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Founded in 1960  
by the residents

of Pomona,  
Claremont and La  
Verne.

[www.tricitymha.ca.gov](http://www.tricitymha.ca.gov)

**MISSION:** By understanding the needs of consumers and families, Tri-City Mental Health Authority provides high quality, culturally competent behavioral health care treatment, prevention and education in the diverse cities of Pomona, Claremont, and La Verne.

## TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

#### MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

TUESDAY, JUNE 9, 2026 AT 3:30 P.M.  
MHSA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
2001 NORTH GAREY AVENUE, POMONA, CA 91767

To join the meeting on-line click on the following link:

[https://tricitymhs-  
org.zoom.us/j/82884608333?pwd=7Wo6P3DKvxlc1RldJwujBEwddgVDVf.1](https://tricitymhs-<br/>org.zoom.us/j/82884608333?pwd=7Wo6P3DKvxlc1RldJwujBEwddgVDVf.1)

Passcode: xm.T07sV

#### Administrative Office

1717 North Indian Hill  
Boulevard, Suite B  
Claremont, CA 91711  
Phone (909) 623-6131  
Fax (909) 623-4073

#### Clinical Office / Adult

2008 North Garey Avenue  
Pomona, CA 91767  
Phone (909) 623-6131  
Fax (909) 865-9281

#### Clinical Office / Child & Fam

1900 Royalty Drive, Suite 180  
Pomona, CA 91767  
Phone (909) 766-7340  
Fax (909) 865-0730

#### MHSA Administrative Office

2001 North Garey Avenue  
Pomona, CA 91767  
Phone (909) 623-6131  
Fax (909) 326-4690

#### Wellness Center

1403 North Garey Avenue  
Pomona, CA 91767  
Phone (909) 242-7600  
Fax (909) 242-7691

**Public Participation.** Section 54954.3 of the Brown Act provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Mental Health Commission (MHC) on any item of interest to the public, before or during the consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Governing Board. Therefore, members of the public are invited to speak on any matter on or off the agenda. If the matter is an agenda item, you will be given the opportunity to address the legislative body when the matter is considered. If you wish to speak on a matter which is not on the agenda, you will be given the opportunity to do so at the Public Comment section. **No action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the Agenda. The Chair reserves the right to place limits on duration of comments.**

***In-person participation:*** raise your hand when the Governing Board Chair invites the public to speak.

***Online participation:*** you may provide audio public comment by connecting to the meeting online through the zoom link provided; and use the Raise Hand feature to request to speak.

***Please note that virtual attendance is a courtesy offering and that technical difficulties shall not require that a meeting be postponed.***

***Written participation:*** you may also submit a comment by writing an email to [sazzam@tricitymha.ca.gov](mailto:sazzam@tricitymha.ca.gov). All email messages received by 12:30 p.m. will be shared with the Mental Health Commission before the meeting.

***Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by Tri-City Mental Health Authority to all or a majority of the MHC less than 72 hours prior to this meeting, are available for public inspection at 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd., Suite B, in Claremont during normal business hours.***

***In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, any person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should contact Administrative Assistant Sara Azzam at (909) 451-6429 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.***

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Henderson calls the meeting to Order.

**ROLL CALL**

Anne Henderson – <i>Chair</i>	Sandra Christensen	Janet R. Roy
Wray Ryback – <i>Vice-Chair</i>	Mildred Garcia	Danette E. Wilkerson
Sandra Grajeda – <i>GB Liaison</i>	Frank Guzman	
Clarence D. Cernal	Laura Mundy	

**POSTING OF AGENDA**

The Agenda is posted 72 hours prior to each meeting at the following Tri-City locations: Clinical Facility, 2008 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona; Wellness Center, 1403 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona; Royalty Offices, 1900 Royalty Drive #180/280 in Pomona; MHSA Office, 2001 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona; and on the TCMHA's website: <http://www.tricitymha.ca.gov>

**REGULAR BUSINESS**

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 20, 2026, REGULAR JOINT MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**
- II. ONTSON PLACIDE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT**

**COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Commissioners are encouraged to make brief comments or request information about mental health needs, services, facilities, or special problems that may need to be placed on a future Mental Health Commission Agenda. In addition, this is an opportunity to provide reports on their activities.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Public may speak regarding any Tri-City Mental Health Authority related issue. No action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the Agenda. The Chair reserves the right to place limits on duration of comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Mental Health Commission will meet next in a Regular Meeting to be held on **Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.** in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.



