



Executive Committee Meeting Notes

May 2, 2019

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Paso del Norte Health Foundation

221 N. Kansas, 19th Floor – Board Room

Attendees:

Joshua Acevedo
Sharon Butterworth
Dr. India Caldwell-Cox
Emilia Campos
Zulema Carrillo
Chrystal Davis
Dr. Tewiana Davis
Mia Goldman
Emily Hartmann
Cindy Hernandez
Jeannette James
Carolina Martinez
Enrique Mata
Kevin McGee
Nellie Mendoza
Peter Pacillas
Connie Ponce
Dr. Peter Thompson
Isidro Torres
John Wiebe
Tracy Yellen

Representing:

Empower Change
Paso del Norte Health Foundation Board
El Paso Behavioral Health System
El Paso VA Health Care System
El Paso Psychiatric Center
Emergence Health Network
Emergence Health Network
El Paso Behavioral Health System
Paso del Norte Health Information Exchange
Emergence Health Network
The Steven A. Cohen MFC at Endeavors
Empower Change
Paso del Norte Health Foundation
El Paso Behavioral Health System
NAMI El Paso
El Paso Police Department
El Paso VA Health Care System
Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center
NAMI El Paso
University of Texas at El Paso
Paso del Norte Health Foundation

1:30 pm– 1:35 pm Welcome, Introductions

- Ms. Tracy Yellen convened the meeting of the El Paso Behavioral Health Consortium (EPBHC) at 1:32 p.m.
- The group welcomed Dr. India Caldwell-Cox, CNO for El Paso Behavioral Health System, Ms. Jeannette James, the new Executive Director for Steven A. Cohen MFC at Endeavors El Paso, Mr. Kevin McGee, the new CEO for EL Paso Behavioral Health System, Dr. Connie Ponce the new Chief of Mental Health at the El Paso VA Health Care System,

1:35 pm – 1:45 pm Important Dates

- The EPBHC discussed the following important upcoming dates:
 - On May 7th and 8th Justice Leadership Council partners will participate in a Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Criminal Justice Learning Collaborative webinar at Emergence Health Network (EHN), 201 E Main Dr. Ste. 600, El Paso, TX 79901. This event is a benefit from a technical support grant awarded to EHN
 - Mr. Enrique Mata called for individuals who want to participate in the webinar.
 - Mr. Mata mentioned that Paso del Norte Health Foundation has open calls for Letters of Intent, due May 16th
 - He explained that the Health Foundation is particularly interested in behavioral health consortia informed projects.
 - EPBHC members can find more information on the Foundation’s website at www.pdnhf.org.
 - On May 18th - 19th ROTMENAS (the Juarez behavioral health collaborative) and Empower Change will host a bi-national Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Depression Training
 - This training is part of a continuing education series
 - A flyer was distributed
 - ROTMENAS and Empower Change are collaborating on a bi-national mental health provider directory.
 - On September 26th - 27th the Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute will host its annual conference Engage and Excel in Austin, Texas.
 - On October 24th the El Paso Behavioral Health Consortium Annual Progress Summit will take place from about 8am to 12pm at the Don Haskins Center.

1:45 pm – 2:20 pm Leadership Council Progress

- Family Leadership Council (FLC)
 - FLC leaders spoke about council synergy and collaboration with community partners in relationship building.
 - A summary of FLC workgroup progress was provided for the following workgroups:
 - Community Collaborations
 - Foster Care
 - Outpatient Continuum of Care
 - School Based Mental Health
 - Strong Families

- The Fast Track Tours (agency tours for agency representatives) master calendar was discussed
 - Fast Track Tours started in January and will continue once per month through 2019.
 - The group asked Ms. Carolina Martinez of Empower Change to disseminate the master calendar of Consortium Leadership Council meetings to the EPBHC Executive Committee.
- The EPBHC also discussed the FLC Report on Collaboration (handout):
 - FLC partner organizations are collaborating on more projects and seeing an increase in the amount of grant funds coming into El Paso to address system gaps and prevent crisis for children and families.
 - A collaborative proposal was submitted to SAMHSA for a “Project LAUNCH” grant.
- Justice Leadership Council (JLC)
 - Ms. Beatrice Giron, program manager of the Re-entry Support Services Division gave a program overview on behalf of Mr. Joel Bishop.
 - Ms. Giron mentioned that her program was staffed by 4 employees who collaborated closely with the Sheriff’s Department, screening for wraparound services
 - Ms. Giron shared the El Paso County Reentry Support Services brochure and monthly report of homeless pre-trial report interviews
 - The monthly report of homeless pre-trial report interviews illustrated the housing and military status of clients from November 2018 to April 2019
 - 297 individuals reported being homeless
 - 177 homeless individuals with new criminal charges were referred the Reentry program
 - 61 individuals are currently being served from referrals
 - The Re-entry Support Services program is coordinating assessments in jails
 - It is focusing on realigning current programs to create a re-entry programs that works and targets the homeless population
 - This program is also focusing providing a continuity of care by connecting and enhancing services linked to mental health
 - It is doing so through assessment, medication and other needs
 - Ms. Yellen asked the following questions
 - Where do the homeless find shelter?
 - Emergency shelters
 - Transitional living centers
 - Permanent and Rapid Rehousing (like apartments)
 - Sheriff Wiles summarized recent changes in jail system services. He explained that University Medical Center El Paso (UMC) will be providing health services in the jail starting in May. He added that Emergence Health Network (EHN) will continue to provide mental health related services.
 - Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) were discussed with the EPBHC

