

MLK MH UCC BY EXODUS READY TO OPEN ITS DOORS
By Karen Zarsadiaz, LACDMH Public Information Officer II



The Martin Luther King, Jr. Mental Health Urgent Care Center (MLK MH UCC) held its ribbon-cutting ceremony on Wednesday, August 27th to officially open its doors. Hosted by Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, the event was heavily attended by county and healthcare leaders, including the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH), Department of Public Health and Department of Health Services.



“We look forward to opening this mental health center so that more residents can receive the services that will improve their lives,” said Supervisor Ridley-Thomas.

“These types of services go a long way toward saving taxpayer dollars and effectively keeping people out of jails, off the streets and into rehabilitation.”



“People living in crisis will have a better chance at recovery because of what we’re doing here today,” stated Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W., LACDMH Director. During his remarks, Dr. Southard also spoke about the importance of support from both the MLK MH UCC and the community in working toward the wellness of the person as a whole.



The facility will open its doors to the public on Thursday, September 4th. The urgent care center is a newly refurbished two-story building which brings preventive and emergency care services to the region. The center will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week (including holidays), offering a variety of services, including psychiatric evaluation and assessment, crisis intervention, medication support and medication management. Adults and teens are able to receive treatment, counseling for alcohol and drugs, and other types of help and referrals. Exodus Foundation for Recovery will run the MLK MH UCC.

The MLK MH UCC was partially funded by the voter-approved Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health.