



## We Are Here to Help

### LACDMH

Forensic Services, Re-entry Services Division  
Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT-LA)

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<https://dmh.lacounty.gov/our-services/countywide-services/aotla/>

Little Tokyo (Service Area 1-4)

213.922.8144

Lomita (Service Area 5-8)

310.534.3684

## LACDMH Values

**Integrity.** We conduct ourselves professionally according to the highest ethical standards.

**Respect.** We recognize the uniqueness of every individual and treat all people in a way that affirms their personal worth and dignity.

**Accountability.** We take responsibility for our choices and their outcomes.

**Collaboration.** We work together toward common goals by partnering with the whole community, sharing knowledge, building strong consensus and sharing decision-making.

**Dedication.** We will do whatever it takes to improve the lives of our clients and communities.

**Transparency.** We openly convey our ideas, decisions and outcomes to ensure trust in our organization.

**Quality and Excellence.** We identify the highest personal, organizational, professional and clinical standards and commit ourselves to achieving those standards by continually improving every aspect of our performance.

**If you are in crisis and need help right away, call our 24/7 toll-free Help Line:**

**800.854.7771**

[dmh.lacounty.gov](https://dmh.lacounty.gov)



## ▶▶ Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT-LA)



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**DEPARTMENT OF  
MENTAL HEALTH**  
hope. recovery. wellbeing.



## About

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT), also known as Laura's Law, was initiated following the 2001 killing of Laura Wilcox by an individual suffering from severe mental illness.

AOT-LA program serves seriously mentally ill individuals who are at substantial risk of deterioration and/or detention under WIC5150 as a direct result of poor psychiatric treatment compliance. The program outreaches to these individuals in an effort to engage them in voluntary treatment. If the individual continues to decline treatment, the program may elect to petition the individual into court ordered treatment.

## Services Provided

- Extensive outreach and engagement for a minimum of 30 days
- Screening and assessment
- Linkage to outpatient psychiatric treatment, primarily Full Service Partnership (FSP) providers
- May petition for court-ordered psychiatric treatment
- Participation in court hearing and follow-up on court mandate

## What We Cannot Provide

AOT-LA provides outpatient services and does not have the authority to mandate medication or involuntary long-term hospitalizations or Lanterman Petris Short (LPS) conservatorship; therefore, the program is incapable of initiating long-term, involuntary commitment. LPS conservatorships are initiated by psychiatric hospitals, thus the decision of whether or not to pursue long-term involuntary commitment resides with the treating physician and the facility.

AOT-LA does not provide crisis response to individuals in psychiatric crisis. If you have a psychiatric crisis, please call 911 or LACDMH Help Line, 24/7, at 1.800.854.7771.

## Who Can Refer?

Those who meet any of the following criteria can refer to AOT-LA services:

- Co-habitant aged 18 or older
- Parent, sibling, spouse, or child of client's over the age of 18
- Director of client's residential care facility
- Hospital Director
- Licensed mental health treatment provider
- Peace Officer/Parole Officer/Probation Officer
- Superior Court Judge

## Eligibility Requirements

To qualify for AOT-LA services, candidate must meet all criteria below:

- 18 years of age or older
- Seriously mentally ill
- In view of treatment history and current behavior, at least one of the following is true:
  - Unlikely to survive safely in the community without supervision and is substantially deteriorating or
  - Is in need of AOT in order to prevent a relapse or deterioration that would likely result in gravely disabled or serious harm to self or others
- Have a history of non-compliance with treatment, in that the client's mental illness has resulted in at least one of the following being true:
  - Two or more hospitalizations and/or forensic mental health treatment while incarcerated within the last 36 months or
  - Within the last 48 months, one or more acts of serious and violent behavior, or threat, or attempts to cause serious physical harm to self and/or others
- Failing to engage in available treatment
- AOT would be the least restrictive placement necessary to ensure recovery and stability
- Likely to benefit from AOT services