RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY CELEBRATES NEW ARCADIA MENTAL HEALTH CENTER
By Karen Zarsadiaz-Ige, LACDMH Public Information Officer

Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich joined the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) and the Department of Public Works (DPW) for a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony on Friday, October 30, 2015 at the location of the new Arcadia Mental Health Center (330 East Live Oak Avenue, Arcadia).

"We look forward to making the community well and providing access to services, so you don't have to leave the San Gabriel Valley," said Supervisor Antonovich. The new mental health center is located in the Supervisor's Fifth District.

Funded by the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), the brand-new, 12,000 square-foot Arcadia Mental Health Center will accommodate more clients and services; up to 2,800 people annually in the surrounding community. The new facility has a waiting area, reception, business offices, a training/conference room, staff lounge and patio, therapy

rooms, group room, exam room, private sound-proof offices for all clinicians and psychiatrists, and an outdoor patio, allowing integrated care treatment for clients as well as providing an environment conducive to *Hope, Wellness and Recovery*.

The Los Angeles County Arts Commission provided a beautiful work of art by Merle Axelrad. The textile centerpiece hangs in the lobby of the mental health center. The three-dimensional sculpture is made up of 10,000 handmade monarch butterflies and 1,000 hand-painted fabric leaves that symbolize the process of change, development and metamorphosis called the butterfly effect. The butterflies and leaves are actually successes and wishes from staff and patients. The work of art illustrates how small steps a person takes in life have the potential to create large change.

“Arcadia Mental Health Center is a place the San Gabriel Valley can count on for *Hope, Wellness and Recovery*,” stated LACDMH Director Marvin Southard, DSW, to the ceremony’s attendees of nearly 100 community members, advocates, clients and staff. “This crowd lets me know we fulfilled our goal – the goal of making this community better and healthier for the future.”