



# HOPE. WELLNESS. COMMUNITY.

Let's find it together.

Founded in 1960  
by the residents

of Pomona,  
Claremont and La  
Verne.

**MISSION:** *By understanding the needs of consumers and families, Tri-City Mental Health Authority provides high quality, culturally competent behavioral health care treatment, prevention and education in the diverse cities of Pomona, Claremont, and La Verne.*

## TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

### MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

#### REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2024 AT 3:30 P.M.

**Meeting Location: MHS Administration Building  
2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767**

**To join the meeting on-line click on the following link:**

[https://tricitymhs-org.zoom.us/j/82036111832?pwd=k\\_YofzyiH\\_7ELN8TyOT3UfhpSTb3FgdX.QImxmb1nkp6el-JA](https://tricitymhs-org.zoom.us/j/82036111832?pwd=k_YofzyiH_7ELN8TyOT3UfhpSTb3FgdX.QImxmb1nkp6el-JA)  
**Passcode: xm.T07sV**

#### **Administrative Office**

1717 North Indian Hill  
Boulevard, Suite B  
Claremont, CA 91711  
Phone (909) 623-6131  
Fax (909) 623-4073

#### **Clinical Office / Adult**

2008 North Garey Avenue  
Pomona, CA 91767  
Phone (909) 623-6131  
Fax (909) 865-9281

#### **Clinical Office / Child & Family**

1900 Royalty Drive, Suite 180  
Pomona, CA 91767

Phone (909) 766-7340

Fax (909) 865-0730

#### **MHSA Administrative Office**

2001 North Garey Avenue  
Pomona, CA 91767  
Phone (909) 623-6131  
Fax (909) 326-4690

#### **Wellness Center**

1403 North Garey Avenue  
Pomona, CA 91767  
Phone (909) 242-7600  
Fax (909) 242-7691

***Public Participation.*** Section 54954.3 of the Brown Act provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Mental Health Commission (MHC) on any item of interest to the public, before or during the consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. Therefore, members of the public are invited to speak on any matter on or off the agenda. If the matter is an agenda item, you will be given the opportunity to address the legislative body when the matter is considered. If you wish to speak on a matter which is not on the agenda, you will be given the opportunity to do so at the Public Comment section. **No action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the Agenda. The Chair reserves the right to place limits on duration of comments.**

*In-person participation: raise your hand when the Chair invites the public to speak.*

*Online participation: you may provide audio public comment by connecting to the meeting online through the zoom link provided; and use the Raise Hand feature to request to speak.*

*Please note that virtual attendance is a courtesy offering and that technical difficulties shall not require that a meeting be postponed.*

*Written participation: you may also submit a comment by writing an email to [molmos@tricitymhs.org](mailto:molmos@tricitymhs.org). All email messages received by 12:30 p.m. will be shared with the Mental Health Commission before the meeting.*

*Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by Tri-City Mental Health Authority to all or a majority of the MHC less than 72 hours prior to this meeting, are available for public inspection at 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd., Suite B, in Claremont during normal business hours.*

*In compliance with the American Disabilities Act, any person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should contact JPA Administrator/Clerk Mica Olmos at (909) 451-6421 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.*

## **POSTING OF AGENDA**

The Agenda is posted 72 hours prior to each meeting at the following Tri-City locations: Clinical Facility, 2008 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona; Wellness Center, 1403 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona; Royalty Offices, 1900 Royalty Drive #180/280 in Pomona; MHSA Office, 2001 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona; and on the Tri-City's website: <http://www.tricitymhs.org>

## **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Henderson calls the meeting to Order.

## **ROLL CALL**

Anne Henderson – *Chair*

Wray Ryback – *Vice-Chair*

Carolyn Cockrell – GB Liaison

Clarence D. Cernal

Isabella A. Chavez

Joan M. Reyes

Twila L. Stephens

Toni L. Watson

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

- I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE DECEMBER 20, 2023 GOVERNING BOARD AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR JOINT MEETING**
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 9, 2024 MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**
- III. PRESENTATION - OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) THROUGH PROPOSITION 1 ON THE MARCH 2024 BALLOT INITIATIVE, AND ITS PROJECTED IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND PROGRAMS**
- IV. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT**

## **COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Commissioners are encouraged to make brief comments or request information about mental health needs, services, facilities, or special problems that may need to be placed on a future Mental Health Commission Agenda. In addition, this is an opportunity to provide reports on their activities.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Public may speak regarding any Tri-City Mental Health Authority related issue. No action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the Agenda. The Chair reserves the right to place limits on duration of comments.

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## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next Regular Meeting of the **Mental Health Commission** will be held on **Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.**, in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

MICAELA P. OLMOS  
JPA ADMINISTRATOR/CLERK



## MINUTES

### **JOINT MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AND THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION DECEMBER 20, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Regular Joint Meeting of the Governing Board and Mental Health Commission was held on Wednesday, December 20, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the MHSA Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Leano called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** Roll call was taken by JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos.

