



## MINUTES

### **JOINT MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD AND THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MAY 17, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Joint Governing Board and Mental Health Commission held on Wednesday, May 17, 2023 at 5:02 p.m. in the MHSA Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Vice-Chair Nolte called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

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

#### GOVERNING BOARD

**PRESENT:** John Nolte, City of Pomona, Vice-Chair  
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Board Member  
Yvonne Duran, City of La Verne, Alternate Board Member  
Jamie Earl, City of Claremont, Alternate Board Member

**ABSENT:** Jed Leano, Chair, City of Claremont  
Wendy Lau, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member

#### MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

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

**ABSENT:** Isabella A. Chavez  
Nichole Perry  
Toni L. Watson

**STAFF:** Rimmi Hundal, Executive Director  
Steven Flower, General Counsel  
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer  
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer  
Elizabeth Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer  
Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director  
Dana Barford, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services  
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

## **PRESENTATION**

### **YOUTH WELLNESS SYMPOSIUM HELD ON APRIL 29, 2023 AT WESTERN UNIVERSITY IN POMONA, FOR 12 - 18 YEAR OLD PERSONS**

Lisa Naranjo, MHSA Program Supervisor -PEI, provided an overview of the Youth Wellness Symposium held on April 29, 2023 at Western University, stating that staff hosted an event specifically for youth since their population has been highly impacted by mental health challenges. She noted that the COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated those mental health challenges; and that staff wanted to create a space for youth to come, participate and get the resources they need. She then referred to the event brochure, which participants received at the event, and pointed out that it listed the keynote speaker, the agenda for the day, and the community partners that collaborated as workshop presenters or to set-up a resource table. She reported that 71 youth participated, with approximately over half of the youth being female and the rest were male or gender fluid. She reported that there was good representation of youth since they identified themselves as being heterosexual, lesbian, or queer, and some opted not to say; that the age ranged from 12 to 18; that the primary language was English followed by Spanish, and some opted not to say; and that ethnicity included Asian, Black, Hispanic, Caucasian and also some that preferred not to say. She then discussed the various activities and resources provided which were related to mental health and wellness, and included over 16 resources, 11 workshops offered 3 times across two different buildings, raffles, and that each participant received a backpack (donated by TCMHA) with giveaways. Lastly, she indicated that throughout the day, the youth were asked for feedback regarding the event; and that they mentioned that they enjoyed lunch and the workshops, the activities were fun, they liked hanging out with friends, and overall it was a great day.

Vice-Chair Nolte inquired if there was a plan to host the event again. MHSA Program Supervisor Naranjo replied in the affirmative adding that they would also like to invite families and provide workshops for the adults since it is likely that the youth will not remember or fully articulate the information received during the event to their families.

Commissioner Cernal inquired how the event was advertised. MHSA Program Supervisor Naranjo responded that it was posted on Tri-City's website and social media; all the social media accounts and websites of the organizations that partnered and collaborated in this event, including the local school districts; and that announcements were posted at Tri-City buildings.

Board Member Cockrell commented that by including families, staff may be able to capture more kids as well.

### **FRAMEWORK OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE, RECOVERY AND EMPOWERMENT (CARE) COURT DESIGNED TO PROVIDE SUPPORT AND CARE TO PEOPLE WITH MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS**

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria provided an overview of CARE Court history, talk about its components, and discussed what the local implementation looks like at this time, noting that it is evolving. She pointed out that her presentation was adapted from the CBHDA's Care Court 101 and other sources. She shared comments by California Governor Gavin Newsom about CARE court; stating that the hope is that it is a shift in how the most vulnerable with specific diagnosis are cared for in the community, which is building on existing investments in mental health and housing. She explained that CARE stands for Community, Assistance, Recovery, and

