



## LA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION (BHC)

“Advocacy, Accountability, and Oversight in Action”

Michael Molina, Chair, Presiding

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE	January 23, 2025		
START TIME	11:00am	ADJOURNMENT TIME:	
LOCATION	510 South Vermont Ave., Terrace Level Conference Room, Los Angeles, CA 90020		
ATTACHMENTS	<a href="#">MEETING RECORDING LINK</a>	<a href="#">PUBLIC COMMENT DOCUMENT LINK</a>	<a href="#">AGENDA LINK</a>

IN ATTENDANCE		ABSENT	
COMMISSIONER NAME			
Kathleen Austria, Thomas Roache, Michael Molina, Dr. Erica Holmes, Marilyn Sanabria, Anders Corey, Bennett Root Jr., Brittney Weissman, Stacy Dagleish, Reba Stevens, Lawrence Schallert, and Susan Friedman		Imelda Padilla-Frausto, Jaqueline Sandoval, and Victor Manalo	
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes		APPROVAL:	
ADJOURNED: 1:46 PM			

### MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA / ACTION ITEMS	DISCUSSION/DECISION SUMMARIES	FOLLOW-UP ITEMS
<b>4. CONSENT AGENDA</b>		
a. Approval of minutes of the November 21, 2024, meeting b. DMH Legislative Update c. DMH Constituent Follow-Up Report d. BHC Budget Report	<b>Decision summary:</b> All consent agenda items approved, no additional discussion. Motion made by Commissioner Dagleish, seconded by Commissioner Sanabria.	



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<b>7. CONTINUED BUSINESS (From 11/21/24)</b>		
a. Bylaws	<p>Commission votes to ratify the Board of Supervisors Motion presented at the BOS meeting on 12/17/2024 amending the Commission’s bylaws.</p> <p><b>Ratification:</b> Motion to ratify made by Commissioner Root, seconded by Commissioner Dalglish.</p> <p><b>Roll call vote:</b> Motion carried by a majority vote.</p> <p><a href="#">Bylaws Amendment Document Link</a></p> <p>Discussion highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Anders Corey reminded the Commission that each year, the BOS Chair assigns a Supervisorial District to serve on the Commission. BOS membership is on a rotation basis. Therefore, all SDs will have the opportunity to serve on the Commission and be a voting member.</li><li>Commissioner Stacy Dalglish mentioned the California Behavioral Health Planning Council had a prescription as to how to go about filling the three new positions according to the Bylaws.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Commissioner Dalglish will forward the document to Kenia.</li></ul>
<b>6. NEW BUSINESS</b>		
a. CARE Court Metrics Quarterly Report	<p><a href="#">CARE Court Metrics Presentation Document Link</a></p> <p><b>Discussion highlights:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Department needs to do more research and/or establish a better system to differentiate between self-referred and referred by a family member.</li><li>Collaboration and sharing of best practices between County Cohorts: The Department is part of Cohort 1. We share best practices, what is working, and what is not working. We are also supporting Cohort 2 Counties as they begin implementation.</li></ul>	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CARE Court’s diagnostic criteria is narrow. However, other options are made available to individuals to try to assist them. If it is not CARE Court, the Department tries to find the best option for the individual.</li><li>• Involuntary use of CARE Court: Most of the incarcerated individuals who are exiting the system and fall into the “does not meet criteria/are greatly disabled” are transitioned to Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR).</li><li>• DMH - CARE Court team is embedded in the LA County Court’s Self Help Support Centers. In those centers, assistance is provided to families, parents, etc., to navigate through this process.</li><li>• Substance Use Disorder (SUD) counselors are part of our team and we meet with SAPC regularly.</li></ul>	
<p>a. Request from the Santa Clarita Valley Suicide Prevention, Postvention and Wellness Committee: Letter of Support (Commissioner Schallert)</p>	<p><b>Request to support Letter of Support (LOS)-</b> Commissioner Schallert submitted a petition to the Commission asking for support of a letter endorsed by the Santa Clarita Valley Suicide Prevention, Postvention and Wellness Committee chaired by Commissioner Schallert and written by one of the SCV Suicide Prevention’s Lethal Means subcommittee member. The Lethal Means subcommittee member wrote this letter on behalf of a senior center.</p> <p><b>Background:</b> The SCV Suicide Prevention Committee works with multiple organizations (e.g., mental health providers, NAMI, DMH, Probation, all schools in SCV, including colleges, LASD) They do trainings related to suicide prevention. Because of their work, incidents of suicide have dropped. However, suicide rates among senior, ages 50 to 60 have increased. We have several subcommittees. One these committee is the Lethal Means Subcommittee.</p> <p><b>LOS Intent:</b> Increase awareness of rising suicide rates by firearms among seniors (ages 50-60 years old) and to encourage service providers, caregivers, all those engaging with this population to screen for firearm ownership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Schallert will share the letter with Kenia to share with the commission.</li></ul>



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	<p><b>The LOS will be submitted: Organizations like</b> California Medical Organization, California Hospital Association, California Nurses Association, Alzheimer’s Association, local Senior Centers, Caregiver Programs, tec.</p> <p><b>Decision:</b> LOS will be shared with the Commission before next month’s meeting. A decision for support will be made then.</p>	
<b>5. STANDING ITEMS</b>		
a. DMH Director Updates	<p><a href="#">DMH Director Updates Document Link</a></p> <p>Deputy Director Hundal presented on behalf of Dr. Wong. She informed the Commission on DMH efforts in response to the Altadena and Pacific Palisades fires. Discussion highlights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• We have ongoing efforts which include providing trauma-focused support at evacuation sites and youth camps and ensured ongoing communication with affected clients and staff. Multiple challenges persist. However, despite these challenges, the team has been resilient and active since the fires began. They've maintained continuous operation of clinics. DMH is ensuring the responding staff is also taken care of.</li><li>• We are collaborating closely with law enforcement and the National Guard at checkpoints, offering emotional support and essential resources to returning residents.</li><li>• Planning and coordination are starting for long-term mental health impacts and have received support from volunteers and community organizations. DMH is looking at collective trauma and its long-term impact.</li></ul>	
b. DMH BHSA Updates	<p><b>Discussion highlights:</b> Commissioner expressed the following concerns Budget and Funding Transparency:</p>	<p>The Commission Requests the following:</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Uncertainty around \$95 million in excess funds, including a 5% budget cut and a 30% reduction in housing funds.</li><li>• Lack of clarity on how funds are allocated before formal engagement with stakeholders.</li></ul> <p>Stakeholder &amp; Voting Member Identification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confusion about who the actual CPT voting members are and their respective roles.</li><li>• Need for clearer structure</li><li>• Use of Funds for Workforce, Education, and Training (WET):</li><li>• Concern over shifting Community Services and Supports (CSS) dollars to WET.</li><li>• Unclear impact of fund reallocation on community services, fee-for-service providers, and legal entities.</li></ul> <p>Definition of "Listening Sessions":</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Confusion over the purpose of "listening sessions"—whether they are meant for stakeholders to voice concerns or for officials to communicate decisions.</li><li>• Desire for more meaningful engagement rather than passive information-sharing.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Earlier notification on budget plans rather than last-minute updates</li><li>• Clearer explanation of how reallocated funds will affect community services.</li></ul>