



LA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION (BHC)
 “Advocacy, Accountability, and Oversight in Action”
 Victor Manalo, Chair, Presiding

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE	11/13/25		
START TIME	11:00 AM	ADJOURNMENT TIME: 1:38 PM	
LOCATION	510 South Vermont Ave., Terrace Level Conference Room, Los Angeles, CA 90020		
ATTACHMENTS	MEETING RECORDING LINK	PUBLIC COMMENT DOCUMENT	AGENDA LINK

IN ATTENDANCE	ABSENT (E= Excused; U = Unexcused)
COMMISSIONER NAME	
Kathleen Austria, Reba Stevens, Victor Manalo, Lawrence Schallert, Brittney Weissman, Stacy Dalglish, Tyler Cash, Susan Friedman, Deena Duncan, Andrew Roble, and Yun Hee Anna Lee	Thomas Roache (U), Dr. Erica Holmes (U), Imelda Padilla-Frausto (U), and Bennett Root Jr. (E)
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes	APPROVAL: Yes. Motion made by Commissioner Dalglish. Seconded by Commissioner Root. Minutes approved on 12/11/25.
ADJOURNED: 1:38 PM	

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA / ACTION ITEMS	DISCUSSION/DECISION SUMMARIES	FOLLOW-UP ITEMS	UPDATE ON FOLLOW-UP ITEMS
3. PUBLIC COMMENT			
<i>Stakeholder Group Reports</i>	Stakeholder groups in attendance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UsCC Co-Chair/Representative Stakeholder reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UsCC reported on behalf of all UsCCs, outlining current challenges and key requests for the BHC. 		
<i>General Comments</i>	Jesus, Bobby Clay, Stephen Gold, Harold Thomas, Michael Calhoun, Jim “the Hat”, Selam, Bernice Masters, Martha		



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	<p>Guerra, Lee Mollet, and Dr. Esroruleh Mohammad and two anonymous community members addressed the Commission by phone, in-person, and with emailed communication. See attached public comment document.</p>		
4. CONSENT AGENDA			
<p>a. Approval of the minutes: a. October 09, 2025 b. DMH Constituent Follow-Up Report c. DMH Legislative Update Report d. DPH-SAPC Legislative Update Report e. BHC Budget Report</p>	<p>All items on the consent agenda were approved. Motion made by Commissioner Schallert. Seconded by Commissioner Duncan.</p>		
5. STANDING ITEMS			
<p>a. BHC Chair Update – Dr. Victor Manalo, Ph.D., MSW, Chair</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Manalo shared he attended most stakeholder meetings to encourage active participation and strengthen communication with the Commission. • He also reported that he and the new commissioners met with the DMH Director, Dr. Wong. • In addition, he met with several program leaders and institutions to explore potential cooperative partnerships. 		



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b. DMH Director Update – Rimmi Hundal, M.A., Chief Deputy Director	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Stevens asked whether all CalFresh recipients received their payments, particularly those who receive their payments from the 8-10th of the month. • Commissioner Roble asked whether the issue affects all recipients or only new applicants. • Commissioner Weissman requested clarification on DMH’s process for enrolling as many members as possible before the January 1, 2026 deadline. • Commissioner Schallert asked about the impact of HR 1 and what will happen to individuals who are ineligible for benefits or who miss application deadlines. <p>Requests and Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Weissman requested a report detailing how DMH collaborates with patients who interact with both managed care plans and DMH. • Commissioner Schallert requested data outlining the impact of HR 1. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kenia to send the data previously shared regarding the impact of HR 1. Kenia to schedule a report on the relationship between DMH and the managed care plans for individuals receiving care from both systems. 	DMH will be presenting on the relationship between DMH and managed care plans
c. DPH-SAPC Update – Dr. Gary Tsai, MD, DFAPA, FASAM, Director	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Austria asked how the SAPC team ensures that contracted agencies have the resources needed to effectively train their staff. • Commissioner Friedman inquired about where the trainings are held. • Commissioner Lee asked whether ethics courses are 		