#### GOVERNING BOARD

PRESENT: Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Chair  
John Nolte, City of Pomona, Vice-Chair  
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Wendy Lau, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Board Member  
Beverly Johnson, City of Pomona, Alternate Board Member

ABSENT: Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member

#### MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

PRESENT: Anne Henderson, Chair  
Wray Ryback, Vice-Chair  
Clarence D. Cernal  
Joan M. Reyes  
Twila L. Stephens  
Toni L. Watson

ABSENT: Isabella A. Chavez  
Nichole Perry

#### STAFF

PRESENT: Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer  
Amy Grayson, Deputy General Counsel  
Elizabeth Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer  
Dana Barford, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services  
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer  
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

**AGENDA ITEM NO. I**

## **PRESENTATION**

### **A. TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY HOUSING OVERVIEW**

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria explained that homelessness refers to an individual or a family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, and pointed out that within, there is a subgroup of individuals who are considered unsheltered, which is living long-term in places that are not meant for habitation such as riverbeds, parks, behind buildings, etc. She distinguished between homeless individuals and individuals who are homeless that are unsheltered in order to accurately present the 2023 statistics that were gathered from the annual Point-In-Time count, that is the count of sheltered and unsheltered persons experiencing homelessness conducted by the Los Angeles County, noting that that there is another one coming up and Tri-City Mental Health Authority will be participating. She provided the 2023 statistics noting that there was a 14% increase in visible identification of unsheltered individuals when compared with the 2022 statistics both nationwide and locally; that Point In Time count data from 2022 showed that Claremont identified 26 individuals, La Verne identified 41, Pomona identified 716, and 6 were identified in the unincorporated areas of Pomona. She added that the housing presentation will discuss the efforts in place by Tri-City Mental Health Authority (TCMHA) to assist individuals experiencing homelessness, including the programs provided by the Housing Program.

Housing Manager Monzon provided an overview of TCMHA Housing Program, and stated that 'housing is mental wellbeing'; that the TCMHA Housing team strives to be 'Housing First' focused; that they work with the Coordinated Entry System (CES), which does not ask about the ability to maintain housing when it comes to an individual's eligibility for a housing program. She then introduced the Housing Department Team, stating that everyone has their own specialty and there is not much overlap: 1) Jose Castaneda, ensures there is communication between the teams and certain clients within TCMHA; 2) Dwight Pennington, housing navigator who receives the open referrals; 3) Elaine Hernandez, works with the landlords hosting monthly workshops and sessions to help them better support their tenants; 4) the three Residential Services Coordinators (RSC), who although they have similar jobs, they tend different properties with a different developer and property manager and that each one of them are specialists for their specific assigned property; 5) Cynthia Vega, Housing Supervisor who oversees staff and provides direct supervision; and her position as the Housing Manager, who helps with building the programs and continues to find ways to assist the community. She then provided a timeline from the time she became Housing Manager beginning in 2017, and reported that in June 2018, TCMHA began to participate in the Coordinated Entry System, an online database system used by the Los Angeles County to coordinate and identify who are the most vulnerable individuals in the County and match them to housing, and explained the CES process to connect individuals to services and stay connected with all the other agencies. She then stated that in December of 2021, TCMHA identified a more streamlined vision for funding, and a set plan for each client; and shared different examples of crisis situations that would call for a motel voucher or assistance to catch up with rent, which TCMHA is able to help with, and at the same time ensuring that clients are also utilizing outside resources. She then stated that in 2022, the need for ROI's (Release of Information) became clear, and now it is a standard protocol between the housing team and the clinical team for added safety and client privacy protection, pointing out that a ROI must be in file before any staff member from one department can speak to the medical provider of that specific client. She added that in 2023, CARE (Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment) Court was implemented and staff is ready for any changes that need to be made.

Chair Leano inquired about the elimination of open-ended hotel stays and the status of housing stock that was used to provide housing for those who needed housing. Housing Manager Monzon replied that they eliminated motel stays that were not a definite amount of time, and that now there needs to be a subsequent coordinated plan for clients to move forward with a motel stay.

Housing Manager Monzon explained a few 'Housing First' principles that TCMHA abides by which include immediate access to permanent housing with no housing readiness requirement and harm reduction, noting that it is helping clients diminish whatever has not allowed them to maintain housing or work. She added that TCMHA staff work with the Los Angeles County to determine the assistance the clients are eligible to receive, and also work with the client to create an individualized plan; and discussed the various Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) funded through the MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) Housing Program; that TCMHA now has a presence in housing and individuals can come to them to get services. She reported that TCMHA has 21 units reserved at Parkside; 25 units at Holt; 8 units focused on TAY (Transition-Aged Youth) at Cedar Springs; and at 10 units at Villa Esperanza.

Commissioner Watson inquired if the Transition Aged Youth must relocate after they age out. Housing Manager Monzon replied in the negative, stating that once they are in the building, it is their home until they no longer choose to live there; and explained the housing selection process for TAY, noting that the property managers assist in maintaining the housing while TCMHA staff provides support.

Chair Leano inquired about the difference between MHSA units and VASH units, and if they are also PSH. Housing Manager Monzon replied in the affirmative, noting that VASH units are PSH reserved for Veterans. Chair Leano then sought clarification regarding TCMHA having 72 units of PSH within the four properties combined. Housing Manager Monzon replied in the affirmative.

Board Member Vera inquired about the status of the waitlist. Housing Manager Monzon responded that there is no waitlist; however, it is similar to the CES matcher; that they identify everyone in the agency when they come in, and identify if anyone is homeless; and explained the various steps to confirm who matches the income requirement and the household size request.

Discussion ensued regarding how it is determined if an individual is able to live independently in supportive housing, which does not have to be established since PSH is based on the 'Housing First' principle and if someone is the next person who is eligible to apply, they are assisted in the application process and also TCMHA staff works with them to maintain their health. For situations where an individual has severe mental health issues that hinder them from being independent, TCMHA staff connects that individual with services, such as an in-home support service.

