



# 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>

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

**Doug Chaffee, Chairman**  
Fourth District

**Katrina Foley, Vice Chairwoman**  
Fifth District

**Janet Nguyen**  
First District

**Vicente Sarmiento**  
Second District

**Donald P. Wagner**  
Third District

**Wednesday, July 23, 2025**  
**10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

### **Meeting Location:**

601 N. Ross St., (CCC Room) Santa Ana, CA 92701

**Hybrid Option for members of the Public:**

<https://zoom.us/j/95862491099>

**Meeting ID:** ID: 958 6249 1099

**Call In:** +1 301 715 8592

### **MINUTES**

Page 1 of 5

## **BHAB MEMBERS**

Alan V. Albright, LMFT  
**Chair**

Frederick Williams, LMFT  
**Vice Chair**

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento  
Second District

Hector Bustos

Adela Cruz

Carla DiCandia

Michell Fernandez

Stephen McNally

Danielle Sena

Linda Smith

Duan Tran, MSW

Ethan Truong

Chase Wickersham

**Members Present:** Alan Albright, Frederick Williams, Supervisor Sarmiento's Office, Adela Cruz, Carla DiCandia, Stephen McNally, Linda Smith, Chase Wickersham, Danielle Sena, Ethan Truong,

**Members Absent:** Hector Bustos, Duan Tran, Michell Fernandez

**Staff Present:** Ian Kemmer, Helen Cameron, Terri Styner, Karla Perez, Amy Nguyen, Flor Yousefian Tehrani, Mark Lawrenz, Dawn Smith

### **Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Alan Albright who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

- June 25, 2025: Steve motioned to approve the minutes Linda to second. Minutes approved (Yes 10/No 0)

### **BHS Chief's Report**

Ian Kemmer provided an update on BHCIP Funding applications. BHCIP is funding for buildings that will be providing services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries for 60 years. The team is working on identifying needs and gaps in services being provided, one of which is the long-term care beds. BHS will be holding a meeting with stakeholders to address needs, goals, and opportunities for partnership with BHCIP Funding. Carla DiCandia inquired about the types of beds available. Ian shared that the team is currently exploring a variety of options based on areas of need. Steve McNally inquired about Medi-Cal detox beds. Mark Lawrenz confirmed it is being explored. Steve inquired about county owned land that can be built upon. Ian shared that there is land available, and planning for that usage is currently in the planning and preparation process.

Ian also provided an update regarding the implementation of SB 43, which is slated for January. The team is currently working through State regulations and further



# County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

## MINUTES

Page 2 of 5

### HEALTH CARE AGENCY

**Ian Kemmer, LMFT**  
**Director**

Behavioral Health Services

**Linda Molina, LCSW**  
**Deputy Director**

Behavioral Health Services

**Karla Perez**  
**Staff Specialist**

Behavioral Health Services

information needed to provide the necessary services in the hospitals. A webpage regarding SB 43 is in development to provide information and training resources for law enforcement, hospital staff, and BHS staff. Adela Cruz inquired about how the community is being prepared for this. Ian shared that right now there have been stakeholder meetings and community forums. Steve inquired about the implementation of SB 43 in other counties. Mark Lawrenz mentioned that the counties who have started implementation have seen relatively low numbers of SUD and therefore have been using their existing systems of care. They are also still waiting on clarification from the State on next steps.

Ian provided an update on the Community Planning Process for BHSA. A meeting was held to address with the community the shifts and impacts of going from MHSA to BHSA and gave the community the opportunity to share their stories. Ian addressed Alan's questions regarding the State Warmlines and reduced State funding for the service. Ian shared other funding sources are being explored. In addition, Alan inquired about tracking or monitoring for the impact of the loss of the warmline. Ian confirmed that there is monitoring in place to analyze the impacts in various services due to the changes in the systems. Alan requested to see if it would be possible to track the volume of Orange County callers to the State Warmline to compare previous call volume and new call volumes due to the changes. He also asked if OC Links had been tracking referrals from the State Warmline, and if not, if something can be done to start tracking. Chase inquired about a dashboard from OC Navigator that could be like what 211OC shares. Ian shared that the dashboard is a project that can be considered.

Vasila Ahmad would like to know if the warmline tracked Medi-Cal recipients, to leverage whether or not CalOptima can help in filing the gap. Ian said this could be provided after the meeting. Adela emphasized importance of measuring warmline impacts and suggested collaboration with the local police departments to see what impact in calls they are receiving. In addition, she inquired about what was being done with Orange County Department of Education (OCDE) and the school districts regarding notification of the change in warmline services and impacts to them. Dawn Smith shared that they have been in touch with OCDE regarding changes in the warmline to make sure resources are updated and have been working on those since beginning of summer. Ian shared that there has been more contact with law enforcement for collaboration as the changes in services and mandates take effect.

Linda Smith requested Ian to address the impact on services due to the immigration and undocumented persons events that were currently taking place. Ian shared that direct impact reports are not available but reminded everyone about utilizing other means to access service, like telehealth options and emphasized the importance of staying connected.

# County of Orange

## Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

MINUTES

Page 3 of 5

### HEALTH CARE AGENCY

**Ian Kemmer, LMFT**  
**Director**

Behavioral Health Services

**Linda Molina, LCSW**  
**Deputy Director**

Behavioral Health Services

**Karla Perez**  
**Staff Specialist**

Behavioral Health Services

### New Business:

- **Update on Older Adult Innovation PIVOT Project**

by Flor Yousefian Tehrani

Flor Yousefian Tehrani provided an update on the Older Adult Innovation component in the PIVOT Project. She provided an overview of the project and how usage of Innovation funds has changed as MHSA transitions to BHSA. The five areas of change were identified: Full Service Partnership Reboot, Integrated Complex Care Management of Older Adults, Developing Capacity for Specialty Mental Health Plan Services with Diverse Communities, Innovative Countywide Workforce Initiatives, Innovative Approaches to Delivery of Care.

