

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY – DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
HOSPITALS AND HEALTHCARE DELIVERY COMMISSION
Thursday, September 7, 2023**

<u>Commissioners</u>	Present	Excused	Absent
David Marshall, D.N.P., Chair	X		
William McCloud, M.H.A., F.A.C.H.E., Vice Chair	X		
Christopher Bui, M.D.		X	
Michael Cousineau, MPH, Ph. D	X		
Dr. Genevieve Clavreul, R.N., Ph.D.	X		
Phillip Kurzner, M.D.		X	
Laura LaCorte, J.D.	X		
Patrick Ogawa	X		
Elisa Nicholas, M.D.		X	
Barbara Siegel, J.D.		X	
Margaret Farwell Smith		X	
Stanly Toy, M.D.		X	
Rosemary C. Veniegas, Ph.D.	X		
Tia Delaney-Stewart	X		
<u>DHS Staff</u>			
Allen Gomez	X		
Robert Broadbelt	X		

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:31 a.m. by Chair Marshall.

2. Roll Call

Allen Gomez, Commission staff, called the roll.

3. Welcome and Introductions

Chair Marshall welcomed all members of the commission, staff, and guest.

4. Action Item:

- Approval of Minutes – June 1, 2023
- Approval of Minutes – August 3, 2023

Items were unanimously approved on September 7, 2023

5. Presentation –

General discussion with Dr. Lisa Wong, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH), overview of the DMH programs.

DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS, ACTIONS, FOLLOW-UP
Dr. Lisa Wong, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, provided an overview of the following:	

- What are the opportunities/challenges facing DMH in the upcoming year?
 - There is a real focus on mental health/homelessness – as well as the Emergency Declaration on homelessness, depopulation of men’s central jail, meeting needs of DCFS children, the general increase in service demand, and implementation of the first care court.
 - Opportunities:
 - Able to expand homeless outreach teams.
 - Approval on interim housing project.
 - State grant funding for continuum of care.
 - Challenges:
 - General mental health workforce shortage.
 - Even with a 200% increase in hiring, the workforce has not kept up with service demand.
 - Shortage of mental health beds.
- What efforts are there to expand beds?
 - DMH has added 55 dedicated mental health beds at hospitals since July 23, 2023.
 - DMH is currently contracting for an additional 50 beds.
 - DMH is looking to open 240 additional beds at Crisis Residential Treatment facilities.
 - DMH is building a 120 bed sub-acute facility at LA General.
- Please discuss the reasons why the child treatment program was ended?
 - Funding was not expected to continue beyond the grant.
 - Program did not meet the expected service delivery level,
 - **Bottomline:** no loss of services – and there will be an expansion of mental health services in the future.
- SB-326
 - Dr. Wong expressed serious concerns about SB-326 – working with the state on a compromise solution.
 - Primary concern is taking 30% of MHSA Service dollars and using it for housing.
 - Housing without services has not been effective.
 - SB-326 would mean that the majority of prevention dollars would be controlled by the state.
- Thoughts on Tele-health strategy short/long term?
 - Essential during the pandemic – that being said, DMH is making an effort to return to in-person services.
 - Tele-health works for certain clients, but in-person contact is needed for most DMH clients.
- What strategies are in place to ensure quality of care
 - Brightside of staffing shortages is that the people who are at DMH have a strong commitment to the issue.
 - Rolling out new benefits, stipends programs, and making pay more competitive in order to attract quality workers.
 - Rolling out new training programs.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project on therapeutic transport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Funding/programming is in place, but staffing is the primary issue. ○ Interest from other cities on having DMH help roll out a pilot program. • Received some data from DHS on psych ER visits – ER doctors have talked about difficulty of people being brought in on 5150 holds. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expansion of beds will help because we can keep people in appropriate beds for longer stays. ○ Encouraging law enforcement to bring 5150 patients to urgent care centers rather than hospitals ○ Increasing mobile crisis response will also be beneficial. 	
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6. Items for discussion and possible action:

