

Mental Health Commission Retreat
October 30, 2020 @ 10 am
Kevin Acebo, 2nd Vice Chair, Presiding
Retreat Notes

I. Call to Order

- a. Roll Call – Present: Susan Friedman, Luis Orozco, Harold Turner, Reba Stevens, Stacy Dalgleish, Kathy Cooper Ledesma, Patrick Ogawa, Kevin Acebo, Mike Molina, and Judy Cooperberg
- b. Welcome & Overview

II. Discussion on last FY Priorities

- a. Comments made from the discussion
 - Accomplishment - Enhanced partnership with BOS. DMH has become receptive to MHC suggestions and recommendations.
 - Continue importance of cultural awareness.
 - Review policies, make changes where necessary like mental health issues
 - Align with other commissions and organizations especially with law enforcement
 - Project Roomkey – take better leadership role in homeless issues.
 - Help Trieste in Hollywood, we have to do something.
 - Focus on becoming better advocates to support SALTs engagement with local communities.
 - Increase outreach teams, more B&Cs, LPS act needs to be effective.
 - Increase trust to gain the confidence of the lives we serve to truly advocate.
 - Expand understanding of special project contract agencies that DMH is funding.
 - How are directly operated clinics operating during the pandemic.

Action – Is there any defunding pending and what is the rationale behind it.

Action – Invite guest from law enforcement to speak on MET teams. (Cooperberg)

Points taken from the discussion (Acebo)

- 1) Focus on DMH to increase engagement in the community
- 2) Focus on relationships with other departments and commissions
- 3) Develop a commonality between commission members

b. Review of report summaries

- Kevin summarized the Criminal Justice Workgroup report. The report includes key findings and recommendations for DMH ODR (Office of Diversion and Re-entry) program.
- Susan summarized the Mobile Transportation Van pilot project between the City of LA and LA County to roll out January 2021.

III. Public comment – UsCC Co-Chairs and SALTs

- Co-Chairs from SALTs 1, 3, 4, 8, and Latino and Disability UsCC made comments on 1) technology problems that impact access to services, 2) COVID 19 social justice, 3) expand translation services, 4) data collection on disability access for all needs, 5) representation at the table.

- Public Comment
 - Patricia Russell - DMH co-occurring disorders specialist will speak at next SALTs meeting.
 - Ezekiel Reyes – Ending homeless is not because of a food shortage
 - William Legere – BLACC Coalition
 - Mark Karmatz – LPS changes should involve disability rights agency they are more familiar with the laws.
 - Osbee Sangster – Public comment written to MHC be receipted before meeting ends.
 - Jim “The Hat” – Likes comment on trust made by commissioner. It gives homeless and mental health a level of hope.
 - Israel Maldonado – Clients are not being cared properly in hospitals and psych wards

IV. Expanding Current Priorities

- a. Selecting Assignments –
 - 1) Criminal Justice – Kevin/Molina/Ogawa
 - 2) Homeless – Kathy
 - 3) Integrated Care Services/Cultural Competency – Ogawa
 - 4) COVID19 Disparity – Dalgleish/Turner
 - 5) Budget/Accountability – Molina/Cooperberg
 - 6) Additional Buckets
 - ◆ Values
 - ◆ Program and services – technology, accessibility
 - ◆ Policies - LPS
- b. Accountability/Process
 - Homeless Bucket
 - 1) What is the future of Project RoomKey with DMH?
 - 2) Double the # of outreach teams
 - 3) Continuum of care with funding and resources throughout LA County in each SA.

Action Items

- Action** - Bring DMH together with criminal justice
- Action** - Meetings with Civilian Oversight Commission
- Action** - How can MHC be more robust with jails
- Action** - Budget analysis of what DMH has to cut and why
- Action** – Focus on DMH addressing cultural issues with UsCC groups
 - Action** – Follow up with JES on Trieste model
 - Action** - Impact on DMH after January 1, 2021 election results
 - Action** - Find out what the board’s priorities are
 - Action** – Invite 5th district deputy to regularly attend MHC meetings (Cooperberg)
 - Action:** Host town hall on the LPS act to completely understand the act.

Announcement – November and December MHC meetings changed to:
Friday, November 20, 2020 and Friday, December 18, 2020

Adjourn