



**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
FEBRUARY 12, 2013 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 3:35 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.

- I. CALL TO ORDER** Chair Bloom called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL** A visual roll call was taken.
- PRESENT:** Arny Bloom, Chair
Betsy MacLaren, Secretary
Joseph M Lyons MS, Ph.D.
Cheryl Berezny
Donald R. Perez – Arrived at 3:40 p.m.
Davetta Williams
- ABSENT:** Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D.
Paul Capraro
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 MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING HELD JANUARY 8, 2013

Governing Board Liaison Lyons moved, and Commissioner Berezny seconded, to approve the Minutes of the Mental Health Commission meeting held January 8, 2013 as presented. There being no comments, the motion was carried unanimously by the following vote: **AYES:** Commissioners Berezny, MacLaren, and Williams; Governing Board Liaison Lyons; and Chair Bloom. **NOES:** None. **ABSENT:** Commissioners Capraro, Perez, and Garcia; and Vice-Chair Whitlock.

IV. PRESENTATION

Executive Director Duff announced staff will ask the Governing Board, at their next meeting, to approve changing their meeting of May 15th to May 22nd to coincide with the MHSA public hearing. MHSA Manager Hundal added the public hearing is hosted by the Commission and the Commission will be requesting approval of the MHSA Plan from the Governing Board and after approval, the Plan will then be submitted to the State. She explained staff will be ready to implement any changes to the Plan without having to wait for the State's approval as long as Tri-City has proof the State has received the Plan. The only requirement is that the Governing Board adopts the Plan. She then stated staff will be presenting at the hearing data results for the purpose of accountability of the programs.

At 3:40 p.m. Commissioner Perez arrived at the meeting.

MHSA Manager Hundal then spoke about the presentations that will take place during the public hearing, such as discussing the programs at the Wellness Center, housing, and the community capacity building program. The presentation will also include how Tri-City has touched lives in the last two years through Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training, Supplemental Crisis, changes to the Peer-To-Peer counseling program, and the navigators' presence in the community.

Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro said in regards to the MHFA, two community mental health trainers are going to be trained in the new MHFA program for 13-16 years old, noting staff is focusing on a campaign of raising a new generation of community members that are mental health aware, compassionate, understanding, and becoming part of a fully integrated community.

Chair Bloom sought clarification in connection with MHFA youth training or MHFA training for adults working with the youth.

Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro indicated trainers are currently training adults ages 16 years old and above and, with the new program, staff can also focus on training the youth at the high school level; therefore, staff will get certified to train youth between the ages of 13 and 16 years old. MHSA Manager Hundal added the MHFA program has expanded to develop a curriculum for those individuals that cannot attend the 12 hours of training that are required to obtain MHFA certification. The curriculum is three hours long designed to educate and help individuals learn about mental health and not for certification.

Governing Board Liaison Lyons stated MHFA training was going to be based uniquely defined by the needs of the community, including the training of adults working with the youth. MHSA Manager Hundal replied in the affirmative, noting staff is not abandoning the initial plan; rather expanding the curriculum to include youth training in mental health and reaching out to our local schools.

Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro stated the written plan of the MHSA will highlight the Full Service Partnerships, Supplemental Crisis, Field Capable Services for seniors, CET programs, and Integrations Project. She explained during the hearing there will be a presentation on the CET program which is a 48-week curriculum and an evidence based program. She said there been some challenges on this area because of the weekly regiment that consumers have to maintain and some have dropped-off. Regarding the Full Service Partnerships, staff has analyzed how much was done, how well it was done, and is anyone better off, focusing on how well it is being done. The way staff provides service at Tri-City it is a higher lever than the greater Los Angeles County service area. In a FSP, a minimum of nine hours of contact a week should be provided and Tri-City is averaging closer to 12 hours of contact a week. She also said staff is currently conducting a participant survey to determine if they are better off, moving through the system of care, and if we are really maximizing the benefits of FSP for the long-term sustainability of the program. She noted Tri-City is meeting the needs of our community, has not turned anyone away, or make anyone wait longer than a week to have their first initial session with their treatment team. Regarding Field Capable Services for seniors, there has been a drastic reduction of referrals and staff is not aware of the reason it is taking place. Lastly, she stated Supplemental Crisis is an underutilized service and will recommend expanding the definition of the Supplemental Crisis Program to include non Tri-City clients requiring crisis intervention and hospitalization. She explained Tri-City is already providing these services through the outpatient budget and is being impacted in such a way, often times Tri-City does not have the staffing to provide this service.

Governing Board Representative Dr. Lyons inquired where are the individuals referred to when they are treated in crisis and do not live within the Tri-City catchment area. Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro replied if the person is hospitalized, it is the duty of the hospitals' discharge team to find a referral within the Los Angeles County area. However, if the person lives within our catchment area and is not a client yet, staff will ask the hospital to discharge the person to Tri-City and we will provide services with the client's permission. She then talked about the Integrations Program stating staff is cross-training to find out about clients that we share and ensuring they are getting the proper treatment. She added staff will be also discussing the Urban Farming Project as it appears the way staff envisioned the project to be implemented is not clearly stated in the original the plan; therefore, changes will be made to the plan and discussed at the annual update and presentation.

Commissioner Perez inquired when activities under Urban Farming Program were taking place at the farming site on Garey Avenue. Executive Director Duff stated programming activities is a concern and the reason for changes to the Urban Farming Program. Governing Board Representative Dr. Lyons recommended having the program title change from "urban farming" to "therapeutic horticulture" to reflect the therapeutic needs of the clients. Staff stated was a great suggestion. Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro noted there are participants in the program; however, the program has not been able to expand due to the restrictions of the site. Commissioner Perez also noted the farming location was not accessible. MHSA Manager Hundal stated urban farming classes will expand to the Wellness Center when not required to be outdoors.

Executive Director Duff stated the MHSa Plan Update in May is an opportunity for self-evaluation, self-monitoring, and to make adjustments if necessary. Also, staff will be asking for modification on some of the housing funds since the funds currently allocated will be used for the three current housing projects in Pomona and La Verne. Staff will ask to allocate approximately \$300,000 to continue with a project in Claremont, noting the funds are available; however, they have not been officially allocated for this project.

Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro indicated Tri-City has a Capital Facilities and Technology Plan that has yet to be designed and its funding of \$2.6 million allocated during 10 years. It was staff's understanding that to use those funds, the plan had to be completed. However, in reviewing the guidelines thoroughly, funds can be allocated to use for a partial plan. Since there were growing technology needs that were funded from monies not allocated specifically for this plan, staff will present adopting of Capital Facilities and Technology Partial Plan to cover these costs.

Chair Bloom inquired if there will be a summary presentation of the proposed projects under the Capital Facilities and Technology Plan. Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro replied in the negative, noting the summary will be part of the written Plan, but it will not be part of the annual presentation update due to time constraints.

MHSa Manager Hundal reminded the Commissioners about the Sweethearts of the Agency event to honor Tri-City volunteers for their commitment to service.

Chair Bloom thanked staff for printing business cards with Tri-City's referral number to hand out to the community.

V. REPORTS

Executive Director Duff presented a report regarding the difference in the construction of affordable housing cost and the market value in response to a concern expressed by a Board Member at the Governing Board meeting of January. He then reported staff members attended a training webinar by the Los Angeles County of Mental Health regarding some of the implications the Affordable Health Care Act will have for mental health agencies. He then spoke about information provided by the CMHDA regarding California Health Benefit Exchange. He then announced Dr. Lyons doing a lot of work to ensure we are doing the right thing for Tri-City area.

VI. COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Governing Board Representative Dr. Lyons expressed concern regarding the manner in which integration plans under the Affordable Care Act have evolved. He hoped there was an opportunity to encourage local health care providers to put an independent stand alone exchange qualified health care plan for our region. Unfortunately, this is no longer possible; however, there is an opportunity to be involved with the regional education programs under the Affordable Health Care Plan implementation program. Dr. Lyons reported the Dean of School of Community and Global Health at CGU had submitted a Letter of Intent to submit an Application for the Outreach and Education Grant Program that is mandated by the Act and implemented by the State. He indicated there are

approximately \$40 million available for state wide implementation of educational programs and the Los Angeles County will be receiving approximately \$20 million of those funds to implement these programs. He then distributed information about the Grant Application for the Commission review. He added the grant funds will provide coverage to eleven communities, the catchment area of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, and encouraged the Commission to support the Grant Application.

Executive Director expressed appreciation for Dr. Lyon's efforts and for all the research conducted. He stated Tri-City staff sees education and outreach of the Affordable Health Care Act as their responsibility, noting that having a partnership will organize us at a higher level on a regional approach. He then announced staff will seek Governing Board approval for Tri-City's support of the Grant Application at their meeting in February. He then asked the Commission to express any concerns they might have regarding Tri-City supporting the Grant Application.

Secretary MacLaren inquired if Tri-City's role will be that of a provider. Governing Board Representative Dr. Lyons replied in the negative, noting Tri-City will not be impacted outside the Affordable Health Care Act. Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro stated Tri-City serves those participating in Medi-Cal and Medicaid; and under the Affordable Health Care Act, more people will qualify to obtain these services.

Secretary MacLaren inquired what the eleven communities were. Executive Director Duff replied Chino, Chino Hills, Claremont, Diamond Bar, La Verne, Montclair, Ontario, Pomona, Rancho Cucamonga, San Dimas, and Upland.

Commissioner Perez inquired if the County of the San Bernardino will be submitting its own grant. Governing Board Representative Dr. Lyons replied in the affirmative, noting with the amount of existing infrastructure outreach and education will be more efficient by targeted areas and a defined population can be better identified.

Commissioner Perez inquired if, with the approval of this grant, Tri-City will be able to expand its services to those not covered under Medi-Cal and Medicaid. Director of Clinical Program Services Navarro replied in the affirmative for health care information and referral.

Commissioner Perez spoke about the conclusion of the data contained on the affordable housing cost vs. market value cost analysis, noting the affordable housing projects are not more expensive to produce. He also inquired if the construction cost will decrease if studios were built instead of 3 or 4 bedroom apartments. Executive Director Duff explained construction of affordable housing projects is not more expensive when six costs factors are removed. He added construction cost is based on square footage between \$300 - \$350 and Tri-City projects are at the lower end of the cost.

Commissioner Perez then inquired regarding how do NOI loans work. Executive Director Duff explained if at the end of the year there is net revenue available, the developer has to pay back the loan to the MHSA Plan; however, because of the way in which the subsidies are structured, it is unlikely that there will be any net profit for a developer.

Discussion ensued regarding how the federal government vouchers are used to subsidize MHSA housing.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:47 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission their meeting of February 12, 2013 was adjourned to the next Regular Meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2013, at 3:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, Executive Assistant