



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Advocacy, Accountability, and Oversight in Action

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July 15, 2026

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Los Angeles County Behavioral Health Commission, I am pleased to express our strong support for the Los Angeles Residential Care Association (LARCA) and its continuous efforts to strengthen, preserve, and modernize Los Angeles County's licensed residential care system through innovative partnerships and the development of a Community Marketplace Hub.

The Los Angeles County Behavioral Health Commission has long recognized that licensed Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFEs) are an indispensable component of Los Angeles County's behavioral health, homelessness response, and community care continuum. For many individuals living with serious mental illness, complex medical conditions, or other significant support needs, these homes provide stable, community-based environments necessary to avoid hospitalization, institutionalization, or homelessness.

Our Commission has engaged with this issue for many years. Beginning in 2018, an ad hoc committee of the Commission elevated the alarming rate of board-and-care closures and documented the devastating consequences for residents and the broader behavioral health system throughout Los Angeles County. The Commission's work helped focus County attention on this growing crisis, contributed to discussions by the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and fostered conditions that supported the establishment of LARCA as an organization dedicated to preserving and strengthening this essential sector.

Today, LARCA advances that vision through practical, system-level innovation. Its Community Marketplace Hub seeks to better connect healthcare providers, public agencies, residential care operators, and individuals in need of placement through coordinated referral pathways, technical assistance, improved care coordination, and more effective utilization of existing licensed residential capacity. By activating existing infrastructure, LARCA offers a promising strategy to expand access to stable housing and supportive care while preserving critical, safety net residential providers.

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The Commission is particularly encouraged by LARCA's collaborative approach, which brings together behavioral health, healthcare, housing, and residential care partners to improve outcomes for vulnerable residents. These efforts can strengthen care coordination, reduce unnecessary institutionalization, support homelessness prevention, and create a more resilient residential care system across Los Angeles County.

We encourage philanthropic organizations, healthcare systems, managed care organizations, government agencies, elected officials, and community partners to explore opportunities to collaborate with and invest in LARCA's work. Continued partnership and support will be essential to demonstrating the effectiveness of these innovative models and, if successful, expanding them to benefit communities throughout Los Angeles County and beyond.

The Los Angeles County Behavioral Health Commission appreciates LARCA's bold leadership and looks forward to strengthening the continuum of care for some of our County's most vulnerable residents together.

Sincerely yours,

Brittney Weissman
Commissioner

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