



▶▶ Highlights from the DMH Update ▶▶ March 2023

Crystal Kibby, Board Liaison
Department of Mental Health



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
**DEPARTMENT OF
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▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS: ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

- DMH Leadership Position for February 2023:
 - Director
 - Departmental Information Security Officer
- DMH Hiring Efforts to Date:
 - Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-22: 519 new hires/promotions
 - From July 2022-February 2023: 561 new hires/promotions
 - Clinic Programs: (Adult Outpatient, Child/Family Outpatient, Full-Service Partnership)
 - For the month of February 2023:
 - 31 positions filled
 - 72 positions pending hiring transactions (candidates selected/pending/start dates pending)
 - 192 positions currently in stages of recruitment (actively interviewing)
- MH Commission Referrals Update:
 - No constituent referrals received for the period February 9, 2023-March 8, 2023

▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS: MOTIONS

February Board Motions: In February 2023, the motions below were approved by the Board that are to be **submitted by DMH.**

- **(Revised) Acting to Expand Services for the Misdemeanor Incompetent to Stand Trial Population (Item 11, Agenda of February 7, 2023)**

Purpose: To move forward with the recommendations in a previously submitted report to expand beds and services for MIST population once it is either confirmed to be in compliance with the State requirements or revised to be in compliance.

- **Declaration of Local Emergency for Homelessness - Implementation Actions (Items 1D and 16, Agenda of February 7, 2023)**

Purpose: To move forward with certain implementation actions recommended in previous CEO reports regarding the proclamation of a local emergency for Homelessness.

▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS: MOTIONS

- **Consent Decrees: Achieving Compliance (Item 4, Agenda of February 28, 2023)**
Purpose: To provide the Board with a high-level overview of the existing Consent Decrees the County Department must operate under.
- **(Revised) Advocating for Mental Health Services Act Flexibility (Item 9, Agenda of February 28, 2023)**
Purpose: To advocate for more flexibility in spending the MHSA funds.

▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS: REPORT RESPONSES

February Report Responses:

- **Educating Youth About the School Threat Assessment Response Team (START)-Directive 2 (Item 24, Agenda of July 26, 2022)**
 - This report provides information on trainings, referrals, interventions, and post interventions by START during the period of July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2022, and an update on the START Educational and Awareness Campaign.
 - Highlights:
 - ◁ 50 trainings to various school districts, private schools, County departments, law enforcement, and other entities;
 - ◁ 533 referrals for early screenings and threat assessments;
 - ◁ START Campaign posters installed in 268 schools throughout LA County;
 - ◁ START Campaign public service announcement in production; and
 - ◁ Next report update scheduled for July 2023.
- **Feasibility Study for a Psychiatric Urgent Care Center (UCC) at Rancho Los Amigos (Item No. 91-D, Agenda of December 6, 2022)**
 - This report provides an analysis on the feasibility of opening a psychiatric UCC on the Rancho Los Amigos campus in Downey, CA (Service Area 7).
 - Highlights:
 - ◁ There are significant challenges with siting a psychiatric UCC at this location;
 - ◁ High utilization Rio Hondo/Norwalk area (Service Area 7);
 - ◁ Recommended placement of a facility in Rio Hondo/Norwalk area; and
 - ◁ Round 5 of the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) is currently reviewing applications that could address this need.

▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS: REPORT RESPONSES

- **Report on the Progress of Implementing a Department of Mental Health Community-Based Incubation Academy (Item No. 9, Agenda of May 29, 2018)**
 - This report provides an update from July 2022 through January 2023.
 - Highlights:
 - ◀ Extended for one additional year to June 30, 2023;
 - ◀ Enhanced curriculum and technical assistance for various topics; and
 - ◀ Next report update scheduled for August 2023.
- **Quarterly Progress Update on the Los Angeles County Community School Initiative (CSI) (Item 7, Agenda of April 9, 2019)**
 - The report provides an update from October 2022 through December 2022;
 - Provides highlights of outreach and awareness activities facilitated during this time period for the DMH SBCAP Programs, LAUSD Trauma and Resilience Informed Early Enrichment (TRiEE), and LACOE CSI;
 - The outreach and awareness activities included collaborations with the Youth Committee Ambassador Network (Y-CAN), Youth Commission, Department of Public Health Wellbeing Centers, and various Community Based Organizations; and
 - Next report update scheduled for May 2023.

▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS: REPORT RESPONSES

- **Annual Report to the Board for Expanding Lanterman-Petris-Short and Probate Conservatorship Capacity in LA County (Item 9, Agenda of August 8, 2017)**
 - This is the fourth annual report from the Office of Public Guardian (OPG) providing annual reports to the Board on conservatorships. It includes data for FY 2021-22.
 - Highlights:
 - ◁ Number of OPG clients placed in conservatorship: Probate-100; Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS)-311 new and 1,546 reappointed;
 - ◁ Referrals Accepted and Investigated: 94% Probate and 97% LPS;
 - ◁ 10,413 OPG client visits conducted in FY 2021-22;
 - ◁ 638 LPS conservatorships were terminated in the reporting period; and
 - ◁ Additional data includes information regarding OPG clients in locked facilities, average length of stays, wait times for transfer to higher acuity placements and receiving specialty mental health services (inc. Full-Service Partnership and Outpatient Programs).

▶▶ HIGHLIGHTS: REPORT RESPONSES

- **Report Response on Addressing the Inappropriate Transports of Psychiatric Patients to South Los Angeles (Item No. 12, Agenda of December 6, 2022)**
 - This report provides a response to the Board on their request for the equitable operational and legislative options that better ensure transportation to appropriate mental health treatment and emergency room facilities in their area of residence.
 - Highlights:
 - ◀ Per policy, Department of Health Services (DHS) Emergency Medical Services (EMS) transports patients to the nearest hospital based on incident location, not on the basis of residence location;
 - ◀ Data shows that patients are not being disproportionately transported to hospitals outside of the catchment area based on location of incident;
 - ◀ Confirmed that South Los Angeles has a larger number of EMS responses for behavioral/psychiatric emergencies compared to other regions in LA County; and
 - ◀ Operational Options:
 - DMH will re-issue the letter sent to law enforcement and other entities to take medically stable, low acuity patients, not on an involuntary hold, to closest crisis stabilization unit/psychiatric urgent care.
 - DMH established a collaborative workgroup with the Countywide Justice Coordination Committee to develop protocols for diversion from law enforcement response, including use of 988 Crisis Line and mental health Field Intervention Teams.

QUESTIONS



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