



# 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, July 24, 2024  
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.**

Meeting Location:

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

MINUTES

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**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

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Third District

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Fourth District

**Andrew Do,**  
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Alan V. Albright, LMFT  
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Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento  
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Hector Bustos

Karyl Dupee, LMFT

Susan Emerson, LCSW, CATC IV

Matthew Holzmann

Stephen McNally

Chinh Tuong Nguyen

Duan Tran, MSW

Chase Wickersham

**Members Present:** Alan Albright, Hector Bustos, Stephen McNally, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento's Office, Linda Smith, Fred Williams

**Members Absent:** Karyl Dupee, Susan Emerson, Matthew Holzmann, Chinh Tuong Nguyen, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham

**Staff Present:** Annette Mugrditchian, Tracy Rick, Ian Kemmer, Mark Lawrenz, Diane Holey, Julia Rinaldi, Linda Molina, Dawn Smith, Karla Perez, Min Suh, Anthony Le, Antony Padilla, Wesley, Brad Hutchins, Negar Doroudian, Bhuvana Rao, Ryan Yowell, Terri Styner, Vanessa Thomas

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 10:06 a.m. by Alan Albright who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Welcome and Introductions**

- Each member introduced themselves.

**Approval of Minutes**

- June 26, 2024
  - There was no quorum present, the approval of the minutes was tabled to the August General meeting.

**Public Comment**

Alejandra Capistran-

Ms. Capistran expressed frustration with the behavioral health system of care, in particular for the Latino Community. She feels there is not enough resources for the Latinos who are in need of services, and at times need to go to Mexico to be able to receive the care that they need.

Theresa Comstock-

Ms. Comstock expressed her appreciation for all member of the BHAB. She made the members aware that she is available to provide support where needed for the BHAB, and informed the members of an upcoming training in September.



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## HEALTH CARE AGENCY

**Ian Kemmer, LMFT**  
**Director**

Behavioral Health Services

**Annette Mugrditchian, LCSW**  
**Deputy Director**

Behavioral Health Services

**Karla Perez**  
**Staff Specialist**

Behavioral Health Services

## BHS Chief's Report –

Ian Kemmer provided the Behavioral Health Services (BHS) update. He provided some highlights including, introducing the new Assistant Deputy Director for Forensics, Frank Congine. Furthermore, the first Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Funding meeting took place on July 23<sup>rd</sup> to discuss funding for the infrastructure for the bricks and motor buildings from the Prop 1 dollars. Really good ideas and discussions came about this meeting and will continue to have conversations as we continue to build the buildings. Ian mentioned that the buildings are designed to serve the Medi-Cal population and they must do so for 30-years as well as figuring out the sustainability. Alan will be follow up with Karla Perez to schedule a follow-up presentation for the BHAB to include the overview of the proposal and timeline progress. Ian included that the application deadline is in December and the award would be around spring.

The Santa Ana Clinic has moved to 200 W. Santa Ana Blvd., the programs include the Adult Mental Health Clinic, Substance Use Outpatient Clinic, the MAT program, and part of the Forensics team for the Collaborative Court and AB 109 Programs.

The Crisis Mobile Benefit services will be in all threshold languages, which will allow for members of the community to learn about how to access behavioral health crisis services. BHS will be identifying the metrics in digital impressions and response rates to measure how well the information is being delivered. Supervisor Sarmiento asked that the metrics be brought back to the BHAB to review the metrics and outcomes of this projects. Steve McNally asked that the scope of work and expectations be shared with as well. He also suggested to have warm connections for those who call in so that they feel that they don't feel overwhelmed in navigating the system of care.

One of the Narcotic Treatment Program (NTP) providers for Methadone is going to start a mobile benefit, which will allow the provider to travel around to meet folks where they and provide services. Steve McNally questioned if medicated assisted treatment will expand to physical health. Carmen from CalOptima will follow-up with a response. Supervisor Sarmiento suggested tracking where the mobile services will be provided, as this would be useful information to the community, in addition to being able to track this useful data.

Lastly, Ian informed the members of an upcoming Behavioral health Equity Committee meeting taking place July 25<sup>th</sup> at 12 pm. Steve McNally requested to have Michelle Smith provide an update or overview of the timeline for BHSA.



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### Presentation:

#### **Psychiatric Advance Directives (PADs): Project Overview and Digital Platform Demonstration**

By: Gail DiRaimondo, LCSW

Director of Behavioral Health Programs, Chorus Innovations

Gail DiRaimondo provided a comprehensive overview of the PADs digital platform. The PADs INN project is a time limited, multi-county project that seeks to develop and pilot the implantation of digital PADs in specific target populations in counties across the State. She reviewed the benefits of a digital PAD and reviewed engagement overview amongst stakeholders since April 2023 and included community feedback. Gail then provided an overview and demo of a PAD platform via an AI generated person.

### Old Business

- Follow-Up to CAT/PERT Services:  
By: Crisis and Acute Care and OC Sheriff's Department

Erika Punchard, Casey Mints and Deputy Sheriffs provided an quick overview of what they do when they are out on the field and responding to crisis calls. He included information of warm handoffs should the client not need to be hospitalized. Casey described the difference between CAT and PERT calls and explained how calls are screened and based on the acuity of the call they will dispatch based on the call evaluation. Orange County Sheriff's Department (OCSD) Deputies are getting Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) trained and all Behavioral Health Bureau (BHB) and PERT officers are all CIT I, II, and III. Supervisor Sarmiento emphasized how important it is for all officers to have the proper training when out in the field and wanted to offer any support needed to ensure that all encounters with folks who may be going through a crisis go smoothly. Supervisor Sarmiento asked to obtain a follow-up to this presentation and provide a list of what OCSD is doing as far as training in comparison to other neighboring Counties. Including what may be deficient for OC to address any support needed for the officers going out to these calls. Linda Molina mentioned that the Grand Jury report that was recently released, applauded the BHB as a best practice. Finally, Linda Molina provided an update on SB 43 and where OC stands.

### Announcements:

Alan announced upcoming committee meetings for the month of August.

### Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m. The next General Meeting will be on August 28, 2024

**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 \*\**