

OFFICE OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Thursday, February 27, 2020

Meeting Minutes

Brittney Weissman, Chair, Presiding

APPROVAL: Slate of minutes approved at June 25, 2020 meeting

DISCUSSION

Call to Order

a. **Roll Call:** Canetana Hurd

Present: Commissioners Susan Friedman, Reba Stevens, Stacy Dagleish, Kevin Acebo, Judy Cooperberg, Patrick Ogawa, Imelda Padilla-Frausto, Merilla M. Scott, Luis Orozco, and Brittney Weissman – **QUORUM PRESENT**

Absent Excused: Commissioners Kathy Cooper-Ledesma, Kita Curry, Harold Turner, Mike Molina

New Commissioner - Chair introduced Luis Orozco appointed by Supervisor Hilda Solis, 1st District. Commissioner Orozco is an LCSW with 14-years of experience in the mental health field.

b. **Introduction of OCFA Staff** (Office of Consumer and Family Affairs)

c. **Action Item** – Approve December 2019 Minutes

On motion of Commissioner Cooperberg, seconded by Commissioner Dagleish, this item approved by unanimous vote and two abstentions.

Department of Mental Health Report

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 3-Year Plan Presentation – Greg Polk, Chief Deputy Director, Operations

Review of the Community Planning Process (CPP) and timeline

Review of existing and proposed programs and services by MHSA components:

- Community Services and Supports (CSS)
- Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI)
- Workforce Education and Training (WET)
- Innovations (INN)

Attachment – MHSA Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan Presentation Overview –

Vacancy Rate and Organization Action Item Update - Edgar Soto, Administrative Deputy III

Mr. Soto reported approximately 300+ new hires, transfers, and promotions processed for clinical and non-clinical classification vacancies. Front line staff do quasi-clinical functions not captured in the clinical data. DMH is currently working on a mechanism that separates administrative staff who act as clinical staff.

New Action Item – Please capture demographic information like race, ethnicity, and language data for these classifications (Padilla-Frausto).

DISCUSSION

Action Item Update – Customer Service in clinics

Martin Jones, Program Manager III reported each visitor receives a welcome packet containing clinic and staff information, schedules and lists of local and countywide services. Welcome packets provided in the various languages.

DMH Update – Dr. Curley Bonds. Chief Medical Director

1. Organizational Structure
 - a. Key appointments – none new
 - b. Training for supervisors will start in the next couple of months through a partnership with UCLA. This will be a time limited training designed to help those who were great clinicians, but who might not have all of the skills needed to excel as supervisors.
 - c. Physician Registry – will launch in early April or May. The registry allows DMH psychiatrists and outside psychiatrists to work with us on days off. Should reduce our reliance on Locums Tenans contracts.
2. Updates around Program/Services, emphasis around integrated approach; and Headspace
 - a. Since launching Headspace in mid-December, over 1,129 DMH employees have registered for Headspace.
 - b. Our workforce has meditated over 48,000 hours!
3. Contemporary problems/issues/solutions
 - a. Coronavirus – DPH is lead agency for the county informing residents of the virus
 - b. DMH is providing info about bullying and harassment/discrimination through print media and by collaborating with the American Academy of Pediatrics

New Action Item – Who or where does DMH capture a data collection to track criminal justice? (Acebo)

Action Items status

1. Provide location information on number of mental health courts – *Completed by Dr. Bonds*
2. Provide timeline for MHSA budget – *Completed by Greg Polk*
3. Provide information on McArthur Pilot (Acebo) – *Completed by Dr. Bonds*
4. Invite Administrative Deputy III (Edgar Soto) to report on organization and vacancies – *Completed*

SALT (Service Area Leadership Team) Co-Chair Report

SALT 1 - Jean Harris, Co-Chair

Summarized SA 1 focus on budget to expand SALT. SALT selected top five priorities from a survey of 16 priorities. Street company presented on its key mission to employ and train homeless individuals for jobs.

DISCUSSION

SALT 2 – Patricia Russell, Member

SALT continues to develop voting members, priorities, and addressing co-occurring disorders

SALT 4 – Carmen Perez, Co-Chair

SALT continues to recruit more members and market the SALT. Key services needed in the service area are adolescent beds and translators for the undocumented population, and more services for youth.

SALT 8 – Paul Sansbury, Co-Chair

Continue restructuring the SALT. Ask all groups for accountability to report out. Address homelessness and B&C. Connect and provide support to the local B&C. Plan a retreat for peer mentoring group. Peer mentoring group meeting changed from meeting before SALT to meeting after the SALT.

Public Comment – Non Agenda Items

Public Comments – Chair Weissman

1. **Patricia Russell** – Announced if you are interested in learning more about the MHSA 3-year Plan meeting on February 21 at the Cathedral go to her Youtube channel (video), PATRICIARUSSELLMENTALHEALTH.
2. **Barbara Wilson** – Spoke on two issues: 1) Grateful for the focus, positive response from the Governor but B&C facilities are still closing specifically due to lack of funding, and 2) What is the connection between ODR, courts, role of Volunteers of America, Twin Towers, etc.
3. **Jean Harris** – Ask Commission to review and submit a letter regarding the MHSAOAC proposed changes to rules & regulations before the March decision. PIER program not available in service area 1.
4. **Jim “The Hat”** – Announced the Western Recovery Conference
5. **Amparo Ostojic** – Concerned that the new FSP team based model instead of slots as was before will result in unsuccessful outcomes.
6. **Johana Lozano** – Spoke on six problems with the MHSA planning process eliminates the voices of consumers.
7. **Sandra Flores** – Commented the legal system courts for mentally ill are difficult to navigate. Thanked the OCF for helping her with a tremendous issue.
8. **Esiquio Reyes** – Spoke on homelessness.
9. **Daniel Kwong** – Distributed an article, “Homelessness and Health: The Connection Requires the Health Care Industry to Act” by John Baackes, LA Care CEO.

Chair Announcements

MHC Organizational Development Update

- Chair announced MHC Executive Assistant and staff continues to support the Commission. Crystal Kibby handle content, data, and line of inquiry under the management of Angel Baker.
- Town halls held quarterly would continue. Coordinate town hall, strategic plan and budget update into a 3 hour meeting.
- Next town hall is Thursday, April 23, 2020 in SA 3, location TBA

DISCUSSION

- MHC Priorities – Fellow Commissioners move forward on priorities. Self-organize teams and provide updates for March meeting :
 1. Integration of services (team is forming)
 2. Criminal justice reform and Jail Debate (Ogawa, Acebo, Molina, and Turner)
 3. Homelessness (Friedman and Dagleish)
- Nomination for MHC Executive Office positions upcoming in March.

Mental Health Commissioners' Report

Forfeit Commissioners' report due to time limits

Adjourn/Next Meeting

Next Meeting – Thursday, March 26, 2020 – Hall of Administration – Room 739, 500 W. Temple Street, Los Angeles 90012 at 11 am

Meeting highlights submitted by Canetana Hurd