provide presentations about mental health stigma, stages of grief and loss, domestic violence prevention, drug and alcohol prevention, symptoms and treatments of depression, and anxiety disorders. Please contact Javier Nevarez at (562) 435-3106 or [JNevarez@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:JNevarez@dmh.lacounty.gov) to request a presentation or more information.



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550 S. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA 90020 HTTP://DMH.LACOUNTY.GOV



ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.  
Acting Director  
DENNIS MURATA, M.S.W.  
Acting Chief Deputy Director  
RODERICK SHANER, M.D.  
Medical Director

**SERVICE AREA 8  
SERVICE AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
March 4, 2016  
10:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
DCFS – Torrance**

**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Patti LaPlace and Dr. Paul Stansbury, SAAC 8 co-chairs, convened the meeting along with Ms. Kim Sasaki, Service Area 8 District Chief. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. and attendees introduced themselves.

**TRANSITION AGE YOUTH (TAY) PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

*Rhonda Richards-Smith, L.C.S.W., MH Clinical Supervisor, DMH TAY System of Care*  
*Jasminder Chahal, L.C.S.W., TAY Navigator, DMH TAY System of Care*

Ms. Richards-Smith provided a brief overview of the services provided through Transition Age Youth System of Care (TAY SOC). TAY refers to individuals who are between 16-25 years of age. TAY SOC provides an array of mental health and supportive services to TAY. TAY priority populations include individuals who are struggling with substance abuse issues; homeless or at-risk of homelessness; aging out of the children's mental health, child welfare, or juvenile justice systems; leaving long-term institutional care; and experiencing their first episode of major mental illness. TAY SOC has TAY Navigators that are assigned to each of the Service Areas 1-8 and Housing Specialists. There are 3 MHSA funded TAY drop-in centers located at Pacific Clinics' HOPE Youth Center in Irwindale, LA Gay and Lesbian Center's The Youth Center on Highland in Los Angeles, and Daniel's Place in Santa Monica. TAY SOC also serves the immediate and urgent housing needs of TAY who are Seriously Emotionally Disturbed (SED)/Severely Persistently Mentally Ill (SPMI) through the Enhanced Emergency Shelter Program (EESP). The eligibility criteria for the EESP is TAY 18-25 years old; SED/SPMI; indigent; homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness; does not have any income, benefits, or any other resources to pay for housing; and not a danger to self, others, or gravely disabled. Youth who are dependents of DCFS or under LPS conservatorship are not eligible for EESP. EESP locations are Los Angeles, South Bay, Hollywood, and 4 additional confidential shelter locations for female victims of domestic violence. The EESP contact number is (213) 738-6194. The presenters also provided an overview of Full Service Partnership (FSP) and Field Capable Clinical Services (FCCS). There are MHSA Permanent Supportive Housing properties for eligible TAY. Please review the handouts for more information regarding the referral process, focal population, and services.

## **DMH ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE (ASOC) DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT**

Mrs. Cathy Warner returned to SAAC 8 today and announced that she will be retiring on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Warner's impressive career at DMH spans about thirty-seven and a half years and includes her ground-breaking work with the Assertive Community Treatment model in her early years, clinical services as a social worker at directly-operated clinics, excellence in leadership as the current Adult System of Care Deputy Director and past Service Area 8 District Chief, as well as active involvement with NAMI. She bid her farewell to SAAC 8 and wished everyone the best with their continued dedication to the mental health community.

Ms. LaPlace expressed how Cathy inspired her and the impact she has made with the City of Long Beach as well as her continued support and availability throughout the years. Dr. Stansbury also expressed his appreciation of Ms. Warner's longtime support of NAMI and their families by establishing connections to mental health clinics in SA 8. Dr. Deborah Tull (SAAC 8 member, education representative) commended Mrs. Warner for all of her incredible accomplishments and big heart which has had far-reaching impact throughout the Service Area and to college mental health. Mrs. Virginia Howlett (SAAC 8 inspirational poetess) spoke highly of Mrs. Warner's approachability, caring and compassionate spirit, and genuine concern for treating everyone with equal respect and kindness. Mr. John Czernek (past SAAC 8 co-chair) also praised Mrs. Warner for her being a "bright light" to all and being able to connect with consumers. The SAAC as a whole expressed how much Mrs. Warner will be missed and recognized her for all she has accomplished as the Deputy Director. Ms. Sasaki stated that it has been a privilege to work with Mrs. Warner and has been inspired by her passion for helping consumers and staff and tirelessly working to improve the mental health system. She presented Cathy with a beautiful flower arrangement and thanked her for giving special attention to Service Area 8.

