



**PUBLIC COMMENT TO ADDRESS THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION**  
**October 9, 2025**  
**Behavioral Health Commission Regular Meeting**

**Commissioners by Supervisorial District**

District	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>
<b>Supervisor</b>	<b>Hilda L. Solis</b>	<b>Holly J. Mitchell</b>	<b>Lindsey P. Horvath</b>	<b>Janice Hahn</b>	<b>Kathryn Barger</b>
<b>Commissioners</b>	Susan Friedman	Kathleen Austria	Stacy Dalglish	Victor Manalo	Lawrence Schallert
	Bennett W. Root, Jr.	Reba Stevens	Thomas Roache	Deena Duncan	Brittney Weissman
	Imelda Padilla-Frausto	Erica Holmes	<b>Vacant</b>	Andrew Roble	Yun Hee Ann lee

**L.A. County Board of Supervisors Member: Supervisor Kathryn Barger**

Agenda #	Name	Method used to address the Commission (e.g., By phone, in-person, or email)	Type of Public Comment (e.g., General or Stakeholder Report)	Comments
<p>The following individuals addressed the Commission either in person or by phone during this meeting.</p> <p><b>PLEASE NOTE: The text below has been retrieved from the non-verbatim transcript produced by our live captioning service. For the emailed communication, we have copied the text from the email received and pasted it on to this document.</b></p>				
Public Comment	Anonymous	In Person	General	<p>Okay. I introduced myself in July back at PRTNS West Valley service extender. I wrote here. I wanted to thank the commission members for the opportunity. I wrote here an email two Mondays ago to Goldrich cast and copies to Daniel Estrada and the Jewish federation.</p> <p>The title of the email is "Need support for our health". Okay. Hello important sir or madam. Manager for [name?]. Hope you're enjoying the more accommodating weather now. Thanks for your attention you have given us as we, being senior citizens need some extra accommodations. I have been the resident of Plaza Hotel next to Hollywood and Vine for 27 years. I enjoy Laura's leadership, the security personnel presence, the maintenance man's dedication and</p>

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				<p>the cleanliness here. Likewise there's proximity of the train station, buses, city services.</p> <p>The farmer's market next door is wonderful. My north Hollywood meeting once a month by train and weekdays Baba salad are a benefit. Whatever the case, I understand that there's an issue with the Zumba gold class budget in the back yard.</p> <p>Exercise invigorates the immune system and the group serves as a model for the less active residents. It prevents unnecessary altercations and smooths out transactions between residents such as between the Russians and the Filipinos.</p> <p>I understand that this building is considered by the [name?] Management as a community building so we need to be aware of the internal consistency of the people in the building. Thanks Mucho for your consideration and budget allotment. [Speaking Foreign Language]. Okay. Thank you, commissioner.</p>
Public Comment	Ricardo	In Person	General	<p>Good morning, Chair manalo my name is Ricardo and I'm a stakeholder in LA County. I just wanted to welcome the new commissioners. Commissioner Duncan, Commissioner Roble and Commissioner Lee to this -- and thank you for your service to this commission. I also want to thank the present members of this commission as we all learned from the retreat last -- during the last meeting that this takes a lot of work, dedication, and time. And I think many of us found out how much work it really is. So we really appreciate, you know, your continued service as well. Thank you very much.</p>

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Public Comment	Catherine Clay	In Person	General	<p>Good morning. My name is Katherine Clay. I'm a community health worker here for the peer resource center, service area 4 and I would also like to thank you as a consumer of the department, the commission has always been grateful in a place for me to advocate as I was a consumer. So I'm very grateful for this space and also as my job brings me here today to be able to advocate as I said, I work for the service area 4PRC and we service the community.</p> <p>So you don't have to necessarily be a client but we also work with the clients. And, today, I'm here to share on behalf of Terrance and Kim. They were here to be able to come and share their story and Kim was advocating on her brother's behalf. She's been here for three months and in the last three months her and her brother have been bounced around from place to place. She was advocating and asking for her voice as the caregiver to be acknowledged and utilized while her brother is not in a space to be able to advocate for himself.</p> <p>Kim and her brother is saying that they've been here from Texas for three months. They've been bounced around from place to place. Her brother had to be hospitalized last Thursday for not having medication and they are current consumers and also not having effective and supportive case management and she's also looking for supportive housing so her and her brother's life could stabilize. So I shared with Commissioner Austria was able to meet her while the brother was having his breakdown and so I advocate -- I said I would come and share their story as she had to take him out of here. And so I have her contact information to share with the</p>

