



# BH CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE MEETING

Meeting the 4th Tuesday of Every Month

Recorder: Saida Spencer: Executive Assistant II  
[sspencer@ruhealth.org](mailto:sspencer@ruhealth.org) 951-358-7348

**RUHS–Behavioral Health**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Children’s Committee**  
**Meeting MINUTES**  
**4/22/2025**

Tori St. Johns, BHC, Janine Moore, RUHS-BH, Shelby Colbert, Youth Connect, Joshua Korhely, RUHS-BH TAY, Suzette Donaldson, Carolyn E. Wylie Center, Olivia Novoa, Pre-School 0-5 Program, Novanh Xayarath, Western Children’s Region RUHS-BH, Emilee Tran, CSD-YCR, Yazan Khoury, RC/SELPA, GeBren Blakely, MBR, Jeaneth Alvarez, MBR, CPU, Jana Garrett, SSG/RCC, Javier Garcia, Carolyn E. Wylie Center, Lupe Madrigal, SAPT/FNL,

**Hybrid (OWL):** Lauren Valles, & Dinah Support K-9, DA’s Office, Beverly McKeddie, Mid-County RUHS-BH, Lauren Adamson, TAY Mid-County, Maggie Cooper, VCSS, Glenn Ferdinand, Cal-Mentor, Laisa Jamison, JVUSD.

Recorder: Janine Moore, RUHS-BH

**Presentation:** Jeaneth Alvarez, BHS Supervisor, and GeBren Blakely, EdD Staff Development Officer, Mindful, Body & Recovery Program presented an overview of the program.

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

**Review of Minutes:** The March 25, 2025, minutes reviewed. Tori St. Johns, motions to approve the minutes as written, Janine Moore, seconded the motion and members approved.

**Chairperson Remarks:** Tori shared that the May is Mental Health Month Event is coming to the Desert on May 1, 2025 at the Palm Desert Civic Center Park.

**Desert Children’s Region:** Kelly was not present but sent information to share regarding the May Is Mental Health Month event, as well as the Art Show happening in the desert. In addition, the department is interviewing for a YECM (Youth Enhanced Care Management) Supervisor position as Bonnie Monfils left the county.

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

Soulafa Massoud, Supervisor of the Western and Mid-County MDFT program is retiring in June. Soulafa has been with the county for 20 years and has worked in MDFT for 19 of those years.

In addition, Novanh is currently interviewing to fill the Supervisor position at Stepping Stones as Scott McClung retired.

- 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).

**Mid-County Region:** Beverly McKeddie shared the following:

Tracy Dewing is the new Supervisor for The TAY Arena. Beverly announced that the Mid-County MIMHM Event will be held on 5/8/2025 from 11:30-4:30 p.m. at the San Jacinto Valley-Wide Recreation & Park District.

**RUHS–Behavioral Health**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Children’s Committee**  
**Meeting MINUTES**  
**4/22/2025**

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

The department is currently evaluating the impact of BHSA (Behavioral Health Services Act).

The Wellness Village is continuing to be built at great speed with a completion date no later than December 31, 2026.

The department is evaluating which programs at the Village will be contract out and a schedule is being develop to out “Request for Proposals for those programs.

**Behavioral Health Commission/Regional Board Updates:**

Novanh shared that Telecare provided a presentation of their services at the Western Regional Board meeting and shared that the attendance at the meeting is growing.

Tori shared that they Desert’s MIMHM Event is scheduled for 5/1/2025 from 11:30-4:30 p.m. at Palm Desert Civic Center Park. The 20th annual Art Show is scheduled for 5/13/2025, from 11-2. p.m. at the Taj Mahal, located at 46350 Arabia St., Indio, CA 92201.

In addition, Tori shared that the BHC (Behavioral Health Commission) shared about the presentation at the BHC by the TAY Stepping Stones consumer and the music the consumer created.

Beverly shared that at the Mid-County Regional Board meeting, there was a MHSA annual update presentation, and a presentation on the YHIP (Youth Hospital Intervention Program).