Thank you, Mrs. Warner for touching the lives of so many through your outstanding service and leadership, heartfelt contributions to increasing access and improving services, and kindness throughout these years!

## **SPEED NETWORKING**

Dr. Steven Goodwin facilitated the Speed Networking activity which was intended to accelerate introductions in order to increase exposure to other professionals or agencies that may share similar goals to benefit the mental health community. Members introduced themselves to the person across from them and rotated around the circle every 5 minutes. Instructions were included in the handouts, notecards provided to exchange contact information, and debriefed afterwards. Participants expressed this exercise was helpful in enhancing networking relationships so it may be repeated in the future.

## **DMH REPORT**

### **Health Neighborhood:**

The Department is working primarily on developing the “little H” and “little N” for increasing timeliness with referrals and care coordination. The Department of Public Health will focus on Health Neighborhood activities related to the “Big H” and “Big N” community change efforts. One of the goals is to improve the quality of life of the population in our community by improving other social and environmental factors that affect our health. The Department is ready to bring additional providers and entities (hospitals) to add on to the existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

### **City of Long Beach Trauma Informed Care:**

The City of Long Beach declared their city as a trauma informed city. We will ask The Children’s Clinic to provide an in-service training regarding what is trauma informed care. Derek Hsieh, Long Beach API Family Mental Health Center, is part of the workgroup. Many providers including DMH are represented in this task force. The task force has been meeting to define what it means to be trauma informed, identify important themes and concepts. In the future, the City of Long Beach intends to organize trainings to increase awareness, as well as possibly identify practices and policies that could be implemented at the systems level. There will be more involvement with schools, police departments, probation, and courts to increase the community’s recognition of the signs of trauma and respond with more sensitivity/compassion towards those that have been exposed to trauma.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Ms. Sabrina Porras from Project Return Peer Support Network announced 2 Mental Health First Aid trainings that will be held on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and March 24<sup>th</sup> at San Pedro Mental Health Center. Registration forms and contact information was distributed at the meeting.
- San Pedro Mental Health Center will also be hosting a FREE Conservatorship/LPS Guidance Workshop. This workshop is for family members who may be considering conservatorship for their loved ones. Please contact Maria Salas to RSVP or inquire about this workshop: [MSalas@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:MSalas@dmh.lacounty.gov).
- San Pedro MHC Resource Fair, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 9am-1pm. Please sign up for booth or tables. Registration forms are available.
- Dr. Debbie Tull - Reported exciting news that she and a colleague in Berkeley obtained a grant that will be funded by the National Council on Disabilities. The grant enables Congress and the White House to listen to the voice of college students with mental health challenges and give input to Congress regarding

what needs to be changed. Higher education act waiting until they hear data from this grant proposal.

- Bishop Bonnie Radden – Will be holding a WRAP workshop in Long Beach on Saturday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-5:30. Flyers were available at the meeting.
- SHARED! housing has 36 vacancies immediately available. On Sunday, there will be a women's retreat in Monterey Park for mental health consumers.
- Ms. Pam Inaba, past chair for the LA County Client Coalition (LACCC) announced the next meeting will be held on 3/25/16 at the California Endowment center. The meetings are always held on the last Friday of the month.
- SAGE provides workshops for those interested in getting back to work, such as career advancement groups, self-esteem groups, and wellness & recovery groups. There are free webinars. Flyers were on the table.
- Ms. Inaba also reported that California is one of the last 4 states to not allow peer specialist to bill Medi-Cal. SB 614 passed but is on the shelf. The bill would create standardization for peer certification trainings and allow peers to bill MediCal. Need to draw support to pass the bill. Ms. Inaba will send information to forward to the SAAC.

## **INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE**

Mr. Ted Howlett read a poem written by his wife Ms. Virginia Howlett titled "Fast With Passion".