Housing Manager Monzon shared about upcoming housing projects using the No Place Like Home (NPLH) funding. She explained that TCMHA applied for the competitive NPLH funding in partnership with the Cesar Chavez Foundation that will develop a 90-unit housing project, and 9 of those units will be reserved for TCMHA, noting that the groundbreaking was this past June; and that it is expected to have the units ready to lease within the next year. She added that TCMHA also applied for non-competitive NPLH funds with Restore Neighborhoods Los Angeles (RNLA) for the Claremont Housing Project for seniors ages 60 and up; that this project will be a partnership with the City of Claremont and Genesis Los Angeles; that it will be a total of 15 units and 8 of those units will be reserved for TCMHA.

Housing Manager Monzon continued to share how TCMHA staff helps clients maintain housing; that they do not expect clients or individuals to live in the housing permanently, but they allow it to be a space where they can figure out plan to maintain housing on their own. She pointed out that they work with Continuum of Care, which is in both Los Angeles County and Pomona; that they have housing certificates that allow people who have a disability to be able to find housing where they only pay 30% of their income; and discussed the difference between the Continuum of Care Certificate and the Housing Choice Voucher (or Section 8 housing) and how individuals qualify for each. She then stated that the property located on Park Avenue in Pomona is owned by TCMHA and it was converted into 8 apartment units; that a property management company manages the property; and those housed have either a voucher or certificate. She then talked about Hope for Home (H4H), stating that TCMHA pays for 31 beds and 28 of these beds are for active clients that are enrolled in services such as AOP, FSP, or TAY; and that three beds are reserved for the Intensive Outreach And Engagement Team for when they work with individuals who are not fully in services, they place them in one of those beds while working on getting them into services. She also stated that in 2022, the TCMHA team began to work closely to bridge some of the communication gaps between TCMHA and H4H due to the difference in housing terminology and clinical terminology, and by having access to the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), an online database for all individuals who are homeless; and explained how it is utilized to connect individuals to services. She then talked about the various housing opportunities that come through SPA Los Angeles County; provided the Fiscal Year 2022-23 TCMHA housing referrals;

Discussion ensued regarding referrals within TCMHA, from the clinical team to the housing team; about the increase in housing referrals; about identifying resources when it is not possible to provide housing and connect individuals with health advocates to apply for SSI or to the wellness center employment specialists; and about how overall, the housing team can assist the individual in working towards their goal; and about the increase in the number of people who are homeless is a direct result of the moratorium, the financial assistance and the Covid-19 pandemic.

Housing Manager Monzon continued with her presentation and provided the fair market rent for each county developed by the Housing and Urban Development (HUD), noting that it increases annually.

Commissioner Ryback inquired about the San Bernardino County rates. Housing Manager Monzon responded that she does not have those numbers but they are not far off from the Los Angeles County rates; that staff makes sure to have housing listings available for anyone who is interested and sometimes they will include housing in the neighboring areas such as San Bernardino County.

Commissioner Reyes inquired what determines a fair market rate. Housing Manger Monzon stated that HUD determines the fair market rate. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria shared from the HUD website that a fair market rate is generally calculated as the 40th percentile of gross rents for regular standard quality units in a local housing market. Discussion ensued and it was concluded that although the numbers are 10% lower than the midpoint, real rents run higher than the numbers shown.

Housing Manager Monzon shared about the Housing Stability Project, which is a way to create positive relationships between mental health providers, landlords, property managers, and clients with a focus on TAY; and indicated that there are three groups that they host for the community: 1) Open Door; 2) the Roommate 101 class; and 3) the Good Tenant Curriculum.

Discussion ensued regarding tenant programs being available to the community and not only for TCMHA clients, which are also hosted at non-TCMHA associated properties; about other agencies that offer similar kinds of housing opportunities in the area beside TCMHA, such as the Union Station Homeless Services, Volunteers of America, Prototypes, Foothill Aids Project and David and Margaret; and about how funding can be set aside for TCMHA housing since there is no money designated for housing at this time.

Chair Leano thanked Housing Manager Monzon for the presentation and shared that a similar presentation was given by the previous Executive Director in the Summer of 2019; that in the previous presentation, an appropriate number of housing units was shared and inquired about the optimum number of permanent supportive housing units TCMHA should have for the next 5 and 10 years, since it looks like TCMHA is in need of increasing capacity as well as increasing capacity for those in FSP who have no capacity to pay; and that that increasing capacity should be the focus; and requested that this information be presented at the next stakeholder process.

Discussion ensued regarding census data and how it might be used to determine the need for housing; about the current housing stock and about how any new development opportunities for consideration would require funding to be secured for the acquisition, or a TCMHA collaboration with a landowner that wants Permanent Supportive Housing.

Board Member Vera shared that the Los Angeles County is encouraging a network of licensed adult residential care facilities to treat the homeless and mentally ill; that they are trying to get legislation to increase subsidies for individuals who do that.

## **MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2023**

There being no discussion, Commissioner Watson moved, and Commissioner Cernal seconded, to approve the Mental Health Commission Minutes of its Regular Meeting of September 12, 2023. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: GB Liaison Cockrell, Commissioners Cernal, Reyes, Stephens, and Watson; Vice-Chair Ryback; and Chair Henderson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Chavez and Perry.

Chair Henderson noted that there were no Minutes for the October or November Mental Health Commission meetings since there was no quorum.

### **2. SELECTION OF AN AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO PREPARE THE 2023 DATA NOTEBOOK FOR LOCAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

Commissioner Ryback inquired if they were asking for volunteers. Chair Henderson responded in the affirmative. Commissioner Cernal requested a summary of tasks to be completed.

