

County of Los Angeles – Department of Mental Health
OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, November 15, 2012

~ **Approved Minutes** ~

Please note the minutes are a brief summary and not a word for word transcription of events at this meeting.

Larry Gasco, Chairman, Presiding

I. Call to Order – Larry Gasco

- The meeting was called to order by Larry Gasco
- Roll Call - Delores Huffman, Commission Secretary
Attendance recorded as follows:
Absent excused: Greg Thompson, Ilean Rabens, Barry Perrou, and Phillip Chen
- Approval of Minutes – Larry Gasco
October 2012 minutes were approved.

II. Chairman's Report – Larry Gasco

- Chairman welcomed Deputy Katherine Austria. He thanked Deputy Austria for being a very supportive and visible Deputy. Commission desires more support and visibility from deputies.
- SB 1467 has and will place a greater demand on the Commission and its staff.
- LPS Reform Roundtable went very well. This was an additional goal added at the request of Director Marvin Southard. Commissioners were extremely involved, as well as the Executive Director, Terry Lewis. A very special commendation was given to Dr. Askins for his support in assisting with this endeavor. Dr. Goodwin, facilitator, stayed centered and was able to keep the spirited group focused on the fourteen recommendations. Good week for California last week, especially with the passage of Prop 30, will add additional funds to mental health. Democrats have gained veto power, but must use this in a bi-partisan, responsible manner.
- The Commission annual awards were very successful. Thank you to all Commission staff and Dennis Murata, deserving individuals in addition to those who were honored. It was good to see so many clients and families present.
- The Commission will tour the Community Health Center of Los Angeles on January 24, 2013. Staff will work on the details and have them available before the next Commission meeting.
- Would like to have Public Guardian Deputy Connie Drexler, provide an orientation for the Commission. This will be scheduled in the very near future.
- The Anti-Stigma CalMHSR Roundtable discussion on the challenges of stigma was very successful. A project and funding will be developed after 2014.
- Planning for the Commission's December 20th offsite meeting is going very well. The bus transporting clients, community and family members is full. Staff has been coordinating with Commissioner

Cooperberg's efforts to host the event. More than 140 people are expected to attend.

- **Executive Committee Report** – The meeting was held November 1, 2012. Chairman Gasco reported most of the discussion in the Chairman's report above. Dr. Southard reported on the following issues:
 1. Health deputies want to explore the MHSA process to maintain funding of children and adult services.
 2. Department of Health Services may divide into a four part system in regards to mental health.
 3. The courts may possibly order mental health departments to care for dementia and sex offenders after they are released from inpatient facilities.
- **MHC/SAAC Chairs Report** – The meeting was held November 13, 2012. Chairman Gasco commended Jerry Lubin for reconvening the SAAC Chair/MHC meetings. Dennis Murata and other staff from the Program Support Bureau staff talked about SAAC membership, producing manuals and providing support staff at meetings, and representation for Service Area 1.

III. **DMH Report – Robin Kay, PhD, Chief Deputy Director**

DMH – There was a jump in older adult services because of Medicare Parts A & B required enrollment to receive primary health services. Funding for MLK Urgent Care opening in 2014 will come from prudent reserves.

Cross Over Board Motion – Discussed the Crossover Youth Board Motion, a motion that directs several county departments to provide services to transitional age youth under the jurisdiction of Department of Children and Family Services to prevent youth crossing over into delinquency. Dr. Kay summarized the purpose of the motion was to develop strategies to strengthen the 241.1 Crossover Youth project and the DCFS Delinquency Prevention Pilot. Enhancing these services to transition-aged you will prevent them from entering into the delinquency system.

- **Legislative Report** – Susan Rajlal, Legislative Analyst
Ms. Rajlal spoke about the benefits of Proposition 30 passing. The proposition will raise an additional \$6 million annually from 2013 to 2017, and raise smaller amounts from 2017 to 2019.

IV. **Commissioners' Reports**

- **Victoria Sofro** – Commented on the Wellness Center Employment and Education survey conducted at ten directly operated wellness centers. The data was very impressive (see Attachment). By February 2013, all staff will be trained to help clients with employment and volunteer services.
- **Delores Huffman** – Spoke on housing construction. There are 24 letters of intent for housing construction for review by Housing

Advisory Board. Announced Cary Grier, Peer Advocate, was hired by DMH. Ms. Grier is working in the Older Adults Bureau.

- **Jerry Lubin** – Attended the Asian Pacific Leadership Conference along with Larry Gasco, Chairman.

V. **SAAC/Community Reports/LACCC**

LACCC (Los Angeles County Client Coalition) – Pam Inaba thanked the Commission for being recognized as Outstanding Consumer at the Commission's Profiles of Hope award program on October 25, 2012. Ms. Inaba announced the 2nd Annual Innovation and Recovery conference will be held June 3, 2013. LACCC continues to reach out into the community advocating staying well and promoting coalition membership.

Community Report from Asian Pacific Leadership Council (API) – Program coordinators spoke about the recent API conference. Over 400 attended and participated; keynote speakers and workshops lead by consumers; API-TAY listened to inspirational recovery stories. The concept of hope and recovery started by Rod Schreiber is now being viewed in policies.

