



MINUTES

GOVERNING BOARD AND MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION SPECIAL JOINT MEETING

MAY 15, 2024 – 5:00 P.M.

The Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission held on Wednesday, May 15, 2024, at 5:00 p.m. a Special Joint Meeting in the Wellness Center located at 1403 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Leano called the meeting to order at 5:02 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 (arrived at 5:05)
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Board Member
Ken Domer, City of La Verne, Alternate Board Member

ABSENT: 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 (arrived at 5:07 p.m.)
Clarence D. Cernal, Commissioner
Sandra Christensen, Commissioner
Mildred Garcia, Commissioner
Ethel Gardner, Commissioner
Frank Guzman, Commissioner
Joan M. Reyes, Commissioner
Janet R. Roy, Commissioner
Twila L. Stephens, Commissioner
Danette E. Wilkerson, Commissioner

ABSENT: Isabella A. Chavez, Commissioner
Laura Mundy, Commissioner
Toni L. Watson, Commissioner

STAFF

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

PRESENTATION

OVERVIEW OF MAY, MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Brittany Nguyen, Community Capacity Organizer, introduced May's Mental Health Awareness Month theme: "Reimagine Mental Health"; and explained the outreach and community engagement during the month, stating TCMHA is partnering with local small businesses to provide welcoming environments, and with schools to help reduce the stigma around mental health collaborating with a statewide film contest to host a TCMHA film screening, and providing mental health toolkits via giveaway and promotional items.

At 5:07 p.m., Board Member Carolyn Cockrell arrived at the meeting.

Community Capacity Organizer Nguyen also discussed the Mental Health Awareness Month calendar and explained the various in-person and virtual events available to the community, noting that TCMHA received positive response from the community and business partnership. She then talked about the Directing Change film contest, stating that 186 students from 6 schools submitted 83 films about mental health and suicide prevention, and that one film will be screened at the ceremony hosted at The United Theater in Los Angeles on Tuesday, May 21st. She also indicated that another event would take place called Story Time at Pomona Public Library where families will also be able to participate in a card game about emotions.

Commissioner Reyes inquired what age group the Story Time card games about emotions are focusing on and how the game works. Community Capacity Organizer Nguyen stated the target age group is ages 0-6 that focuses on teaching them how to express their emotions using flashcards with images that display how to express their emotions.

Commissioner Gardner inquired if the parents have access to the information that is being presented to the students at schools. Community Capacity Organizer Nguyen explained that the information shared with students is provided to the school counselors, teachers, and school staff who in turn, then inform parents. Executive Director Hundal added that school districts provide approval before TCMHA provides any resources or speaks with students.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MOBILE CRISIS PROGRAM

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria recapped TCMHA receiving a planning grant from DHCS in 2022, and reported that from March 2022 to February 2023, an Action Plan was developed in collaboration with local and regional organizations, community needs assessments, and the use

of consultant services for stakeholder engagement. She indicated that the plan was approved by DHCS (Department of Health Care Services) in February 2023; and provided the plan implementation update, noting that the plan was then extended to include adults and that in April 2024 the MHSA stakeholder process took place, then Governing Board approval, followed by the purchase of vehicles, transitioned from prior plan to current program, and meet with LACDMH (Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health) to coordinate efforts. In May 2024, TCMHA started working on staff schedule guidelines, finished staff handbook, and by the end of the month finished purchasing materials and posting positions on CalOPPS. She then discussed the proposed implementation updates, stating that in June 2024, TCMHA will recruit, hire and train staff, purchase materials, develop promotional materials, and develop data tracking; and that in July 2024, TCMHA will host kick off events, a media campaign and update the TCMHA website. She continued to explain the model overview which includes mobile respond to open TCMHA clients 24/7 365 days a year, assist at the request of local law enforcement, schools, and hospital discharge, provide community members with triage support and linkages, and provide community debriefing and support after a major event or disaster.

Commissioner Garcia inquired about the target age group. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria responded it will assist all ages.

Board Member Vera inquired how the community can contact or request services. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated the program will continue to use the number the community currently uses for mental health crisis events and a campaign will be launched to broadcast the contact information, and pointed out that LACDMH will also route calls to TCMHA. Board Member Vera further inquired if the program works with local fire and police department. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied in the affirmative.

