



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
JANUARY 8, 2013 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 3:35 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.

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

II. ROLL CALL A visual roll call was taken.

PRESENT: Paul Capraro, Chair
Amy Bloom, Vice-Chair
Joseph M Lyons MS, Ph.D.
Cheryl Berezny
Betsy MacLaren
Donald R. Perez
Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D.
Davetta Williams – Arrived at 3:45 p.m.

ABSENT: Maria Elena Garcia

GUESTS: Lauren Marshall, City of Claremont

STAFF: Jesse H. Duff, Executive Director
Toni Navarro, LMFT, Director of Clinical Program Services
Rimmi Hundal, MHSA Manager
Nancy Gill, Director of Operations
Mica Olmos, Executive Assistant

III. MINUTES

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JOINT GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING HELD DECEMBER 19, 2012

Commissioner Whitlock moved, and Commissioner Perez seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Joint Governing Board / Mental Health Commission meeting held December 19, 2012 as presented. There being no comments, the motion was carried unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Commissioners Berezny, MacLaren, Perez, and Whitlock; Governing Board Liaison Lyons; Vice-Chair Bloom; and Chair Capraro. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** Commissioners Garcia and Williams.

IV. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR THE TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Executive Director Duff introduced Mica Olmos, the recently hired Executive Assistant, noting that she will be assisting the Executive team. The Commission expressed welcoming remarks. Executive Director Duff then stated a member of the Governing Board inquired about the disparate construction cost vs. market value of the housing project. He indicated he will provide the cost study/research to the Governing Board at its meeting of January 16th and a copy of the report to the Commission.

Thereafter, Executive Director Duff presided over the meeting and asked for nominations to the position of the Commission Chair. Commissioner Whitlock moved, and Chair Capraro seconded, the motion to nominate Vice-Chair Bloom as Chair of the Mental Health Commission. There being no comments, the motion was carried unanimously by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, MacLaren, Perez, and Whitlock; Governing Board Liaison Lyons; and Chair Capraro. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Vice-Chair Bloom. ABSENT: Commissioners Garcia and Williams.

Amy Bloom was appointed as the newly elected Chair of the Commission. He immediately thereafter presided over the meeting and asked for nominations to the position of Vice-Chair of the Mental Health Commission. Commissioner MacLaren moved, and Commissioner Capraro seconded, the motion to nominate Commissioner Whitlock as Vice-Chair of the Mental Health Commission. There being no comments, the motion was carried unanimously by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Capraro, MacLaren, and Perez; Governing Board Liaison Lyons; and Chair Bloom. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioner Whitlock. ABSENT: Commissioners Garcia and Williams.

Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D. was appointed as the newly elected Vice-Chair of the Commission and assumed her duties at this time.

Chair Bloom then asked for nominations to the position of Secretary of the Mental Health Commission. Vice-Chair Whitlock moved, and Governing Board Liaison Lyons seconded, the motion to nominate Commissioner MacLaren as Secretary to the Mental Health Commission. There being no comments, the motion was carried unanimously by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Capraro, and Perez; Governing Board Liaison Lyons; Vice-Chair Whitlock; and Chair Bloom. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioner MacLaren. ABSENT: Commissioners Garcia and Williams.

Betsy MacLaren was appointed as the Secretary of the Commission and assumed her duties at this time.

Staff thanked Commissioner Paul Capraro for his services as former Chair of the Mental Health Commission.

V. PRESENTATION

Toni Navarro, LMFT, Director of Clinical Program Services, provided a summary of Tri-City Clinical Services for the year 2012 and an overview of what staff is preparing for 2013 for both MHSA programs and Clinical programs. She stated in 2012 staff began to prepare for Tri-City's Integrated Plan as required by the Medical Services Act, which required the following five plans: community and support services, early intervention, innovations, workforce education and training, capital and technology. She indicated the Tri-City Integrated Plan has to be presented to the delegates, stakeholders and the Governing Board, and will be implemented in July 2014 as required by the MHSA. She also noted due to the Health Care Reform, Tri-City is gearing to be compliant by getting staff ready to improve communication with the primary care physicians and providers, noting that clinical programs are focusing on the medication support services and medical staff to find out how they interface with the clients' primary care providers and specialists.

At 3:45 p.m. Commissioner Davetta Williams arrived at the meeting.

Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro indicated prior to January 2011, Tri-City had only three Licensed Psychiatric Technicians (PT) licensed by the Board of Nursing in California, a nursing discipline that supports psychiatrists in dispensing and monitoring psychotropic medications. She explained there are now seven full-time PTs that work in every Tri-City clinical department monitoring clients' medication, blood sugar, weight gain, and smoking cessation. She also stated another way to be compliant is through the innovations project that involves 10 services providers, indicating they meet once a month to discuss how they are collaborating with one another, how well do they know each other, what services are available to clients in the three cities, and what improvements are necessary to better serve their clients. She stated the Partnerships include Pomona Valley, Western University Medical Clinic, Dialyses Center, Prototypes, National Counsel on Alcohol and Drugs, Pomona Families Master Plan, Brand New Day, Mission Clinic, and Tri-City. She then reported there is a consumer panel that is currently conducting surveys with all the agencies of consumers regarding how Tri-City can better assist with the services they provide. She noted staff is becoming more aware of critical programs and talked about the supportive services of housing working with the Wellness Center, clinical department, and all clinical teams, which allows clients to enter the entire system when they access Tri-City. She also stated as we move forward in 2013, staff is very excited about the housing development, the WET Plan, and the staff training. Lastly, she announced staff training will take place regarding interview skills with clients that are in crisis.

Vice-Chair Whitlock inquired if she can participate in the training. MHSA Manager Hundal replied in the affirmative. She then stated that in 2012 Tri-City helped 1,183 individuals become mental health first aiders. She then spoke about the Wellness Center performance and presented an overview of the programs and services provided in 2012 and those scheduled to take place in 2013 such as introducing the community to the job opportunities in mental health services; training of the community to help them assess specific needs for their population; GED preparation classes to further careers;

ping pong tournament and movie nights to encourage families to spend time together; and facility availability for community meetings.

Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro added that in order to facilitate tours of the Wellness Center, and conduct a mental health assessment at the same time, two additional navigators were added. She then talked about the Sweethearts of the Agency, a celebration taking place on February 13th to thank approximately 30 volunteers of Tri-City, noting that invitations will be sent to all the Commission Members.

Secretary MacLaren inquired if there is any outreach to the emergency room physicians and dental services. Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro stated it is an excellent idea that has not been able to implement, noting that they have tried to establish a line of communication with the Pomona Valley Hospital. However, they have not been successful citing a possible reason that the hospital is just too busy with the new Health Care Reform.

Chair Bloom requested Tri-City's Integration Plan in a visual form. Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro replied it is part of year three of the Integration Plan; however, will work on having something ready before then.

Chair Bloom inquired if there were plans to train the youth on mental health first aid. MHSA Manager Hundal replied in the negative, noting this program was not budgeted in the current fiscal year. However, the program can be included in next year's budget. In addition, she will evaluate the current budget to find out if there is any possibility to include the program this year.

Chair Bloom and Vice-Chair Whitlock expressed support for having business cards available with Tri-City's referral number to hand out to the community. MHSA Manager Hundal stated there are developing a brochure that lists all the services offered and the contact numbers.

Executive Director Duff stated staff is approximately 95% on target with the goals they set to accomplish. He noted there have been some challenges with some partnerships; however, staff is dealing with those issues by redirecting and regrouping. He added there are approximately 30 community grants that are being closely monitored by staff.

V. REPORTS

Executive Director Duff reported that staff was honored that a Consultant to the Legislative Staff Education Institute selected Tri-City to conduct a site tour. He then stated staff received direction from the Governing Board to start recruitment for commissioners, noting that 3 applications had already been received. He added the Mental Health Commission is underrepresented in La Verne and Pomona by community representatives and consumers and asked for referrals.

Vice-Chair Whitlock inquired if staff had received any inquiries from the schools due to the recent events in Colorado and Connecticut.

Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro replied in the negative. However, staff had met with the Regional Center to discuss how to work with the mentally delayed with mental health issues and the new proposed legislation at the state level in connection with Asperger Syndrome and Autism. She also indicated staff will be meeting quarterly with the Los Angeles County Regional Center to learn more about these mental illnesses.

VII. COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Governing Board Representative Dr. Lyons expressed concern regarding the top-to-down manner in which integration plans are being created under the Affordable Care Act. He expressed support for the Act, however, he indicated those in charge of legislation are not aware of the nature and distribution of the needs in the communities of Tri-City because the plans were determined and formulated outside of our community. He added a local plan can become approved. Lastly, he stated being proactive will promote having oversight of that process and hopefully have an opportunity to influence legislation and develop a home grown plan.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:39 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission their meeting of January 8, 2013 was adjourned to the next Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at 3:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, Executive Assistant