

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES-DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

Service Area 1 Leadership Team Monthly Meeting

Gino’s Italian Restaurant

44960 Valley Central Way

Lancaster, CA 93536

October 16, 2025

6:00pm – 8:00pm

[Join Meeting via MS Teams](#)

Meeting ID: 215 193 088 578

Passcode: pJ96dh6i

SALT 1 Microsite| [Service Area Leadership Team 1 \(SALT 1\) - Department of Mental Health](#)

Email: [SALT1@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:SALT1@dmh.lacounty.gov)

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusion	Action Item	Person(s) Responsible	Due Date
Welcome, Land Acknowledgement & Ice Breaker	The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM by Co-Chair Heather Varden, who welcomed all attendees. Heather read the Land Acknowledgment and invited attendees to participate in an optional icebreaker. <i>Disclosure</i> – Meeting recordings, transcripts and power point presentation will be made available on the SA 1 microsite but may be subject to delay in posting.		Co-Chairs	N/A
Review and Approve Meeting Minutes from 09/18/2025	<p>Paper copies of the minutes were available for in person attendees, distributed via email prior to the meeting, and displayed on-screen for online attendees.</p> <p>A motion to approve the minutes was made by Hannah Frank and seconded by Jazz Mitchell. Heather Varden moved to approve the minutes with 20 total member votes, 0 objections, 0 abstentions.</p>		Co-Chairs, SALT1 Voting members	N/A

Presentation(s)	<p>Dr. Victor Manalo, 4<sup>th</sup> District Chair of Behavioral Health Commission, attended and provided an overview of his role and what is happening in the upcoming year with Proposition 1. He also shared current commissioner positions and vacancies, explained the criteria for becoming a commissioner, and distributed business cards for follow-up contact.</p> <p>Jasmine Mitchell from The OUTreach Center gave a presentation on the center and its services. Jasmine requested SALT’s support in sponsoring event space for an upcoming AV Pride event.</p> <p><b>Voting:</b> Co-Chair Heather Varden moved a motion to approve up to \$2,000 towards the Pride event taking place in June of 2026. Hannah Frank approves the motion, Jodi Kyman seconds the motion. <b>Vote tally: Approved 17, Opposed 0, Abstained 0. Motion Status: Approved.</b></p>			
Budget	<p>Review of Fiscal Year (FY) 25/26 SALT current expenses</p> <p><b><u>SALT 1 Fiscal Year 2025-2026</u></b></p> <p><b>Budget Allocation of \$50,000</b> <b>Expense: \$ 13,793.31</b> <b>Remaining \$ 36,206.69</b> of this, \$11,124.40 has been released by SALT 1 to be utilized for Day of Giving, Jan-June SALT monthly meeting refreshments, April SALT dinner meeting, and Native American Heritage Month.</p> <p>Gabby Muniz presented an itemized SALT budget, including year-to-date monthly utilization. She also shared a list of planned expenditures currently in the procurement process. Event and budget proposals for January through June were presented. Paper</p>		Gabriela Muniz, SALT 1 Voting Members	6/30/26

	<p>copies of the budget were distributed for those who attended in person. Gabby asked SALT voting members whether the upcoming event proposals were items SALT wanted to vote.</p> <p>Wendy Cabil proposed an idea for a speaker for Black History Month.</p> <p><b>Voting:</b> Co-Chair Rudy Perez moves a motion to approve up to \$2,000 towards the January, February, and March events in 2026. Hannah Frank approves the motion with the stipulation that if SALT does not identify a worthy organization for these events, the approved funds will be reallocated back to the SALT 1 budget to go towards another event. Wendy Cabil seconds the motion. <b>Vote tally: Approved Total16, Opposed 1, Abstained 1. Motion Status: Approved.</b></p> <p><i>A copy of the budget slides will be posted on the SA1 microsite.</i></p>			
Report Out on DMH O&E and other Outreach and Engagement Activities	<p>Diana Luna-Miller provided SALT 1 with an overview of past and upcoming events. A few photos of SALT 1- sponsored past events, including Suicide Prevention and Hispanic Heritage, were showcased for those in attendance.</p> <p><i>A copy of the event slides will be posted on the SA1 microsite.</i></p>		Diana Luna Miller, Programs & Special Projects (O&E)	Ongoing
Committee Member Reports	<p><b>Co-Chair Updates:</b></p> <p>Heather Varden provided an overview of the BHSA CPT meeting she attended on 9/26/25. She also encouraged people to attend these meetings, which are held both in person and online.</p> <p>Rudy Perez announced that the Mental Health Commissioner vacancy has been filled. Anna Yun Lee was officially appointed to the</p>		Co-Chairs, Committee Members	Ongoing

	<p>position on 9/16/25. Wendy Cabil provided an update on the Cultural Competency Committee. She noted that a new Co-Chair has been appointed and shared updates on the UsCCs and ongoing work. She also informed the group that she will not be serving as a backup but is confident the committee will identify someone to fill that role.</p> <p><b>Underserved Cultural Committees (UsCCs):</b> <i>The following information is being carried over from the previous meeting for reference and to include the meeting date.</i></p> <p><b><u>UsCC's Meeting Schedule</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Access for all UsCC - Every second Wednesday of the month, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.</li><li>• American Indian/Alaska Native UsCC - Every first Wednesday of the month, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.</li><li>• Asian Pacific Islander UsCC - Every fourth Monday of the month, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.</li><li>• Black and African Heritage UsCC - Every first Thursday of the month, 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.</li><li>• Eastern European / Middle Eastern UsCC - Every last Wednesday of the month, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.</li><li>• Latino UsCC - Every third Tuesday of the month, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.</li><li>• LGBTQIA2-S UsCC - Every first Thursday of the month, 2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.</li></ul>		Wendy Cabil, UsCCs, SALT 1 member	
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	<b>DMH Updates:</b> James Coomes thanked everyone for attending and informed them that, due to the nature of the meeting and time constraints, representatives will not stay after the meeting to answer questions. Attendees are welcome to reach out to James or Amber Anderson if questions arise.		James Coomes, SPA 1 District Chief	
Agency Updates and Community Announcements	Heather Varden extended an invitation to attend an Art Odd Expo on 10/18/25 at 5p at Bravery Brewery in Lancaster.  Milcah White extended an invitation to attend an upcoming event, Pink and Blue Cancer Awareness on 10/18/25 at 11:30am at Baldwin Hills Mall in Los Angeles. She also requested Dr. Victor Manalo's business card.  Jodi Kyman provided an invitation for senior grief therapy at Legacy Commons and will share a flyer so that SALT can distribute it to those who are interested.	James shared Dr. Manalo's business card in the Teams chatbot and also distributed cards to those attending in person.	James Coomes, District Chief	10/16/25
Community and Family Member / Supporters Time (Public Comments)	Commissioner Fran Sereseres provided an overview of her advocacy work for older adults and people with disabilities and shared personal stories about her life as someone living with a disability.			
Closing	The meeting was adjourned by Heather Varden at 7:58 p.m.		Co-Chairs, SPA 1 District Chief	

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Yvette Perez, MHA*  
SALT1 Liaison, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  
Service Area 1 Administration  
**Attendees:** 51