Helen Cameron shared about the older adult component of the PIVOT Project. Currently the primary issue is that long-term stable housing, treatment, and services are often inaccessible, inadequate, or unavailable to older adults who are homeless or at risk of homelessness and living with dual mental health conditions and dementia. The goal is to plan for a system of care that can serve this group using an integrated and collaborative approach. The committee has put together a team of experts across the continuum of care to create a process for identifying the target population, inform and educate providers, identify a model for assessment, and identify a multi-disciplinary complex care and navigation approach. Helen provided a timeline which included progress for this project starting from 2023 to current status and goals for 2025. Helen asked for continued collaboration with participants of the BHAB Older Adults Committee on this project. Adela inquired about plans to care for older adults who are in transition from one place to another to prevent homelessness. Flor shared that one of the goals is to build the multidisciplinary team of experts in servicing older adults to develop a system to address that concern. Adela also inquired about the collection of data for older adults. Flor and Helen informed that at this stage, the team is currently reviewing existing data and exploring how to collect appropriate data to achieve the goal of developing the system of care. Linda reminded the group that another area of challenge is the dually-diagnosed older adult individuals. Steve asked about restrictions on government funding and how families are prepared to take on the care of their parents and the mental health concerns that come along with being the caretaker. Flor shared that the multidisciplinary team would be responsible for exploring the funding structure for the system of care.

- **BHAB Planning for remainder of 2025**

Alan asked the Board members for ideas and suggestions for presentation topics for the remainder of 2025.



# County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

## MINUTES

Page 4 of 5

**Ian Kemmer, LMFT**  
Director  
Behavioral Health Services

**Linda Molina, LCSW**  
Deputy Director  
Behavioral Health Services

**Karla Perez**  
Staff Specialist  
Behavioral Health Services

- **Update on BHAB Committee Structure**

Alan provided an update on the BHAB Committee Structure going forward. Currently exploring different structure that allows for BHAB members to attend committee meetings without needing to be physically present. Going forward, meetings to discuss special issues or project of the BHAB, will be ad hoc workgroups and allow for virtual attendance. Work groups will have a singular focus, and will run for a set period of time, with the opportunity to extend as needed. Alan advised Linda to proceed with the Children's FSP topic via an ad hoc workgroup. Chase proposed an ad hoc work group to focus on Older Vets and the potential risk of suicide. Adela proposed an ad hoc work group to focus on Children and Youth Crisis Response. Karla reminded the group that there could not be a quorum of members as part of any ad hoc.

- **Tabling Event Opportunities**

Alan went over upcoming tabling events for the BHAB members.

Upcoming Events:

- OC Pride 2025 Festival & Parade – 9/27/25

Karla will register for the event and Board members will participate in shifts.

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Recovery Picnic – 9/20/25

- Alan shared a new one BHAB flyer to be used at tabling events. Vasila requested a digital copy of the flyer once it has been finalized. Alan inquired to Vasila about incorporating the BHAB flyer in the district newsletters, which Vasila confirmed it could be coordinated with each board office.

### **Old Business Updates:**

- **BHSA Fiscal Update Follow Up by Anthony Lee**

Anthony provided a follow-up update on the current MHSA budget, updated projections for revenue and expenditures for FY 24/25. New projected MHSA funds for FY 25/26 is less than the prior year. Anthony addressed Linda's question about Medi-Cal revenue, recapping revenue from recent years. Linda inquired if there was any guidance for funds that were going to be rolled over. Anthony confirmed, as of recent understanding any funds rolled over from MHSA into BHSA can be used towards any bucket within BHSA. Ian clarified that these funds can be used to continue the existing programs that have a shortfall, but funding will not be sufficient for funding different programs.

### **Public Comments**

- Alejandra Capistran

Ms. Capistran shared about experience in dealing with mental health issues in her family. She shared about her experience when calling into 988, and how the process has been while trying to obtain services for her son.

- Neil Collins

Mr. Collins clarified information with regard to Chorus and suggested that that the BHAB reach out to access to data if needed.

**Meeting Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:52am.



# County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

Wednesday, July 23, 2025

## MINUTES

Page 4 of 5

### HEALTH CARE AGENCY

**Ian Kemmer, LMFT**  
Director  
Behavioral Health Services

**Linda Molina, LCSW**  
Deputy Director  
Behavioral Health Services

**Karla Perez**  
Staff Specialist  
Behavioral Health Services

**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, 405 W. 5th St., Santa Ana, CA 92701, 714.834.5481 or Email: OCBHAB@ochca.com \*\*

2025 BHAB Attendance Record General Meetings											
MEMBER	22-Jan	26-Feb	26-Mar	23-Apr	28-May	25-Jun	23-Jul	27-Aug	24-Sep	22-Oct	26-Nov
Alan Albright	P	P	P	P	P	P	P				
Supervisor Sarmiento's Office	A	P	P	P	P	P	P				
Hector Bustos	P	P	A	P	P	A	A				
Carla DiCandia	P	P	A	P	P	P	P				
Stephen McNally	P	P	P	P	P	P	P				
Tuong Chinh Nguyen	P	P									
Linda Smith	P	P	P	P	P	P	P				
Duan Tran	A	P	A	A	P	P	A				
Frederick Williams	P	P	P	P	P	P	P				
Chase Wickersham	P	P	P	P	P	P	P				
Miichell Fernandez		P	A	A	P	P	A				
Danielle Sena		A	A	P	P	A	P				
Adela Cruz					P	A	P				
Ethan Truong							P				