

Mental Health Commission

State law requires that each county have a Mental Health Board or Commission. Members are appointed by the Board of Supervisors for three-year terms. Those terms may be extended. Commissioners advise the Board of Supervisors 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, under 5604.2:

- Review and evaluate the community's mental health needs, services, facilities, and special programs.
- Review any county agreements entered into pursuant to Section 5650 W.I.C.
- Advise the Board of Supervisors 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.
- Submit an annual report to the Board of Supervisors on the needs and performance of the county's mental health system.
- 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 Board of Supervisors may transfer additional duties or authority to a mental health board or commission.

Membership

The Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission consists of sixteen members. By law, one member of the Commission must be a member of the Board of Supervisors. Section 5604 W.I.C. sets very specific membership requirements. Fifty percent of the Commission membership shall be consumers or the parents, spouse, sibling, or adult children of consumers, who are receiving or have received mental health services. Consumers constitute at least 20% of the total membership. Families of consumers constitute at least 20% of the membership.

The law also establishes special requirements on ethnic diversity and conflict of interest. Commission membership should reflect the ethnic diversity of the client population in the county and the demographics of the county as a whole, to the extent feasible.

The special requirement in relation to conflict of interest is that "No member of the Commission or his or her spouse shall be a full-time or part-time county employee of a county mental health service, an employee of the State Department of Mental Health, or an employee of, or a paid member of the governing body of a Bronzen-McCorquodale contract agency."

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Mental Health Commission, contact your Board of Supervisors representative.

First District
Hilda L. Solis (213) 974-4111

Second District
Mark Ridley-Thomas (213) 974-2222

Third District
Sheila Kuehl (213) 974-3333

Fourth District
Janice Hahn (213) 974-4444

Fifth District
Kathryn Barger (213) 974-5555

Committees/Advisory Groups

- Integration Advisory Board Meeting (IAB)
- DMH Assisted Outpatient Treatment Committee (Laura's Law)
- DMH System Leadership Committee (SLT)
- DMH New Employee Orientation (NEO)
- MH Commission & Service Area Advisory Committee (SAAC)
- California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions (CALBHB/C)

Public Meeting Information

The Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission meets on the fourth Thursday of each month, January through October, and the third Thursday in November and December. Meetings are held from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm. Most meetings are held in Room 739 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration. For Commission minutes or other information, please call the Commission at (213) 738-4772. The Executive Committee meets the second Thursday of each month from 10 am to Noon. The chair may change the date and time of the Executive Committee.

2018 Meeting Dates

MHC/SAAC Co-Chairs	Executive Committee	Full Commission
January 9	January 11	January 25
February 13	February 8	February 22
March 13	March 8	March 22
April 10	April 12	April 26
May 8	May 10	May 24
June 12	June 14	June 28
July 10	July 12	July 26
August 14	August 9	*August (Dark)
September 11	September 13	September 27
October 9	October 11	October 25
November 13	November 1	November 15
December 11	December 6	December 20

*The full Commission does not meet in August unless there is an emergency.

Mission, Vision & Values

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 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 needed 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.

Board of Supervisor Designation

COMMISSIONERS BY SUPERVISORY DISTRICT

Hilda L. Solis
First District

Lawrence J. Lue
Susan F. Friedman
Vacant

Mark Ridley-Thomas
Second District

Harold E. Turner
Kita S. Curry, PhD
Reba Stevens

Sheila Kuehl
Third District

Merilla McCurry-Scott, PhD
Rev. Kathy Cooper Ledesma
Stacy Dalglish

Janice Hahn
Fourth District

Jeannine Pearce
Patrick Ogawa
Tiombe Wallace, MFT

Kathryn Barger
Fifth District

Brittney Weissman
Judy A. Cooperberg, MS, CPRP
Vacant

Fifth District
Board Representative

Kathryn Barger
Supervisor

The Mental Health Commission is committed to supporting the Department of Mental Health vision:

"Partnering with clients, families and communities to create "hope ~ recovery ~ wellbeing"

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County of Los Angeles



Mental Health

Commission

550 South Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90020

Telephone: (213) 738-4772

Merilla M. Scott, PhD
Chair

Stacy Dalglish
1st Vice Chair

Susan F. Friedman
2nd Vice Chair

Pinki Mehta, JD, MPH
Executive Assistant

Established October 7, 1957

Webpage ~

http://dmh.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dmh/about_dmh/mhc