



PUBLIC COMMENT TO ADDRESS THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION
January 8, 2026
Behavioral Health Commission Regular Meeting

Commissioners by Supervisorial District

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

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

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The following individuals addressed the Commission either in person or by phone during this meeting. 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.				
Public Comment	Sydney Tabizon	In Person	STAKEHOLDER REPORT/SALT 7	Good afternoon everybody, I'm Sidney (indiscernible) with service area seven and sorry I got to take off my glasses. Just a thank you for what we do best for service area seven. This is some of the stuff we did in December which is December fourth we had a resource for it was kind of like a Christmas excuse me a Christmas breakfast. It was at saint Xavier, a catholic church on December sixth we had a community at the (indiscernible) tacos, which I was also there in the 16th of December Huntington park celebration around the world and those were some of the events we had done in December 2025. Next will be Yvonne just to let you know and I just wanted to mention we'll be having our meeting tomorrow in Whittier and the

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				Commissioner And came to our actual meeting last month, but he's not here today to thank him. Thank you very much.
Public Comment	Yvonne Sandoval	In Person	STAKEHOLDER REPORT/SALT7	<p>Now, it's good afternoon. Hi, I'm Yvonne S. I'm the other co chair of, you know, SALT seven and so I'll be bringing you up to date with next events that we're going to have. So tomorrow, you know, it's our area SALT seven meeting at the Department of Mental health over in the painter avenue, tomorrow ten clock in person, and online, Ms. Friedman online. We are on Facebook and Instagram with acronyms LACDMH. Service area seven. Both have the same acronyms.</p> <p>We will be having as Dr. Horn mentioned we have CBT community planning team meeting. It left hand turn be in person like we were told originally it'll be online thank you Dr. Horn January I'm trying to do this chronologically I do want to partake in January 26th care court feedback. It's very important. Very important. I don't have anyone there that needs to be, but you never know, right? You never know and it's also because I'm a peer and that's what we do, we share information what we do know of what we can gather for anybody and everybody. There was one more oh, very important.</p> <p>Service area I just know it's south LA. We're having another respite house opening. It's called you bunt too. It's on 22nd street. I'm going to give out the address so whoever is out there get pen and paper. Twelve 83 west second I'm sorry. 22nd street Los Angeles 9,000 seven. Okay? And they are open house will be from eleven to three. Now, who has this going on is project</p>

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				return and I'm a product of project return, that's how I know about these things, right? You know we have one in Long Beach and you know what? Remember this is for anybody who needs a little break. You don't have to be off your rocket. You can be normal. You can be tired of your kids, but of course adults only, okay? And out there in Long Beach, Hacienda hope they have nine rooms and I know that because I've been there and it's a beautiful place individual rooms, you can close the door and they used to have workshops but my time is up so through want information you can always get ahold of me. I'm on the Website. South seven. Thank you, everybody, you all have a good year.
Public Comment	Ditty Tinson	In Person	General Public	Good afternoon. Happy New Year, Commissioner Bidy and director license (indiscernible) I'm here to remind still six thousand empty beds in this county that can be filled. We are asking for an opportunity to come back to you to be able to talk to you about an innovative project, the community Marketplace hub and to demonstrate to you how the county can save money. And a cost savings taxpayers there are still multiple categories that are being covered by BHSA and other local funding sources that should be paid for through Medi Cal CalAIM federal fund can sources. And so enriched residential care program is one of them being paid through BHSA we want to show you how the county can save money. We have heard about transitional rent. That is temporary. That is only six months we're talking about the other community support that is also under the CalAIM program and that's the assisted SE live can services program that will preserve and keep

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				our residential facilities from closing so there's an opportunity for us to make sure that we're preserving the local resources and maximizing the federal participation so that we're preserving the local funding resource to use in other critical areas so we would like an opportunity to come back to you. We do have some serious recommendations also for the Los Angeles County board of supervisors to make sure the county executive office is confirming that the pair of last resort are local resources and that we are maximizing, optimizing the federal resources through the CalAIM program.
Public Comment	Von Simmons	In Person	General	Good afternoon and Happy New Year my name is Von Simmons and I'm with the California black women's health project and I want to say thank you so much for such a comprehensive overview this is the most detail and transparency I've seen so thank you very much for that. One of the comments I wanted to make I appreciate you have a lot of diversity in the stakeholders groups but, I'm a little curious Number 19 Ocean specializing in working with underserved ethnically diverse communities a little curious about that in terms of the, you know, the diversity area of the stakeholders groups but overall just wanted to say thank you so much for putting this together and for being so very thorough in your giving us a little bit of preview and I look forward for more. Thank you.
Public Comment	Mohammad K.	In Person	General	My name is Mohammad K. when I was 19 after suffering with nearly a decade of depression of anxiety shaped by racism and health chance and systematic barriers I believed the only way to end the pain was end my life and I attempted suicide I'm grateful to be

