



PUBLIC COMMENT TO ADDRESS THE MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
November 21, 2024, Mental Health Commission Meeting
 (IN PERSON AND BY PHONE) TRANSCRIPT AND EMAIL ATTACHMENTS

Commissioners by Supervisorial District

District	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th
Supervisor	Hilda L. Solis	Holly J. Mitchell	Lindsey P. Horvath	Janice Hahn	Kathryn Barger
Commissioners	Susan Friedman	Kathleen Austria	Stacy Dalglish	Victor Manalo	Lawrence Schallert
	Bennett W. Root, Jr.	Reba Stevens	Thomas Roache	Michael Molina	Brittney Weissman
	Imelda Padilla-Frausto	Erica Holmes	Jaqueline Sandoval-Valenzuela	Marilyn Sanabria	Vacant

Member from LAC Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Kathryn Barger, Represented by Anders Corey

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The following individuals addressed the Commission either in person or by phone during this meeting. Emailed communication is attached separately.				
Public Comment	Barbara Wilson	In person	Stakeholder Report	Barbara Wilson from service area 2. Just want to give you, our report. We had our normal meeting, and we had a wonderful presentation about domestic violence from the district attorney's office, and one of the topics that we kind of sort of addressed was the issue of older adults who are parents who have an adult child with serious mental illness and how uneven the domestic violence is within the county. It depends on the area of the county that adult protective services is stationed in. That can determine whether or not they even take a report. It's very loosey goosy. Number two, anecdotally, we are seeing people that identify as trans dying by suicide since the election. I want to put that out there for your information. Hopefully, the department will take a stance that they will not involve themselves in the immigration status of people seeking service as has happened in the past. Thirdly, mental health, nonprofit in St. Claire Rita that I founded, we had a stop the stigma event in May. We were encouraged to apply for department of mental health funding. We have four vendors. It's almost Christmas, that have not been paid. We now know they are never going to get paid, so I have to raise \$5,200 very quickly. I want to

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				put that out there. Thank you for your time.
Public Comment	Ricardo	In Person	Stakeholder	Good morning, commissioners, chair, my name is Ricardo, service area four stakeholder. Public comment is about public comment. In the past we have had two rounds of public comment. The second round would be maybe for public comment only made on things of the agenda or presentations going on during the commission meeting. We might want to consider bringing that back. There are questions, great presentations today, and this year at that -- maybe a second round of public comments, to give us a chance to ask a question, or a thought to be followed through. If the commission could take a look at that, I would be grateful. We would all be grateful. Thank you very much.
Public Comment	Coach Milka	In Person	Stakeholder	I'm from spa one and people have known me as coach Mell ca. I am coming to say something on a personal level. I have the privilege to go to the Town Hall meeting, second one initiated for spa 6 some weeks ago. Some things were brought to my attention by one of our commissioners here in regards to spa 1 having the population no beds. Things have been addressed over the last four or five weeks in meetings I have been to. I want to put something out as a person. I came to from spa 2 which I know spa 2 losing housing as a professional going to spa 1 where I am now housed with a lot of tribulation with those that say they'll house me or bridge me to home. To be put in a place where now it's not safe. I think what needs to happen, they need to be understanding of what the law will do if you don't know it. I had a situation that happened day before veteran's where I was trying to protect myself and the perpetrators who now have crushed my hand, accused me of assaulting them because I didn't understand the law or how to call 911 correctly if I could. I was incarcerated. That has caused additional traumatic situation for me where I am right now. I believe people who have become in that situation, they are afraid to talk with the landlord.

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				<p>They are afraid if the landlord is the perpetrator, which I think is happening. I didn't know I would have to say this in this room, but it's something that has to be held and assisted those dealing with housing making sure they are safe and if it becomes unsafe, like right now, I don't know what to do to get to safe housing or who to trust to help me. That's all I have to say as far as one. The other thing I'm saddened, we are not considered. We are really not considered. It disheartens me. I get people knowing I'm in the community asking me how and why. I don't know what to say. Thank you for letting me share. thank you for sharing.</p>
Public Comment	Jim "The Hat"	In Person	General	<p>Good afternoon. Hoping transformation because I feel honest and trustworthy to information. This on the same manner of safe housing. On the news yesterday, I don't know if you have time to look at it, y'all are so busy, the housing artist in Hollywood, they were on T.V. to argue about the raising of the rent. They said that they wouldn't have no raising of the rent, but yet, they are raising the rent and some had to leave because they were not able to afford it. The point is on the TV, management said they didn't have anything in writing. Wait a minute, come on. Let's be honest and true. If they said they would be stable ready to house the ones, let's do that. Anything in between, that's just not right. It's not legal. Become aware of this. Let's find a way to help our homeless, help our low income people be able to use the legal measures as in this lady's case, to defend ourselves. It comes down to this in the legal way learn this. All the people could not be wrong. It was 15 people on the news. All of them couldn't be wrong. So, the management was put on stage on the hot seat, they don't want to answer. No, no. Let's give the right to go to court and teach ourselves how to win in small court on those matters.</p>
Public	Sydney and Yvonne			What's going on? Sydney will go first.