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services shared that historically, they have 3-4 individuals in an ad-hoc committee who work closely with TCMHA staff because they are able to provide the information needed. She added that they will go through the template, complete an electronic survey, and then present their findings to the Governing Board.



Chair Henderson mentioned that it is a lot easier than it used to be and she called for volunteers who would be interested.

Commissioners Watson, Reyes and Cernal, and Vice-Chair Ryback, volunteered to create the Ad-Hoc Data Notebook Committee. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: GB Liaison Cockrell, Commissioners Cernal, Reyes, Stephens, and Watson; Vice-Chair Ryback; and Chair Henderson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Chavez and Perry.

Board Member Vera inquired about the lack of quorum for the last two Mental Health Commission meetings. Chair Henderson responded by stating that she believes it is both sickness and confusion about the notification of the meeting since JPA Clerk/Administrator Olmos was out and it came from another staff member.

Discussion ensued regarding the number needed for quorum, the number of Commissioners required to be in the MHC, and the recruitment process for Commissioners.

JPA Clerk/Administrator Olmos mentioned that she will provide an agenda report for the next meeting for the Board to create an Ad-Hoc Committee to select new Commissioners; thereafter, the Ad-Hoc Committee will make its recommendation to the Board for approval.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Chair Leano pulled Agenda Item Nos. 5 and 6 from the Consent Calendar for discussion.

Board Member Lantz announced that she will abstain from Item No. 3 since she was not present. Chair Leano also noted that he will be abstaining for not attending the meeting.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Nolte moved, and Board Member Vera seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar Items 3 and 4. The motion was carried by the following vote, with Board Member Lantz abstaining from approval of Agenda Item No. 3: AYES: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Cockrell, Lau, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Board Member Lantz; and Chair Leano. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

#### **3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 9, 2023 GOVERNING BOARD ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: "A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Adjourned Regular Meeting of August 9, 2023."

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 15, 2023 GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: "A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Regular Meeting of November 15, 2023."

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 727 ESTABLISHING THE 2024 MEETING SCHEDULE OF THE TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

Chair Leano explained that he pulled Agenda Item No. 5 due to the addition of a June 19th meeting, which is on a federal holiday. He asked if all the Board Members were in favor of meeting on June 12th instead of Wednesday, June 19th. No one was opposed, therefore, he proposed to amend the meeting schedule to add the June 12th meeting instead of June 19th.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Board Member Lau moved, and Vice-Chair Nolte seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 727 establishing the dates, time, and place where the Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission Meetings are held. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Lau, and Vera; Vice-Chair Nolte; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

### **6. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 728 ADOPTING TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY'S PUBLISHED RATES EFFECTIVE FY 2022-23**

Board Member Lantz sought clarification about the rates being listed as Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Chief Financial Officer Acosta responded by stating that it has been a standard practice over the last several years because under the previous arrangement and due to Cal AIM, they are under a different arrangement. She explained that prior to Cal AIM being implemented, they were not on a cost reimbursement type of basis with the County of Los Angeles; that at the end of every fiscal year, they are to complete a cost report; that at this time, the 2023 report has not been submitted, but it has been completed by TCMHA but the County has yet to provide the final form for TCMHA to complete; that because of TCMHA's rates, the published rates need to be higher than rates they actually submit or claim to the county; that they need to publicize the rates and make them effective as of the beginning of last fiscal year.

Discussion ensued about the process of receiving cost reports and reimbursements from LA County.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Board Member Lantz moved, and Vice-Chair Nolte seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 728 establishing TCMHA's Published Rates effective Fiscal Year 2022-23. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Lau, and Vera; Vice-Chair Nolte; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

### **7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 729 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A SUBORDINATION AND INTERCREDITOR AGREEMENT WITH RESTORE NEIGHBORHOODS, LA, INC. (RNLA) AND THE LENDERS OF THE CLAREMONT GARDENS SENIOR HOUSING PROJECT AT 956 W BASELINE ROAD IN CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA**

Chief Financial Officer Acosta shared that this is a document that has been brought to the Board in the past. She added that it is for the Claremont Gardens project on Baseline Road that was mentioned earlier; that they recently had a groundbreaking ceremony a couple weeks ago. She expressed that the document has gone through some changes; that the project has gone through a long pause due to a gap in funding. She mentioned that the developer reached out to a couple of the funders, and he was able to get the funding; that the document has now been updated and revised to include those changes. She concluded by adding that nothing has been changed on TCMHA's end; that she was hoping to have the developer join the meeting to answer any questions, but she noted that he is not present due to illness.

Board Member Lantz inquired about the order of the subordination or if the ranking is based on the amount of the loan. Chief Financial Officer Acosta responded in the affirmative and stated that it is due to not only the amounts but also the requirements for the funders and parties to the project; that TCMHA is third; that one of the things that came up were specific requirements that the City of Claremont needed in order to move forward. She added that they had the document reviewed by their legal counsel as well.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Board Member Vera moved, and Board Member Lau seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 729 authorizing the Executive Director to execute a new "Subordination and Intercreditor Agreement" for the Claremont Gardens senior housing project. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Lau, and Vera; Vice-Chair Nolte; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

**8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 730 APPROVING THE SUBCONTRACTOR AGREEMENT FOR THE HUD CONTINUUM OF CARE PROGRAM WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (LACDA); AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT**

Board Member Lantz inquired if she was required to recuse from discussion on this item because her position on the LA County Continuum Board. JPA Clerk/Administrator Olmos replied in the negative and then explained that this contract is to receive the housing vouchers that Housing Manager Monzon referred to earlier during the housing presentation; that the contract is renewed annually in order to receive the vouchers for the Continuum of Care Program.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no comment, Vice-Chair Nolte moved, and Chair Leano seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 730 Authorizing the Executive Director to execute the Subcontractor Amendment with LACDA for the HUD Continuum of Care Program. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member Johnson; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Lau, and Vera; Vice-Chair Nolte; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole.

**MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS**

**9. RIMMI HUNDAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Chair Leano noted that Executive Director Hundal was absent and Chief Financial Officer Acosta will be sharing the report in her absence.

Chief Financial Officer Acosta updated the Governing Board regarding the SB 43 implementation; that she attended the Board of Supervisor meeting, and it was indicated that Los Angeles County will not be implanting the legislation until 2026. She concluded by informing the Board that she can pass along any further questions to Executive Director Hundal.

#### **10. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT**

Chief Financial Officer Acosta updated the Governing Board regarding cash flow and the latest payments received from Los Angeles County; that they identified that as of December 14, they received \$970,000 from LA County and that is for payment for services they provided for 2022-2023. She added that they also received an additional \$1 million a few days ago.

She updated the Board regarding the status of the financial audit for TCMHA. She mentioned that although they typically bring forth their independent audit financial statements in the October meeting, they are not able to do that as of yet. She explained that they are still working on the implementation of the new governmental accounting standard (GASB 96); that they hope to bring another update next month; that the hope is to get the financial statements issued and presented to the Governing Board closer to the March meeting. She noted that after a certain timeline, auditors tend to get busy with other clients and they may not have the opportunity to come back to TCMHA and finish when they are ready; that it is a matter of scheduling but she will continue to update the Governing Board.

Board Member Vera inquired if there is a government code provision that government agencies have to submit and audit by a certain date. Chief Financial Officer Acosta responded by stating that it is based on funding; that at this point, TCMHA is beholden to provide financial statements to TCMHA partners, such as the city of Claremont, La Verne, and Pomona; that they have been in contact with each partner to let them know of the delays they are experiencing.

Board Member Vera inquired if other County mental health agencies are experiencing similar delays. Chief Financial Officer Acosta responded in the affirmative, stating that she believes there are delays in government agencies nationwide due to the brand-new standard being implemented.

#### **11. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER REPORT**

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria highlighted the work that the Therapeutic Community Garden has been doing. She shared about a few of the outreach events in November including one at the Wellness Center where they provided a workshop as well as the Fall in the Farm highlight event, and an event at Garon Elementary School. She shared that they provided a workshop called, 'Finding your Calm' and they were able to work with students there on integrating their sensory to prepare for things like stressful events and mindfulness. She concluded by stating that it was a good month of outreach; that the Therapeutic Community Garden team is continually trying to outreach to the TAY (Transition Aged Youth) and the young population for these types of activities.

Board Member Lantz commented about the low attendance at the Garon Elementary School workshop. She inquired if they were planning to host any more workshops at other local schools. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria mentioned she would check with her team and get back to Board Member Lantz.

**12. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT**

Chair Leano noted that Medical Director Teimoori was not present and asked if there was a replacement. Chief Financial Officer Acosta shared that Crisis Intervention and Medication Support Manager Smith is present. There were no questions.

**13. DANA BARFORD, DIRECTOR OF MHSA AND ETHNIC SERVICES REPORT**

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford highlighted a few stakeholder meetings that have happened. She shared that they have been successful; that they have connected with up to 126 individuals; that they are going about it with a different approach with smaller stakeholder gatherings, but the conversations have been full of great feedback. She also shared that they are currently collaborating with NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness); that they hosted a virtual presentation called Our Own Voice; that although there was low participation, there were still great conversations with staff and the speakers. She mentioned that there is another upcoming webinar that is a shorter version of Mental Health First Aid; that they have flyers to share with anyone who is interested.

Board Member Lau thanked Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford for the increased outreach efforts. Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford added that they also have upcoming presentations with Sustainable Claremont and a pending date with Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and the BFW; that if anyone else has any other suggestions to let TCMHA staff know.

Chair Leano suggested connecting with the Claremont Interfaith Council; that they know TCMHA well and that hopefully, staff can attend one of their meetings.

**14. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT**

Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart provided an update for two projects. She shared that they are nearing completion of the Group Treatment Module; that it is a critical piece that assists with access and is also beneficial to the overall treatment for clients. She added that they are also almost done with Incident Reports; that they have been working with the Facilities department and Human Resources to optimize incident reporting; to make it easier to report incidents, track them and have a better follow up system in place. She concluded that they are very near completion for both projects.

Commissioner Ryback commended Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart for the work they are doing to improve incident reporting.

**GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Governing Board Member Cockrell inquired about the Mental Health Commissioner recruitment and the specific criteria.

JPA Clerk/Administrator Olmos responded by sharing that all the requirements are listed on the application, which can be found on the website.

Commissioner Reyes inquired about the job recruitment process for TCMHA. JPA Clerk/Administrator Olmos stated that she will refer her to the Human Resources Department for any questions.

Executive Director Hundal wished everyone a happy holiday.

Chair Leano wished everyone a happy holiday and thanked the staff for their hard work.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:34 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission its meeting of December 20, 2023 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 3:30 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 5:00 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

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Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk



## **MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION JANUARY 9, 2024 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission meeting was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024 at 3:38 p.m. in the MHSA Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Henderson called the meeting to order at 3:38 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** Roll call was taken by JPA Clerk/Administrator Olmos. She announced that she received a letter of resignation from Commissioner Nichole Perry; and that Commissioner Perry thanked the Commission for allowing her to volunteer and wished everyone well in the future.

#### **MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

**PRESENT:** Anne Henderson, Chair  
Wray Ryback, Vice-Chair  
Carolyn Cockrell, GB Member Liaison  
Toni L. Watson  
Joan M. Reyes  
Twila L. Stephens

**ABSENT:** Clarence D. Cernal  
Isabella A. Chavez

#### **STAFF**

**PRESENT:** Rimmi Hundal, Executive Director  
Elizabeth Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer  
Dana Barford, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services  
Andrea Espinosa, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator  
Mica Olmos, JPA Clerk/Administrator

### **REGULAR BUSINESS**

#### **I. PRESENTATION**

##### **A. OVERVIEW OF TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY'S CULTURAL COMPETENCE THREE-YEAR PLAN, FISCAL YEAR 2023-24 TO 2025-26**

Andrea Espinosa, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator of TCMHA, announced that she would talk about TCMHA's Cultural Competence Three-Year Plan (CCP) for Fiscal Years 2023-2024 to 2025-2026. She reported that her team recently submitted the CCP, which is an annual report that is sent to the California Department of Health Care Services (CDHCS).

**AGENDA ITEM NO. II**

DEI Coordinator Espinosa explained that the CCP is a lengthy report that compiles a lot of information regarding what the agency is doing throughout the year, and it shows how TCMHA is keeping its commitment of being an inclusive agency and how its staff are practicing cultural capability in the services they provide. She added that the CCP also highlights the agency's workforce demographic; language capacity; the accessibility to programming within the agency; a variety of other components that allows keeping the cultural lens in the work that the workforce performs; and the community engagement efforts. She then illustrated the components and requirements for the CCP that include adaptation of services and how the community needs are being met while maintaining cultural humility. She also explained the community outreach and engagement efforts and shared some of the events that TCMHA have hosted, including the people staff have connected with throughout the year; and showed pictures from the various events such as the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) Breakfast, the Latino Latina Round Table Breakfast, a 'Loteria Break' event at Café con Libros for May Mental Health Month, and staff attendance to the raising of the Juneteenth Flag at Pomona City Hall, and more. She noted that staff has focused on meeting the community in spaces where they feel comfortable and stated that a complete list of all the community outreach events, trainings and activities, webinars, and various events targeting specific populations were included in the CCP.

Commissioner Reyes inquired about the Native American population and the efforts being made to reach out to them. DEI Coordinator Espinosa stated that the Native American and Indigenous Peoples group continues to be one of the target populations; that it has been difficult to engage everyone; and that it is still in development. She then discussed the various efforts made to establish contact, noting that the Native American and Indigenous Peoples population continues to be a priority.

Discussion ensued regarding the proposed incentives that will be offered through the Innovations Project to outreach to the Native American and Indigenous Peoples; and about the impact that the COVID pandemic has had in attendance in general.

Commissioner Watson inquired if staff has considered the incentive of priority for other programs such as the Community Wellbeing Grants for participating in community workshops and webinars. Executive Director Hundal replied in the negative, noting that it is a good idea and something to consider. DEI Coordinator Espinosa expressed gratitude for the comments and suggestions; that they are really trying to engage the community and finding different ways to interest them.

DEI Coordinator Espinosa continued her presentation and shared that the CCP also contains TCMHA staff demographics and staff language capacity, noting that 33% of staff are bilingual and 27% of staff speak the threshold language. Executive Director Hundal explained that a threshold language is required by State to provide services in a language outside of English that is spoken by recipients of Medi-Cal that are receiving services, noting that the threshold language for TCMHA it is Spanish. DEI Coordinator Espinosa added that it creates a stronger connection when clients are receiving support in their native language.

Discussion ensued about receiving services in the client's native language since translation can sometimes lead to miscommunication.

DEI Coordinator Espinosa also discussed the budget set aside for interpretation and translation services for when there is not a provider that speaks the language; and about the budget for staff training to keep up to date with evolving ideas, ever-changing terminology, and the continued



practice of cultural humility. She also explained that the CCP serves as a roadmap for TCMHA as a whole and allows staff to see the lessons learned and use it as an assessment tool; the shortcomings and successes to inform the next year's work; and shared a few of the lessons learned. She defined the term 'cultural humility', a lifelong commitment to self-evaluation and self-critique, recognition of power dynamic and imbalances, a desire to fix those power imbalances and to develop partnerships with people and groups who advocate for others. DEI Coordinator Espinosa concluded her presentation by encouraging the Mental Health Commissioners to review the CCP, and also thanked them for their time.

## **B. OVERVIEW OF SERVICE CONNECTION EVENT**

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria talked about the work that TCMHA staff did at a service connection event that was held last month. She explained that a Service Connection event is coordinated by the Los Angeles County Chief Executive Officer's Pathway Home Program to resolve homeless encampments around the County; that it was a program designed when cities were able to declare a state of emergency due to the number of individuals that were unsheltered and homeless in the County; and it was developed in an effort to support people that were coming out of homelessness; and that currently, Pathway Home's goal is to reduce the amount of unsheltered homeless individuals in LA County. She then showed a video: '*Pathway Home: Removing RVs [Recreational Vehicles] and Bringing People Home*' produced by the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative. The video gave an overview of the Pathway Home program, showing a participant success story as well as discussing the goal for the program, which is to resolve homeless encampments and assist in placing homeless individuals into interim housing.