Chair Leano inquired where the dispatch teams will be stationed. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated it is still undetermined where staff will be stationed; however, the requirement will be staff needs to respond to calls within the hour. Executive Director Hundal added that although staff will not be stationed in law enforcement buildings, like the PACT program, emergency responders will still have a triage system to know when to refer the call to the Mobile Crisis unit. Chair Leano sought clarification if the only change is the location of the team, not the service delivery. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that the hope is that the services will increase. Chair Leano further inquired where the anticipated home base will be for the response team, if they will be stationary waiting for activation, or if they will be driving within the cities. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated the team will be stationary waiting for activation and that the anticipated home base are the offices on Gary for the day shift and the evening shift will respond from home and must use TCMHA vehicles. Executive Director Hundal added that staff responding from home will use TCMHA vehicles and must live locally enough to still respond within the hour.

Board Member Cockrell inquired if a client needs to be transported, does the crisis unit take the client to the first available bed. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria answered that if the client requires a hold, then instruction is to use emergency medical services; that if the client wants to go willingly or does not require a hold, the crisis unit will transport; however, if the situation is unsafe, the crisis unit will not respond without emergency medical support. Board Member Cockrell further inquired about the distance of available beds. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated TCMHA applied for additional funding that will allow for more support on shifts. More staff will be available on call to respond.

Commissioner Reyes inquired how many staff members will respond to the call. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria indicated that staff would respond in teams of two or can respond singularly if accompanied by law enforcement, pointing out that the safety and well-being of staff is a priority. Commissioner Reyes further inquired if this will be for active clients only. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that it will be for active clients, except when responding with law enforcement or to schools, noting that if a community member calls, staff will triage to appropriate emergency response services, and that there are ongoing conversations regarding how this program can revolve and expand in the two pilot years.

Board Member Lantz sought clarification regarding the response will be with law enforcement only or also with the fire department. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria states all emergency services.

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 9, 2024

There being no discussion, Commissioner Cernal moved, and Commissioner Guzman seconded, to approve the Mental Health Commission Minutes of its Regular Meeting of April 9, 2024. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Governing Board Liaison Cockrell, Commissioners Cernal, Garcia, Gardner, Guzman, Reyes, Roy, Stephens, and Wilkerson; Vice-Chair Ryback; and Chair Henderson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioner Christensen. ABSENT: Commissioners Chavez, Mundy, and Watson.

NEW BUSINESS

2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 739 APPROVIING AN OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF POMONA FOR THE CALIFORNIA VIOLENCE INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION (CALVIP) GRANT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THEREAFTER.

Board Member Lantz recused herself due to Just Us 4 Youth (JU4Y) being her tenant.

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported that the City of Pomona applied for funding for the California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) Grant Program, and TCMHA offered to assist the community wherever possible, including providing services for people in the area that require mental help; therefore, TCMHA was requesting the Board to approve the operational agreement for the organization to participate and support the efforts of CalVIP.

Vice Chair Nolte stated that this is a grant for a total of ten million dollars; five million dollars from the state and five million two hundred thousand dollars from the city and other partners. He stated this grant is focused on individuals that are most likely to shoot a gun or be shot by a gun as this population is often the most difficult to reach; that there is a Peace Maker fellowship and community outreach actively working to stop violence; that TCMHA is filling the need to deal with the trauma of everyone involved; and that the goal is to see shooting or violence drop dramatically in the City of Pomona.

Board Member Vera inquired what happens after the 17 months expire, if TCMHA can apply again. Vice Chair Nolte responded in the affirmative, after reevaluation, noting that the State has another round of grant funding, and he is confident funding will come again.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment. Chair Leano also invited the Mental Health Commission to make comment.

Commissioner Ryback reported that the Pomona Valley hospital met with CalVIP, and they shared they recently stopped twenty-one acts of gun violence through outreach.

There being no further comment, Vice Chair Nolte moved, and Board Member Vera seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 739 authorizing the Executive Director to execute the Operational Agreement with the City of Pomona, and any amendments thereafter, for the CALVIP Grant Program. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Domer; Board Members Cockrell, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte; Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Lantz, Lau, and Ontiveros-Cole.

Board Member Lantz returned to the meeting.

3. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 740 AUTHORIZING AN ADDENDUM TO THE SOFTWARE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WELLIGENT FOR THE CONTINNUMCLOUD SUBSCRIPTION RENEWAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,631.70 FOR ONE YEAR EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2024, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE ADDENDUM.

