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Los Angeles County
Department of Mental Health
550 South Vermont, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Phone: 213-738-4601
Fax: 213-386-1297

If You Are in Crisis and Need Help Right Away,
Call Toll-Free, 24/7 Access Helpline:
1-800-854-7771

Los Angeles County
Department of Mental Health
Service Area 1 Advisory Committee
2323-A Palmdale Blvd.,
Palmdale, CA 93550
(661) 223-3800 Fax (661) 537-2937

Jonathan E. Sherin, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, Los Angeles County
Department of Mental Health

JoEllen Perkins, L.C.S.W.
Mental Health Clinical Program Manager III
Service Area 1
ABOUT LACDMH
The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) is the largest county mental health department in the country. LACDMH directly operates 75 program sites and more than 100 co-located sites.
LACDMH contracts with approximately 1,000 providers, including non-governmental agencies and individual practitioners who provide a spectrum of mental health services to people of all ages to support hope, wellness and recovery.

LACDMH MISSION
Enriching lives through partnerships designed to strengthen the community’s capacity to support recovery and resiliency.

OUR VALUES
Integrity: We conduct ourselves professionally according to the highest ethical standards.
Respect: We recognize the uniqueness of every individual and treat all people in a way that affirms their personal worth and dignity.
Accountability: We take responsibility for our choices and their outcomes.
Collaboration: We work together toward common goals by partnering with the whole community, sharing knowledge, building strong consensus and sharing decision-making.
Dedication: We will do whatever it takes to improve the lives of our clients and communities.
Transparency: We openly convey our ideas, decisions and outcomes to ensure trust in our organization.
Quality and Excellence: We identify the highest personal, organizational, professional and clinical standards and commit ourselves to achieving those standards by continually improving every aspect of our performance.

WHAT IS SAAC?
Service Area 1 Advisory Committee (SAAC) functions as a local forum of consumers, families, service providers and community representatives to provide the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (DMH) with information, advice and recommendations regarding:
- The functioning of local service systems
- The mental health service needs of their geographic area
- The most effective/efficient use of available resources
- The maintenance of two-way communication between the DMH and various groups and geographic communities

HOW YOU CAN HELP
SAAC members reflect the rich diversity of the community. They are from all age groups, ethnic backgrounds, neighborhoods and communities. Members of SAAC may be individuals diagnosed with a mental illness or dealing with both mental illness and substance abuse. Whether you are a consumer, family member, community representative or representative of a local government agency; everyone is encouraged to join.

BECOME AN ADVOCATE FOR MENTAL HEALTH IN YOUR COMMUNITY
- Provide feedback to DMH on the quality of its programs and services
- Participate in DMH planning efforts
- Educate the community on mental health issues
- Provide feedback and help determine the community’s mental health needs
- Share your unique perspective on mental health issues
- Attend monthly meetings and learn about mental health issues
- Meet other stakeholders of mental health advocating in your community
- Work to address special needs that encourage the development of meaningful, responsive services
- Advocate with other interested community members and representatives of local governments

SAAC MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month from 3:00-5:00PM.
Please call (661) 223-3817 in advance to confirm the date, location, meeting time and your attendance.