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				commissioners when the meeting is over. Thank you very much.
Public Comment	Carrie Grier	In Person	General	Good morning, My name is Carrie Grier, I used to be a community worker with the department. Im here today in regard that I have a grandson that is 8 and a half years old in the North Hollywood area. In regards to that his school , the mental health system, everyone is failing him in regards to that, they have came out many times to the school regarding him and that he hasn't been put on a hold or anything. They are just putting it all on my daughter who is trying to figure it out, Its not right. Everybody is like we don't know, we don't know what to do. This is something and Im here to advocate to get her help pertaining to some type of assistance, resources for my grandson. Because the ladies, that they called the police, the school called the police on him. Yeah, nothing happened. They suspend him and is out of the school every week. Therapist don't know what to do. So I need help for my grand daughter and grandson more importantly.
Public Comment	Ezekiel Reyes SALT 4 Co-Chair	In Person	Stakeholder Report: SALT 4	We had 2 in person one was an event and one was a meeting last month were hoping to try to push for more in person meeting in our service areas. I guess that will take time. I would suggest each member here to try and work with your service area and find more locations instead of always having our meeting in one location all the time. We need to branch out to multiple location so we can reach a greater audience of individuals to try and get involved with DMH. Our next meeting will be October 9. It will be online, its always good to have it online but we want to try to push it to in person. So if you can as commissioner help the service areas. I don't know if

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				we are supposed to give updates during the full or executive meeting. If we are supposed to be mandatorily coming in here, we are going to need a much bigger room. There is quite a bit of co-chairs.
Public Comment	Ezekiel Reyes	In Person	General	If the masses want housing, great. We need to start encompassing the entirety of housing. But what's not happening is they're not able to get jobs still which means they're not able to pay their bills and the bills are going up high. Right now some of them have over a \$1,000 in their water gas bill. If they were to leave the apartment complex because they're getting the anxiety of wanting to go back to the streets they see it easier, then unfortunately they're going to go with debt so there's that perspective. So if we're going to break the habit of drug addiction and stuff like that, then we need to start helping the individual on a microlevel not just a macro level. So the microlevel as in a hot meal. I know it's a big deal for a lot of people because that cost a lot more for helping but unfortunately a hot meal breaks the habit of individuals thinking negatively. It really feels your belly and you feel good, so you want to pass it along. So that would be my suggestion for those two things. So thank you very much for ya'll's time
Public Comment	Yvonne Sandoval SALT 7 Co-Chair	In Person	Stakeholder Report: SALT 7	So here I am. My name is Ivonne Sandoval in case somebody's new here like Andrew Roble. Yeah. Thank you. I was hoping she could do that because we come in pairs. So we are from the great area 7 which is a SALT. SALT for Service oh, my God I got brain dead. Service Area Leadership Team, that's what has been initiated a

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				<p>couple of years back because it's no longer SPA.</p> <p>People are using the word SPA, but anyway. So there's great things happening always at SALT 7. I was just told that by Jaime Gomez, our liaison, tomorrow the 10th, I don't know where it's at but it's called local wellness market and I'm dying to find out because I love stuff like that I'm always talking about this every chance I get but nevertheless now on November the 7th, AICC which stands for native no counseling center, okay. And it's Feast of Resilience AICC, alcohol AICC. And so that be on November 7th.</p> <p>I'm sure it's going to start around 10:00 because it's going to be a big event. Usually they have a native tent there because it's American natives and that's what they focus on. Where currently we just entered Fall so I hope you, when you see all these goods in the markets and to which is what have helped myself with this, to help yourself be grounded and find all those Fall veggies and make a soup or what we call (Speaking Spanish) and the warmth that does warm your heart because it does go together with your body and mind.</p> <p>We just had the harvest</p> <p>[word? ] Supermoon. Everything has a correlation that's happening at that time of the year. We're also still I forget but we're also still in the middle of Hispanic month and the PRC which is a Peer Resource Center for SALT 7 and they just finished having a celebration like two Fridays ago. But come Monday, we'll also be indigenous day and indigenous day really means it's different from native American. Native American is just here in the United States. But indigenous</p>