Chief Compliance Officer Majors stated TCMHA is requesting an extension to the ContinnumCloud subscription to accommodate the MHSA programs that are used to document activity and services. She reported that a long-term plan is to select and implement a more comprehensive program; however, research is still being conducted to ensure functionality, security, and all requirements are met.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment. Chair Leano also invited the Mental Health Commission to make comment; and there was no comment.

There being no further comment, Board Member Vera moved, and Alternate Board Member Domer seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 740 authorizing the Executive Director to execute an Addendum to the Software Services Agreement with Welligent for the ContinnumCloud subscription renewal in the amount of \$42,631.70 for one-year effective June 1, 2024. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Domer; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte; Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Lau and Ontiveros-Cole.

4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 741 APPROVING THE SUBAWARD AGREEMENT WITH PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION ENTERPRISES, DBA HELUNA HEALTH, FOR THE YOUTH BEHAVIOURAL HEALTH INITIATIVE ROUND 5: EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES GRANT AWARD (CYBHI) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$750,000 FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTHCARE SERVICES (DHCS); AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THEREAFTER

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria acknowledges staff members Grants Manager Erin Sapinoso and Controller Trevor Bogle for their role in the awarding of this grant. She reported that these funds will be used to assist in additional staffing for the Mobile Crisis Care Program.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment. Chair Leano also invited the Mental Health Commission to make comment.

Commissioner Reyes inquired what staff are being hired for the Mobile Crisis Care Program. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied that the state recommends staffing Clinical Therapists, Licensed Psychiatric Technicians, Peer Support Specialists, and Supervisors.

There being no further comment, Board Member Cockrell moved, and Board Member Lantz seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 741 Authorizing the Executive Director to execute the Subaward Agreement, and any amendments thereafter, with Heluna Health Accepting \$750,000 CYBHI R5 grant award for the MCC program. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Domer; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte; Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Lau and Ontiveros-Cole.

5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EVALUATE COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE FOR THE ACQUISITION OF A NEW BUILDING

Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported that staff have been touring buildings for over a year and has found this property meets TCMHA's needs, and provided a slideshow that showed the building and property at 2055 North Garey Avenue.

Board Member Vera inquired about who the current owner of the building is to avoid conflict of interest. Chief Financial Officer Acosta states she does not have that information, but will obtain it if further consideration is approved.

Chief Financial Officer Acosta then explains the location of the property, stating that is approximately two blocks north of two current TCMHA locations on Garey Avenue; that the lot is .071 acres (30, 928 square feet) and the office space square footage is approximately 9,000 square feet (Gross square footage is 11,118 with 2,137 of common areas), and the property offers thirty-three parking spaces; and provided more images of the building from the street view, aerial view, rear view detailing the entrances and parking lot, and internal photos showing the hallway, common area. She added that a cell tower located on the property in the parking lot and states there is a lease that brings in approximately two thousand dollars in monthly income.

Board Member Vera inquired what is located behind the property. Chief Financial Officer Acosta replied that it was the La Verne Charter School.

Chief Financial Officer Acosta then stated that the property line of the building has room for additional parking spaces, and showed a map where the property is in relation to TCMHA's locations at 2001 North Garey and 2008 North Garey, and the existing floor plan of the building divided into seven suites with offices within each that can be reconfigured for needs, noting that there is potential for forty to seventy staff on site on rotating schedules.

Chair Leano inquired if the agenda item is just to authorize the Executive Director to execute the agency's due diligence, and if the results of the findings will be discussed in a closed session. Chief Financial Officer responded in the affirmative, stating that when formulating an offer, it will be discussed with the Board in closed session. Chair Leano confirms that no details regarding an offer will be discussed currently.

Board Member Lantz inquired if the building is currently on the market. Chief Financial Officer Acosta replied in the affirmative. Board Member Lantz further inquired how the building compares to TCMHA's property on Royalty Drive. Chief Financial Officer Acosta states it will occupy close to half of what Royalty houses, and it has work that needs to be completed before it can be occupied; that this will supplement; and that the lease on Royalty expires in a year and will probably need to be extended.

Board Member Vera inquired about when the building was last occupied. Chief Financial Officer Acosta indicated that the building is still occupied, and tenants are leasing the space on a monthly basis.

Board Member Vera further if it is primarily an office building and if they walls could be reconfigured to allow for more meeting rooms. Chief Financial Officer Acosta responds in the affirmative, pointing out that Facilities Manager Alex Ramirez walked through the building and stated the hallways could be made narrower to allow for more office space.

Commissioner Reyes inquires if TCMHA locations could be consolidated into one location as opposed to various locations. Executive Director Hundal indicated that the intention is to have a TCMHA campus, but a location cannot be found that is big enough.

Commissioner Stephens inquired if the office spaces have windows. Executive Director Hundal states some do, and some don't.

There being no further comment, Board Member Lantz moved, and Board Member Domer seconded, to approve a motion to authorize the Executive Director to obtain appraisal, property inspections, and an environmental study, to assess and evaluate commercial real estate with the intent to acquire new building; and if negotiations fail and staff is not able to recommend the purchase of the building, the Executive Director is also authorized to repeat the same steps on a different commercial property. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Domer; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; and Vice-Chair Nolte; Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Lau and Ontiveros-Cole.

MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS

6. RIMMI HUNDAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Hundal reported that the Baseline property did not close escrow.

Board Member Lantz inquired about the reason for not being able to close escrow. Executive Director Hundal indicated that it was due to funding issues.

Executive Director Hundal continued with her report and stated that she and Dana Barford attended the Pomona City Council Meeting and received a proclamation on behalf of TCMHA for Mental Health Awareness Month; that May is also Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month; that the AAPI community faces very high mental health stigma, and she wanted to highlight the community and welcome them into the TCMHA community. She then reported that TCMHA had seven new hires and five separations.

Commissioner Stephens inquired if Claremont Gardens is the final name (for the Baseline property.) Executive Director Hundal replied in the affirmative.

7. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported that TCMHA is continuing to receive payments from LACDMH (Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health); and that there will be a ribbon cutting grand opening for the Therapeutic Community Garden.

Board Member Vera inquired about the cash balance of twenty-seven million on page 1 as of March 31st and the different cash balance of thirty-six million on page 3. Chief Financial Officer Acosta states that the balance is in MHSA dollars. Board Member Vera further inquired if the money is already allocated to next year's budget and surplus. Chief Financial Officer Acosta states that the money is already allocated for next year's budget.

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

8. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria highlighted work done in the Children Services department, stating that service requests have a 29% decrease from last, noting that this is positive because clients with short term needs are being treated in programs allowing staff to treat more severe clients. She then reported that through the MHSA grant, TCMHA can triage shorter term treatment more quickly resulting in a 29% decrease in service requests, and added sixty-seven new clients; she pointed out that families with more severe needs do not have as long a wait or have a difficulty being seen.

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

9. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Director Teimoori stated that he is available to answer any questions on the data presented in his report. There were no questions about the Medical Director's report.

10. DANA BARFORD, DIRECTOR OF MHSA AND ETHNIC SERVICES REPORT

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford highlights the continued efforts in community outreach, indicating that there was a presentation given at Pomona Valley Hospital where MHSA Projects Manager Sara Rodriguez met with Dr. Daniel Blocker, who requested a presentation for his first, second, and third-year medical students, noting that the presentation was very well received.

Board Member Vera inquired if they were interns that met with Sara Rodriguez. Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford clarified that they were resident medical students.

Commissioner Ryback expressed appreciation for that presentation and hoped this would become a yearly visit.

11. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT

Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart stated she is available to answer any questions on the data presented in her report. There were no questions about the Chief Compliance Officer's report.

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

GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Ryback shared that she and Karen Sepulveda, of Concepts Forward, presented on PADs (Psychiatric Advance Directives) to a group of risk management professionals in southern California at their annual conference and received good feedback and hopes to present more.

Commissioner Cernal reported that he attended a community event on April 21st and was happy to see TCMHA staff talking to the community.

Board Member Vera welcomed the new members to the Mental Health Commission, noting that he and Board Member Cockrell interviewed the new Commissioners.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christina Vera thanked everyone for their work and asked staff to ask asks themselves, "Am I helping this person who is mentally ill?" She stated that it is important to know that you are helping someone with serious mental illness.

Commissioner Guzman stated that TCMHA encourages sustainability, and shows that it is vested in the community, noting that the Pride Center is entering its 5th year anniversary which was possible by TCMHA through the Community Wellbeing Grant. He reported that the Price Center employes 13 youth in the area.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:29 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission, its special joint meeting of May 15, 2024, was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at 3:30 p.m., in the Wellness Center, 1403 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, June 12, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., in the Wellness Center, 1403 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk