



**Community Forum Workgroup  
Minutes  
January 17, 2012  
12:00 pm to 2:00 pm  
1500 Capitol Avenue, Room 72.167  
Sacramento, CA 95811**

**Committee Members:**

**Staff:**

**Other Attendees:**

<p>Eduardo Vega, Workgroup Co-Chair Ralph Nelson, M.D., Workgroup Co-Chair Victor Carrion, M.D., Workgroup Co-Chair Kamila Baker* Amber Burkan Kathleen Casela Rocco Cheng, Ph.d. Carmen Diaz (for Ruth Tiscareno) Richard Krzyzanowski Abby Lubowe Raja Mitry Monica Nepomuceno Darlene Prettyman</p>	<p>Matt Lieberman Dee Lemonds Peter Best Jose Oseguera Kevin Hoffman*</p>	<p>Delphine Brody Viviana Criado Gwen Slattery</p>
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Committee members absent: Khatera Aslami,  
\*Participated by phone.

**Welcome/Introductions**

Commissioner Eduardo Vega, Co-Chair of the Workgroup, convened the meeting at 12:00 pm.

- The meeting participants introduced themselves.

**Review/Approve November 30, 2011 Minutes**

Minutes approved as corrected.

**Debrief Modesto Community Forum and Discuss Planning for Community Forums in 2012**

The following are the highlights from the discussion:

- Commissioner Vega commented that staff did great outreach for the Modesto Community Forum. He also complimented Dr. Rocco Cheng for his outreach efforts to the Southeast Asian Community, including Hmong, Laotians, and Cambodians. Several other members commented on the successful outreach to members of ethnic groups. Suggestion to have outreach to County Boards of Supervisors to get them to forums for their education on mental health issues. Commissioner Vega noted that the feedback process, or break out group report-out, did not work and some of the groups took too much time.
- Commissioner Nelson was pleased with the great turn-out for the event and thought the forum was excellent. He commented that work needed to be done on how to split up the break out groups. Others commented that the movement to break out groups was vastly improved.
- There were several other comments on the excellent turn-out for the forum. Comment that not all ethnic groups were represented in the survey and that individual conversation could lead to greater understanding about the background of forum participants. Suggestion that it would be good to have some culturally competent individuals available to talk to people who may have issues that cannot be handled by the break out groups.
- Comment that the beginning of the forum is important and there may need to be a review of the beginning of the forum. Others commented that the introduction was simply too long. Some suggested the introduction should be shared by more than one presenter. Suggestion that a poster board could be created about the MHSA.
- Thanks were expressed for the choice of a Central Valley location for a forum as many unserved and underserved people live in the valley.
- Comment that there was not enough time for dialogue in the break-out groups.
- Comment that K-12 representatives were not present at the forum. Suggestion to have a forum at a school. Comment that many schools do not want mental health advocates in the schools. Issue raised that children are in school until mid-afternoon and facilities are not available until then.

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- Comment that the question list is too long and needs to be shortened. However, longer questionnaire could still be handed out to be filled out in writing. Commissioner Vega suggested having five basic break-out group questions.
- Extensive discussion surrounded a comment that one participant was very rude to a scribe. Suggestion to create an introductory slide with respectful ground rules for conversation. Suggestion to have a staff floater to help deal with problem situations. Commissioner Vega suggested having ground rules in the PowerPoint and in handouts. He also stated that the Workgroup members need to be defended.
- Commissioner Vega suggested having consumer providers and parent providers in a separate break-out group. Comment that new questions would have to be developed for this group.
- Comment that staff suggestion number 10, regarding how to structure the report-back period, was very useful.
- Short discussion on deciding time for forums. Commissioner Vega stated that he would decide time for forums in the next few days.

Public Comment:

- Comment that Workgroup members should not take comments from forum participants personally because many people are dealing with mental health issues. Request for tolerance.
- Comment that facilitators have multiple roles and need to be taught about facilitation for Community Forums. Individual offered to help with teaching facilitators.
- Comment that the introductory PowerPoint should be reduced more. Suggestion to have pictures and trade off speakers. Suggestion to have more break-out rooms. Offer to help with meeting agreements to have civil discourse. Comment that clients should be treated as equals and that bad behavior should not be tolerated.

**Workgroup Identification of Possible Future Agenda Items**

- No items identified.

**Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.