**NEXT SAAC MEETING: April 1, 2016**

**Thank you all for attending!**

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<b><u>TIME</u></b>	<b><u>ITEM</u></b>	<b><u>FACILITATOR</u></b>
10:15-10:30	Welcome & Introductions/Approval of Minutes	Kim Sasaki, District Chief Patti LaPlace & Paul Stansbury (co-chairs)
10:30-11:00	<b>Deputy Director's DMH Report</b> <i>Cathy Warner, Deputy Director, DMH ASOC</i>	Kim
11:00-11:15	<b>SA 8 Promotores Update</b> <i>Elizabeth Galdamez, DMH SA 8 Administration</i>	Kim
11:15-11:45	<b>Discussion: Meeting agenda topics or concerns</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SAAC goals</li><li>• Topics of interest for future meetings</li></ul>	Paul
11:45-11:50	<b>SAAC Executive Committee Members</b>	Kim
11:50-12:00	<b>Announcements/Inspirational Message</b>	Paul
12:00	<b>Adjourn Meeting</b>	

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- **Cultural Competency Committee (CCC)** – The next CCC meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. at 550 S. Vermont, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor conference room, Los Angeles. SAAC 8 members may contact Ann Lee for more information.
  
- **MHSA Housing** – DMH has been granted authority to manage our own Coordinated Entry System for families. For Permanent Supportive Housing and most other housing resources, VI-SPDAT must be completed and entered through the HMIS. There is a family version for an adult with custody of minor children. Please contact Ms. Zhen McCullom, SA 8 Housing Specialist, for information and referrals, shelters, and housing resources for mental health clients. She can be reached at [ZMcCullom@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:ZMcCullom@dmh.lacounty.gov) or (562) 435-2097.
  
- **Long Beach Clergy and Faith Networking Meeting** – The next meeting will be held on February 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Long Beach Friends Church, 850 Atlantic Ave, Long Beach 90813. For information, please contact Keeley Gilmore at (562) 435-2207 or [kgilmore@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:kgilmore@dmh.lacounty.gov).
  
- **SA 8 Promotores** – Spanish-speaking Promotores are available to provide presentations about mental health stigma, stages of grief and loss, domestic violence prevention, drug and alcohol prevention, symptoms and treatments of depression, and anxiety disorders. Please contact Javier Nevarez at (562) 435-3106 or [JNevarez@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:JNevarez@dmh.lacounty.gov) to request a presentation or more information.





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**WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Ms. Patti LaPlace and Dr. Paul Stansbury, SAAC 8 co-chairs, convened the meeting along with Ms. Kim Sasaki, Service Area 8 District Chief. The meeting was called to order at 10:15 a.m. and attendees introduced themselves. The November meeting minutes will be emailed to members upon completion or distributed at the February 2016 meeting.

**DMH ADULT SYSTEM OF CARE (ASOC) DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT**

Ms. Cathy Warner provided, the below DMH updates:

DMH: Dr. Robin Kay will serve as the Acting Director while the Department conducts a nationwide search for a Director. Dr. Marvin Southard is now a faculty at USC and is working with the DMH VALOR program.

Health Agency Workgroups: The Los Angeles County Health Agency formed a workgroup to focus on each of the below priorities. The workgroups are comprised of key leaders across multiple agencies and departments (DMH, DHS, and DPH):

- Consumer Access to Care and Experience with Clinical Services – Ms. Warner along with Dr. Shaner is serving on the Consumer Access to Care and Experience with Clinical Services committee led by Dr. Christina Ghaly. The workgroup identified several goals and will be working on identifying the outcome metrics to measure success. The recommendations include looking at the following areas:
  - Sharing of information across departments
  - Establishing benefits for clients
  - Training of staff across disciplinary practices (see fact sheet as an example regarding transformation of clinical practice which was included in the handouts)
  - How to streamline registration and financial screening processes
  - Joint care management plan for individuals served by more than one department
  - Expanding public and DHS locations

