



LACDMH

LPS Act & SB 43

Mental Health & Public Health Departments Launch Webpage to Prepare Public for Conservatorship Law Changes in 2026

LACDMH and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH) recently launched a webpage dedicated to providing more information to residents, clinicians, law enforcement, and other stakeholders about Senate Bill 43, a new law that expands the definition of “gravely disabled” under California’s Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act.

Considered the biggest change to California conservatorship law in more than 50 years, in addition to mental health disorders, the new definition of grave disability adds individuals with a severe substance use disorder or a co-occurring mental health disorder and severe substance use disorder who are unable to provide for their basic personal needs for food, clothing, shelter, and added considerations around personal safety or necessary medical care.

[Click to read more.](#)



New Restorative Care Village Breaks Ground at LA General Medical Center

LACDMH Director Dr. Lisa H. Wong joined First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis on October 8 at the Los Angeles General Medical Center for a groundbreaking ceremony. The site will host the first phase of the Century Housing development at the medical center's Restorative Care Village. The project will bring 146 supportive and affordable homes to the site and will include shared community spaces, a 12-bed peer respite facility, and on-site supportive services.

The larger Restorative Care Village at LA General Medical Center will feature new behavioral health facilities, including a mental health urgent care center, a residential withdrawal management unit, and a 128-bed mental health rehabilitation center. These efforts are a part of the County's broader Restorative Care Village model, which integrates physical and behavioral health services in an integrated location.

Los Angeles City Councilmember Ysabel Jurado also attended the event; Emilio Salas, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Development Authority, and more.



LACDMH Celebrates Ribbon Cuttings Throughout County

The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) has been busy with ribbon cuttings and grand openings throughout the County for housing and clinical projects. LACDMH Director Dr. Lisa H. Wong joined First District Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, Fourth District Supervisor Janice Hahn, and Second District Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell to celebrate the opening of SSG Kohler, Huntington Square and West Central Family Mental Health Clinic, respectively.

SSG Kohler hosted its ribbon-cutting ceremony on October 1 at 615 Kohler St. on the east side of the Skid Row neighborhood. Dr. Wong joined Supervisor Solis at the 60-bed behavioral health housing program. SSG Kohler will accept individuals with a history of justice involvement within the past 12 months. The site has on-site housing navigation staff, an on-site mental health clinician, an on-site Licensed Vocational Nurse and access to the Department's Full Service Partnership program.

[Click to read more.](#)



Free Support Sessions for Community Members Impacted by the Eaton Fire

LACDMH is continuing its Eaton Fire recovery efforts by offering free psychological first aid classes at Loma Alta Park (3330 N. Lincoln Ave., Altadena, CA 91001). Residents have the option to walk in as sessions are available three times during the week on Tuesdays from 5 to 6:30 p.m., Thursdays from noon to 1:30 p.m. and Saturdays from noon to 1:30 p.m., except on Veterans Day and Thanksgiving Day.

The “Dealing with Disaster” program supports community members in managing psychologically after a disaster and covers mindfulness exercises, informational instruction, and discussion. Classes are open to everyone on a first-come, first-served basis.

Mental health is critical in the recovery from devastating and traumatic events. Individuals affected by a disaster may struggle with new or long-term mental health challenges. Psychological first aid can support recovery and promote resilience by helping people recognize signs of distress, discover and use tools to manage stress symptoms, and learn about additional wellbeing resources for themselves and their loved ones.

[Click to view flyer.](#)



“Trapped” – A Mental Health Film Project for the Russian- and Farsi-Speaking Communities

The Eastern European Middle Eastern (EE/ME) Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) subcommittee produced a mental health film, titled “Trapped,” for the Russian- and Farsi-speaking communities. The film premiered successfully on May 22, 2025, at the Harmony Gold Theater in Hollywood and later debuted at the world-famous TLC Chinese Theater. A total of 550 individuals registered to attend the film screenings, and 742 people watched the film on YouTube. About 1,300 people were reached because of this project, and this number continues to grow as the movie remains on YouTube.

The project was produced with subtitles in FY 2024-25 for these two communities by film production manager Mastaneh Moghadam from Cross Cultural Expressions (CCE). The film focuses on mother-daughter relationships, addressing intergenerational conflict and gender oppression, which ultimately affects a girl’s mental health. The project’s goal was to decrease stigmas around mental health and learn about the mental health

struggles that many Russian- and Farsi-speaking immigrants undergo. EE/ME Liaison Dr. Anna Yaralyan wrote the Statement of Work, describing the different stages of the film production and protocols. She also monitored this project throughout the year.

[Learn more about the project.](#)



Our ongoing efforts to promote mental health awareness and assist the most vulnerable among us continue to receive positive attention in the media. In case you missed it, check out some highlights of the excellent stories and representation by our subject matter experts:

- Dr. Wong was interviewed in an [NPR](#) story about our Hollywood 2.0 clubhouse that will help those experiencing serious mental illness by connecting them with community-based care, training, activities and additional resources to support their wellbeing and purpose.
- [ABC 7](#) highlighted the Los Angeles Suicide Prevention Network's Award Ceremony that honored heroes working to prevent suicide in L.A. County and shared suicide prevention data and strategies from the event's presenters.
- Connie Draxler, senior deputy director of LACDMH's re-entry division, was featured on a [LAist](#) segment about California's CARE Court system and its status almost two years after its launch in L.A. County.
- [LAist](#) also covered improving conditions in the County jail system and mentioned LACDMH adding treatment beds for those who can be safely released and treated in the community as a part of those efforts.
- [UrbanizeLA](#) ran a story about the renovation efforts underway for 550 S. Vermont Ave, LACDMH's former headquarters building, as part of the overall Vermont

Corridor redevelopment project to add office and housing spaces to the area.





American Indian
Counseling Center

**AICC IS
MOVING**

OPEN TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025

10330 PIONEER BLVD., SUITE 215
SANTA FE SPRINGS, CA 90670

CONTACT US AT 562-402-0677

American Indian Counseling Center Is Moving

The American Indian Counseling Center (AICC) is excited to announce that their new location will open on **Tuesday, November 18, 2025**. New address: 10330 Pioneer Blvd., Suite 215, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670. For more information, please contact AICC at 562-402-0677.

Let's get social @LACDMH!



Thank you for taking the time to read and engage with this issue of “**Connecting Our Community**,” a bi-monthly online publication focused on the latest information and news from the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health.
Visit dmh.lacounty.gov for more resources.

We welcome your comments, story ideas, and recommendations at pio@dmh.lacounty.gov. You may adjust your subscriptions settings at this [link](#).