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				<p>here but not the case for many young people across the country and the nation. And today I'm on the board of mental health America and co funder of healers health I want to share two insights and maybe a question for the commission. I think young people don't engage with a lot of services often because of how fragmented and overwhelming and difficult to navigate the services are. One small hiccup in that process is enough to stop someone from getting help and having hope and I appreciated the comments today about integration. I thought that was very important. The second one is expanding our definition of healing seeing through my work my personal journey of health and culture healing is too their you roughly defined and I wanted to expand and invite other conversations around nature based healing with organizations like camping to connect which takes inner city boys on hikes and structures health around that and other types of healing that include arts, culture faith and so on and I hope we invest to support young people within the work that you're doing so thank you very much.</p>
Public Comment	Anonymous	By Phone	General	<p>I'm a person with lived experience with schizophrenia I live in whit year and I represent (indiscernible) I want to emphasize the importance of peer voice the importance of training support specialists I know you mentioned the workforce education training fund and cuts to it I want to emphasize how much that the peer value in the mental health system and the importance of peers at all levels from the ground all the way to the board of directors are the decision make is we need peer support specialist and peers throughout the system I heard an about other programs including IMDs and other</p>

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				housing we need peers there too because peers hold the key to unlock the mental health system especially for access and having people connect. Thank you that's the end of my comment I appreciate the discussion today.
Public Comment	Wendy Cabil	By Phone	General	Hello, everyone and Happy New Year this is Wendy K. Antelope value SALT one thank you for discussion about DMH is doing and I was a part of it (indiscernible) still trying to do what I can in my area. Particularly the process I found out thank you Dr. Horn to your diligent research what happened to one of my stipends that was mailed out it boiled down to address change that hasn't been updated I guess in time with the postal service system. What I learned is that it would be helpful to include in the orientation training reminders about address changes. I hasn't experienced address change in seven years so something that slipped my mind. Included in the orientation as well as I have a sampler that I can share with you to do the address change. That being said I would like to recommend some type of mechanism to be put in place to flag when returned so they are not sitting there. Again, let's see what we can do to improve that process. Also, I have been having difficult with the Microsoft teams so I don't know if anyone else but, I'm having issues it's just sporadic and I'm not sure what's going on but I would like for IT to get into touch with me and make contact I wasn't able to get online this month and see anything. Regarding transparency, I'd like to see across the board consistency when it comes to elections to have rosters posted so that individuals and all the committees know who is eligible to be nominated to even be

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				considered as candidates for the co chair positions that would help save a lot in the end. I would also want to know where does spa one go to for representation who do we go to for support out here? Thank you.
Public Comment				
Public Comment				
Emailed Public Comment Correspondence				
Public Comment	Pastor Joshua Nah	Email	Stakeholder report SALT 4	<p>Good morning, BHC</p> <p>SALT 4, during yesterday's meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The SALT 4 meeting for December was not held. 2. Efforts are needed to expand SALT 4 membership in 2026. To achieve this, we plan to use the in-person meetings scheduled for March, June, September, and November as opportunities for recruitment. Additionally, we are looking for solutions to the technical challenges associated with hosting hybrid-format meetings. 3. On a personal note, I anticipate collaborating with pastors in Orange County regarding mental health and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) in 2026. 4. Furthermore, I expect to collaborate with the Christian

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				<p>Television System (CTS) based in Orange County. Specifically, I hope to distribute the Spiritual Self-care Toolkit (developed by the DMH in 2021) to pastors and broadcast self-care methods to Christians across the United States via television.</p> <p>5. I exercise at Griffith Park at dawn at least twice a week. As the sun rises and shines over Los Angeles, I offer my prayers</p> <p>Thank you,</p>
Public Comment	Irene Ratliff	Email	General	<p>My comment was regarding RFID chips and if the agency is aware of people being chipped?</p> <p>How are these RFID chips altering peoples lives and what process is for removal?</p> <p>It is nothing knew considering wear ankle bracelets.</p>
Public Comment				

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