- Sheriff Wiles mentioned that CIT is seeing positive results. The collaboration among patrol officers and EHN counselors is developing well. There are now more cases of appropriate diversion away from hospitals and jails to mental health care settings.
- Sheriff Wiles commented that El Paso is missing embedded mental health professionals within 911 to help facilitate a more efficient process.
- also reported that the mental health court is still in the planning phase
 - All the required documents to get the mental health court started are in process
 - Mr. Enrique Mata mentioned that the District Attorney agreed to move forward to present the structure and plans for the mental health court
 - The meetings and plans are happening now
 - Mr. Mata will update EPBHC as updates come through
- Sheriff Wiles entered a discussion about assessing data on increased suicide rates in the region
 - Member will be updated in this item as more information is gathered
- Integration Leadership Council (ILC)
 - Dr. Peter Thompson provided an overview of Senate Bill (SB)10:
 - If passed, a “mental health consortium” will be formed with 100-million-dollar allocation for the next biennium to improve child psychiatry access across the state. He explained that the bill will impact El Paso and that Texas Tech Psychiatry will be the local lead.
 - Dr. Tewiana Norris discussed the overall purpose of the ILC
 - Dr. Norris confirmed that the ILC accepted the definition of Integrated Care per SAMHSA’s definition
 - She also mentioned that ILC members are recruiting community partners
 - Dr. Omar from Rio Vista was identified as a good partner for the ILC

2:20 pm – 2:30 pm Other Business

- Dr. Mitchell from El Paso Community College (EPCC) entered a discussion about EPCC.
 - 29,000 students are enrolled each semester
 - He also mentioned that EPCC is commuter campus
 - EPCC students are starting to exhibit behavioral health issues including PTSD
 - Dr. Mitchell mentioned that the issue in balancing mental health counseling is that there are more academic counselors
 - EPBHC members discussed how to handle situations on campus when incidents occur
 - Faculty senate started a committee to research mental health issues that have been happening on campus
 - Del Mar College presented to EPCC leadership on their successes integrating mental health services into their system.
 - Currently EPCC is exploring creating policies, procedures, budget and job descriptions to implement a mental health program and counseling center.
 - EPCC needs to create a crisis intervention and behavioral health response team

- Dr. Mitchell is looking for ideas from the EPBHC
- Mr. Enrique Mata mentioned that this could be a great opportunity for a hybrid program with partnerships from other EPBHC Partners.
- Ms. Cindy Hernandez announced that EHN applied for a Health and Human Services grant through SAMHSA to establish a system of care for a 3-18 year olds
 - EHN is looking for letters of support from EPBHC to expand the already in practice model programming.
- Mr. Peter Thompson mentioned that Texas Tech recruited a Geriatric Psychiatrist to start in September 2019
- Ms. Emily Hartmann of Paso del Norte Health Information Exchange (PHIX) is actively recruiting members and sharing patient information with the following entities:
 - EHN
 - Project Vida
 - Hospitals of Providence
 - The National VA
 - The National Department of Defense
 - Texas Tech Health Sciences Center El Paso
 - Centro San Vicente
 - El Paso Children’s Hospital
 - Ms. Hartmann commented that PHIX has a promotion for providers to become members of PHIX for a \$50 fee.
 - PHIX will use the PHQ9 tool for mental health screening
- Mr. Mata mentioned that three organizations from El Paso were selected to present at the National Council event
 - Alivine
 - El Paso Child Guidance Center
 - Project Vida

2:30 pm Adjourn (Tracy Yellen)

- Ms. Yellen adjourned the meeting at 2:22 pm.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the El Paso Behavioral Health Consortium Executive Committee is scheduled quarterly at 1:30 p.m. at Paso del Norte Health Foundation.

The next meeting of The El Paso Behavioral Health Consortium Executive Committee is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Thursday, August 1st at Paso del Norte Health Foundation. For more information, contact Carolina Martinez at dcmartinez3@utep.edu or (915) 747-5493.