ONTSON PLACIDE, MA, LMFT  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**MINUTES**

**GOVERNING BOARD AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION  
REGULAR JOINT MEETING**

**May 20, 2026 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Regular Joint Meeting of Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission was held on Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. in the MHS Administrative Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Leano called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Azzam.

**GOVERNING BOARD**

**PRESENT:** Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Chair  
Wendy Lau, City of La Verne, Vice-Chair  
Lorraine Canales, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Sandra Grajeda, City of Claremont, Board Member  
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Trent West, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Beverly Johnson, City of Pomona, Alternate Board Member

**ABSENT:** Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member

**MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

**PRESENT:** Anne Henderson, Chair  
Wray Ryback, Vice-Chair  
Frank Guzman, Commissioner  
Laura Mundy, Commissioner  
Danette E. Wilkerson, Commissioner

**ABSENT:** Clarence D. Cernal, Commissioner  
Sandra Christensen, Commissioner  
Mildred Garcia, Commissioner  
Janet R. Roy, Commissioner

**STAFF:**

**PRESENT:** Ontson Placide, Executive Director  
Steven Flower, General Counsel  
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer  
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer

Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director  
Sara Azzam, Administrative Assistant

## **MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 14, 2026 MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

There being no discussion or public comment, Commissioner Guzman moved, and Commissioner Mundy seconded, to approve the Minutes from the April 14, 2026, Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Gb Liaison Grajeda, Commissioners Guzman, Mundy, and Wilkerson; Vice-Chair Ryback, and Chair Henderson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Cernal, Christensen, Garcia, and Roy.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Board Member Lantz pulled Item No. 8 for further discussion.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Lau moved, and Board Member Canales seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar Item Nos. 2 – 7 and 9 - 12. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Canales, Grajeda, Lantz, and West; Vice-Chair Lau; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 15, 2026, GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Regular Meeting of April 15, 2026.”

### **3. ONTSON PLACIDE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

### **4. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

### **5. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

### **6. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

### **7. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

**9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 857 ESTABLISHING THE NEW OPERATIONAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES: 1) ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE USAGE, 2) CRISIS MANAGEMENT, 3) LPS CERTIFICATION, 4) NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION, EFFECTIVE MAY 21, 2026**

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 857 Establishing The New Operational Policy And Procedures: 1) Artificial Intelligence Usage, 2) Crisis Management, 3) LPS Certification, 4) Naloxone Distribution, Effective May 21, 2026.”

**10. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 858 APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY AND CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY DOMINGUEZ HILLS MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK GRADUATE PROGRAM, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE SAID MOU EFFECTIVE MAY 21, 2026**

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 858 Approving A Memorandum of Understanding Between Tri-City Mental Health Authority and California State University Dominguez Hills Master of Social Work Graduate Program and Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute Said MOU Effective May 21, 2026.”

**11. SERVICE ENCOUNTER CLAIMS RECONCILIATION AND REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive, approve, and file, the reconciliation and report of service encounter claims.”

**12. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 859 APPROVING A RENEWAL AGREEMENT WITH RINGCENTRAL FOR UNIFIED COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT OF \$124,608.00, BEGINNING JUNE 19, 2026, FOR A TWELVE-MONTH TERM, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS**

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 859 Approving a Renewal Agreement with RingCentral for Unified Communications Services in an Amount of \$124,608.00, Beginning June 19, 2026, for a Twelve-Month Term, And Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute the Agreement and Any Subsequent Amendments.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

**8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 827 APPROVING THE NOTICE OF INTENTION TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE CALPERS RETIREMENT CONTRACT TO INCLUDE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES’ PENSION REFORM ACT (PEPRA) LANGUAGE**

Board Member Lantz requested clarification regarding the inclusion of both draft and final versions of the classification materials, noting that the differences between the two were not clearly identified.