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Comment				<p>Thank you. We just put out for area 7. We put out our 24th episode of coffee with a side of healing which can be found on Youtube. We also have launched a web page titled service area 7, parent support champions. The page focuses on resources for fathers and mothers. We continue to utilize social media to engage the community and share resources that can be followed on LACDMHA7.</p> <p>YHi, everybody. This is Yvonne salt 7 like channel 7. He needs to have a station his own. I'm talking about Heime Gomez, liaison in the service area along with Erica, Evelyn and the staff. With all of them helped launch the fabulous tee shirts with a QR code in the back. Someone else said to me, when she saw we have that she goes, oh, well our liaison doesn't have that. Not everyone is like Heime. We are very, very fortunate to have somebody. Anybody on social media can find us. In order to find, if you don't have Instagram, you can Google salt 7 and it will come up, and I just, again, making sure I'm saying the right thing that it's in the system in social media, and it shows all of the departments, all of the stuff that salt 7 is doing for our area. You know, it's been a beautiful month in between Latin heritage month and you know, the native community, so American Indian counseling center is in Cerritos. This is first time I went there finally. They are in the same building with Rio HANDO clinic. The most important thing about anyone out there listening here with us today, is that come out and join these events because there are so many different kind of resources that I myself would have never known and so please, come out at least once or twice, you know, looking forward to May as mental health. It doesn't matter who is in office. It doesn't matter. We</p>

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				have our own things going on. We can push forward. That's what it's all about.
Public Comment	Andria McFerson	By Phone	Stakeholder Report	<p>I agree with the gentleman beforehand. We need access to the information presented in order to express how we feel about it and how it affects the community. We need public comment at the end. The brief update from Dr., it addressed the homeless population as well. We need to know what's going on and how it needs to be addressed directly from the source. The mental health hospitals are the best way to receive proper data from those whose socialistic behavior is limited due to their open expression. Because I speak about psychological evaluations to house homeless is a necessity, I think the program is very relevant. So, also, a safe place to sleep during the process of actually housing the homeless as well who are a threat to themselves or others. It completely made sense. I had a question. How does the program relate to the homeless initiative, LA county emergency response that the board of supervisors just approved? Is this process regarding that program? Also, Dr I'm sorry, Jennifer Holoman mental health program manager, she talked about access to care as a must. I'm impressed because that's what we have been talking about for a long time because the verb age she used today to describe the program described the lack of care we have received in clinics. I believe to consider and concentrate on timely appointments and functional provider care, follow up appointments and actual data received from direct patient care from actual people who suffer from these changes is amazing. This is something that I spoke about recently during the board of supervisor's meeting, how the community data received needs to be from actual members who are actually expressing willing to express themselves and those who can't as well.</p> <p>Also, please send more street teams to the homeless on the streets</p>

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				who are unwilling to express themselves more eye to eye, peer on peer communication would be great. Thank you.
Public Comment	Osbee Sangster	By Phone	General	Commissioners, consumers and guests, I'm speaking on behalf of black Los Angeles County coalition Inc. Our vision to support health advocacy, literacy excellence, healthcare for all, improving the quality of life for all human beings. Continuing the life work. Well, it looks like the American people have given themselves a self-inflicted wound. Do you like social security? Supplemental income, benefits? You better do something. Say something. These include people with disabilities of all kinds, people 65 and older whose income and assets fall below the threshold. Eligible residents in all 50 states, would you like to have elder care for yourself or your loved ones? Do something. Say something. Do you like democracy and freedom? You better do something. Say something. Do you like your public libraries and public education system? You better do something. Say something. Military women serving with equality? You better do something. Say something. The president elect, immigration mass deportation. Do something. Say something. The list goes on and on and on. I would like to close today with the action alert piece of legislation in congress has been introduced with a vote expected today. While intended to anti-terrorism legislation all nonprofits should be concerned about the dangers of this bill establishing potential for abuse by the executive branch. We employer you to read the bill language. This legislation allows the secretary of treasury to have unilateral authority and discretion. To designate section 501C395 profits as terrorists supporting organizations without requiring the secretary to share full evidence or reasoning. The lack due process protection should be concerning to all Americans. Not just nonprofit organizations, all places the burden of proof on the accused organization with 90 days to demonstrate innocence before revoking tax exempt status. Take

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				action. Tell congress to oppose HR9495. Do your best when you understand know better when you know better to do.

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