



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>

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Donald P. Wagner, Chairman
Third District

Doug Chaffee, Vice Chairman
Fourth District

Janet Nguyen
First District

Vicente Sarmiento
Second District

Katrina Foley
Fifth District

Wednesday, January 8, 2025
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Meeting Location:

750 The City Drive, Suite #130, Orange, CA 92868

Hybrid Option:

<https://zoom.us/j/99364554212> / Meeting ID: 993 6455 4212

BHAB ANNUAL

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Members Present: Alan Albright, Fredrick Williams, Linda Smith, Stephen McNally, Carla DiCandia, Chinh Tuong Nguyen, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham

Members Absent: Hector Bustos, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento’s Office

Staff Present: Ian Kemmer, Annette Mugrditchian, Anthony Padilla, Karla Perez, Amy Nguyen

BHAB MEMBERS

Alan V. Albright, LMFT
Chair

Frederick Williams, LMFT
Vice Chair

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento
Second District

Hector Bustos

Stephen McNally

Chinh Tuong Nguyen

Duan Tran, MSW

Chase Wickersham

Carla DiCandia

Linda Smith

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by Alan Albright.

Welcome and Introductions

- Each member introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- N/A

Role of the Advisory Board and Members: Susan Wilson

- Susan Wilson provided a comprehensive overview of the WIC to help the members understand the statutes that describe the local mental health board, its responsibilities, and raised awareness of the changes in responsibilities of the board.
- Susan addressed the Brown ACT and facilitation of Public Comment Time. She advised that the board needs to be clear about requirements for public comment and manage comments.
- Susan highlighted that members cannot take action on an item to vote on if they have financial obligations to it and must be entirely removed from room before voting may proceed.
- Susan emphasized the importance of preparing detailed agendas so that people can be prepared for meetings and that no additions to agendas are permitted.
- The group discussed concern over BHSA and public understanding and



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HEALTH CARE AGENCY

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Director

Behavioral Health Services

Annette Mugrditchian, LCSW
Deputy Director

Behavioral Health Services

Karla Perez
Staff Specialist

Behavioral Health Services

awareness of the future impacts of Prop 1. Chase suggested having the counties collaborate to have larger presence and impact on the community.

BHS Vision & Update: Ian Kemmer

- Ian Kemmer provided a comprehensive overview of services provided by BHS programs over the calendar year 2024 and provided context for the approach of plans and goals for 2025. He highlighted numbers of the community served, calls into OC Links, and major accomplishments including the BHSA modernization, Opioid Abatement and Narcan Distribution in the community, CalAIM, CARE Act, Mobile Crisis Benefit, and monitoring and implementation of both SB 43 and Prop 36. Ian also provided updates regarding the status of Be Well for both the Orange and Irvine campus. During this update, Alan inquired about being involved in the contract selection process and procurement process, which can be addressed at a later meeting. Board members provided their feedback about working with contracts. BHS will continue to keep BHAB updated on the status of both Be Well campuses as public information is released. Looking ahead to 2025, Ian acknowledged the future challenges that BHS will face, primarily due to the change in funding and provided the plan for working through the challenges.

Review 2024 Accomplishments

Alan Albright and the members reviewed what the BHAB had accomplished in 2024. The list is as follows:

1. Site Visits
2. Attending Community Events
3. Attending Conferences/Meetings
4. The BHAB received a variety of presentations throughout the year of 2024.
5. The BHAB gained new members on the board.
6. New subcommittees are now standing and running.
7. Letters of support and recommendation to the BOS and BHS Director.
8. Contribution to the PIVOT Project.

2025 Goals (Action Plan); Strategic Planning for the Year:

1. BHAB plans to review various campaigns and partnerships that have been made, as well as how to evaluate the success of the campaigns.
2. The board addressed ways to prepare for and respond to meeting content, including providing questions so that presentations can be focused instead of general overviews and developing questions after presentations to plan for future presentations.
3. Committee chairs to focus on appointing a vice chair to provide additional support and coverage.
4. Prepare for involvement and role in the upcoming Listening Sessions in the first part of 2025.



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Update on Committees, Presentations, Site Visits:

- Board members discussed goals and strategies to improve awareness and attendance for committee meetings, starting with using existing mailing lists for MHSA and BHAB to invite the public to meetings. Subcommittees to set goals for calendar year 2025. Board members also discussed the idea of having a regional meeting to address larger-scale concerns. The board requested to know the number of unfunded mandates that the county is going to be responsible for and an ongoing report of changing programs due to Prop 1.

Business Items:

- **2024 Annual Report:** Alan Albright asked Committee Chairs to please submit their year-end recaps for inclusion in the annual report. To honor Karyl Dupee's work with BHAB, a page will be dedicated to her. Alan will work with Karla Perez on this item and will forward a draft once it's ready.

The meeting adjourned at 3:18 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 **