Human Resources Director Torregano responded that a redlined version reflecting the revisions was not included in the Governing Board packet. She added that the updates primarily consisted of new job titles and revised essential functions.

Board Member Lantz sought clarification regarding the Deputy Director classification, specifically inquiring who the position applied to. Director Torregano explained that the classification had been revised and modernized to allow for the addition of new positions as needed.

Board Member Lantz further requested an organizational chart, noting she was unfamiliar with several of the referenced titles, and observed that no salary schedules were included in the materials. HR Director Torregano confirmed that both an organizational chart and the applicable salary schedules would be provided.

Board Member Lantz also asked for clarification regarding which positions were existing and which were proposed new hires. HR Director Torregano explained that revised classifications represent existing positions, while new classifications are identified as new. Board Member Lantz indicated that this distinction was not clearly reflected in the Board materials and questioned whether the Board was being asked to approve recruitment without sufficient clarity.

Executive Director Placide responded that the Board report accurately reflected the specifics of the proposed changes. Board Member Lantz reiterated that, without a salary schedule, the overall fiscal impact could not be determined.

Executive Director Placide clarified that the positions were included as part of the Innovation Project (IP) budget, and that associated salaries had already been accounted for within that budget. He further noted that the positions are required to support Full-Service Partnership (FSP) programs. He added that an updated organizational chart would be provided at a future date.

Executive Director Placide also explained that, with the expansion associated with the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), the Agency will require four Deputy Director positions under the Adult Outpatient program. These Deputy Directors will each be assigned oversight of various programs.

There being no further comment, Board Member Grajeda moved, and Alternate Board Member Johnson seconded, to approve the Resolution No. 827 approving the Notice of Intention to Approve an Amendment to the contract between TCMHA and CalPERS to include PEPPA language. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Canales, Grajeda, and West; Vice-Chair Lau; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Board Member Lantz. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

**13. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 860 APPROVING A GRANT TO THE CITY OF POMONA IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,448,850 FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE “2040 N. GAREY AVENUE HOUSING UNITS” PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY AND TAKE OTHER RELATED ACTIONS**

At 5:17 p.m., Alternate Board Member Johnson left the meeting.

Chief Financial Officer Acosta presented the housing development project, noting that it had been previously identified and supported by the Governing Board in June 2025. She clarified that the staff report contained a typographical error and confirmed that Resolution No. 796 was adopted

on June 18, 2025, designating unspent Community Services and Supports (CSS) funds toward Housing 3 projects, including the St. Ambrose development. She stated that the project consists of 16 units to be co-located with the Pomona Family Stabilization Hub and is centrally located near public transportation. Chief Financial Officer Acosta outlined project timelines and financing terms, noting that the agreement term is 20 years, as revised at the request of the City of Pomona, rather than the 30-year term previously reflected in the Board packet. She referenced Lifemark materials and images of similar modular housing projects, as well as the proposed project site at 2040, and noted that a representative from the City of Pomona was present.

General Counsel Flower noted that Alternate Board Member Johnson recused herself from the item due to her involvement with the project. Board Member Canales requested clarification regarding the difference between the 20-year and 30-year terms. General Counsel Flower explained that while the physical life of the units is approximately 30 years, the City of Pomona requested a 20-year subsidy and affordability restriction period, which is standard for such agreements. He noted that although the affordability restriction in favor of Tri-City Mental Health Authority would end after 20 years, the property could continue to operate as affordable housing beyond that period.