	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS, ACTIONS, FOLLOW-UP
<p>a. Discuss the Hospital and Health Care Delivery's 2022-23 Annual Report</p>	<p>Informed Commission that the Annual Report has been posted on the Commission website. (Link)</p>	<p>Receive and File</p>
<p>b. Discussion to dissolve the Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee</p>	<p>Commission suggested disbanding the Ad-Hoc committee and refocus its attention on CalAIM. Concerns were raised over the lack of staying power of the ad-hoc committee.</p> <p>On motion of Commissioner Cousineau and seconded by Chairman Marshall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ayes: Chairman Marshall, Vice Chair McCloud, Commissioner Cousineau, Commissioner Clavreul, Commissioner LaCorte, Commissioner Ogawa, Commissioner Veniegas • Nays: None <p>Commission brought up the idea of creating a standing committee on housing & homelessness.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Commission could potentially look prospectively at what other services are worth advocating for in the next Medicaid waiver. <p>On motion of Commissioner Cousineau and seconded by Vice Chair McCloud:</p>	<p>Motion to dissolve the Ad-Hoc Committee on housing and homelessness passes.</p> <p>Ayes: 8 Nays: 0</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ayes: Chairman Marshall, Vice Chair McCloud, Commissioner Cousineau, Commissioner Clavreul, Commissioner LaCorte, Commissioner Ogawa, Commissioner Veniegas• Nays: None <p>Standing Committee on Housing and Homelessness Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioner Stewart• Commissioner Veniegas• Commissioner Cousineau• Commissioner Ogawa• Commissioner Nicholas	<p>Motion to create a standing committee on housing and homelessness passes.</p> <p>Ayes: 8 Nays: 0</p>
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<p>c. Report back on the June 23, 2023 and August 31, 2023 Correctional Health Services Ad Hoc Meeting</p>	<p>Commissioners Siegel, McCloud, and Ogawa reported: Commissioners Siegel, McCloud, and Ogawa reported:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On June 23, 2023, the Correctional health Services (CHS) Ad Hoc committee met with Rhonda Bean, CHS' Chief Operations Officer. • Indicated priorities within the committee meeting are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department of Justice (DOJ) Priorities: Covid testing and staffing have been successfully completed. A new cleaning vendor has been hired. There's a need for on-site urgent care, a mobile CT scanner, and a lab at Pitchness. Transition to a new medicine dispensing system is planned by December 13. More space and a staffing bonus to retain and recruit staff are required. Potential providers for 500 community beds for low-security, long-term care inmates have been identified. ○ Medication-Assisted Treatment (MAT) Program: There are plans to expand the MAT program, but more infrastructure is needed. Methadone delivery is being worked out with BAART. ○ Jail Decongestion: The DOJ directive to decongest jails presents challenges, including the need for mental health services, bed conversions, and custody limits on the number of inmates per cell. ○ CalAIM Issues: CHS lacks a program to charge Medi-Cal for medications. Medi-Cal and DHS registration staff cannot sit on-site in jails, necessitating automation for workflow. The Sheriff's Department needs to manage part of Medi-Cal applications, but this should belong to CHS, not the Sheriff's Department, according to Rhonda. ○ Patient Grievances: Suggested digitizing the process so inmates can submit complaints directly to CHS via a "kiosk", bypassing the current manual collection by the Sheriff's Department. • On August 31, 2023, discussed meeting with Rhonda at CHS – looking to automate CHS complaints using kiosks. 	<p>Item was continued to October 5, 2023 due to lack of quorum (Commissioner left early).</p>
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Examining inmate communication program that would potentially use 500 iPads to facilitate communication.○ Assessing the possibility of integrating DHS-Orchid with the Sheriff's system.○ Committee developed questions around Medi-Cal eligibility for inmates.<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Shared with the Sheriff's liaison | |
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<p>d. Review priorities of Ad Hoc Committees – Housing and Homelessness Ad Hoc and Correctional Health Services Ad Hoc</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan to discuss next meeting. 	<p>Item was continued to October 5, 2023 due to lack of quorum (Commissioner left early).</p>
<p>e. Discussion on Future Commission Guest Speakers for 2023</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioners discussed scheduling either Dr. Jackie Contreras, Director of Public Social Services, or the Sheriff’s Department representative for the December 7, 2023 Hospital and Health Care Delivery (HHCD) Commission meeting. (Will not be able to attend due to scheduling conflict) • Also proposed scheduling Allen Wecker, DHS’ Director of Finance, to speak on CalAim in 2024 HHCD Commission meeting. • Commission discussed Cheri Todoroff as an alternative speaker in lieu of Dr. Ferrer. • Mr. Perez was brought up as a potential speaker for January 2024. • Commission suggested bringing someone from LA Care to speak to the commission about CalAIM/Access in 2024. • Potentially add Hospital CEOs to December 2023 guest speaker list. 	<p>Item was continued to October 5, 2023 due to lack of quorum (Commissioner left early).</p>
<p>f. Discussion and Possible Action on Future Commission Site-Visits for 2023</p>	<p>Commissioners discussed visiting post-acute centers in the future.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative Site visit – Harbor-UCLA 	<p>Item was continued to October 5, 2023 due to lack of quorum (Commissioner left early).</p>
<p>g. Discussion – Department of Health Services Dashboard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commission raised a question on why the quality data is so limited. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is there a system-wide quality committee? • Data particularly limited on chronic care management. • Data suggests that ED visits have increased -- what is going on and why has that changed? • Commission expressed concerns over access. • Commission wants to know what the goals of the data dashboard are, how management uses it, where does the data come from, and how is it collected? 	<p>Item was continued to October 5, 2023 due to lack of quorum (Commissioner left early).</p>

7. Items not on the posted agenda for matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency, or where the need to take immediate action came to the attention of the Commission after the posting of the agenda.

8. Public Comment

- Commissioner Siegal joined as a member of the public:
 - Proposes scheduling next ad-hoc September 28, 2023.
 - Following up on Dr. Wong's presentation about multiple grants funding mental health beds/service, inquired if there are plans for sustainable funding once the grants expire.
 - DHS Dashboard -- wanted to know who at the systems level is responsible for gathering and analyzing data related to the quality of care.
 - Suggested a site visit to the Sobering Center.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 12:26 p.m. The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2023.