After the video concluded, Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that Pathway Home finds individuals living in encampments and they try to link them to services, and provided data from the 2022 Point in Time Count (PTC) showing the number of unsheltered homeless individuals in the communities of Claremont, La Verne, and Pomona. She explained that the Los Angeles County Pathway Home Project worked with a homeless encampment in Pomona and got 43 individuals out of the encampment and placed them at the Sunset Motel; that to facilitate their transition from unsheltered to permanent housing, they provided a service connection event at the Sunset Motel in Pomona on December 15th, noting that TCMHA and the LA County Department of Mental Health were the only two mental health support teams present at the event, along with a range of other service providers; and discussed the various activities during the event where individuals could connect with each organization, make appointments, and walk away with concrete next steps to help support them in their transition. She shared that TCMHA Access to Care (ATC) team and the Full Service Partnership (FSP) team staff were there in order to set up appointments for the individuals and provided preliminary data regarding individuals that were connected to services. She then acknowledged the staff members who were present at the event: Krystal Escobedo, Behavioral Health Specialist from the ATC team; Rosa Ramirez, Senior Behavioral Health Specialist from ATC team; and Tracy Boase, Clinical Therapist from the FSP team. She also indicated that additional partners attending the event included Volunteers of America; the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSO); Animal Care and Control; Department of Health Services; Countywide Benefits and Entitlement Services; Department of Motor Vehicles; Department of Public Health Mobile Vaccine Unit; Department of Public Health and Substance Abuse Prevention and Control; Client Engagement and Navigation Services; Department of Public Social Services Homeless Services; Los Angeles County Homeless Court, Metro Los Angeles; Military and Veteran Affairs; Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk; and Cell Phone Resources as well. She also indicated that all available resources for permanent supportive housing were presented to clients that were there; and that the participants had access

to people that could help them figure out the next steps. She concluded her presentation by showing some reflections from staff members Krystal Escobedo, Tracy Boase, and Rosa Ramirez about the event wherein they shared that it was gratifying for them to be part of the people's transition from unsheltered and unsafe conditions to something more suitable for them.

Commissioner Reyes inquired about the waiting time for Section 8. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria responded that she was not aware, but she will find out and provide her with that information.

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria mentioned that due to TCMHA's participation in the event, the Sunset Motel is referring a lot of people to TCMHA for additional services, noting that it is valuable to attend various events to increase outreach.

Vice-Chair Ryback inquired if the Pathway Home Program is reaching out to other unhoused individuals who are not in RV or tent encampments. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied in the negative, noting that this program focuses on resolving large congregations of homeless individuals, such those living in RVs and tent encampments, however, that there are other outreach teams that are reaching out to other unhoused individuals; and that Pathway Home does an audit across the County, have identified areas where there are encampments, and are working systematically to serve those individuals who fall under the category of unsheltered.

Discussion ensued regarding individuals who live in their cars.

Chair Henderson commented that she noticed that a few of the partners that attended the event also attend the Pomona Care Coalition; that a TCMHA Housing representative also attends the Pomona Care Coalition. She shared that it is important that TCMHA is connected.

## **II. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT**

Executive Director Hundal talked about upcoming staff training courses on public sector employment, noting that the Mental Health Commission also has access to the trainings and that if they are interested, they can reach out to staff; and that the trainings are conducted by TCMHA's employment law firm, Liebert, Cassidy and Whitmore. She then provided an update regarding COVID-19 and masks in the workplace, stating that in February 2024, in accordance with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health requirements, TCMHA will begin implementing a reduced masking requirement for the healthcare workers, provided that employees receive both the annual flu vaccine as well as the COVID-19 vaccine (the 2023-2024 formula). She pointed out that some individuals may still choose to wear a mask and they are welcome to do that. She also reported that the MHSa Department are working on the Annual MHSa Update; that until Proposition 1 is adopted, staff will continue to work on it; that Director of MHSa and Ethnic Services Barford and MHSa Project Manager Rodriguez are hosting community meetings; that the annual update, when completed, will be posted for a 30-day public comment period; then the Mental Health Commission holds a Public Hearing for the MHSa Annual update, and after it is endorsed, then it is presented to the Governing Board for its approval and adoption; lastly, it is submitted to Sacramento to start receiving MHSa funding for the upcoming year. She then stated that the IT department is working on increasing network speeds and wireless coverage for staff and guests at each of the TCMHA locations. Lastly, she reported that any public agency that receives Medi-Cal and Medi-care funding, is required to provide a Cultural Competency Plan, which TCMHA prepares one annually, even though it is a Three-year Plan, noting that she, Director of MHSa and Ethnic Services Barford and DEI Coordinator Espinosa attend monthly

meetings with the California County Behavioral Health Directors Association to stay current on everything cultural competency related.

Commissioner Watson inquired what is the Cultural Competency Plan based on. Executive Director Hundal explained that TCMHA is required to provide services in the language that the person is most comfortable with, even though Spanish is the threshold language, whether that be Arabic or another language; that they work with an outside agency, the Language Line, which helps with interpretation services for those individuals. She shared that it is good for staff and clinicians to be aware of other cultures and their customs and that it is a skill they are working to keep up with.

Commissioner Reyes referred to Child Protective Services reporting and inquired if TCMHA does child abuse reports. Executive Director Hundal replied in the affirmative, noting that staff work with the Department of Family and Children's Services; and added that other trainings are provided such as sexual harassment, bloodborne pathogens, and cultural competency.

Commissioner Watson inquired if Commissioners were able to join the staff trainings. Executive Director Hundal replied in the affirmative, noting that there are certain trainings for staff only; and that she will share the trainings are they are able to join.

### **COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS**

Chair Henderson mentioned that the Continuum of Care and the City invites TCMHA to participate in the greater Los Angeles County Homeless Count on Tuesday, January 23rd at the Pomona site; that participants can sign up on the website. She also shared that Vice-Chair Ryback and herself attended the ribbon cutting for the new Pomona Valley Pride Center, formerly known as the Pomona Pride Center; that they are in a new location on Mission Street near Main in the bank building, and pointed out that there is a lot more space for programs.

Vice-Chair Ryback added that the new location is very nice, and they have a lot of different volunteer opportunities.

Discussion ensued about the new location and the opportunities for programming in the new building.

Commissioner Reyes shared that there will be a Walk for Innocence, protecting children from sex trafficking and online sexual exploitation, to be held on January 27th at 9:30 a.m. at Bonita High School in La Verne. She shared a description of the event along with statistics regarding human trafficking, stating that self-education and community prevention is the goal of the event; that Bonita High School will be partnering with Innocence Rescue Mission, who is fighting to end human trafficking through work with local law enforcement sectors. She also shared about the Bridge Program created for those who are underinsured and are unable to receive the COVID vaccine; that CVS Pharmacy is a Bridge provider; that although the program ended on December 31, 2023, it may be worthwhile to call if there is any interest; that it is a federally funded program, which allows participants to receive the updated COVID vaccine.

Commissioner Watson shared that Ability First, a nonprofit which helps children and adults with disabilities, will be hosting a free event in Los Angeles the following weekend.

Vice-Chair Ryback reported that she met with Commissioners Reyes and Watson, and MHSA Project Manager Rodriguez to work on the Data Notebook, noting that they have a goal to submit the survey this week; if not able, it will be submitted by next week.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4:35 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its meeting of January 9, 2024 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, February 13, 2024 at 3:30 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

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Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

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**III. PRESENTATION - OVERVIEW OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) THROUGH PROPOSITION 1 ON THE MARCH 2024 BALLOT INITIATIVE, AND ITS PROJECTED IMPACT ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND PROGRAMS**

Presenter: Dana Barford, Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services



Tri-City Mental Health Authority  
**MONTHLY STAFF REPORT**

**DATE:** February 13, 2024  
**TO:** Mental Health Commission of Tri-City Mental Health Authority  
**FROM:** Rimmi Hundal, Executive Director  
**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Monthly Report

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## **BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

February has been designated as Black History Month, also known as African American History month. This month honors the impact African Americans have made in the United States. The celebration was created in 1926 by Carter G. Woodson, a noted African American historian, scholar, educator, and publisher. February was also chosen to coincide with Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays.

**Black History is American History.** This month is a time to acknowledge the impact of systemic racism on Black Mental Health while also creating a space to highlight, celebrate and empower the strengths, wellness, and culture of Black and African American communities. This time provides an opportunity to dig deeper into connections with the past and share an inclusive education on the history and contributions of Black Americans.

Here are some ways you can celebrate Black History Month:

- Take a [virtual tour](#) of the *African American Museum of Beginnings*. This museum is located in Pomona and is open to the public!
- Learn more about [Black Pioneers in Mental Health](#) (Mental Health America)
- Increase your understanding of [Black Wellness](#) (Mental Health America)
- Support and participate in local Black organizations:
  - [NAACP – Pomona Valley Branch](#)
  - [African American Advisory Alliance \(4a's\)](#)
  - [African American Museum of Beginnings](#)
  - [Kennedy Austin Foundation](#)
  - [Black Infants & Families in LA](#)
- [Community Wellbeing Grant Information Night](#)
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- For more information and registration details, visit [Community Wellbeing Grant](#) or contact Daisy Martinez: [dmartinez@tricitymhs.org](mailto:dmartinez@tricitymhs.org).
- **Adult Mental Health First Aid Training**
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can practice to manage and reduce anxiety. Attendees will also learn how to make stress balls with household items. For more information contact Markie Sterner, Clinical Supervisor, and the MHSSA team.

- **MHSSA Father's Group**

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- A conversation between medical/mental health providers and the community to discuss the LGBTQIA+ Community's needs when receiving care from their medical/mental health providers as well as how to navigate potentially difficult conversations with medical/mental health providers.
  - Date: 2/22/2024
  - Time: 4:00 pm-5:30pm
  - Location: Pomona Valley Pride Center 235 W. Mission Blvd, Pomona
- **Kennedy Austin Foundation BOX OF HOPE event**
    - Kennedy Austin Foundation will be partnering with Tri-City Mental Health to host a Box of Hope event for families or individuals who have lost a loved one. Families will receive a Box of Hope containing items of support and assembled by the youth of the Kennedy Austin Foundation. In addition, Tri-City staff will offer resources and present on support services.
    - Date: 2/29/2024
    - Time: 5:00 pm-7:00pm
    - Location: Wellness Center TAY Center 1403 North Garey Ave Pomona

## **MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)**

The MHSA Department will be hosting two stakeholder meetings/Community Forums on Thursday February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00pm and 5:30pm. We will be presenting an update to Tri-City's MHSA projects and programs funded under the MHSA. During these meetings we will also give an overview of proposed changes to MHSA through Proposition 1 on the March 2024 ballot initiative, and its projected impact on mental health services and programs. Both meetings will have the same content.

## **IT UPDATE**

Since our last report, the Information Technology department worked with staff to resolve over 400 inquiries and requests for assistance with hardware and software related issues. In addition to assisting staff, the department also is making efforts to improve the agency cybersecurity posture by providing testing and training for staff. The department is continuing its project of upgrading the network infrastructure for all Tri-City sites – In February the Wellness Center and 2001 MHSA building will be completed.