



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



Evoke Collective

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION 2025 Retreat

Evoke Collective
September 11, 2025



Welcome from Commission Chair Dr. Victor Manalo

INTRODUCING: THE EVOKE COLLECTIVE TEAM



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PURPOSE & DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR TODAY

Purpose :

Building and deepening relationship among Commissioners, connecting their “Why” to the Commission’s mission, and committing to the Commission’s priorities

Desired Outcomes :

By the end of this meeting, the LAC BHC will have:

- Deeper understanding of how each Commissioner is connected to the Mission and their desired impact of their role on the communities they serve
- Celebrated any wins (big or small) since last summer (2024)
- Building accountability and clarity around next steps to achieve high-level priorities



RETREAT AGENDA

1. Welcome from Commission Chair & Facilitator Introductions
2. Overview of Retreat Agenda
3. Retreat Norms
4. Break
5. Commissioner's "Why" Connected to the Mission
6. Progress Since Last Retreat
7. Lunch
8. Creating Shared Accountability
9. Next Steps & Retreat Closing



RETREAT NORMS

1. Stay Engaged
2. Make (Share) Space, Take Space
3. Intent and Impact
4. Speak Your Truth
5. Grounding in Embodied Listening
6. Trying On Is Not Taking On
7. Access Needs
8. Nonverbal Communication
9. Expect to Experience (Some) Discomfort
10. Expect and Accept a Lack of Closure



Connecting Our “Why” To Our Mission

OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of the Commission is to advise the L.A. County Board of Supervisors, the director of Mental Health, and the director of Substance Abuse Prevention and Control (SAPC) on various aspects of local mental health programs, including the Mental Health Services Act.

What's your personal purpose for serving on the LA County Behavioral Health Commission?

What do you hope to achieve through your service on the Commission?

Progress Since Last Retreat

PROGRESS, BARRIERS, EMERGING PRIORITIES

The Commission's Strategic Objectives & Proposed Goals for September 2024 through June 2025:

- Objective 1: Strengthen the Commission for Greater Impact
- Objective 2: Be the Bridge between Stakeholders and County Decision-Makers

In these two objectives:

What did the Commission accomplish?

What barriers did the Commission experience?

What priorities for the Commission have been emerging over the past year?



Lunch

LUNCH PROMPT

- Seek out new connections
- Suggested prompts
 - *What brings you here to today's meeting?*
 - *If you could be on any reality TV show, which show would you appear on and why?*
 - *As we transition to fall, what are you looking forward to most?*



Creating Shared Accountability

Defining Accountability

- *As Commissioners, who are you accountable to?*
- *And how would you define accountability to each of these parties?*

SHARED ACCOUNTABILITY

Creating Accountability

- *How do you want to be held accountable?*
- *How do you want to hold each other accountable?*

Supporting Accountability

- *What does accountability look like in practice?*
- *What tools or practices do you need to uphold these commitments? (e.g., standing agenda items, reminder emails, templates to share out progress)*

Next Steps & Retreat Closing

RETREAT CLOSING

- *What was the most exciting thing you learned today?*
- *What are you looking forward to contributing in the coming year to the Commission?*