



# 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, October 25 2023  
9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

Meeting Location:

601 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, CA 92701  
Conference Center

**MINUTES**

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Donald P. Wagner, Chairman**  
Third District

**Andrew Do, Vice Chairman**  
First District

**Vicente Sarmiento**  
Second District

**Doug Chaffee**  
Fourth District

**Katrina Foley**  
Fifth District

**BHAB MEMBERS**

Alan V. Albright, LMFT  
**Chair**

Frederick Williams, LMFT  
**Vice Chair**

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento  
Second District

Hector Bustos

Karyl Dupee, LMFT

Susan Emerson, LCSW, CATC IV

Matthew Holzmann

Stephen McNally

Chinh Tuong Nguyen

Kristen Pankratz, MSW

Duan Tran, MSW

Chase Wickersham

**Members Present:**

Alan Albright, Hector Bustos, Karyl Dupee, Stephen McNally, Chinh Tuong Nguyen, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham, Fred Williams,

**Members Absent:**

Susan Emerson, Matthew Holzmann, Kristen Pankratz,

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Alan Albright who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Each member introduced themselves.
- Alan Albright welcomed new member Hector Bustos, to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB).

**Approval of Minutes**

- September 27, 2023
  - Alan Albright made a motion to approve the minutes from the September 27, 2023, meeting and Chinh Nguyen seconded the motion. The minutes were approved for the record. Yes 7 /0 No/ 1/ abstain

**Public Comment**

- Keith Torkelson:  
Mr. Torkelson provided his personal story and shared details on various therapy approaches.
- Katie Kalvoda:  
Ms. Kalvoda provided information on an older adult needs assessment survey for older adults 55 years or older. Encourages all to participate to obtain a wide sample and representation from various populations in Orange County.



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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

## MHRS Chief's Report – Anthony Padilla

Anthony Padilla provided the Mental Health Services and Recovery (MHRS) update. He provided some highlights including community outreach events. MHRS has been striving to get resources to various communities and reaching various populations. In the month of September, MHRS participated in 38 different community events, including Fentanyl Townhalls, Care Act presentations and much more. In addition, he highlighted the opening of 28 housing units in Buena Park with onsite support services by MHRS and Telecare. Project Shine opened up in September, this is a new Vietnamese speaking Full-Service Partnership (FSP) which enrolled 12 participants during the month of September. Furthermore, the request for applications continues to be open for substance use disorder (SUD) residential treatment services and withdraw management. We continue to push the opioid abatement plan initiative and have expanded the Naloxone drop-in times. Anthony also provided an update on the first Annual Recovery Happens Picnic, which was a huge success. During September we recognized Suicide Prevention month and focused on the "Light up hope OC" campaign. Finally, Anthony provided an update on the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing grant, the current plan is to execute providers and working on opening 120 beds with supportive services. The next round of the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing funding is to open up late November – early December. In terms of behavioral health infrastructure funding, for round 3 and 4 will be going towards the Be Well Irvine Campus. Round 6 registration will be released soon and HCA will be attending that to obtain an update.

Supervisor Sarmiento requested to have regular updates on Care Act, providing information on how this project is evolving. Chase Wickersham would also like updates on Care Act and possibly in a form of a dashboard.

## Old Business

- 2023 OC Public Safety & Recovery Conference- Alan Albright informed the BHAB members of the upcoming Re-Entry Conference by Project Kinship. The BHAB also has a table at this event to promote the BHAB and recruit members. Steve McNally will be available to man the table along with Alan, and Karla Perez.
- Tabling events- Fred Williams and Chinh Nguyen attended the Vanguard Health Fair and provided an update for the board. It was great to reach out to the youth. The students at the college would like to get involved with HCA's internship program and they will reach out. Chinh Nguyen also provided an update on the Plan of Safe Care Summit where she attended the event and helped with a BHAB resource table.
- Supervisor Sarmiento emphasized the importance of working collaboratively with other agencies and school districts where we can share resources and listen about what is needed in various communities. He suggested having a future presentation on OCTA and Access. Chase Wickersham requested to have an update on the Be Well Dashboards.
- Reminder of the New 2024 Schedule- Meetings will begin at 10:00 am starting 2024.



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### New Business

- 2024 Chair and Vice Chair Nominations

The nomination committee took nominations for the 2024 Chair and Vice Chair. The nominations received were as follows: Chair- Alan Albright, Vice Chair- Fred Williams.

### Committee Updates:

- Older Adults Committee- The committee is focusing narrowing down the needs and gaps in services for Older Adults. The Committee has been focusing on hearing from a wide variety of organizations. They have been working on those needs and gaps to gather some recommendations to bring the BHAB and then provide a recommendation to Dr. Kelley and the Board of Supervisors. They have updated the Older Adults resource guide and have been posting on a variety of websites, the committee is very excited of spreading this resource. In addition, the committee has been working on a pilot program as an Innovation Project, to address the needs of older adults who have a behavioral health concern who are homeless or in risk of homelessness and who have a neurocognitive diagnosis.
- Children and Youth Committee- The committee is scheduling their first meeting on October 9, 2023, 1:00 – 1:00 p.m. During this meeting they will review committee goals.
- SUD Committee- They have not met in a couple weeks but would like to hear more on the ART team as there has been some time of lag time in placing folks into residential treatment or detox. The committee would like to see more warm handoffs. The committee should be meeting soon again and will be identifying those details soon.
- Mental Health System of Care for Adults- Steve put together a meeting outline and working on recruiting committee members. He is also identifying a meeting location. Some of the items he would like to begin to work on is the Orange County Mental Health Services Act Plan relative to the current DHCS guidelines that will be going on the ballot next March. Furthermore, he would like to obtain presentations on FSPs, MHRS community facing tools and navigation, AQIS reports, year to date outcomes and expenditure reports, contract evaluations, federal funds participation match, peer certification updates, MHSA key elements and plan updates, Communications plan, community driven ownership.
- Chase Wickersham suggested working with HCA Communications to help spread the word about BHAB. Karla Perez will work with HCA Communications on brainstorming ideas as to how to expand and have a bigger reach out in the community to make the BHAB more visible. Alan Albright suggested having the Communications team come out and provide information on some of these ideas.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 10:37 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](mailto:OCBHAB@ochca.com) \*\*