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				<p>day means all the indigenous folks and most of us are part of that. From the tip of Alaska all the way to the south of South America. But I! U.S. want to share that and my wonderful colleague here with SALT 7 is here to report other events.</p>
Public Comment	Sydney Tabazon	In person	Stakeholder Report	<p>Good morning commissioners and welcome to all the new commissioners. SALT 7. What we have is on the 15th, we have an interface breakfast which will be in Maywood at the Seventh Day Adventis Church starts at 7:00 on November 5th. It will be a healing event and it is Dia we did have the Spanish heritage month, so it will be held. This event and that's just what you said. One more thing, I did forget to mention, our meeting for SALT 7 is tomorrow. That's very important.</p> <p>And it's going to be in Whittier, Mr. Roble. I'm sure you already know, right. And it looks like Commissioner Manalo is going to be there too and it starts at 10:00 and, of course, at public health, of course, on Painer avenue and there's breakfast.</p> <p>I just have one more thing to say. This is something that's very dear to my heart and that is 988. I have here a paper that just starts here with an access line, emotional support, veterans line. There's also a number for the people with disabilities which would be, of course, 711, but like I said, 988 is the most important. I go around even at IKEA, Target, whatever line I'm in I just turn around and I ask the people.</p> <p>The majority 95% of the people don't know. And it's so important. Because it's just there even if you want to vent. If you want to talk about one of your friends, a family member and instead of calling</p>

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				911, you could call 988. Thank you very much.
Public Comment	Leeman Edwards SALT 6 Co-Chair	In person	Stakeholder Report: SALT 6	My name is Leeman Edwards from SALT 6. Last month we had a re opening for the West Central ribbon cut. Ms. Holly Metro was there, Jackie Wong, Jackie was there. Reba Stevens was there. And moving forward, we're looking to do a seniors wellness day with like a wellness check for the seniors up at the YWCA. Thank you.
Public Comment	Dr. Esroruleh Mohammad	By Phone	General	While maintaining procedures that inflict administrative trauma. Americans with Disabilities Act interactive process intended to protect safety and clinical integrity has repeatedly deferred and displaced. It's been deferred and displaced by unrelated administrative actions. Effectively suspending the very mechanism meant to ensure compliance, safety, and restoration. When ADA accommodations become discretionary, risk becomes systemic and institutionalized. I urge this commission to ensure that transparency, ADA accessibility, and clinical integrity remain nonnegotiable across all county behavioral health operations.
Public Comment	Charles Wade	By Phone	General	I'm Charles Wade area 6 and I want to mention we had a doctor come in and she did a presentation on the care and during that time, the public was not able to ask questions. And she mentioned about the record breaking number of people that joined the new training for the CAF but she failed to mention the record breaking number of constituents are that were not received that were complaining about not receiving their stipends. So I've been waiting since July. My liaison, she sent an e mail to

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				<p>for July and August. She sent an e mail to the CAF reimbursement and their reply was they have the (indiscernible), they'll be going out. The reimbursements will be going out soon. Now today is October the 9th and this is for July and August. What I would like to know is if someone can come and what we can and explain what exactly is going on with the stipends.</p> <p>You know, I know we have a government shutdown but I had no idea that it would be for the stipends. Now I'm told there's some kind of delay but doing the training with the complaint, it was really sad to hear what I heard. I'm I'm quite sure it's recorded and, you know, this needs to be fixed and just straightened out. I'm trying to find out what exactly is going on and if we can have somebody come and explain, what is the delay.</p> <p>If you have the (indiscernible) if you're going to promise the people something, give them what you promised them. They said 30 days. Not 90 and 100 days. I have waited five months but I was just patient. It's still going on and it has not gotten better.</p>
Public Comment				
<b>Emailed Public Comment Correspondence</b>				
Public Comment	Anonymous	Live broadcast chat box	General	<p>For reference, the CBHPC Data notebook is focusing on Wellness and Recovery centers:</p> <p>From the notebook:            "Defining Wellness and Recovery Centers: While the design and operation of Wellness and Recovery Centers vary widely across the state in name, scope, staffing, and funding, most share common</p>

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				elements. For the purposes of the 2025 Data Notebook Survey, we are using the following definition: Wellness and Recovery Centers are community-based programs that offer voluntary support services to individuals experiencing mental health and/or substance use challenges. These centers prioritize peer support, empowerment, and self-determined approaches to recovery, often providing activities such as support groups, wellness education, resource navigation, and social connection. They are designed to be welcoming, low-barrier spaces that affirm dignity, autonomy, and lived experience as central components of healing and recovery." CBHPC Specifically states that the State uses this data to prepare its application for the SAMHSA block grant. We do NOT want to get rid of this! This is essential in preserving peer-run programs as we transition to BHSA. Commissioners, please move forward with this. Hollywood 2.0 is not peer-run! SHARE! is the first Peer Run Organization to contract with LA County DMH, and we have two Wellness and Recovery Centers, one in SA5. We would love the opportunity to highlight our work. Thank you."- Anonymous
Public Comment				
Public Comment				

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