Empowerment, and it is officially known as Senate Bill 1338 brought forth by Senator Umberg from Santa Ana and Senator Talamantes Eggman from Stockton; and is a new civil process designed to connect individuals that are experiencing schizophrenia spectrum and other psychotic disorders to County Behavioral Health Service from 12 up to 24 months; it is not a criminal court process; it is not for all diagnoses; it is not specifically a housing program; and it is not for those individuals who are considered clinically stable in voluntary care; and the program is building on existing \$14 billion multi-year investment to provide housing units and more than \$10 billion annually in community health and behavioral services. She then provided terminology and talked about the CARE components: the petitioner, an individual who files a petition for someone they believe to be eligible for CARE court; the respondent, an individual who will be the subject of the proceedings; court and judge will be the ones who oversee the proceedings; County Behavioral Health Agency, will be responsible for engaging the respondent and providing health services; the public defender will be responsible for representing the respondent; the County Counsel; and supporters. She then explained the pathway through CARE: people get referred, an evaluation will ensue, a care plan will be developed, support will be provided, and success will be tracked; and also how the CARE Court process will be initiated, which begins by 1) the petitioner filling out the petition form, 2) the court will review the petition to verify the respondent is eligible or may be eligible, and 3) if there is sufficient evidence, then the case is set for an initial appearance within 14 days and directs the County Behavioral Health Agency to evaluate and attempt to engage the respondent into voluntary services. She then discussed the criteria for eligibility, noting that CARE Court is the least restrictive option to ensure recovery and stability and the affected person will likely benefit. She also provided the exclusions of CARE Court, noting that it is not for people with conditions other than schizophrenia, psychotic conditions, and severe mental illness; and it is not for psychosis resulting from traumatic brain injury, autism, dementia, other neurological disorders, or substance abuse disorders; it is not for individuals clinically stabilized in on-going voluntary treatment; lastly, it is not for individuals not at risk of relapse or grave disability. She also explained the Voluntary Services Agreement Process and the Court Ordered Services Process which begin with a petition filed in court, appearance in court, eligibility hearing, a clinical evaluation, then a care plan is developed, followed by a progress hearing, a one-year status hearing, and a graduation or extension, with the only difference between the two processes is that the Voluntary Services Process has a CARE agreement and the Court Services Process does not.

Discussion ensued regarding the housing situation for the individual during the petition, appearance, and hearing process; as there is no placement process that happens when the petition is filed and will be determined with subsequent planning.

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria then indicated that petitions have to be valid otherwise a person can be found to be “vexatious litigant” under California law, if multiple petitions are found that are without merit or intended to harass or annoy, noting that Respondents will have rights, including being represented by an attorney. She added that one of the chief outcomes of the CARE court process is to develop a Care plan that will allow work to be done in collaboration with their supporter, their attorney, or others who are concerned, and will address the best treatment for the individual allowing the opportunity for success and stabilization. She noted that the CARE plan behavioral health treatment services are those limited to Medi-Cal behavioral health, 1991 realignment, 2011 realignment, the Mental Health Services Act, and private insurance to cover the costs of the CARE court evaluations. She then discussed the treatment components which include developing a behavioral health treatment that is clinically appropriate, community based, culturally and linguistically competent, can include short-term stabilization medications, wellness and recovery supports, and connection to local services, and a housing plan if needed.

She then expressed gladness to hear that the County will be potentially offering Psychiatric Advance Directives which are part of the planning for the terminations which can be achieved through a graduation plan or court termination. She pointed out that accountability is built into the process, if the respondent does not participate in the level that is hoped for, it is presumed that the individual needs a higher level of care, i.e. conservatorship or something higher; if the local agencies are found not providing services or making good faith attempts to provide them as indicated by the CARE plan, they can be fined \$1,000 per day up to \$25,000 per violation; and there will also be an annual report by an independent evaluator for the performance of the Department of Health Care Services that will be provided to the legislation in 3 and 5 years regarding progress. Lastly, she reported that the implementation is in progress and the proposed timeline will begin in October 2023 with Cohort 1 (Counties of Glenn, Orange, Riverside, San Diego, San Francisco, Stanislaus, and Tuolumne); Cohort 1.2 (Los Angeles County) will begin in December 2023; and Cohort 2 (the rest of the counties) will begin in December 2024.

