



Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission (MHC)

Established on October 7, 1957

510 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90020

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District 1

Hilda L. Solis

Bennett W. Root, Jr.

Imelda Padilla-Frausto

Susan F. Friedman

District 2

Holly J. Mitchell

Jack Barbour

Kathleen Austria

Reba Stevens

District 3

Lindsey P. Horvath

Martel Okonji

Stacy Dalgleish

Teresa Banko

District 4

Janice Hahn

Marilyn Sanabria

Michael Molina

Vacant

District 5

Kathryn Barger

Brittney Weissman

Judy A. Cooperberg

Lawrence E. Schallert

Board of Supervisor Representative: Kyla Coates, on behalf of Supervisor Janice Hahn

Vision

All Los Angeles County individuals, families, and communities have access to effective mental health care.

Mission

- To advise the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Department of Mental Health Director on issues impacting the County mental health system.
- To review and approve the procedures used to ensure community and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.

Values

- **Accountability for Care:** We believe services and programs should be held to high quality standards and result in effective care and positive outcomes.
- **Access to Person Centered Care:** We believe treatment should be easily accessed, in a welcoming and respectful environment, and tailored to meet differences in individual need. The individual should be a partner in their treatment process.
- **Comprehensive Care:** We believe in the systematic coordination of health care that addresses mental health, substance abuse and primary care services to ensure the best outcomes for those with multiple healthcare needs. Comprehensive care should also address stigma and structural barriers to individuals in obtaining education, employment, secure housing and other services.
- **Trauma Informed Care:** We believe the organization and treatment framework should involve understanding, recognizing and responding to the effects of all types of trauma, not just on the individual seeking treatment but to the family and community.
- **Community Responsive Care:** We believe in recognizing individual and systematic bias and responding to issues that lead to disparities in either allocation of resources or poor outcomes for specific communities or sub-populations. Cultural customs, practices or rituals that can positively impact treatment outcomes should be identified and incorporated, where possible.

Cultural Statement

The MHC is committed to building an intentional culture of collaboration, transparency, and accountability in which all Commissioners are:

- **Passionate** about the MHC vision, mission, and values.
- **Committed** to cultural humility through compassion and respect.
- **Open and responsive** in establishing and maintaining partnerships to achieve strategic priorities.
- **Innovative, results focused, and action-oriented.**
- **Seeking clarity** to advocate productively, effectively and efficiently for positive impact on the delivery of quality care in Los Angeles County.
- **Inclusive** and do not discriminate based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions), disability (physical or mental), age (40 and older), citizenship status, marital status, sexual orientation, genetic information, gender, AIDS/HIV, medical condition, political activities or affiliations, or previous salary.

Commission Role

State law requires that each county have a Mental Health Board or Commission. Members are appointed by the BOS for 3-year terms. Those terms may be extended. Commissioners advise the BOS and the Director of Mental Health on various aspects of local mental health programs. The role of the commission is established in the Welfare and Institutions Code (W.I.C.), under 5604.2.

- Review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, services, facilities, and special programs.
- Review any county agreements entered pursuant to Section 5650 W.I.C.
- Advise the BOS and the local mental health director regarding any aspects of the local mental health programs.
- Review and approve the procedures used to ensure citizen and professional involvement at all stages of the planning process.
- Review and make recommendations on applicants for the appointment of the local director of mental health services. The Commission shall be included in the selection process prior to the vote of the governing body.
- Review and comment on the county's performance outcome data and communicate its findings to the State Mental Health Planning Council.
- Assess the impact of the realignment of services from the state to the county on services delivered to clients and on the local community.
- The BOS may transfer additional duties to a mental health board or commission.

For more information, please visit: dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mental-health-commission.