Board Member West asked which entity would be responsible for reviewing, screening, and filling housing units. Executive Director Placide explained that placements would occur through a dual process involving both Tri-City clients and residents of the City of Pomona, coordinated through the housing division. Board Member West asked whether either entity would have sole authority over placement decisions. General Counsel Flower stated that the process would be cooperative and differs from the St. Ambrose project, where Tri-City has sole authority, and noted that specific procedures have not yet been fully documented. Executive Director Placide added that both entities would be able to place individuals into the system.

Board Member West inquired about service requirements for residents and whether individuals who discontinue participation in services would be allowed to remain in housing. Executive Director Placide stated that continued eligibility for housing requires active participation in services or engagement in treatment and that individuals who refuse to participate may be removed. Board Member West asked which entity would initiate that process, and Executive Director Placide stated that the determination would be guided by clinical and treatment protocols.

Board Member West requested information regarding the cost per unit. Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported an estimated cost of approximately \$289,000 per unit. Executive Director Placide noted that comparable housing projects in Los Angeles County typically reflect higher per-unit costs. Board Member West requested a report on housing project costs over prior years and asked whether the funding for this project was structured as a forgivable loan. General Counsel Flower clarified that the funding is structured as a grant.

Board Member Lantz asked how many units were included in the project, and Chief Financial Officer Acosta confirmed that all 16 units are part of the overall development. Board Member Lantz asked who would be responsible for enforcing affordability covenants. General Counsel Flower stated that enforcement would be governed through a regulatory agreement, which will be formally recorded.

Board Member Canales asked whether a grace period would be provided for individuals who refuse services. Executive Director Placide stated that the approach would be treatment-oriented rather than rule-based and noted that formal policies have not yet been established. He explained that individuals may experience setbacks and that engagement will be handled on a case-by-case

basis, with decisions guided by treatment protocols and executive oversight. Board Member Canales expressed concern regarding safety, particularly for families and children. Executive Director Placide responded that safety-related issues would be addressed through separate protocols and would not be conflated with treatment compliance.

Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported that the City of Pomona requested revisions to Section 2(d) of the agreement to require that entitlements and permits be issued prior to the release of grant funding. General Counsel Flower stated that this revision allows the project to proceed.

Commissioner Wilkerson asked how successful discharge from the program would be defined. Executive Director Placide stated that affordability and an individual's ability to maintain housing independently become key considerations following discharge. Vice-Chair Ryback asked whether the current location of the Pomona Family Stabilization Hub would remain the same. Pomona City Representative George Montano stated that modular units would be constructed at the rear of the existing property and that site improvements would include additional parking for residents and hub users.

Board Member West asked whether the project had previously been referred to as "tiny homes." General Counsel Flower confirmed that earlier iterations of the project were described as such and noted that two projects were ultimately consolidated.

Chair Leano opened the item for public comment.

Community Member addressed the Board regarding increasing rates of senior homelessness and expressed concerns about the definition and effectiveness of affordable housing, citing limitations in rent stabilization for units built after 1995 and raising concerns that affordable housing projects may not adequately reflect true affordability. The speaker requested increased investment in services for individuals currently experiencing homelessness.

Board Member Lantz requested clarification regarding the definition of affordable housing within the context of tax credit projects. Executive Director Placide explained the distinction between Housing First models and behavioral health-funded housing, stating that Housing First programs do not require participation in services, while MHSA and BHSA-funded housing requires individuals to meet certain criteria and includes service participation requirements. He noted that Tri-City provides services across both models and that service participation in Housing First programs remains voluntary.

General Counsel Flower explained that Tri-City-designated units are restricted to individuals qualifying at 30% of Area Median Income and that affordability restrictions will remain in place for 55 years. Community Member Pat Mendoza expressed concerns regarding safety in senior housing and the potential impacts of mixed populations within housing developments.

Board Member West asked about expectations for residents who receive housing through the program. Executive Director Placide reiterated that residents must participate in Community Services and Supports and behavioral health services, and confirmed that continued participation is required to maintain housing. He further stated that Tri-City will provide supportive services for 28 Permanent Supportive Housing units within the project. Board Member West asked whether individuals who discontinue participation would lose their housing, and Executive Director Placide confirmed that continued occupancy is contingent upon participation in services.

