



BH CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting the 4th Tuesday of Every Month

Recorder: Saida Spencer: Executive Assistant II
sspencer@ruhealth.org 951-358-7348

RUHS–Behavioral Health
Behavioral Health Commission Children’s Committee
Meeting MINUTES
5/27/2025

Tori St. Johns, BHC, Janine Moore, RUHS-BH, Robert Bohon Lara, TAY Desert, Luciana Hsu, SSG/APCTC, Miranda DeShields, Central Children’s Region, Lauren Valles, & Dinah Support K-9, Riverside, DA’s Office, Barbara Salinas, Riverside, DA’s Office, John DeVries, VCSS, Diana Gutierrez, PEI, Jose Campos, JVUSD, Shelby Colbert, Youth Connect, Kelly Grotsky, Desert Children’s Region, Novanh Xayarath, Western Children’s Region RUHS-BH, Yazan Khoury, RC/SELPA, Rachel Douglas, PS&T, Jana Garrett, SSG/RCC, Javier Garcia, Carolyn E. Wylie Center, Lupe Madrigal, SAPT/FNL, Lauren Adamson, RUHS-Peer Services, Flor Ramos, McKinley, Rachel Douglas, PS&T and Kelly Grotsky, Desert Children’s Region.

Recorder: Saida Spencer

Presentation: Lauren Valles, Riverside DA’s Office, Victim Services Supervisor, Handler for Support K9- Dinah shared the following: The Crime Prevention Unit PowerPoint and its core of services.

- SARB: School Attendance Review Board
- Case Management & Mentoring
- Countywide Prevention Presentations
- DART: De-escalation and Assistance Resource Team
- Stability Funding

The mission is to collaborate with the community partners to assist young people stay in school, achieve academic success, and develop positive life skills.

Developing programs and strategies designed to suppress crime, prevent victimization, and address the needs of at-risk youth and their families. For further information 951-955-5400 CPU@rivcoda.org or www.rivcoda.org/crime-prevention-unit

Meeting Called to Order & Introductions: 12:00 p.m. Attendees introduced themselves and their agencies.

Review of Minutes: The April 22, 2025, minutes reviewed. Tori St. Johns, motions to approve the minutes as written, Shelby Colbert, seconded the motion, and members approved.

Chairperson Remarks: Tori shared the following: The May is Mental Health Month - Art Show was well attended and many of the RUHS team purchased art. In addition, to the art the participates also painted rocks with little messages of encouragement. Those that provided the art were so excited that those in attendance were purchasing their items.

Those seeking resources for themselves or loved ones found resources and tools for self-care.

For further information please visit please visit <https://www.ruhealth.org/events/art-wellness-mental-health-event>

The Pride Prom was held at the VIP Rose Garden at Empire Polo, which is where the Stagecoach Coachella happens.

Thank you, Rob, for introducing me to Alesha Reynoso, TAY Flow, Parent Partner/Peer Support Specialist. It was an amazing event, and to quote Alesha “it was an absolutely magical night”.

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Desert Children’s Region: Kelly Grotsky shared that everyone is sending emails to say what a fantastic time they had at the Pride Prom. Alesha Reynosa is a newly hired Parent Partner at TAY Desert Flow, and she is amazing and very creative. On Mother’s Day Alesha (along with the team) put together a very special event for the TAY Mothers.

In addition, at the May Event a bus load of the youths from Cathedral City High School, that participate in the Health Academies came to the event. Everyone was so excited by this, because these events are held in the middle of the day and it's difficult for kids to get out of school, but they were able to plan accordingly and made a field day trip out of it. Kelly shares that while at another meeting the event was being mentioned, as a positive event and that the outing was so great for the kids to be involved in, and how many resources were available that the academy decided to put the event on their calendar and want to coordinate it for next year so that they can have all the Health Academies in the districts participate.

The youth are preparing for graduation. There will be graduation gifts and parties at the TAY Desert Flow.

