



Sachi A. Hamai  
Interim Chief  
Executive Officer

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
**Department of Mental Health**  
550 S. Vermont Avenue  
Los Angeles, California 90020



Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.  
Director

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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CONTACT: Kathleen Piché  
213-738-3700

[kpiche@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:kpiche@dmh.lacounty.gov)

Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige

213-351-5297

[kzarsadiaz@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:kzarsadiaz@dmh.lacounty.gov)

### **COLLABORATIVE PROGRAM RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED AWARD FOR PROMOTING HEALTH EQUITY & SOCIAL JUSTICE**

*Winning program exemplifies how partnerships improve lives in under-served communities.*

**Los Angeles, CA** – The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) is pleased to announce the **Community Partners in Care** program is the recipient of the Community-Campus Partnerships for Health (CCPH)'s annual award for 2015.

Selected by the Community-Campus Partnerships for Health, the CCPH award honors community-campus partnerships that are striving to overcome the causes of economic, environmental, health and social inequalities. Using Community Partnered Participatory Research (CPPR), **Community Partners in Care** builds collaboration among community-based agencies, healthcare organizations and social services to improve the lives of clients with depression in under-resourced communities of color, especially African-Americans and Latinos in Los Angeles County.

Members of **Community Partners in Care** include: The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health; Center for Health Services and Society; Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Behavior, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA; RAND Corporation; Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, Department of Psychiatry; Los Angeles Biomedical Research Institute; and Healthy African American Families II.

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health is the largest county-operated mental health department in the United States, directly operating 75 program sites and more than 100 co-located sites. Each year, it contracts with approximately 1,000 agencies and individual practitioners to provide a spectrum of mental health services to more than 250,000 residents of all ages. The Department's mission -- enriching lives through partnership to strengthen our community's capacity to support recovery and resiliency -- is accomplished by working with stakeholders and community partners to provide clinically competent, culturally sensitive and linguistically appropriate mental health services to clients in the least restrictive manner possible.

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