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

Reported that FNL is winding down for the school year with an Annual Awards Ceremony, May 23, 2025, at 5:30pm to celebrate the FNL chapters - Renaissance in Palm Springs. The students, adult ally, and parents will experience 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 will received a trophy or an award. Any questions, please contact Lupe Madrigal [LMadrigal@ruhealth.org](mailto:LMadrigal@ruhealth.org)

**Mid-County & Western TAY:** Lauren Adamson and Joshua Khoury shared the following updates:

There will be TAY Zones at each of the MIMHM events and there are several peers onboarding.

For information on the trainings please connect with: Lauren Adamson for the Mid-County Region. Joshua Korhely [JKorhely@ruhealth.org](mailto:JKorhely@ruhealth.org) for the Western & Central Region. Rob Bohan-Lara [RLara@ruhealth.org](mailto:RLara@ruhealth.org) for the Desert Region

**Agency Reports:**

**RC SELPA:** Yazan shared that they Mental Health Matters Symposium is scheduled for 5/13 & 5/14 8:30-3:30 p.m. at the Riverside Convention Center 3637 5<sup>th</sup> St., Riverside, CA 92501.

**SSG/RCC:** Jana Garrett shared the following update:

The program has increased therapy groups for all ages to meet the needs of the youth they serve. SSG/RCC staff attended the MVUSD Parent Symposium.

Jana also shared on behalf of Luicana Hsu APCTC (Asian Pacific Counseling & Treatment Center) the program is offering parenting groups in Korean on Fridays and in Tagalog on Sundays.

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

**RUHS–Behavioral Health**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Children’s Committee**  
**Meeting MINUTES**  
**4/22/2025**

Attended the RUHS sponsored “Why Culter Matters” Symposium and it was great. The program has hired 2 new therapists and the new hire will be ED (Eating Disorder) trained.

The program has had an influx on referrals for 0–5-year-olds and that the current caseload is nearly 40% 0-5. In addition they currently have 50% bilingual (Spanish) speaking staff, 2 therapists that speak Tagalog and 2 therapists that speak Farsi.

Suzette Donaldson shared there are now 2 Senior Parent Partners and 10 Peer Support Specialists, all of whom are bilingual.

**CSD/DPSS:** Emilee Tran from DPSS, YCR Region shared that they have a Senior Portrait Event scheduled for 5/3 at Crestmore Manor for 130 foster youth that are scheduled to graduate. They will also be having a foster youth graduation event at March Air Reserve Base.

**Jurupa Vally USD:** Laisa Jamison shared the following:

JVUSD is wrapping up for the school year and are working to increase the availability of mentorship.

**Cal-Mentor:** Glenn Ferdinand shared the following:

Announcing the hiring of 2 new Program Directors for the Riverside and Desert locations. Glenn states that the program will continue to provide the IHBS (Intensive Home-Based Services) in each of the Regions.

**VCCS:** Maggie Cooper shared the following:

Their new Access Team is up and running and completes all the new assessments. VCSS has also expanded the Incredible Years training for staff and have 67 youth enrolled in Wraparound.

**RC DA’s Office – Crime Prevention Unit:** Lauren Valles, Riverside County DA’s Office, Victims Services Supervisor and Dinah Support K-9 Unit.

The Crime Prevention Victim vigils were well attended. In addition, Lauren, shared that the “Violence Prevention Council” meeting is scheduled on 5/12 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. and encouraged everyone to attend.

For further information 951-955-5400 [www.rivcoda.org](http://www.rivcoda.org) [CRU@rivcoda.org](mailto:CRU@rivcoda.org)

Lauren Valles, Victim Services Supervisor and Support K9 Dinah visit Harmony Haven once a month to visit with the kids on the last Thursday of the month from 5:00 to 7:00 pm.

**Next Meeting:**           **May 27, 2025**  
**Time:**                    12-2 p.m.  
**Location:**             **2085 Rustin Ave., Conf Room 1051**  
                              **Riverside, CA 92507**  
**Note:**                    Lunch will be provided

**RUHS–Behavioral Health  
Behavioral Health Commission Children’s Committee  
Meeting MINUTES  
4/22/2025**

**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>**