- TAY Flow is having a brunch on Friday, June 20, 2025, 12-2 p.m., Preparing for the actual (June) Pride Month, because here in the Desert, we celebrate Pride in November. (see attached flyer)

The department is hiring a YECM (Youth Enhanced Care Management) Supervisor position.

Western Children’s Region: Novanh Xayarath shared the following updates:

Thinking of doing a Western Region art show here at the Myers Fall Festival Event. Currently, in the onboarding process, is a newly hired TAY Stepping Stone Supervisor, coming from public health with a background at the TAY drop in center in the Riverside area.

- Training for FBT (Family-Based Therapy) and ED (Eating Disorder Diagnosis and Management) June 2 & 3, 2025, 9-4 p.m. at 2085 Rustin Ave., Conf Room 1055, Riverside, CA 92507. RUHS-BH Registration via Google Form Link: <https://forms.gle/x2seYU2d62mio8DT9> Free to all registered participants. Must attend both dates for credit.
- Training for DBT (Dialectical Behavioral Therapy) for ED (Eating Disorders) June 11 & 12, 2025, 8:30-3:30 p.m. Day 1 – Conf Room 1051 and Day 2 – Conf Room 1055 at 2085 Rustin Ave., Riverside, CA 92507. RUHS-BH Registration via Google Form Link: <https://forms.gle/rNfvYvQc5982wB2L8> Free to all registered participants. Must attend both dates for credit.
- These trainings/course meets the qualifications for 11 CEU’s (continuing education units/credits/hours).

Novanh nxayarath@ruhealth.org for further information.

Central Children’s Region: Miranda DeShield shared the following:

Doctor Emma Gerrard, PCIT Trainer, is retiring from the county and tomorrow (May 28) is their last day.

RUHS-BH Update: Janine Moore, shared the following updates:

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The department is currently evaluating the impact of BHSA (Behavioral Health Services Act). There are a group of us meeting to talk about the transition from MHSA to the BHSA and what that will look like. Taking a deep dive into which programs fit, which categories specifically for those in the room, there is a requirement of 51% of the BHSA bucket required for early intervention for youth 0-25.

Sort of the culture shift that comes with BHSA that is an important philosophical shift for responsibility of services among, the health plans, and public health plans, as a system must learn the new philosophy. Dr. Chang alluded to this at the last BH Commission meeting.

RUHS-BH is awarded a Prop 1 grant \$155,000,000 to build out, to expanded youth behavioral health programming on the Beaumont Campus to build:

- A 30-bed adolescent residential substance use program.
- Urgent care specifically on that campus, psychiatric residential treatment facility or PRTF, which is a new model in the state of California and a full co-occurring outpatient program for children in the community at large, they're talking about completion April 2028,

The other award received is the 180ish million for the Wellness Village, with a completion date no later than December 31, 2026, which is less than three years from now.

- As Dr. Chang calls them: Kid-kid beds.

Behavioral Health Commission/Regional Board Updates:

Tori passed around a copy of Dr. Chang’s presentation from the May 7th, BH Commission Meeting with information and data:

- Crisis Team,
- A list of the Leveraging/Grants available
- Attacking the problem
- Wellness Village Health Services.

Parent Support & Training: Rachel Douglas shared:

Parent Support and Training Program just wrapped up the Children's Mental Health Awareness Celebration at the Myers Camus on May 22, 2025. The event was fantastic.

PS&T does not have the numbers yet, but there were many vendors from RUHS-BH community partners and contract providers. There was alot of gave aways and opportunities to win prizes. The miniature horses were in attendance, and they were a big hit.

Currently, the department is preparing for the 27th seasonal “Fill a Backpack” Project. Still providing support groups in person and online for families in the community. In the summer months the program provides parenting classes.

The monthly “Open Door” Support Group, and weekly online support group that meet once a week in the evenings, is also ongoing.

