DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

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Department of Mental Health (DMH) Updates for the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Executive Committee Meeting (October 22, 2026)

Report Response: The following reports were submitted by DMH in September 2026.

- **Streamlining Los Angeles County Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Bed Reporting (Item 17, Agenda of May 6, 2025)** Link
  - This report provides an update on network management, resource management, utilization management and funding updates across relevant departments. Substantive updates include provider network management, resource management, capital projects, data/outcomes, and challenges/opportunities. Below are some highlights.
  - Capital Projects including, but are not limited to:
    - DHS: 34 Acute Inpatient beds at Los Angeles General Medical Center (LAGMC)- (project completed).
    - DMH: 64 Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRC) beds, 32 Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) beds at LAGMC (anticipated completion end of 2027); 16 Crisis Residential Treatment Program (CRTP) beds at High Desert Regional Health Center (estimated to open end of 2026); 32 MHRCs for Transitional Age Youth at the LA County Care Community on the Metro State Hospital Campus (estimated opening end of 2028); 16 PHF, 16 MHRC, and 16 Enriched Residential Services (ERS) beds at the Olive View Continuum of Care Facility (anticipated completion end of 2029) ; and 32 PHF beds (16 completed; 16 estimated end of 2026), 48 MHRC beds (completed) and 32 CRTP beds (16 completed/16 estimated end of 2026) on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Behavioral Health Center (MLK BHC).
    - Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (DPH-SAPC): one non-BHCIP funded capital project at the LAGMC completed construction in November 2025. A vendor has been awarded the contract to operate the withdrawal management facility with services anticipated to start end of 2026/beginning of 2027.
  - Data and Outcomes for the period of January through June 2026 for the following:
    - Crisis Stabilization Units
    - Acute Inpatient
    - Subacute

        - Crisis Residential Treatment Programs
        - Enriched Residential Services
        - Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Residential Treatment
        - SUD Withdrawal Management
        - SUD Recovery-Oriented Housing
        - Department of Health Services (DHS) Bed Distribution
        - DMH, DPH-SAPC and DHS Discharge Destinations
    - As of June 30, 2026, DMH has exceeded its Department of Justice (DOJ) target of 256 beds by adding 316. DHS-Office of Diversion and Reentry (ODR) has added 176 totaling 492 (98.4%) of the 500 Moving Forward (P3/P4) Board Motion directed mental health treatment beds.
    - Challenges include, but are not limited to:
        - High demand and high cost of developing acute and subacute beds.
        - The ability to develop new beds is impacted by factors outside of the County's control, such as licensing approval.
        - Various funding considerations, including funding reductions at the State level, Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) funding shifts, Institution for Mental Diseases (IMD) limitations; increased demands without additional funding; and additional funding needs for DHS ODR resources.
        - Competition with other health plans for the same bed resources.
        - Providers report experiencing workforce shortages.
        - Need to provide additional technical assistance to new providers with limited experience contracting with the County.
    - Opportunities and Successes include, but are not limited to:
        - Strong cross departmental collaboration through shared initiatives.
        - DMH has seen a trend over the past three reports of reduced lengths of stay and more clients served.
        - DPH-SAPC continues open soliciting and contracting for DMC services to expand all treatment levels of care in order to maximize access.
        - DPH-SAPC and DMH continued supporting BHCIP-funded organizations with information and technical assistance regarding County contracting, DMC and/or Medi-Cal certification, and the requirements for becoming part of the respective provider networks.

- **Implementing Lanterman-Petris-Short Act Reform (Item 66-A, Agenda of October 17, 2023) Link**
    - This report provides the biannual update on implementing the LPS Act Reform (Senate Bill 43). With the full implementation of SB43 and the integration of 5150 and LPS pathways complete, this is the final report back for this motion.

- Highlights:
  - DMH and DPH-SAPC established quarterly meetings as an operational checkpoint to ensure continued coordination and oversight of SB 43 implementation.
  - When comparing data in LA County from December 2025 to May 2026, there was an approximately 9.6% increase in the number of involuntary admissions with only 1.5% of 5150's written for Grave Disability for severe substance use disorder and 4.7% for Grave Disability related to a mental illness and a severe substance use disorder.
  - SB 43 planning workgroups have sunset as part of the transition from planning to implementation. DMH and DPH-SAPC are currently evaluating existing stakeholder forums that would be a good opportunity to engage as needed.
  - Training continues to be provided as requested. Office of the Public Guardian (OPG) continues to conduct trainings and issue reminders for hospitals and other referring parties as well as providing input as needed at the three Mental Health Justice Partners' meetings.
  - DMH and DPH-SAPC will continue to monitor the process and available data.

Motions:
In September 2026, there were no motions approved by the Board with reports to be **submitted by** DMH.