- Identifying agency-wide referral processes (e.g., e-consult, telepsychiatry)
- Housing and Supportive Services for Homeless Consumers – lead by Marc Trotz
  - *Homeless Initiative*: Currently the county has been conducting a homeless initiative countywide workgroup and meeting for the past 6-9 months. The results and recommendations of this workgroup will be presented to the Board of Supervisors next week to address the huge problem of homelessness and lack of affordable housing. One of the recommendations is to sell bonds to build more housing. Seed money is needed to sell the bonds. Across the State, MHSA dollars are unspent. The plan is to utilize the unspent \$45 million dollars as seed money toward bonds to fund the building of housing for mental health clients. Go to [priorities.lacounty.gov/homeless](http://priorities.lacounty.gov/homeless) to review the recommendations. Recommendations include providing subsidized housing, preventing homelessness, providing case management services and supports, increasing income, enhancing CalWORKS subsidized housing program, and creating coordination of care.
- Overcrowding of Emergency Departments by Individuals in Psychiatric Crisis – Dr. Mark Ghaly is the lead for this workgroup to address long wait times and overcrowded emergency rooms in the county hospitals
- Access to Culturally and Linguistically Competent Programs and Services – this workgroup is chaired by Dennis Murata.
- Diversion of Corrections-Involved Individuals to Community-Based Programs and Services – led by Dr. Mark Ghaly (interim assignment pending hiring Director of Office of Diversion and Re-entry). Approximately 350 DMH staff working in the jails now will be transferring to become DHS employees later this year.
- Implementation of the Expanded Substance Use Disorder Benefit – Wes Ford (DPH) is chairing this workgroup. Drug Medi-Cal benefit will be coming which will allow for an expansion of services to people with primary substance use disorders.
- Vulnerable Children and Transitional Age Youth – Dr. Bryan Mershon (DMH Child System of Care Deputy Director) is participating in this workgroup.
- Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention – led by Dr. Paul Simon (DHS).

Urgent Care Centers (UCC): The solicitation process is completed. The decision has been made as to which entities will be providing services. Two of the UCCs will be located in SA 8 at Harbor UCLA and Long Beach. Currently there is an existing MHUCC (Telecare) in Long Beach which is a psychiatric health facility but not an LPS designated agency. The Harbor UCLA AMI-ABLE program will be moved to allow for the new UCC. There will also be a UCC in Antelope Valley and SA 3.

Community Collaborative Courts (CCC): The establishment of an integrated approach with the 4 community courts (Van Nuys, Compton, Downtown Los Angeles, and Long Beach) for those that are incarcerated for felony convictions. This will be a voluntary program for those who have had a mental health assessment and diagnosed with a

severe and persistent mental illness or co-occurring substance abuse disorder. These individuals will have the opportunity through court linkage to come before a judge with their public defender and have the option of returning to the community and entering a program instead of serving time in jail. Some individuals will need an IMD level of care and some may do well in a Full Service Partnership (FSP). They will be on probation. On February 19<sup>th</sup>, DMH will present an overview of services to the judges, alternate public defenders, district attorneys, probation, and law enforcement representatives from all four courts. There will be 4 tours including Long Beach with a tour of MHA The Village and Redgate. Long Beach Mental Health Center will provide a presentation of their program and co-located services at Redgate.

DMH is expanding FSP for adults, which includes Forensic FSP (about \$3 million) for justice involved individuals.

### **SA 8 MENTAL HEALTH PROMOTORES UPDATE**

Ms. Elizabeth Galdamez, intern for the DMH SA 8 administration, provided an update on the Promotores topics and availability to provide presentations in English and Spanish throughout the service area to the community (e.g., churches, social services agencies, schools, neighborhood groups). A handout about the SA 8 Mental Health Promotores was distributed.

### **DISCUSSION: MEETING AGENDA TOPICS OR CONCERNS**

The co-chairs requested input from participants regarding topics or concerns of interest in order to plan future meeting agendas. The recommended topics were recorded and will be included in the minutes for the next meeting (see attached).

### **SAAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

The current executive committee members were introduced along with the newest members, Ms. Eugenie Lewis, The Children's Clinic.

### **INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE**

Mr. Ted Howlett read a poem written by his wife Ms. Virginia Howlett titled "The Wait".

**NEXT SAAC MEETING: March 4, 2016**

**Thank you all for attending!**

## **SAAC 8**

**January 2016 – Dark (no meeting)**