

## LACMET COALITION MEETS AT LACDMH HQ

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The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACMDH) hosted the monthly LACMET Coalition meeting at headquarters on Wednesday, April 22, 2015. The meeting was also training for the new southeast region mental evaluation teams (MET).

This particular meeting was the first of many that will assist cities who recently started collaborative partnerships with LACMET, including agencies from the southeast region (e.g., Bell, Bell Gardens, CHP, Glendale, Monterey Park, Gardena and Vernon) and later the San Gabriel Valley. About 50 representatives attended the meeting.



The LACMET Coalition is made up of peace officers and LACDMH mental health clinicians from Pasadena, Alhambra, Burbank, Long Beach and the Sheriff's

Department. Recently, the LACMET Coalition won an award for excellence in partnering law enforcement with mental health clinicians from the Peace Officers Association of Los Angeles County (POALAC).



In September 2013, Pasadena Police Department Officer Domino Scott-Jackson and LACDMH Clinician Guillermo Vasquez of the Pasadena Homeless Outreach and Psychological Evaluation (HOPE) Team realized clients were receiving duplicate services in other jurisdictions, impacting the continuum of care and straining city resources. They decided to collaborate with nearby police and community agencies and formed the LACMET Coalition.

Over a year later, the coalition holds monthly meetings, exchanges information, and educates representatives regarding appropriate care, treatment and available resources. LACMET also brings in guest speakers and clients with lived-experience to lecture and provide information regarding the legal, emotional and psychosocial aspects of mental illness.