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Prevention & Early Intervention

The last week of May, PEI hosted the May calendar, hopefully everyone received it, shared it, and participated in some of the activities.

There's some things happening this week, and of course some of those activities are things everyone could probably do even outside of May.

The “Directing Change, local recognition and screening ceremony went well with about 300 people or so in attendance. Christian Moreno from Tay Stepping Stones submitted an entry. Currently, on as Riverside County Tour, doing live performance of his submission and did the intermission show of the performance during the show, the event was well received.

There were 251 films submitted to the state this year with several regional wins. The state award ceremony was last Thursday, and I need to look up who won, but know that RUHS had at least one group of Riverside students, if not two, that were sent to the state as being a finalist for the state.

Starting plans of DARE to be Aware Youth Conference next January. Looking for topics of interests.

- One of Diana’s staff is leading the coordination and trying to meet with school counselors before the end of the school year, in order to get a better sense of topics - mostly high school and some middle schools - that participate, to provide feedback.

Suicide Prevention and Mental Health Awareness trainings continue to be made available all month long. For further information please contact Diana Gutierrez.

Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment & Friday Night Live: Lupe Madrigal shared the following:

Up and running, providing services to youth. Starting to plan for Recovery Happens in September. Flyer will be provided as the information becomes available.

Collaborating with Kelly and Jenny by providing a BHS III at the Harmony Haven site Monday through Friday and every other week Friday, providing substantive prevention and treatment services to the youth.

So far the reports have been good as the counselor is working out and being successful in providing those services.

As far as the school-based services, the last time my department counted it was 56 school’s county wide.

Friday Night Live short staffed across the board.

Reported that FNL is winding down for the school year with an Annual Awards Ceremony, on May 23, 2025, at the Renaissance Hotel in Palm Springs with 445 guests.

The students, adult ally, and parents experienced a show presented by Riverside FNL Youth council and staff; with a sit down 3 course meal, and the chapters who went above and beyond received a trophy or an award.

Desert TAY Flow: Robert Bohon-Lara shared the following:

The program hired a new Senior Peer Refujio Vivanco the TAY Center in La Quinta.

The art show which was amazing and a shout out to everyone that made this possible.

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Mid-County & Western TAY: Lauren Adamson shared the following updates:

Monthly all Peer Trainings are open to any Peer that serves in any of the counties.

For information on the trainings please connect with: Lauren Adamson laadamson@ruhealth.org for the Mid-County Region. Joshua Korhely Jkorhely@ruhealth.org for the Western & Central Region. Rob Bohan-Lara RLara@ruhealth.org for the Desert Region

Lauren and Beverly McKeddie, facilitate a trans workgroup, the first Tuesday of every month from 2:00 to 3:00 online via Microsoft Teams, and originally it was started to support transgender, diverse and intersex kiddos.

Really have opened it up to wanting to support that population across the lifespan due to the challenging times. For those that are passionate about serving the community, to come together and figure out how best to serve.

Agency Reports:

Riverside DA’s Office: Lauren Valles & K9 Dinah shared the following:

Free Community Event-The Whole Collaborative Summer Kickoff Event on June 6th from 10-2 p.m.at the Hemet Public Library 300 E. Latham Ave., Hemet CA 92543.

- Resources, Food & Refreshment, Kids activity plenty of supportive services and opportunity giveaways.
- For further information please connect with Norma Fabian norma.fabian@fsaca.org or call 951-686-3750.

July 14, 2025 is the next “Violence Prevention Council Meeting”

Deputy District Attorney Angela Brunson will be presenting on the Internet Crimes Against Children. There is a limited number of people that may attend. Will also be online via Microsoft Teams from 1:30-3:30 p.m. for further information please contact

Currently, working with partners with the State Family Justice Center. Planning two camps this year,

- Camp Hope takes place on the week of July 4, 2025. Hoping to take about 36 Kiddos up to Angelus Oaks in the San Bernardino Mountains.
- Camp Highlander at UCR 2 weeks after that, with a lot of fun activities and therapy workshops for the kiddos.

Dinah, Lauren, and the staff will be there as well, taking a bunch of the kiddos that are involved in the PAL (Police Activities League) Program. This is a day camp for one week on the UCR’s campus.

- Rock climbing wall, ropes course, and the swimming pool.

McKinley: Flor Ramos shared the following:

Updates since the last meeting, for Mid-County, onboarded four additional clinicians. For the Western region, one clinician joined us.

CIFT (Culturally Informed Flexible Family Therapy) is one of the newest programs kids ages 9 through 18.

Families do have to consent to family therapy just because it is very intensive. It’s about two hours of family therapy a week, the program has received a few referrals now, and that’s been great for our clinicians.

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RC SELPA: Yazan shared that the Mental Health Matters Symposium, (the fifth annual event) two weeks ago, turnout was great. The program had a therapy dog which was awesome. Thank you everyone that participated. Looking forward to next year.

VCCS: John DeVries shared the following:

Following Riverside County leads, VCCS is planning an Art of Wellness Day in June at their Hemet site. VCCS Had no idea how it would turn out and is amazed by the number of families (200) that RSVP ‘d. They had over 100 kids submit pieces.

The first year of the Riverside Wraparound Program continues to expand with 75 clients now being served, and with only 100 slots total, the program may just fill up those 100 by the end of July.

VCCS is going to start tracking three areas (in a data informed way) of daily living skills: sleep, nutrition, and movement, and try to set a plan for each of the kids around those three areas.

Reading of the negative effect those 3 areas play a key role on the kids’ mental health issues. See how it all works out and will come back to the committee with tracking information.

Jurupa Vally USD: Jose Campos shared the following:

JVUSD is excited to announce that in collaboration with PEI, working on the contract for Bounce Back. Wrapping up for the school year and are working to increase the availability of mentorship.

Just completed final interviews and will be offering the job to two clinicians for the bounce back program. In addition, want to share that there is an offering for California School-Based Health Alliance, for reduction and for treatments through a Stanford study for cannabis, for one time or single time use of cannabis or smoking tobacco.

Awarded a \$10,000 three-year grant for each if the high schools.

Carolyn E. Wiley Center: Javier Garcia, shares the following updates:

Two new clinicians are starting next week, which is awesome.

Want to thank Novanh and the Eating Disorder Program for the support and for providing the clinician training. As well as meeting with Jeaneth a couple of weeks ago. Looking forward to collaborating beyond the same page with our eating disorder population.

The indigenous focus psychotherapy program is fully underway, working with the indigenous communities that are federally and/or non-federally recognized.

Preparing for an experiential training next week, with most of the clinicians being accompanied by Doctor Sean Milanovic. A steady influx of referrals and participating in outreach with regards to – off - reservation services for the Native American indigenous communities.

Youth Connect: Shelby Colbert shared the following.

A new Clinical Therapist is coming on board. Bethsaida Cuevas is actually returning to Youth Connect, taking some time off to complete their studies and decided to come back to Youth Connect. The program is really excited to have them

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back.

In addition, the program has a monthly fun calendar, and are very excited, and gearing up for the fun summer activities with the youths out in the field.

SSG/RCC: Jana Garrett shared the following:

The program hired a new bilingual (Spanish) speaking Peer Support Specialist. This is the perfect time for them to be coming on, to give that extra assistance with the client satisfaction surveys.

Next Meeting: **June 24, 2025**
Time: 12-2 p.m.
Location: **2085 Rustin Ave., Conf Room 1051**
 Riverside, CA 92507
Note: Lunch will be provided

Pursuant to The Behavioral Health Commissioners: Please note that moving forward the Standing Committee agendas and minutes shall be posted on the website for your reference as well as the Public.

<https://www.ruhealth.org/behavioral-health/advisory-committees>