Board Member Lantz inquired which Cohort Tri-City is a part of. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied Cohort 1.2, with the Los Angeles County.

Discussion ensued regarding what type of negligence would generate fines; about situations in which the respondent does not agree with, or does not complete, the treatment plan which will likely result in conservatorship; about the outcome if a person does not have a diagnosis yet or has not been in the system before which will require an evaluation and they can still be referred.

Board Member Duran commented that the City of La Verne have met with the County; that a lot of things are still in progress; and they hope to have more questions answered at their next meeting in June. Executive Director Hundal added that L.A. County has a team that is dedicated to CARE Court.

MHC Vice-Chair Ryback inquired who will be the Supporters. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria responded that these are some of the details that are still being determined; that there are a lot of moving parts, noting that the County initially estimated 7,000 people in the State of California; that it is building off existing infrastructure; and that all the details are still being worked out and will report additional information when available.

Discussion ensued about the outreach team having to double their efforts in order to reach the individuals where they are to ensure they attend hearings or meetings; about fines being for negligence in outreach; concerns regarding funding and the potential violation of civil rights under the program; about details about the program still being worked out; and that the information provided is what is available to date.

## **MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 11, 2023**

There being no comment, Vice-Chair Ryback moved, and Commissioner Reyes seconded, to approve the Mental Health Commission Minutes of its Regular Meeting of April 11, 2023. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Governing Board Liaison Cockrell; Commissioners Cernal, Reyes, and Stephens; Vice-Chair Ryback; and Chair Henderson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioners Chavez, Perry, and Watson.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Vice-Chair Nolte opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no comment, Board Member Vera moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was carried by the following vote, with Board Member Lantz abstaining from approval of Agenda Item No. 2: AYES: Alternate Board Members Duran and Earl; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Ontiveros-Cole, Lau; and Chair Leano.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 19, 2023 GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Regular Meeting of April 19, 2023.”

### **3. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 707 ADOPTING A REVISED JOB DESCRIPTION FOR THE HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANT POSITION EFFECTIVE MAY 17, 2023**

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 707 revising the Job Description for the Human Resources Assistant Position, effective May 17, 2023.”

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 708 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF MENTAL HEALTH GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY (NAMI GLAC) TO PROVIDE PEER-LED SUPPORT SERVICES AND EDUCATION CLASSES UNDER TCMHA’S MHSA COMMUNITY SERVICES AND SUPPORTS (CSS) PLAN IN AN AMOUNT NOT-TO-EXCEED \$42,900 BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2026**

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Barford reported that this MOU with NAMI is brought to the Board annually; that the term is changing from one (1) year to three (3) years, from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026; and that the dollar amount will remain the same, \$14,300 per year which shall not exceed \$42,900 over the three years.

Board Member Vera announced he would be abstaining from voting on Items No. 4 and No. 5, citing his wife is one of the Board of Directors of NAMI Pomona Valley. Vice-Chair Nolte then opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Board Member Lantz moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 708 authorizing the Executive Director to execute the MOU with NAMI GLAC to provide peer-led support services and education classes under TCMHA’s MHSA Community Services and Supports Plan in an amount not-to-exceed \$42,900 beginning July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Members Duran and Earl; Board Members Cockrell and Lantz; and Vice-Chair Nolte. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Board Member Vera. ABSENT: Board Members Ontiveros-Cole, Lau; and Chair Leano.

**5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 709 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF MENTAL HEALTH GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY (NAMI GLAC) TO PROVIDE PRESENTATIONS AND TRAINING ON MENTAL HEALTH UNDER TCMHA MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PLAN IN THE AMOUNT \$35,500 BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 – JUNE 30, 2026**

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Barford reported that it has been challenging for NAMI staff to connect with the schools and continue doing presentations and outreach, making it difficult to expend all the funding allocated each year, which leads to leftover funds on the table. She explained that there is no fault with NAMI and it is just the current circumstances. She added that Tri-City staff met with NAMI and stakeholders, and it was recommended to allocate \$35,500 every three years, instead of allocating it annually, so that NAMI can have 3 years to expend those funds, noting that this amount can be revised annually if anything changes; and as a result, \$72,000 that can be reallocated to PEI funds for other PEI programming.

Vice-Chair Nolte opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Alternate Board Member Earl moved, and Alternate Board Member Duran seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 709 authorizing the Executive Director to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with National Alliance of Mental Health Greater Los Angeles County (NAMI GLAC) to provide presentations and training on mental health under TCMHA's MHSA Prevention and Early Intervention Plan in the amount \$35,500 beginning July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2026. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Members Duran and Earl; Board Members Cockrell and Lantz; and Vice-Chair Nolte. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Board Member Vera. ABSENT: Board Members Ontiveros-Cole, Lau; and Chair Leano.

**6. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 710 AUTHORIZING AMENDMENT NO. 2 FOR THREE YEARS IN THE ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$20,952 TO THE AGREEMENT WITH AIRESRING, INC. FOR NETWORK SERVICES MIGRATION PROJECT, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT**

Brian Cesario, IT Systems Administrator & Security Officer, reported that in November 2021 the Board approved an agreement with Airespring to upgrade internet and firewall services in all five buildings; and that it was to be a fiber optic connection as well as a cable broadband connection. However, at the time of a site survey it was determined that the provider for broadband services could not deliver directly to the 2008 Garey and 1900 Royalty locations without excessive construction. But, it was determined that the service could be delivered to the 2008 Garey location since we own the building; thus, it is being recommended to move forward with construction. Also, staff is recommending that a supplemental connection to be brought to 1900 Royalty since we do not own that building; and Amendment No. 2 would authorize to move forward with the project, amending the original services from the 2021 agreement with Airespring.

Vice-Chair Nolte opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Alternate Board Member Duran moved, and Board Member Vera seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 710 authorizing the Executive Director to execute Amendment No. 2 to the Agreement with Airespring, Inc. for Network Services Migration Project in the additional amount of \$20,952 for three years effective May 17, 2023. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Members Duran and Earl; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Ontiveros-Cole, Lau; and Chair Leano.

**7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 711 AUTHORIZING AN ADDENDUM TO THE SOFTWARE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WELLIGENT FOR THE CONTINUUMCLOUD SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$58,113 FOR ONE YEAR EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2023, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE ADDENDUM**

Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart reported staff is seeking approval to renew the contract with Continuum Cloud, the parent company for the Welligent Electronic Health Record, explaining that even though staff has successfully transitioned most of the specialty mental health to Cerner, the new electronic health record, still have the need to continue non-specialty mental health with Welligent. She noted that staff continues to use Welligent to document activities, track data, and outcomes needed to report to the State; and recommended to continue this contract in order to have the programs organized.

Vice-Chair Nolte inquired about the plan to continue using Welligent in the future. Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart replied in the affirmative, pointing out that staff is looking at other options for a long-term solution that is more comprehensive; and that Welligent may be a contender, but staff is open to a better solution.

Vice-Chair Nolte opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Cockrell moved, and Alternate Board Member Earl seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 711 authorizing the Executive Director to execute an Addendum to the Software Services Agreement with Welligent for the ContinuumCloud subscription renewal in the amount of \$58,113 for one year effective June 1, 2023. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Members Duran and Earl; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Ontiveros-Cole, Lau; and Chair Leano.

**MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS**

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

Executive Director Hundal reported that escrow has been delayed again for the Baseline housing project due to the construction bid estimate for the project being approximately \$500,000 more than the current funding; that RNLA (Restore Neighborhoods Los Angeles) is currently pursuing other funding sources and expect to close escrow by the end of this calendar year, but there is no definite date; and that on that the advice of Tri-City's General Counsel, staff is not recommending extending the Disposition and Development Agreement until there is a more definite date for closing escrow. She then stated that in order to apply for grants and funding, Tri-City needs a five-year Strategic Plan; therefore, a consultant has been hired to assist with this

plan and an email was sent to the Board regarding said five-year Strategic Plan. She explained that the goal is to interview staff and collect information from the Board to see what their vision is and where they see Tri-City going in the next five years; that after a draft is completed, it will be presented to the Governing Board for approval, noting that she will keep the Board and Commission updated on the implementation phase. She then commended the IT department for their work despite being short-staffed; noting that they are working to make sure the infrastructure is reliable, secure, and up to date; that all staff have agency cell phones and will soon be trained on how to use the various apps, on confidentiality to align with tighter security efforts for cyber insurance and cyber security. Lastly, she reported that Tri-City currently has 213 staff members with 34 vacancies; and that in the last month there were four new hires and five separations.

Discussion ensued regarding the hiring of a new MHSA Project Manager, which the first round of interviews have been completed, and the second round of interviews are being scheduled.

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

Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported that the annual external audit will start in July; that staff is working on the annual Budget and the Board should expect to see a draft in the next several weeks; that Cal AIM will become effective on July 1st which means that Tri-City will be billing under different codes and under different billing rates, noting that there are still some details to be finalized such as draft amendments to the agreements with LACDMH, and also finalize the rates. She indicated that staff fully anticipate experiencing cash delays, which has been experienced before, and staff are fully prepared; and she will report more as soon as the information is received. Lastly, she stated that that the Community Garden Project broke ground on May 10th.

Discussion ensued regarding the reversion issues that may or may not come, and the charts were explained to illustrate that there are no funds subject to reversion; about the changes with CalAIM which will impact staff how they claim, how they document, and how bills go out, but that they are trained and getting ready for the switch; about the substantial reserves Tri-City has available to operate several months without cash, similar to when the agency experienced a 12-month cash delay due to a system glitch and we were able to survive on reserves during that time; and that Tri-City should have a cash reserve policy which staff is currently working on.

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

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported about how many people are coming to the door, how many service requests there are; noting that staff is working on getting more numbers but the program manager working on the data is on FMLA. She also stated that staff is holding steady and getting a lot of people coming through the door for services; and that there is also information about how many services are provided by the State. She then said that there was an opportunity to request additional funding for the mobile crisis planning grant, and on May 3rd Tri-City received an additional \$300,000 for planning the mobile crisis program, which staff is hoping to launch towards the end of the year or beginning of next year. She explained that these funds could only be used for one-time purchases, therefore the funds will be used to purchase vehicles, technology, software, etc. so that Tri-City can have a fully functioning mobile crisis response team.

#### **11. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT**

Medical Director Teimoori referred to his report and mentioned that he had provided data on the services performed by the Outreach Team and their collaboration efforts.

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

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford announced that May is Mental Health Awareness month, and Asian American Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander month, and discussed the various activities and events listed in her report and the organization's website where they are displayed. She also announced that staff is currently putting together a Wellness Kits for Mental Health Awareness month, which will be full of brochures, bracelets, green ribbons, and key chains, and will be provided to schools, organizations, and all the departments within Tri-City in order to promote mental health awareness. Lastly, she reminded the Board about the upcoming Wellness Center Talent Show on May 26th at 3:00 pm, noting that it will be an opportunity for community members, clients, participants, and staff to join and share their talents.

Board Member Lantz commented that she attended the Latino Round Table Loteria event and she really enjoyed it, noting that there were very appropriate mental health oriented items and it was very well received.

## **13. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT**

Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart provided information about the administration of the consumer perception survey, pointing out that staff started collecting data at the Royalty and Garey sites. She explained that the consumer perception surveys are completed one time annually to gather feedback on client satisfaction with services; that the results are provided to the county and State, as well as to analyze and report the data internally so it can help drive quality improvement efforts to improve programs. She also reported that her staff have been implementing CalAIM over the last two years and each leg of implementation focuses on something different; that the current focus is on claiming code modifications since the requirement is to be ready by July 1st; that staff is on track for implementation on Tri-City's side but there are still some details from the County and EHR that they are still working on; and that she and her staff have been working with Clinical and Revenue departments along with Best Practices to develop a comprehensive strategic plan, which will be the focus for the next two months to make sure that staff is ready for a seamless transition.

Board Member Vera asked for clarification about the coding process. Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart explained that when staff complete their service provision, it needs to be entered into the electronic health record, but it will need to be entered in a new way; that the new method will capture the new requirements, which then gets translated to the revenue department who will send it out for payment; and noted that everything needs to be seamless in order to avoid any denials; and confirmed that Dr. Teimoori and Chief Clinical Officer Renteria's staff will be trained in the process.

Vice-Chair Nolte opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

## **GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Board Member Cockrell commended Chief Compliance Officer Renteria for her presentation.

MHC Vice-Chair Ryback shared that the Pomona Valley Hospital (PVH) is having a Mental Health Awareness Day on May 31st, and thanked Tri-City for partnering with PVH. She also indicated that there is a recent focus on mental health surrounding the work they do with their patients and staff; that ECRI is one of the national patient organizations that distribute their top 10 patient

safety concerns to every hospital around the country; that the number one patient safety concern is pediatric mental crisis, noting that the report will hugely impact the focus of hospitals around the country.

Commissioner Reyes commented that there seems to be an increase in the number of shootings lately and the default is to point to the mentally ill. She asked if behavioral health agencies could work together to create a PSA (Public Service Announcement) to counter negative and incorrect messaging. Executive Director Rimmi Hundal replied in the affirmative and stated she will bring it up to CBHDA (County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California).

MHC Chair Henderson announced that the Lions Club she belongs to, along with Chino and California Alliance Friends Society, is putting on a free Vision Screening Clinic on Saturday from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Village Conference center; she pointed out that everything is free and that someone can get a pair of glasses without having to wait; and that the City will also be hosting a resource fair at the same time and location of the Vision Screening Clinic.

Alternate Board Member Duran announced that the City of La Verne Police Department and the Community Services Department will be taking Mental Health First Aid Training in June; and thanked Tri-City for offering the training. She also stated that the City placed the mental health wellness kit materials on the front counter at City Hall, and inquired if Tri-City staff could tag the City accounts on social media when they post any events so that the City can repost and re-share the events on the City's account. Executive Director Hundal replied in the affirmative.

Board Member Teimoori compared the United Kingdom and the United States, stating that in the US 100 times more people get killed by guns, and 44 times more people get killed by suicide with a gun; that there is a similar amount of mental illness in United Kingdom and US; however, the US has more killings by guns.

Vice-Chair Nolte mentioned the program Directing Change and inquired about the possibility of creating a PSA about the stigma around mental illness and shootings through that program.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Evan Fry, a Claremont resident for the past year and a half and originally from Chicago, and the Chairman Emeritus of Community Counseling Centers of Chicago, which is the 988 response agency for Chicago, recommended that Tri-City pursue a needs analysis and feasibility study for a community based mental health response team, which would be very complimentary to the CARE court system; and discussed the benefits of the response team because it can prevent the unnecessary involvement of police or security officers at schools, noting that it has been in place in Chicago for 30 years and it has worked extremely well.

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that Tri-City is in the midst of developing a mental health response team to serve the communities here, specifically the children, youth, and young adults' population; and it is anticipated that Tri-City will launch it at the beginning of next year.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:29 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission its meeting of May 17, 2023 was adjourned.

The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 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, June 21, 2023 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