



County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

405 W. 5th Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701
TEL: (714) 834-5481
MHB Website:

<http://ochealthinfo.com/bhs/about/mhb>

**Wednesday, April 26, 2023
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location:

Delhi Center: 505 Central Ave, Santa Ana CA 92707
1 Las Olas Circle, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33316 (Teleconference Location)

General Meeting and MHSA Public Hearing

MINUTES

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Karyl Dupee, LMFT

Susan Emerson

Matthew Holzmann

Stephen McNally

Chinh Tuong Nguyen

Kristen Pankratz, MSW

Duan Tran, MSW

Chase Wickersham

Members Present:

Alan Albright, Karyl Dupee, Susan Emerson, Matthew Holzmann, Stephen McNally (via Teleconference), Chinh Tuong Nguyen, Kristen Pankratz, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Jim Taylor, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham, Fred Williams

Members Absent:

N/A

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:09 a.m. by Alan Albright who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome and Introductions

- Each member introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- Keith Torkelson-

Mr. Torkelson shared ideas on recruitment efforts through reaching out to the Wellness Centers. He expressed support for www.OCNavigator.org and provided an update on the Housing Bundle project to the BHAB members.

- Jim Farrell-

Mr. Farrell identifies as a family member who is very active in the community through a Conservator Group that he recently started. Being out in the community he receives a lot of feedback from the community who is experiencing crisis throughout Orange County and would like to express the need for an extensive co-occurring program in long-term facilities.

Open of MHSA Public Hearing

Alan Albright opened the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Public Hearing at 10:28 am.

Opening Remarks were provided by Dr. Veronica Kelley. She touched on some of current changes included in this MHSA plan. She spoke about the goal of transparency within the plan, and encouraged the community to continue to provide feedback. She spoke about working together, and she plan to include more community events.



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HEALTH CARE AGENCY

**Veronica Kelley, Ph.D.,
Chief**

Mental Health & Recovery Services

**Annette Mugrditchian, LCSW
Director of Operations**

Mental Health & Recovery Services

**Karla Perez
Staff Specialist**

Mental Health & Recovery Services

She spoke about the how the plan will continue to fund programs and this Plan also includes a few new programs. She spoke to many of the changes the county has experienced recently throughout mental health and recovery services. She discussed how payment reform is a huge lift for our county. She spoke about the potential legislative changes proposed the MHSA at the state level, and those changes could potentially crystal our local system. She discussed a collective goal for us as a community to look at a system as a whole. She asked “how does MHSA support the system in place”. She asked the community to please provide us any feedback, and she stressed that this input is really important.

Overview of the MHSA Community Program Planning Process for the MHSA Three-Year Plan:

Michelle Smith provided the overview and history of MHSA. She explained the statute for the BHAB and the affirmation from the BHAB members that will take place during this Public Hearing. The WIC outlines that the BHAB will affirm if there was a Community Planning Process that took place. Michelle’s overview included the MHSA Three -year program and expenditure plan FY 23/23 - 25/26 statutory requirements. She included an extensive overview of the stakeholder process that took place, including highlighting the communities that the MHSA office reached out to during this process. She provided A list of various ongoing stakeholder meetings that took place where input from the community was provided.

Michelle Smith provided information on how the MHSA office engaged with the community to provide notice of the posted Three-year MHSA Plan, including special sessions in the community where the MHSA office provided an extensive overview of the plan. The posting of the MHSA 3-Year Plan was posted on the MHSA website on March 14th, a press release was sent out, multiple presentations to engage stakeholders, email blasts were sent out as well as through social media A video about the Three -Year Plan was posted online to provide additional information to the community. The Public Comment period was from March 14th - April 8th, a total of 51 public Comments received. All Regions of the county were represented.

The MHSA Three-Year plan received great ratings overall from community stakeholders.

Public Comments:

A total of 10 public comments were received. 1-public comment mentioned being very satisfied with the plan and expressed concern for the Electronic Health Record allocation, 5-public comments expressed the need for more participation and services for the API community and Native Americans. 1-public comment provided information on a health and wellness virtual program for staff that is 6-months long and starts in July of 2023. 1-public comment expressed there is a need to develop a vision and needs gap to develop a coordinated system. 1-public comment emphasized the need for prevention in early childhood years. 1- public comment expressed concern for more intensive services.



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BHAB Discussion and Vote to affirm the Community Planning Process met the Requirements Outlined in Statute

The BHAB provided some closing remarks before taking the vote, some of those comments included the following:

Chase Wickersham expressed concern not to not see older adults represented in any of the public comments from this public hearing, he voiced the need for this in the coming years.

Steve McNally expressed concern for not being inclusive of all populations in the community planning process plan and also expressed the need for more information regarding all demographics for all of the meetings that MHSA held in relation to community planning and in relation to three-Year MHSA Plan. He would also like to highlight the gaps and what is working and what is not working. In addition, to having a revamped promotion plan to advertise the posting of the MHSA Plan.

Karyl Dupee thanked all public members who provided a public comment during the public hearing, she would like to connect and hear more from the Native American populations.

The BHAB voted via roll call to affirm that a community planning process met the requirements outlined in statute. 10 yes/ 0 No / 1 abstain vote.

1st Motion: Frederick Williams, 2nd Motion: Chase Wickersham

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento	X		
Alan Albright	X		
Karyl Dupee			
Susan Emerson	X		
Matthew Holzmann	X		
Stephen McNally			X
Chinh Tuong Nguyen	X		
Kristen Pankratz	X		
Duan Tran	X		
Fred Williams	X		
Chase Wickersham	X		

Close of Public Hearing

Alan Albright closed the Public Hearing at 11:40 a.m.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:41 a.m.

Officially submitted by: Karla Perez

*** Note copies of all writings pertaining to items in these BHAB meetings are available for public review in the Behavioral Health Services Advisory Board Office, 05 W. 5th St., Santa Ana, CA 92701, 714.834.5481 or Email: OCBHAB@ochca.com ***