



**ORANGE COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
ADVISORY BOARD**

ALAN V. ALBRIGHT, LMFT
CHAIR
FRED WILLIAMS, LMFT
VICE CHAIR

MAILING ADDRESS 405 W. 5TH
STREET SANTA ANA, CA 92701
<http://www.ochealthinfo.com/bhs/about/mhb>

**Study Committee Meeting
NOTES**

Wednesday, May 13, 2026
10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

***In-Person meeting**

601 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, CA 92701 – MPR Room

Hybrid Option:

<https://zoom.us/j/99364554212> / Meeting ID: 993 6455 4212

10:06 – 10:10 a.m. Welcome & Introductions Alan Albright

Members: Alan Albright, Cielo Echegoyen, Linda Smith, Cecilia Vega-Gonzalez

Staff in Attendance: Dr. Veronica Kelley, Anthony Padilla, Karla Perez, Gabriela Saldana, George Varela, Michelle Smith, Grace Lee, Gabriela Saldaña, Flor Yousefian Tehrani, Kevin Clark, Brad Hutchins, Lesa, Weinert, Michell Fernandez, Xyanya Garza,

10:11 – 10:15 a.m. Public Comment Linda Smith

No public comments.

10:15 – 11:20 a.m. Scheduled Discussion Items: Alan Albright

Community Program Planning (CPP) Pilot- Anthony Padilla

Anthony Padilla provided an overview about the Ducks OC Navigator community engagement pilot project, which replaced a previous \$3 million contract with a \$275,000 contract using the Honda Center’s reach platform as a pilot project for community planning. The contract included 19 games, generated over 2.6 million impressions and collected over 5,000 surveys, nearly tripling the previous six-month survey count of 1,500. The presentation highlighted the project’s success in increasing awareness of mental health resources and reducing stigma, with 49% of respondents reporting they know where to obtain mental health support and 69% indicating they would like to seek help from a health provider. Discussion amongst members included expanding community outreach to include various community venues beyond sports arenas, including partnerships with grocery chains and other organizations were discussed.

Review of Annual Priorities for 2026:

The board reviewed their annual priorities from the retreat, with Karla noting that no specific action had been taken on the top six identified priorities. The Top priorities included:

Top 6 Priorities

1. Suicide Prevention Efforts: SUD, MH with focus on Older Adults and LGBTQ+
2. Law Enforcement disengagement policies
3. SUD Continuum of Care – Update presentation
4. Workforce development
5. OC Links: Linage, Process
6. SB 43

Review of Forms and Procedures:

The BHAB covered new procedures for requesting information from the County, which will be tracked through a formal process using both QR codes and hard copy forms to ensure timely responses and better monitoring of requests.

11:20 a.m. Public Comment: Alan Albright
There was no public comment.

11:20 a.m. BHAB Member Comments: Linda Smith
The members asked for information regarding The Meeting of The Minds Conference and how they can assist with tabling.

11:25 a.m. Announcements: Linda Smith
Meeting of The Minds Conference will be on Friday, May 22, 2026, from 8:00am – 4:00 pm. Alan Albright shared that the Board received a proclamation at the last Board of Supervisor’s meeting. Linda Smith attended the First 5 strategic planning meeting. Linda also shared North Orange County Continuing Education put out an 8-page mental health newsletter regarding mental health services they offer to the community. Anthony Padilla shared an event; The State of Behavioral Health Program, taking place on Thursday, May 21, 2026, from 5:00pm – 6:30pm. Dr. Veronica Kelly informed the BHAB about an email sent out in regard to the status of Be Well as well as the press release.

11:30 a.m. Adjourn: 11:30 AM Alan Albright

You may request supporting documentation distributed to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board as related to the agenda items upon request from Karla Perez, kperez@ochca.com

Next Meeting: BHAB Study Committee: June 10, 2026, 10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.