



County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

405 W. 5th Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701
TEL: (714) 834-5481
MHB Website:

<http://ochealthinfo.com/bhs/about/mhb>

**Wednesday, April 24, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

Meeting Location:

601 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, CA 92701
Conference Center

MINUTES

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Donald P. Wagner, Chairman
Third District

Doug Chaffee, Vice Chairman
Fourth District

Andrew Do,
First District

Vicente Sarmiento
Second District

Katrina Foley
Fifth District

BHAB MEMBERS

Alan V. Albright, LMFT
Chair

Frederick Williams, LMFT
Vice Chair

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento
Second District

Hector Bustos

Karyl Dupee, LMFT

Susan Emerson, LCSW, CATC IV

Matthew Holzmann

Stephen McNally

Chinh Tuong Nguyen

Kristen Pankratz, MSW

Duan Tran, MSW

Chase Wickersham

Members Present: Alan Albright, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Hector Bustos, Stephen McNally, Chinh Tuong Nguyen, Kristen Pankratz, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham, Fred Williams

Members Absent: Matthew Holzmann

BHS Staff: Ryan Yowell, Michelle Smith, Ian Kemmer, Brad Hutchins, Dawn Smith, Ahn Nguyen, Karla Perez, Amy Nguyen, Theresa Renteria, Terri Styner, Flor Yousefian Tehrani, Lesa Weinert, Min Suh

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Alan Albright who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome and Introductions

- Each member introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- Penny Lambright-
Ms. Lambright provided information around her organization which provides services for Veterans. So far in 2023, they have served 700 families. She expressed concern for housing restrictions around pets of those seeking housing and losing the opportunity to obtain housing or residential care due to not being allowed in the programs with pets. She would like to offer her organization's services (free of cost) to take care of their pets during the time they are in some type of residential treatment.
- Michael Arnot-
Mr. Arnot encouraged the BHAB to have a more diverse board. He suggested sending applications to divers agencies and to keep a waitlist for those who are applying and not meeting the need in the current vacancies.



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HEALTH CARE AGENCY

Veronica Kelley, Ph.D.,
Chief

Mental Health & Recovery Services

Annette Mugrditchian, LCSW
Director of Operations

Mental Health & Recovery Services

Karla Perez
Staff Specialist

Mental Health & Recovery Services

Opening of MHSA Public Hearing

Alan Albright opened the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Public Hearing at 10:21 am.

Ian Kemmer provided opening remarks. It has been 20 years since the beginning of MHSA, this proposition has provided an opportunity for special services around mental health in the community. With the new Proposition 1 voted in, this will change the system, but also provide an opportunity for change to design a best system.

Overview of the MHSA Community Program Planning Process for the MHSA Annual Update FY 2024 - 25:

Michelle Smith provided an overview of MHSA, including background information, its purpose, and an overview of the stakeholder process and standards. Michelle provided a detailed overview of how the MHSA reached out to community bringing awareness around the MHSA Plan Update and provided information around the Community Program Planning. During the 30-day posting, the MHSA office received a total of 20 written public comments and a total of 218 stakeholders completed a stakeholder comment form as a result of attending one of the 16 stakeholder sessions. Michelle spoke to the decrease in funding for PEI for next fiscal year and provided information on Prop 1.

Comments from the BHAB members:

- Supervisor Sarmiento suggested reaching out to schools/ school boards to disseminate information and expand our reach in the community.
- Supervisor Sarmiento inquired as to when the County will decide which services will be impacted when Prop 1 is established. He suggested to have the BHAB members weigh in that evaluation process. Linda Smith and Karyl Dupee also asked to be included in the evaluation process prior to finalizing the plan that agency will take and how it will impact MHSA programs. Ian Kemmer explained that there will be a process and HCA is still working on those details internally. BHS will look to stakeholders for guidance in the near future.

Michelle welcomed everyone to attend the upcoming PAC meeting, where they will discuss Innovation ideas. They will also discuss the BHSA community planning framework ideas.

Public Comments

Helen Cameron-

Ms. Cameron recommended to affirm the plan and also talked about the opportunity behind restructuring our system of care. In addition, she brought up stats on MHSA housing efforts over the years.



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Public Comments: *continued*

Michael Arnot-

Mr. Arnot expressed his appreciation for what MHSA has done for housing. He asked to continue to change structures to reduce disparities and include in the BHSA planning process.

Ravi Sang-

Mr. Sang expressed his appreciation for the MHSA video, it was very helpful to educate the community. He also provided two (2) public comments for local members advocating for continued support of funding and services for The Cambodian Family services as well as community providing culturally competent programs for the community.

Jenny Mak-

Ms. Mak shared she helps support older adults within the Cambodian Family in OC and thanked MHSA for program funding support. She advocated for further service and to continue to fill gaps in the underserved culturally communities.

BHAB Discussion

The BHAB provided some closing remarks before taking the vote, some of those comments included the following:

- Susan Emerson suggested having an easy navigation once services are shifted, this way it is easy to follow by the community.
- Steve McNally expressed concern for lack of communication in the community and would like the community to be better informed and advised about the MHSA plan.
- Supervisor Sarmiento urged BHS to take the public comments as constructive advice. He suggested utilizing the BHAB to help with the strategizing of services and community planning in preparation for BHSA.

Alan called for motion to affirm that the community planning process met the requirements as outlined in statute. The item was moved by Frederick Williams and seconded by Supervisor Sarmiento. The BHAB voted via roll call, the item passed, 12 Yes, 0 No.

Close of Public Hearing

Alan Albright closed the Public Hearing at 12:08 p.m.

Announcements:

- Frederick Williams announced all upcoming BHAB Committee meetings for the month of May.
- Supervisor Sarmiento announced Sexual Assault Awareness Day/ Month.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Officially submitted by: Karla Perez** Note copies of all writings pertaining to items in these BHAB meetings are available for public review in the Behavioral Health Services advisory Board Office, 05 W. 5th St., Santa Ana, CA 92701, 714.834.5481 or Email: OCBHAB@ochca.com **