Board Member Canales expressed support for Lifemark's family-oriented approach and stated enthusiasm for the project.

There being no further comment, Board Member Lantz moved, and Board Member Canales seconded, to approve the Resolution No. 860 approving a grant to the city of Pomona in the amount of \$4,448,850 for development of the '2040 N. Garey Avenue Housing Units' Project, and authorizing the Executive Director to execute a grant agreement with the city and take other related actions. The motion was carried by the following vote: Board Members Canales, Grajeda, Lantz, and West; Vice-Chair Lau; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

**14. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 861 APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH NETSMART TECHNOLOGIES, INC. FOR AN ELECTRONIC HEALTH RECORD (EHR) SYSTEM IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$584,995.07 FOR THE FIRST YEAR AND \$565,620.84 ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, EFFECTIVE MAY 21, 2026, FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENTS**

Alternate Board Member Johnson rejoined the meeting Board Member Canales left the meeting at 5:44 p.m. General Counsel Flower confirmed quorum was maintained.

Chief Compliance Officer Natalie Majors presented an overview of the agency's proposed Electronic Health Record (EHR) system, describing it as the foundational system supporting the administrative and clinical side of client care where all records are stored. She stated that the proposed EHR would replace the current system and explained that a standard implementation typically takes approximately 12 months due to the complexity of configuring the system to meet agency-specific workflows.

Chief Compliance Officer Majors provided a general description of an EHR, noting that it functions as the "spine" or central nervous system of healthcare operations, supporting documentation, coordination, and service delivery. She reported that a thorough vendor selection process was conducted, including engagement with multiple vendors and evaluation by a steering committee, which she stated performed strongly throughout the process. She reviewed essential system elements and reported that the proposed vendor is Netsmart Technologies, Inc., noting that the company has been in operation for over 50 years, is widely used, and offers strong integration with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. She stated that this integration would allow staff to begin using the system with minimal disruption.

Executive Director Placide added that the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health currently utilizes the Netsmart system. Chief Compliance Officer Majors provided a comparison between the current system and the proposed system, noting that the existing system reflects a 2019 market configuration and required significant supplementation, while the proposed system would include all necessary components in a single platform. She stated that the new system is designed to reduce errors and improve oversight while supporting staff efficiency.

Board Member Grajeda asked whether the one-year implementation timeline was necessary. Chief Compliance Officer Majors confirmed that it was, explaining that implementation includes system development, configuration, workflow design, and other components. Executive Director Placide added that shorter implementation timelines have proven problematic in other organizations and stated that a rushed rollout can disrupt operations. He noted that Netsmart

represents a high-quality system and emphasized the importance of a deliberate implementation process.

Board Member West asked whether the system is designed for long-term sustainability. Executive Director Placide responded that staff is attempting to ensure the system is future-focused. Board Member West asked whether the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health had expressed satisfaction with the system. Chief Compliance Officer Majors stated that feedback obtained indicated satisfaction.

Board Member West asked about mobile compatibility for field-based and street-based services. Chief Compliance Officer Majors confirmed that mobile functionality is included within the system's technical requirements. Board Member West also asked about data migration, and Chief Compliance Officer Majors stated that the system will include the majority of required data. In response to questions regarding system hosting, she confirmed that the system is cloud-based. Board Member West asked about data de-identification, and she confirmed that the system supports that functionality.

Commissioner Mundy asked whether parallel testing would occur during implementation. Chief Compliance Officer Majors confirmed that a period for concurrent system operation would be included prior to full transition.

Vice-Chair Ryback asked whether a client portal would be available in the future state. Chief Compliance Officer Majors confirmed that a client portal is an essential feature and is included within technical requirements.

Commissioner Wilkerson asked whether clinicians had discussed the use of artificial intelligence. Chief Compliance Officer Majors stated that staff is interested in exploring AI capabilities, ensuring compliance, and enhancing workflow. Executive Director Placide added that effective use of AI requires a strong EHR foundation and stated that AI should not operate independently from the system. He noted that the proposed system is capable of supporting future AI integration. Chief Compliance Officer Majors added that implementation of AI tools would be phased and strategic. Board Member Lantz expressed appreciation for the presentation and noted that the staff report did not include the level of detail presented during the meeting. He also raised questions regarding fiscal impact.

Board Member West asked whether the proposed costs include both implementation and ongoing annual expenses, and whether additional equipment would be required. Chief Compliance Officer Majors confirmed that no additional equipment purchases would be necessary.

Executive Director Placide stated that funding for the system has already been allocated within the Capital Facilities and Technological Needs (CFTN) plan and that projected costs were anticipated.

Chair Leano opened the item to Public Comment.

Community Member Ron Vera addressed the Board and emphasized the importance of electronic records and having a timely and effective patient portal. He asked whether physicians would be able to access patient records and stressed the importance of ensuring contract longevity and adequate data breach insurance protections.

A staff member noted that all client-facing staff would be trained on the system. Chief Compliance Officer Majors clarified that both clinical and non-clinical client-facing staff would be able to access and utilize the system. She noted that the current system requires supplementation and that the proposed EHR would unify clinical, non-clinical, and substance use disorder services into a single platform.

Chair Leano asked whether emergency room physicians would be able to access the system. Chief Compliance Officer Majors stated that the system is technically capable of allowing such access, but noted that HIPAA compliance requirements necessitate prior client authorization. Board Member Lantz asked whether this authorization could be incorporated into the process. Chief Compliance Officer Majors confirmed that functionality exists and stated that staff would incorporate authorization into workflows to enable information sharing when appropriate.

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Lau moved, and Board Member West seconded, to approve the Resolution No. 861 Approving an Agreement with Netsmart Technologies, Inc. for an Electronic Health Record (EHR) System in an Amount of \$584,995.07 for the First Year and \$565,620.84 Annually Thereafter, Effective May 21, 2026, for a Five-Year Term, And Authorizing the Executive Director to Execute the Agreement and Any Subsequent Amendments. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Grajeda, Lantz, and West; Vice-Chair Lau; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Canales and Ontiveros-Cole.

**15. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 862 APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STUDENT SERVICES ACT (BHSSA) GRANT AGREEMENT NO. 21MHSOAC061 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$5,227,204.00 WITH THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (CBH); AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THEREAFTER**

Grants Manager Erin Sapinoso presented the proposed amendment to the Behavioral Health Student Services Act (BHSSA) Grant Agreement, noting that the amendment increases the total award from approximately \$4.8 million to \$5.2 million. She explained that the grant was originally approved in 2022 and is currently under implementation. Tri-City Mental Health Authority was subsequently selected to receive additional funding to expand the project, which also extends the grant term through June 30, 2028.

Board Member West inquired whether the funding associated with the amendment had already been included in the budget. Chief Financial Officer Acosta confirmed that the funding is already budgeted.

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria highlighted that the amendment presents an opportunity to bring additional resources into the community and supports increased engagement with community partners.

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Lau moved, and Alternate Board Member Johnson seconded, to approve the Resolution No. 862 approving the amendment to Behavioral Health Student Services Act (BHSSA) Grant Agreement No. 21MHSOAC061 in the amount of \$5,227,204.00 with the California Commission for Behavioral Health (CBH); and authorizing the Executive Director to execute the amendment and any amendments thereafter. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Grajeda, Lantz,

and West; Vice-Chair Lau; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Canales and Ontiveros-Cole.

### **GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Chair Leano announced a brief reordering of the agenda to accommodate Board and Commission comments. He stated that the Governing Board and Mental Health Commission Comments would be heard prior to Item No. 16, after which the Board would return to consideration of that item.

Vice-Chair Lau recognized JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos for her years of dedicated service, expressing appreciation for her patience and contributions to the organization. She noted that her presence will be greatly missed and presented a Certificate of Acknowledgement on behalf of the City of La Verne.

At 6:18 p.m., Vice-Chair Lau left the meeting.

Alternate Board Member Johnson expressed that it had been a pleasure working with JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos and extended best wishes for her retirement.

Board Member Lantz conveyed appreciation for JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos' role in maintaining organization and order during meetings, noting her ability to keep the Board informed and on track, and remarked that she will be greatly missed.

Members of the Mental Health Commission also offered remarks. Commissioner Mundy expressed appreciation for JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos' work and contributions. Commissioner Wilkerson described her as professional, pleasant, and consistently welcoming. Chair Henderson thanked JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos for her support, guidance, and dedication.

Community Member Ron Vera shared that additional colleagues had wished to be present to recognize JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos, noting her strong understanding of the Brown Act and her role in helping ensure the Board's compliance. He expressed that her departure is a loss to the organization and that she will be missed.

Commissioner Guzman expressed gratitude for JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos' service, describing her as the "heart" of Tri-City and recognizing her welcoming demeanor.

Chair Leano presented a Certificate of Recognition on behalf of the City of Claremont, noting that City Hall valued their working relationship with JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos.

JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos provided closing remarks, describing her retirement as bittersweet. She expressed appreciation for working alongside dedicated individuals committed to providing quality mental health services. She reflected on her 32-year career and highlighted the unique culture of Tri-City Mental Health Authority, emphasizing its shared mission and collaborative spirit. JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos concluded by wishing the organization continued success, particularly as it transitions into implementation of the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA).

### **PRESENTATION**

**16. REVIEW AND UPDATE OF DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES (DHCS) INTEGRATED PLAN**

Interim Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Rodriguez provided an update regarding the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Integrated Plan, noting that the item was informational and that formal action would be brought before the Governing Board at a subsequent meeting requiring a quorum.

Executive Director Placide explained that the update reflected the second round of revisions to the Integrated Plan and indicated that there were no substantial changes. He noted that a third revision had since been submitted, which included both clarifications and new responses issued by the State to all counties, including three new questions related to CARE Court that were not part of the original plan.

Executive Director Placide further clarified that Tri-City Mental Health Authority responded to the CARE Court-related questions by outlining how it would participate within its role as a mental health authority. He emphasized that Tri-City is not a mental health plan and therefore does not hold responsibility for the full scope of services required of a county-operated plan. Instead, the Authority described how it would respond to referrals within its jurisdiction.

Staff reviewed the State's questions and the corresponding updates to the Integrated Plan, including changes to program components such as the placement of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) services, which was repositioned as a key element integrated across multiple programs.

Board Member West inquired about the implementation of CARE Court, noting the State's significant investment, and asked how Tri-City engages in referrals for services and at what point involuntary treatment is compelled.

Interim Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Rodriguez responded that Tri-City Mental Health Authority does not provide involuntary treatment services. She explained that the agency operates primarily as an outpatient provider and would receive referrals to coordinate services, referring individuals to higher levels of care, including inpatient or involuntary treatment, when appropriate. Board Member West further inquired whether the agency must wait for the court system to initiate services.

Executive Director Placide clarified that CARE Court operates separately from the involuntary treatment process. He explained that for individuals requiring involuntary hospitalization, referrals are made through the appropriate channels, and once the initial 72-hour hold period has concluded, Tri-City may then provide outpatient services. He further explained that CARE Court is designed to provide treatment as an alternative to criminalization, allowing individuals to receive services rather than punishment.

Board Member Lantz requested additional clarification regarding the distinction between a mental health authority and a mental health plan.

Executive Director Placide explained that counties are designated as mental health plans and are responsible for the full continuum of services and funding. He noted that Tri-City Mental Health Authority operates as a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) within Los Angeles County and therefore serves as a carve-out provider, delivering services within its defined scope. He stated that while the Authority contributes to the broader system, it does not function as the plan itself and would

require significantly greater funding and staffing to assume that role. Accordingly, Tri-City's responses in the Integrated Plan reflect its role in coordinating and referring individuals to the County as the mental health plan when necessary.

### **GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Chair Leano discussed the upcoming Governing Board meeting schedule, noting that, due to the requirement to approve the annual budget, it was recommended that the meeting begin at 4:00 p.m. He further indicated that the meeting may be noticed as a special meeting to accommodate the extended agenda.

Executive Director Placide added that, in addition to the budget, there are approximately five additional items requiring a quorum to be considered at the same meeting.

Board Member Lantz emphasized the importance of Board member attendance, noting that if members anticipate needing to leave early, it should be clearly communicated that the meeting is of significant importance due to the number of action items requiring quorum.

Chair Leano concluded that staff would coordinate the meeting logistics and communications accordingly.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ADJOURNMENT – MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

At 6:34 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its meeting of December 17, 2025, was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, January 13, 2026 at 3:30 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:51 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board its Regular Joint Meeting of December 17, 2025, was adjourned.

The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, June 9, 2026 at 3:30 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 5:00 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.



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Ontson Placide, MA, LMFT  
Executive Director



## Tri-City Mental Health Authority MONTHLY STAFF REPORT

**DATE:** June 9, 2026

**TO:** Mental Health Commission of Tri-City Mental Health Authority

**FROM:** Ontson Placide, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Monthly Report

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### I. MHSA to BHSA PLANNING

#### **BHSA Integrated Plan Status**

On May 28, 2026, the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) informed Tri-City Mental Health Authority that it has accepted the most recent draft of the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Integrated Plan submitted by TCMHA. DHCS is now awaiting submission of the Governing Board–approved final plan to issue formal state approval. The Integrated Plan presented today reflects all prior DHCS feedback, stakeholder input, and Governing Board comments, and is recommended for approval.

#### **Mental Health Commission Appointments**

Selected Governing Board members have completed interviews of several candidates for appointment to the Mental Health Commission. Recommended candidates will be presented to the Governing Board for approval at the next meeting, with anticipated installation to the Commission in July 2026.

#### **Organizational Infrastructure and Recruitment**

Planning and recruitment for key infrastructure positions are actively progressing, including the Strategic Initiatives Director and Chief Administrative Officer roles. To support BHSA-related workforce expansion, Tri-City has launched a dedicated recruitment website ([www.jointricity.com](http://www.jointricity.com)), which includes a promotional video and enhanced outreach materials to strengthen candidate attraction and engagement.

### II. NATIONAL & STATEWIDE UPDATES IN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

#### **Medicare 2026 Final Rule – Reimbursement + Integration**

- *CMS increased reimbursement for many outpatient behavioral health services (e.g., psychotherapy codes up ~4–8%).*
- *Expanded support for integrated behavioral health / collaborative care models in primary care.*
- *Signals continued shift toward whole-person care and medical/behavioral integration.*

Source: [APA Medicare 2026 Final Rule Analysis](#)

***Permanent Tele-Behavioral Health Flexibilities (through 2027)***

- *Tele-mental health now permanently allowed in the home*
- *No geographic restrictions*
- *Audio-only services reimbursable*
- *In-person visit requirement waived through Dec 31, 2027*

Source: [HHS Telehealth Policy Updates](#)

***State Budget & Policy***

***Substance Use Disorder (SUD) – CA & LA County***

***A. LA County Jail MAT Crisis (High Risk)***

- *County scaled back access to medication-assisted treatment (MAT)*
- *Waitlists surged (e.g., >800 individuals)*
- *Linked to overdose deaths and litigation*

Source: [LA County restricts opioid treatment](#)

***Criminal Justice Policy Impact (Prop 36)***

- *Increased arrests → pressure to route individuals into treatment*
- *Counties struggling to scale treatment without funding increases*

Source: [CalMatters reporting](#)

***Crisis Infrastructure & 988 System***

- *Continued federal/state investment in:*
  - *Crisis lines (988)*
  - *Crisis stabilization programs*
- *But funding/policy uncertainty remains*

Source: [Policy shifts & funding volatility](#)

**END OF REPORT**