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	<p>still required and encouraged SAPC to place greater emphasis on incentivizing the workforce to pursue higher education.</p>		
<p>d. MHSA/BHSA Updates – Dr. Darlesh Horn & Katherine Li</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Schallert asked whether the prevention system can be clearly explained to the participating public and if they are provided opportunities to give feedback. • Commissioner Weissman inquired whether the level of detail included in the reports will remain consistent throughout the three-year period. • Commissioner Austria expressed concern that the feedback being collected may be overlooked or not fully considered during the process. • Commissioner Stevens suggested that the collected data be used to inform the State about unmet needs within the LA County population and the resources required to address them. 		
6. NEW BUSINESS			
<p>a. Presentation: Portrait of Los Angeles</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Roble asked whether the cities mentioned during the presentation, along with any additional relevant cities, could be compiled into a detailed list and shared with the Commission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presenter to share a detailed map with the Commission. 	



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Schallert inquired whether the focus includes the LGBTQ+ community and the elderly population. <p>Requests and Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Austria requested a detailed map with city names before the report is finalized, noting that it would serve as a useful tool for informing the Board of Supervisors. 		
<p>b. Countywide Activity Fund (CAF) – Community Stakeholder Engagement Stipend Update</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Stevens requested a thorough presentation and asked that the floor be opened for public comment. Chair Manalo asked Dr. Horn to provide a detailed presentation and noted that Public Comment would be opened according to the order of the agenda. 		
<p>c. Members-at-large Candidate Recommendation on Education: - Guadalupe Orozco 25 years of age or younger - Alex Tsobanoudis</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Manalo announced that two of the three Members-at-Large have been selected and will be presented to the Board of Supervisors for ratification. Tyler Cash asked about the criteria for selecting the remaining Member-at-Large. 		
7. WORK IN PROGRESS			
<p>a. Data Notebook</p>	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chair Manalo requested a brief update from Commissioner Dalgleish. 		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Dagleish reported that the item has been submitted and thanked DMH and support staff for their assistance. 		
b. BHC Topics of Interest List	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Weissman asked whether it is necessary to keep the CARE Court Updates item on the list. Kenia explained that the CARE Court Updates item is maintained to ensure any changes are communicated as needed. <p>Requests and Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Weissman requested that her report on patients who are served by both managed care plans and DMH be added to the list. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kenia to add Commissioner Weissman’s request to the TOI list. 	Topic has been added
c. Update on BOS Hahn CARE Court Motion Directives - Host Community and Stakeholder Feedback Town Hall	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CARE Court Town Hall has been scheduled for January 26, 2026, from 5:30-7:00 PM at Ramona Hall Community Center. Commissioner Weissman and Commissioner Friedman have confirmed their attendance. 		
9. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS/UPDATES			
	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commissioner Austria addressed the Sunset Review, expressing her disapproval and requesting a tailored activity for the BHC, noting that it is not feasible to sunset this commission. 		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Commissioner Roble shared that he announced his new Commissioner position at work, which led to someone seeking assistance. He also noted that a new mental health team has been implemented, with him taking the lead.• Commissioner Duncan provided training for staff on how to support individuals under a conservatorship and guide their caretakers.• Commissioner Schallert, a member of the Suicide Prevention Committee, reported a recent meeting with Kaiser Permanente’s Mental Health and Addiction Program and congratulated Barbara Wilson on being named California Social Worker of the Year.• Commissioner Weissman conducted a training with SAPC on implementing SB 43 for Hollywood program providers and hosted an Open House for Hollywood 2.0.• Commissioner Dagleish is gathering community feedback and collaborating with the City of Santa Monica and LA County regarding new buildings aimed at supporting vulnerable populations.• Commissioner Lee is focusing on familiarizing herself with the Commission and building relationships.• Commissioner Friedman stated that her current focus is helping community members access alternative care options, as the population she serves is fearful of ICE.		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tyler Cash announced that a new Supervisor will be assigned to the Commission in one month. He shared that Supervisor Barger is working with state and federal partners on the Commission’s current priorities, including Eaton Fire recovery efforts in collaboration with DMH. Tyler also noted that he has been settling into his new role and exploring the facilities under his supervision.• Chair Manalo informed the Commission that stakeholders would appreciate regular attendance by Commissioners at their meetings.		