



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
APRIL 11, 2017 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 3:33 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m.

ROLL CALL A visual roll call was taken.

PRESENT: Toni L. Watson, Chair
Donald R. Perez, Vice-Chair
Cheryl Berezny
Anne Henderson
Twila L. Stephens
Alfonso "Al" Villanueva (arrived at 3:35 p.m.)
Davetta Williams

ABSENT: Arny Bloom
Rubio R. Gonzalez
Elmer Vidaña

STAFF: Toni Navarro, Executive Director
Elizabeth Owens, Director of Clinical Program Services
Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 14, 2017 MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Commissioner Berezny moved, and Vice-Chair Perez seconded, to approve the Mental Health Commission Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2017. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Henderson, and Williams; Vice-Chair Perez; and Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioner Stephens. ABSENT: Commissioners Bloom, Gonzalez, Vidaña, and Villanueva.

II. PRESENTATION

A. AN OVERVIEW OF TRI-CITY'S SYSTEM OF CARE

Executive Director Navarro stated that Elizabeth Owens, Director of Clinical Program Services, and Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services, were in attendance at the meeting to talk about Tri-City's System of Care in the recovery and treatment of individuals by sharing wonderful real life stories of some of Tri-City's clients which provide an overall picture of how the system of care fits together and works.

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Hundal distributed a diagram of Tri-City's System of Care, pointing out that before the passing of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Tri-City provided only outpatient services and since the implementation of MHSA in 2008, Tri-City has established a complete system of care and discussed the various components in the diagram.

Director of Clinical Program Services Owens reported that Tri-City provides formal mental health services which consist of psychotherapy, group therapy, family therapy; and medication support services which consist of medical doctors and psychiatrists providing services through the Child & Family Department and the Adult Department. She then explained how Tri-City provided services before the implementation of MHSA and how services have been transformed to a complete System of Care since the implementation of MHSA. She then shared the success story of a 16-year old male client regarding how formal services connected him to a step-down program that provided him as much support without being in formal mental health services. She also shared the story of a client who was able to joint Tri-City formal services by participating first TCG program. She also shared various stories of how clients have been going through Tri-City's System of Care and have graduated from Tri-City programs to become self-sufficient members of society.

Discussion ensued regarding how clients are linked to Tri-City's system of care through the various programs and it was noted that staff is trained on providing screening and assessments. Vice-Chair Perez shared that the Peer Mentor training has been excellent having experienced it for three years.

Discussion ensued regarding how often clients are seen by Tri-City staff which varies according to the severity of symptoms of the client. Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Hundal talked about the current programming at the Wellness Center and shared various clients' success stories and how the Wellness Center interfaces with Clinical services.

Executive Director Navarro added that community building has been successful in helping the recovery of the individual. She then shared the story of a group of women that came together through the Wellness Center and formed the Comadres Group. She also shared one of Tri-City's goal to create community capacity building by empowering the participant and/or client to take their recovery and give back to the community to make connections which not only benefits Tri-City clients, but also the community.

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Hundal talked about Tri-City's stakeholders' process, noting that when the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) was writing its Manual for best practices, they indicated that they had used approximately 90% of Tri-City's current practices.

Chair Watson shared that she is thankful for the staff being available to help at the Wellness Center when she is there to facilitate groups.

Executive Director informed the Commission that Fiscal Year 2017-18 is the 10th anniversary of Tri-City's New System of Care; noting that it will be celebrated but it has not decided how or when; and also reminded the Commission about the Joint Meeting with the Governing Board and MHSA Public Hearing on May 17, 2017.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Navarro provided a permanent housing report and pointed out that all of Tri-City's housing projects are running smoothly; that programming on site is being provided by the Wellness Center and Housing Division Staff; and that clients are being seen regularly. She also reported that the Clifford Beers Project is expected to open on August 2017; that staff is currently scheduling meet-and-greet for potential families to be housed at the Baseline property; that the City of Claremont still evaluating options for future development at the Baseline property; that the NPLH is currently under a court validation process at the State level to ensure that NPLH can take MHSA money they way legislators say it can, and therefore, the grant distribution under NPLH is on hold; that the Wellness Center parking lot project is currently under City of Pomona review for approval; that the property behind the clinic on 2008, which Tri-City is buying to expand the clinic parking lot and build a permanent structure at the Therapeutic Community Garden, is under an environmental review, and that staff expect to submit plans for that development in June before the Governing Board for approval. She then announced that the Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis and California Senator Connie Leyva are hosting a Health Fair in Pomona on April 29th and that Tri-City helped coordinate and arrange the Health Fair, noting that Tri-City staff will also be there.

COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Villanueva announced that on Sunday, there will be a going away party at St. Ambrose Church in Claremont for Karl Hilgert, Director of the Claremont Homeless Advocacy Program; and that on Saturday, there will be a gathering from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Unity Church parking lot in Pomona regarding homeless in that area.

Executive Director Navarro announced that Commissioner Henderson had distributed a flyer regarding a community forum next Thursday evening in Pomona to discuss Prop. 64.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4:27 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its meeting of April 11, 2017 was adjourned. The Mental Health Commission will meet next in a Joint Meeting with the Governing Board to be held on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 at 4:45 p.m. in the MHSA Office, 2001 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk