

LARCA

LICENSED ADULT RESIDENTIAL CARE ASSOCIATION

We Care!

Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission Presentation

May 23, 2024

Bennie Tinson, MPP

Executive Director



Our Mission:

To serve our members and the community, we champion resources for facilities and their residents. We build increased public awareness and support for housing and health solutions that serve vulnerable, low-income adults, and the elderly, living with mental illness.

Our Vision:

To act as the voice for Los Angeles County licensed adult residential care facilities, delivering advocacy, education, and training on behalf of our members. "



EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

- Ahmed Saafir, President
- Lupe Harvey, Vice President
- Jay Plotzker, Ph.D., Treasurer
- Desiree Alvarado, Secretary
- Farah Bangash
- Sikander "Andy" Bangash
- Michelle Pullum
- Rebecca Sanchez
- Traute Winters
- Barbara Wilson

LARCA's Core Functions



Advocacy

LARCA will **serve as a lead interface for licensed Board & Care facilities** that serve the most vulnerable populations of residents with legislators, regulators, and policy makers to fund and protect resources.



Education

LARCA will provide education programs for existing and prospective owners and operators to **enhance the sustainability of Board & Care facilities, sharing best practices and keeping vital community resources available.**



Resources

LARCA will build its program service offering and develop access to **supplemental resources and cost savings** that enable owners to reduce operating costs, increase efficiency and improve overall quality of housing and care provided to residents.



LARCA has three, primary strategic goals to guide the organization's service delivery and activity through FY 2024-2025:

**Membership
Growth and
Retention**

**Activation of
Core Functions**

**Financial
Stability**

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP

Totals for May 2024:

Members: 446

ARFs: 244

RCFEs: 202



Recommendations for Action

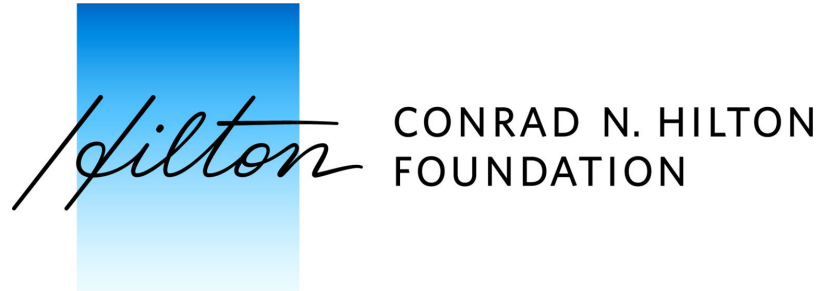
- Prioritize the Industry's integration across policy development, planning, data, and systems of care to house people experiencing homelessness with LAHSA, Coordinated Entry System providers, nonprofits, Los Angeles County service agencies, and local government services, ensuring that ARFs and RCFEs serving the Industry are viewed as a genuine housing resource by all stakeholders, regardless of perspectives on the permanence of the resource, Federal (HUD) definitions of housing, and restrictions on funding streams, as to not allow thousands of available housing placements in ARFs and RCFEs to go underutilized and/or underfunded each year.
- Ensure that ARFs and RCFEs are included and fully integrated in the programs and implementation of funds to be allocated from Proposition 1.
- Take immediate action to fill vacancies in facilities and expand County service networks. Actively work to overcome the Market's collective experience of maintaining separate relationships and interactions across a large and reportedly-confusing range of County agency acronyms, programs, stakeholders, funding sources, and services.

Recommendations for Action

- Reduce service inefficiency from any siloed, single-agency interactions with residents in ARFs and RCFEs receiving services across multiple agencies, programs, and channels by integrating and sharing data between any isolated County government systems, increasing collaborative service delivery approaches, and prioritizing capabilities to develop and deliver effective, whole-person care with reduced points of interface with County administrative stakeholders as a primary service model for the Los Angeles County Market of ARF and RCFE residents.
- Identify and actively reduce the bureaucratic burden on facility owners and operators by streamlining documentation for participation in resident programs and funding channels, as this reduces the capability and time of staff at facilities to manage quality and deliver resident services; this could also be accomplished with more online systems and integration across a unified service focused on delivery to ARFs and RCFEs to consolidate facility interface with County agencies.
- Secure additional funding and a permanent office home for LARCA to sustain the Association as the voice for ARFs and RCFEs in Los Angeles County, a critical housing option for low-income residents living with a serious mental illness and/or substance abuse disorder.



THE BOARD OF
SUPERVISORS



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Q & A



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Thank You!