



PEER RESOURCE CENTER: IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE

Lisa H. Wong, PsyD
Senior Deputy Director
LA County Department of Mental Health

PEER RESOURCE CENTERS

▶ **Olive View Wellness Center/PRC (Service Area 2)**

- Services within the Wellness Center
- In the process of hiring staff
- Scheduled to open March 2022

▶ **West Covina PRC (Service Area 3)**

- Large freestanding PRC
- Plan to implement the Fountain House Social Practice Model
- Scheduled to open in Fall 2022 due to major remodeling needs

▶ **Vermont PRC (Service Area 4)**

- Adjacent to the Koreatown Clinic in the lobby of the new headquarters
- Moved from the 550 building and opened the beginning of November 2021
- Currently providing limited in-person services, virtual groups, and PRK support

▶ **Behavioral Health Center at MLK/PRC (Service Area 6)**

- Large PRC on the first floor of the BHC
- Currently hiring staff
- Scheduled to open March 2022

▶ **Bienestar Wellness Center/PRC (Service Area 7)**

- Services within the Wellness Center
- In the process of hiring staff; services will begin as soon as staff are onboard

Accomplishments FY 21 – 22

- ▶ **Convened weekly PRC Implementation Administrative Workgroup meetings**
- ▶ **Developed budgets for the PRCs and identified funding**
 - SAMHSA
- ▶ **Developed a staffing plan for each PRC and identified available items**
 - All sites have begun hiring and have candidates in process
 - Converted some available items to Supervising Community Health Workers
- ▶ **Finalized space planning**
 - SA 2, 4, and 7 sites are ready for services; SA 6 requires some minor corrections; SA 3 plans are finalized, but will require major remodeling
- ▶ **Final report from Dr. Deborah Pitts, USC School of Occupational Therapy, regarding Peer staff**
 - Funded through a Kaiser Foundation Grant, Dr. Pitts conducted a qualitative study of the current roles of Peer staff and volunteers in our directly operated programs and their preparedness to meet the requirements of SB 803 to become Peer Support Specialists

Plans for 2022

- ▶ Establish a workgroup of SA Chiefs and Program Managers/Supervisors that will utilize the PRC Core Components identified in FY 20 – 21 to develop programming and service approaches for the new PRCs.
- ▶ Develop a Technical Support Team consisting of experienced PRC staff and Peer champions to provide onsite and virtual consultation and support for the new PRCs and their staff.
- ▶ Establish a forum for Peer staff to provide their fellow PRC Peer staff opportunities for providing mutual support, sharing resources, and establishing learning collaboratives.