VI. **Public Comments –**

Phyllis Coto – Question: Some persons who work diligently are reporting their wages are being double billed by the social security. We need to connect with our congressmen to review the practices of the social security.

Sawako Nitao – Announcement: Art sale fundraiser for the disabled.

Dennis R. Miller – What is being done to allow consumers the privilege to work to make extra money each month without having deductions to our monthly income in these trying times? It is a real problem to eat each month. Thanks for any advocating you can do for us as clients in great need. Dennis R. Miller, drmtruth@sbcglobal.net Have a very thankful Thanksgivings on November 22 that comes early this year. I am advocating this time for overweight; it is still a real problem with mental health needs.

Nami Roberts, Asian Coalition – Is there any funding for training for coalition meetings. There is limited translation for immigrants especially Asian. Is there any news of stipends for translations to come to the meetings to translate?

Lucy Rivero – I have a concern regarding my nephew; I need to know who or what department to go to. He is in danger and has put others in danger and all they do is locate him in jail. He is mentally delayed and need services and help. I fear this situation will continue to get worse. Give me a name and a telephone number to call?

Mariko Okumoto – Thank you commission for attending the Hope and Recovery conference and for the Asian Pacific Islander representation.

Archie Souder – Announced the Black Los Angeles County Client Coalition forum will take place February 23, 2013 at Exposition Park

**VII. Meeting adjourned/NEXT MEETING – December Offsite in Lancaster
Thursday, December 20, 2012, 11 am – 1:30 pm
Mental Health America, Los Angeles, 506 West Jackman Street
Lancaster, CA 93534**

Please contact the Commission office at (213) 738 4772 if you need more information

Minutes prepared by Canetana Hurd

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
COUNTYWIDE HOUSING EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT**

EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Wellness Center Employment and Education Survey

Survey Background and Methodology

A survey to determine the employment and education status of clients that receive services at the ten directly-operated stand alone Wellness Centers was conducted between September 24, 2012 and October 17, 2012. The Adult System of Care bureau sent the 71 case managers at these Centers caseload lists and asked them to indicate the status of each client in each of the following categories:

- Employed full time by a DMH contract provider
- Employed part time by DMH or a contract provider
- Employed full time not with DMH or a contract provider
- Employed part time not with a DMH or contract provider
- Volunteer work
- Informal employment that increase income (e.g. day labor, babysitting, recycling)
- Retired
- Enrolled in school
- Enrolled in Department of Rehabilitation services
- Does not participate in work, volunteer or attend school.

Survey Findings

100% of the case managers completed the survey. Based on the survey results for 3,102 clients, the following is the employment and education status of these clients:

- 0.65% are employed either full-time or part-time by DMH or a DMH contract provider
- 9.38% are employed full time not with DMH or a contract provider
- 14.25% are employed part time not with a DMH or contract provider
- 7.25% volunteer
- 9.77% are employed informally
- 4.38% are retired
- 8.35% are enrolled in school
- 2.71% are enrolled in Department of Rehabilitation services
- 47.78% do not participate work, volunteer work or school

Future Surveys and Goals

Employment and Education surveys will be conducted on a quarterly basis for clients receiving services at directly-operated stand-alone Wellness Centers. DMH has set the following one year client employment and education goals:

- 25% will be employed

- 60% will be informally employed, volunteer, attend school and/or receive Department of Rehabilitation services

Full Service Partnership (FSP) Employment Data

Employment/education outcome data is collected by all FSP programs. However, there are concerns about the quality of the data due primarily to a significant amount of missing data. To address this issue, ASOC is working with the adult FSP programs by distributing exceptions reports to each program listing the data that needs to be “cleaned up.”

Wellness Center Employment and Education Services Reviews

Countywide Employment and Education staff will be visiting each of the directly-operated Wellness Centers to review the employment and education services provided. This review includes the use of a Wellness Center employment and education services review tool.

The information from the review tool will be used to provide written feedback to the program that includes identifying their strengths and recommendations to address any identified concerns. If requested, additional technical assistance will be provided.

Employment Specialist Training

An intensive 16 week training on best practices used to provide employment services will begin in February 2013. The training will be available to 24 directly-operated program staff/service extenders. Participants will receive an employment specialist certification upon completion of the training. The training content includes the following:

- Introduction to supported employment
- Identifying and overcoming barriers to employment
- Motivational interviewing
- Disability benefits counseling
- Engagement, assessment and preparing consumers for job searching
- Developing an employment focused Wellness Recovery Action Plan
- Job retention, career development and employment resources

A month after completing the training, participants will also attend a follow-up meeting to discuss the successes and challenges they are experiencing in delivering employment and education services. The trainer will provide additional strategies to address these challenges or assist the participants to draw from the knowledge and techniques previously learned.

Employment Awareness

Posters designed to encourage clients to seek assistance with finding employment volunteer, and/or educational opportunities from program staff are being developed. The posters will be displayed at all directly-operated programs and made available to contractors upon request.