



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
MARCH 12, 2019 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a Regular meeting on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 3:35 p.m. in MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL A visual roll call was taken.

PRESENT: Toni L. Watson, Chair
Cheryl Berezny
Arny Bloom
Ethel Gardner
Rubio R. Gonzalez
Jeanette Heitmann
Anne Henderson
Joan M. Reyes
Daniel Rodriguez
Wray Ryback
Twila L. Stephens
Alfonso "Al" Villanueva
David J. Weldon

ABSENT: Davetta Williams

STAFF: Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer
Angela Igrisan, Director of Clinical Program Services
Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services
Dana Barford, MHSA Projects Manager
Mary Monzon, Housing Manager
Frances Kim, Community Garden Farmer
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 12, 2019 REGULAR MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

There being no comment, Commissioner Ryback moved, and Commissioner Berezny seconded, to approve the MHC Minutes of the February 12, 2019 Regular Meeting. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, Gardner, Gonzalez, Heitmann, Reyes, Rodriguez, Ryback, Stephens, and Weldon; Vice-Chair Henderson; and Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioner Villanueva. ABSENT: Commissioner Williams.

II. PRESENTATION

A. “RECOVERY MOMENTS” STORY

Mary Monzon, Housing Manager, stated that a few months back staff was going over the list of clients with the most need for housing and that met the requirements; that the City of Pomona offered a voucher from the shelter plus continuum of care and staff found one client that was ready to go through all the documentation; that a unit was found for the client, and now she is living at Tri-City’s Park Avenue apartments.

Tri-City’s Client thanked everyone involved in the process that helped her get a voucher; stated that she moved into her studio apartment before Christmas, noting that having a place to live after being homeless, is a wonderful feeling; she also talked about her story that led to being homeless; and stated that now she does not take things for granted, such taking a shower or being able to cook.

Clinical Program Services Igrisan stated that staff from the Therapeutic Community Garden (TCG) was in attendance to introduce one of its participants.

Francis Kim, Community Garden Farmer, introduced a client participating in the TAY group and stated that the client’s recovery was in part by participating in TCG.

The client talked about her recovery, noting how much her participation in the TCG has helped to be patient; and that she will be moving the next day into the Cedar Springs Apartments.

Commissioner Heitmann inquired if the TCG needed anything for the garden that they could request from the community, such as seeds. Community Garden Farmer Kim replied that the TCG program facilitates everything they need; however, she said that it would be great if there was more involvement from the community.

B. POSTING OF THE DRAFT OF THE 2019-2020 ANNUAL MHSA UPDATE

Dana Barford, MHSA Projects Manager, provided a brief introduction of the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual update FY 2019-20, explaining the establishment and the requirements under the MHSA; the community planning process; the review and recommendation of the Plan Update by Tri-City Mental Health Commission; and the Plan adoption by Tri-City’s Governing Board.

At 4:00 p.m. Board Member Jeanette Heitmann left the meeting.

MHSA Projects Manager Barford then discussed the different components of the Annual Update which includes: Message from the Executive Director; Mental Health Services Act; Introduction to Tri-City; Community Planning Process; Workgroup Recommendations; a description of the five different Plans under the MHSA Program: 1) Community Support Services (CSS) which includes the Full Service Partnerships, Community Navigators, Wellness Center, Supplemental Crisis Services/Intensive Outreach and Engagement Team, Field Capable Clinical Services for Older Adults, and Permanent Supportive Housing programs. 2) Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) which includes the Community Wellbeing Program, Community Mental Health Trainers, Stigma Reduction and Suicide Prevention, Older Adult Wellbeing/Peer Mentor, Transition Age Youth Wellbeing/Peer Mentor, Family Wellbeing Program, NAMI-Parents and Teachers as Allies, Housing Stability Program, Therapeutic Community Gardening programs.

Commissioner Rodriguez inquired for the reason NAMI was ending the Parents and Teachers as Allies program. MHSA Projects Manager Barford stated that there are various reasons for terminating a program, or revamping it, such as for lack of interest in the community, saturation, or modifying it to make it better, noting that this particular program will be renamed and will have a stronger focus on suicide prevention.

She then continued with her presentation and talked about 3) Innovation Plan which includes Cognitive Remediation Therapy, and Increasing Access to Mental Health Services and Supports Utilizing a Suite of Technology-Based Mental Health Solutions (Tech Suite); 4) Workforce Education and Training (WET) which provides a learning environment for professional and personal development for staff, as well as a learning hub for students, peers and the community to gain experience in the mental health field; 5) Capital Facilities and Technology Needs (CFTN) which includes creating greater access to technology, and establishing a higher level of program monitoring and outcome analysis; and providing suitable space to accommodate Tri-City's growing workforce; Cultural Competency Plan Update; PEI/INN Regulation Status; and MHSA Expenditures/Budget.

Chair Watson inquired if there was information about the funds subject to reversion. Chief Financial Officer Acosta stated that this information was not included in the Plan Update because the reversion funding is currently under review.

MHSA Projects Manager Barford announced that after the MHSA Annual Update is approved, it will be posted on the website and it will also include the outreach efforts and all related process information.

At 4:28 p.m. Governing Board Liaison Gonzalez left the meeting.

C. NEWLY APPROVED MEASURE H IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING FOR THE REGION

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Hundal reported that the three cities, in partnership with Tri-City, submitted a grant proposal to the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative which was approved and will receive funding that will be utilized by Tri-City to hire four Navigators, noting that 2 Navigators will assigned to the City of Pomona, one to the City of Claremont, and one to the City of La Verne, who will be assisting the cities with their homeless population.

Discussion ensued about the requirements for the Navigator position.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

On behalf of Executive Director Navarro, Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported that the Los Angeles Auditor Controller's Office had conducted an audit on behalf of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH), of Tri-City's 2017-18 Cost Report, noting that they were on site for approximately three weeks and that a final report will be issued to Tri-City within six months.

She then reported that the Office of Inspector General (OIG) conducted an audit for fiscal year 2013-14 for Medi-Cal compliance of all the counties in the State of California, noting that Tri-City was not named in the audit; that the OIG recommended a payment amount that all the counties will participate in, including Tri-City and Berkeley; that there is no specified amount for Tri-City.

Lastly, she reported that staff is currently reviewing and exploring the expansion of Tri-City offices located at the Royalty building where the children programs are located, noting that will be presented to the Board for approval at their next meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the additional office space and about how the audit by the OIG was conducted.

COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

There was no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:03 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its Regular Meeting of March 12, 2019 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, in Taylor Hall Community Center, 1775 N. Indian Hill Blvd, Claremont, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk