



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
SEPTEMBER 13, 2016 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 3:32 p.m. in the MHSA Offices, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL A visual roll call was taken.

PRESENT: Toni L. Watson, Chair
Cheryl Berezny
Arny Bloom
Chuck Leeb, Ph.D.
Michael Olivieri
Twila L. Stephens
Davetta Williams

ABSENT: Donald R. Perez, Vice-Chair

STAFF: Toni Navarro, Executive Director
Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services
Mark Bellegia, MHSA (Innovations) Program Coordinator
Jamie Ritchey, Community Capacity Organizer
Dana Barford, MHSA Projects Manager
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 12, 2016 MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

There being no comment, Governing Board Liaison Leeb moved, and Commissioner Berezny seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Mental Health Commission Meeting of July 12, 2016. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, Leeb, Olivieri, Stephens, and Williams; and Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Vice-Chair Perez.

II. RECOMMENDATION OF THE MHSA FULL SERVICE PARTNERSHIP (FSP) PROGRAM UPDATE TO THE TRI-CITY GOVERNING BOARD FOR APPROVAL

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Hundal reported that during the summer Tri-City Stakeholders met in two separate meetings and discussed the existing FSP Program wherein it was highlighted the issue of not having a transition program for those clients that step down from FSP to Outpatient services; therefore, the Stakeholders and staff were recommending to create a lower care program, for 3 years, between the high level of care and outpatient services.

Executive Director Navarro added that Tri-City is experiencing an increase in the number of clients that meet the criteria of FSP; unfortunately, there are only limited slots and limited staff members which do not allow serving all the people that need these services. She explained that when clients are ready to step down to a lower level of care, many clients continue to be at-risk of homelessness because there is not enough permanent supportive housing available; therefore, they are really not ready to step down to Outpatient Services because they will relapse if they become homeless; therefore, the recommendation for the expansion of FSP that includes a tiered system, will allow serving everyone that qualifies for FSP, since those clients that are ready for the appropriate lower level of care will not experience an extreme drop in services that will put them at risk of homelessness. She indicated that there has been an increase for the need of more services as the result of expanded Medi-Cal, more awareness of homeless population, and not enough permanent supportive housing. She also pointed out that the program expansion will be reevaluated at the conclusion of the three years in anticipation of having a reduction of people needing FSP level services since in the next few years different county, state, and federal programs will be in place to reduce homelessness, as well as having people start to use their Medi-Cal appropriately and prevent crisis situations. She stated the results will be provided to Stakeholders, Mental Health Commission and Governing Board.

Chair Watson inquired if the proposed FSP program expansion includes the request to hire additional staff. Executive Director Navarro replied in the affirmative noting that 7.5 staff will be hired and, of these, 6.5 positions will be billable under Medi-Cal; and reported that the program has a projected cost of \$675,000 annually, with expected conservative revenue of \$475,000, and \$200,000 funded under MHSA annually during the three years of the program.

There being no further discussion, Commissioner Bloom moved, and Commissioner Stephens seconded, to recommend to the Governing Board the approval of the MHSA Full Service Partnership (FSP) Program Update. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, Leeb, Olivieri, Stephens, and Williams; and Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Vice-Chair Perez.

III. PRESENTATION

A. CREATIVE MINDS COMMUNITY GALLERY

Jamie Ritchey, Community Capacity Organizer, distributed a flyer to all Commissioners regarding the upcoming Creative Minds Gallery, a community Art Gallery for local artist to share their work. She talked about how the idea was developed from the need to decorate the new MSHA building; that the gallery will rotate art work every six months; and that the first art exhibit will be taking place on September 22nd. Executive Director Navarro added that it will also promote the artist's economic wellbeing since the art work will be for sale; therefore, the artist contact information will be available so that interested persons can contact the artist directly.

B. UPDATE OF THE GOOD EMPLOYEE CURRICULUM FROM THE EMPLOYMENT STABILITY PROJECT UNDER THE INNOVATIONS PLAN

Mark Bellegia, MHSA (Innovations) Program Coordinator, stated that the Good Employee Curriculum is designed to prepare individuals who live with a mental illness to seek and maintain employment, noting that it is one of the Innovation projects modeled after the Good Tenant Curriculum and developed with input from Tri-City Stakeholders.

He then talked about the Curriculum Team; the Curriculum's 8-week course created with separate TAY and Adult classes; the Curriculum Modules designed to stand alone and be interactive wherein participants can receive answers to real life situations. He also shared the number of participants to date, number of course completions, success stories, the continued support that the participants receive, and the additional opportunities available through Tri-City such as the volunteer door greeter program or participation in TCG programs.

Discussion ensued regarding how the Good Employee Curriculum is designed for persons that participate in any program within Tri-City and have an interest in being a good employee; that those who have mental health challenges are specifically identified throughout the curriculum, however, it is for anyone; that the curriculum is not proprietary and is available to any agency that wishes to implement it; and that the curriculum can also be modified to include goal setting.

IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Navarro reported that a meeting had been scheduled on September 21st with NAMI leadership staff to discuss how NAMI will proceed with the programming funded by Tri-City. She then provided a permanent housing report and stated that the Apartments by David & Margaret is almost fully occupied; that the Holt Family Apartments project is under construction and is expected to open in June 2017; that the Claremont Baseline home is occupied by two moms and their respective two children; that on August 17th, Tri-City had an all-day training for staff in the MHSA building and parking became an issue because of the impact on the neighborhood, noting that staff will distribute an apology letter to the neighborhood using door hangers.

Discussion ensued regarding the mitigating measures now in place for future events.

Executive Director Navarro continued with her report and stated that the expansion of the clinic's parking lot has been delayed pending resolution of the easement issue which will allow Tri-City to purchase the land from the City of Pomona; talked about the next steps and noted that it is expected to break ground beginning next year. She then announced that two Stakeholder meetings will take place on October 5th and 6th, in the morning and in the evening, respectively; that the 3-Year MHSA Plan Update will take place this fiscal year, and pointed out that AB 1618 'No Place Like Home' program, created to address homelessness and chronic homelessness in those with mental illness, also includes language that encourages Innovation Projects to address the issues of housing access, stigma reduction, and housing programs; and encouraged all Commissioner to participate in the Stakeholder process. She also announced that the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) has a program wherein a LACDMH staff partners with a police officer in a local jurisdiction to outreach to the homeless population, noting that the City of Pomona is a recipient of that funding; therefore, Tri-City added a license therapist position to the budget to be part of the outreach and engagement team and work exclusively with the LACDMH/Pomona PD team to expedite intake when individuals are identified to belong to Tri-City's jurisdiction; and that the Pomona police officer assigned to work with LACDMH will be doing a preliminary training with Tri-City's outreach and engagement team to become familiar with this work.

COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

There was no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:27 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its meeting of September 13, 2016 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on **Tuesday, October 11, 2016, at 3:30 p.m.** in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard, Suite B, Claremont, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk