



## **MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD October 15, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Governing Board Regular Meeting was held on Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the MHSA Administrative Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Leano called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

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

#### **GOVERNING BOARD**

**PRESENT:** Lorraine Canales, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Sandra Grajeda, City of Claremont, Board Member  
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member (Arrived at 5:23 p.m.)  
Katie Wand, City of Claremont, Alternate Board Member  
Wendy Lau, City of La Verne, Vice-Chair

**ABSENT:** Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Chair

#### **STAFF**

**PRESENT:** Ontson Placide, Executive Director  
Steven Flower, General Counsel  
Elizabeth Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer  
Dana Barford, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services  
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer  
Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director  
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

#### **PRESENTATION**

##### **SURVEY RESULTS OF THE COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS INNOVATION PROJECT**

Paulina Ale, MHSA Program Coordinator for Innovations, and Rachel Straight, Peer Support Specialist, presented an overview of the Community Planning Process (CPP). Peer Support Specialist Straight explained that the CPP allowed community members, service providers, and other stakeholders to collaborate in assessing local needs and shaping future programs supporting mental health and substance use services. She emphasized that public input and community involvement were essential to understanding the unique needs of each city and its residents. Peer Support Specialist Straight outlined the purpose, timeline, and scope of the project, noting that its primary goal was to promote integrity and community collaboration. The

timeline had been approved by MHSOAC, and the process included engagement of a peer consultant and a marketing consultant. Financial incentives such as stipends and meals were provided to increase participation, along with focus groups, supplies, and transportation vouchers.

Peer Support Specialist Straight provided the results on survey demographics from 532 total respondents, including 392 from outreach efforts and 140 from focus groups, noting that 55% of respondents lived in Pomona, 13% in La Verne, 10% in Claremont, and 23% in other cities. She explained that 344 surveys were completed in English and 48 in Spanish; that outreach efforts included 22 events, and discussed the different times and dates offered and where the events were held. She noted that employment data and school attendance data was also gathered

Peer Support Specialist Straight detailed the composition of focus groups, the ethnicity of those that participated, and reported that various community organizations, faith-based organizations, advocacy groups, medical professionals, and public and private agencies were represented in the focus groups. She also provided data of participants including employment status, whether they were consumers or persons with mental health conditions, family members or caregivers, mental health or physicians, government agencies, or community representatives. She also provided data regarding how respondents heard about TCMHA, which included through community centers, word of mouth, TCMHA staff, referrals from other agencies, online, and social media, noting that 10% of the respondents had not heard of TCMHA. She then mentioned the TCMHA services that respondents were familiar with, including therapy services, community mental health training, community navigation, crisis services, support groups, wellness center, family wellbeing program, school-based services, services for older adults, therapeutic community garden, employment and vocational support, community wellbeing grants, and TAY wellbeing program. She noted that 143 respondents indicated they were not familiar with TCMHA services.

MHSA Program Coordinator Ale also provided the participation data in TCMHA activities, and indicated that an extensive outreach and engagement efforts were undertaken to ensure community input and collaboration in shaping mental health and substance use services. She then explained the comprehensive community planning process and shared key findings from recent surveys and outreach efforts, including data on obstacles affecting participation in TCMHA activities, which respondents listed being unaware of opportunities, due to lack of information on how to get involved, scheduling conflicts, lack of accessibility to transportation, technology, and childcare. MHSA Program Coordinator Ale also summarized community feedback on desired services, noting that there was strong interest in community social groups, education workshops, housing support services, health and nutrition classes and other activities having to do with physical well-being. She further reported on the barriers mentioned to accessing mental health support which were lack of resources, privacy concerns, and uncertainty about how to get help or information, stigma within families and communities, fear of judgment, limited in-person options, lack of services in preferred languages, and insufficient telehealth options. She then provided data on underserved populations identified by the community; discussed the suggestions received for improving TCMHA's programs, noting that the most frequent recommendations were having more advertising and outreach, expand services, better communication and information, improved access, and increased community involvement and collaboration.

At 5:23 p.m., Board Member Ontiveros-Cole arrived at the meeting.

MHSA Program Coordinator Ale highlighted the success of digital marketing campaigns, noting that engagement increased from 38% to 84% after optimizing strategies and shifting budget allocations from Google to Meta, and provided data on what the campaign achieved in connection with engaging users, website visits, with Spanish-language content achieving nearly equal click volume to English content despite fewer impressions, indicating effective outreach to Hispanic audiences. She then discussed the next steps in outreach efforts, which include hiring a temporary social media coordinator through June 2026 to expand engagement efforts, incorporating community feedback, and continuing outreach to new focus groups, and acknowledged the contributions of peer support counselors.

Board Member Lantz asked whether the information presented reflected next steps or past actions, and MHSA Program Coordinator Ale clarified that the link provided could be used for reference and ongoing engagement.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

Board Member Lantz asked how final policies were communicated to staff, noting that the process seemed vague. Executive Director Placide explained that policies were first introduced in Executive Team meetings and that efforts were underway to expand communication systems, and pointed out that the primary platform for dissemination was SharePoint, which would include landing pages for staff where new policies would be announced through banner notifications and serve as a central repository for all policies, noting that leadership meetings were used to deliver information to teams.

Board Member Lantz also inquired about tracking compliance. Executive Director Placide stated that tracking had not yet been implemented, and noted that a feature requiring staff sign-off might be added. Vice-Chair Lau expressed a preference for an affirmative statement confirming compliance. Executive Director Placide indicated that all client or service-related policies could include such a requirement; however, other administrative policies might not need it, and pointed out that TCMHA was committed to developing a robust SharePoint system to support policy communication and accountability.

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

There being no further comment, Board Member Canales moved, and Board Member Ontiveros-Cole seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was carried by the following vote: Alternate Board Member Wand; Board Members Canales, Grajeda, Lantz, and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Lau. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Cockrell, and Chair Leano.

#### **1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Regular Meeting of September 17, 2025.”

#### **2. ONTSON PLACIDE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

**3. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

**4. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

**5. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

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

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

**7. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT**

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

**8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 817 APPROVING THE REVISED JOB DESCRIPTION OF THE HUMAN RESOURCES ANALYST CLASSIFICATION, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 15, 2025**

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 817 approving the revised Job Description of the HR Analyst Classification effective October 15, 2025.”

**9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 818 ADOPTING THE POLICY AND PROCEDURE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, APPROVAL, AND DISSEMINATION OF POLICIES AND PROCEDURES, EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 15, 2025**

Recommendation: “Staff recommends that the Governing Board adopt Resolution No. 818 establishing the new Policy and Procedure for the Development, Approval and Dissemination of the Authority’s Policies and Procedures, effective October 15, 2025.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

**10. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 819 APPROVING A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH JAMBOREE HOUSING CORPORATION FOR TCMHA TO PROVIDE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO THE RESIDENTS OF LARKIN PLACE, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE SAID MOU EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 15, 2025**

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported on TCMHA’s continuing partnership with Jamboree and the development of a new supportive housing project comprising twenty-three units. She stated

TCMHA agreed to provide intensive case management and supportive services to residents, while Jamboree retained responsibility for placements.

Board Member Lantz inquired if TCMHA had a specific number of beds to use for placement and if new residents would originally be from one of the three cities. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria clarified that TCMHA did not participate in the selection process and that individuals were chosen through a complex statewide system for permanent housing, noting that after individuals are housed, they would meet TCMHA's criteria as a resident.

Executive Director Placide emphasized the organization's comprehensive approach to addressing homelessness, which includes housing interventions and collaborative partnerships, noting that serving individuals who come into the cities aligns with the mission and supports the broader mental health service array.

Board Member Lantz raised concerns about community perception, observing that some members questioned regional placements. Executive Director Placide stated that addressing homelessness at all levels benefits the local population and reflects the organization's commitment to systemic solutions.

Board Member Canales asked if the residents had already been selected and if they came from any city. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated TCMHA does not participate in the selection process; however, Jamboree conducts a complicated state selection process.

Vice-Chair Lau inquired about the turnover rate and whether TCMHA would have input in the future. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated it is a larger process across the whole state.

Board Member Ontiveros-Cole noted community concerns regarding regional placements, particularly the perception that they were not limited to Pomona. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria acknowledged these concerns as part of a larger societal issue, emphasizing that this initiative was distinguished from shelter programs, as residents have been a part of a longer selection process.

General Counsel Flower explained that the project involved layered financing and that TCMHA's role was as a service provider rather than a funder. Board Member Lantz noted that funding participation would alter the nature of involvement. Executive Director Placide confirmed that ongoing dollars for housing interventions were available, along with the right to decline participation if necessary. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reiterated that once residents were placed, they met the organization's criteria for services.

Board Member Canales sought clarification on eligibility and demographics. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria confirmed that the units were studio apartments for individuals only, with no age restrictions.

Vice-Chair Lau stated that geographic borders should not define service delivery and that supporting individuals who come to the three cities is consistent with serving the organization's population.

Vice-Chair Lau opened the meeting for public comment; and there was none.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Grajeda moved, and Alternate Board Member Wand seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 819 approving the MOU with Jamboree Housing Corporation for TCMHA to provide mental health services to the residents of Larkin Place, a Permanent Supportive Housing property located in the City of Claremont, and authorizing the Executive Director to execute said MOU. The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Alternate Board Member Wand; Board Members Canales, Grajeda, Lantz and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Lau. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Cockrell, and Chair Leano.

**11. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 820 APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF REAL ESTATE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 431 W. BASELINE ROAD, CLAREMONT, CALIFORNIA, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3.4 MILLION, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS AND EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS**

Executive Director Placide expressed appreciation for the Governing Board's consideration of previous discussions in connection with the authorization of property purchase. He then provided an update on the proposed property acquisition on Baseline Road stating that the building under consideration is an administrative facility located in Claremont and is approximately 5,300 square feet larger than the current space on Indian Hill Boulevard. He explained that the property would support the organization's infrastructure growth plan and address significant operational needs. He also reported that the funds to be used were accumulated dollars in the CFTN Plan, which are subject to reversion if not expended. Therefore, the purchase would be made in cash; that the purchase and sale agreement was scheduled to be executed beginning on October 16, 2025, initiating a 60-day escrow period; that it is anticipated that all contingencies be satisfied by December 16, with an additional 30-day extension into January if necessary. Lastly, he stated that the current tenant would vacate by end of March, when the lease ends.

Board Member Canales inquired about the presence of a sprinkler system. Executive Director Placide stated that the building does not have a sprinkler system and indicated the need for access to conduct an assessment, which would be included as part of the contingencies.

Board Member Lantz asked whether the assessment results would be presented to the Governing Board. General Counsel Flower indicated that it could be presented, noting that if the costs associated with the assessment were substantial, the matter would return to the Board for review. Executive Director Placide confirmed that this scenario had already been confirmed with the property owner.

Vice-Chair Lau opened the meeting for public comment; and there was none.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Canales moved, and Board Member Ontiveros-Cole seconded, to approve Resolution No. 820 authorizing the Executive Director to execute the Agreement effectuating the purchase of the Real Estate Property located at 431 W. Baseline Road in Claremont, California. AYES: Alternate Board Member Wand; Board Members Canales, Grajeda, Lantz and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Lau. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Cockrell and Chair Leano.

### **GOVERNING BOARD COMMENTS**

There was none.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Michaela introduced herself as a representative of Project Return Peer Support Network (PRPSN), and commented on the progress of the process and noted that, as a public policy committee member for her agency and for the California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies (CASRA) she had participated in discussions regarding the community planning process across various counties. She observed that the process appeared disorganized in many counties and contrasted this with TCMHA's approach, which placed significant emphasis on focus groups and securing community support. She stated that this level of engagement was unusual compared to other counties and commended TCMHA for doing an exceptional job, and also expressed appreciation for the opportunity to work on the project and thanked the Governing Board.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

At 5:49 p.m., the Governing Board recessed to a Closed Session pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9(d)(2), to hold a conference with legal counsel (pending litigation), due to significant exposure to litigation. One case.

### **RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

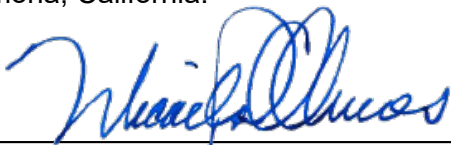
At 6:11 p.m. the Governing Board reconvened to an Open Session.

### **CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

There was no reportable action.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:11 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board its Regular Meeting of October 15, 2025, was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, November 19, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.



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Micaela Perez Olmos, CPMC  
JPA Administrador/Clerk