



PUBLIC COMMENT TO ADDRESS THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION
January 22, 2026
Behavioral Health Commission Executive Committee Meeting

Commissioners by Supervisorial District

District	1 st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	
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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<p>The following individuals addressed the Commission either in person or by phone during this meeting.</p> <p>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.</p>				
Public Comment	Louis Scott	In person	General	. I'm still having issues with my medical coverage. I'm still getting ping pong back and forth. I have no medical. I have a high level of pain, but this is starting to get ridiculous. Each time I go, they keep saying have you to go back to them. But no one is taking care of anything. I received a call by somebody from this office in regard to the medical but nothing else. It really got severe. October of 25. But I've been dealing with this situation, ever since I was like, what, you know, 63. I would like to know, why do they terminate people's medical coverage. Yes, I'd like to know more about the C AF Program. So, somebody that represents --

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Public Comment	Harold	In Person	General	Good morning, Happy New Year. I was born and raised in the City of L.A.; I had the experience of being homeless in California. So now I'm a new member of PRC Center downstairs, represent the Club house. So downstairs, we deal a lot with homeless people. And I've been going to St. James. It's homeless. Thursday, Friday and Saturday -- is the mostly. The homeless people around this area supplies, we be needing that stuff. So, I represent the Club house. One more question. From the time I've been to the PRC, the six years I've been with them, since time was on the corner. I'm eye new member. You'll see me downstairs all the time. Community service they helped me out, do my little service downstairs. We want to keep our center going. So, we're ready for anything, you know, and (Indiscernible) community care.
Public Comment	Joann Freeman	In Person	General	I'm going to get straight to the point why I'm asking someone to hear me as an Advocate for myself. I started working for DMH as a Mental Health Promoter. I was hired 2021 and laid off in 2024, just because of my learning disability and my having missed meetings, due to the fact that I was going to things that I had to go to, which was the annual recertification for Long Beach City Housing Authority and also, Long Beach Affordable Housing Authority. Every year, this happens. And so, my supervisor was causing me hardship. Maria Zenica for DMH gardenia and after she caused Mead so much heartache and upsetting my physical part, she retired. And I tried to reach out to Curley, to the Director and no one saw me. No one would listen to most so if I wasn't doing such a good job, why was I there for three years I didn't get a chance to get

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				<p>promoted, after working for three years. Promoted to -- what is the next step up? Oh. community worker, Community Health Worker, Senior or Community Health Worker full time. I ended up losing my medical and I had to get back on Cal Works which is for the medical part. Thank you.</p>
Public Comment	Pastor Joshua Nah	In Person	General	<p>I'd like to make this comment as a community member, not as a Co-Chair of SALT. I have to say appreciation first because last week, I was able to help out a person who's a sister, tried to commit suicide. Thankfully, this sister is getting help, through the help of DMH employee I wanted to come here on time, but then I was late because I was talk to the family of this sister, who tried to commit suicide, but now, getting help from, through DMH staff.</p> <p>Through this experience, I learned, confirmed again, that having, giving out or spreading right information to the Korean-speaking community, especially the family of -- you know, families are very, very important and it does work and it's very effective so that they can help their family members when, things like this happen. Including early intervention.</p> <p>Now, the situation is that the DMH staff is asking the family to persuade the sister to stay longer at the hospital because she is getting better in terms of, you know, committing suicide or -- you know committing suicide, she's getting much better and she wants to get out of the hospital, but DMH staff is persuading the family to talk to her, so that she can stay longer to be well. I encourage the family to follow the advice of DMH staff. You know, I was talk to the mother and the sister so that she can, you know, have the</p>

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				<p>journey of recovery.</p> <p>Initially, she was getting help from this provider, who's name I cannot divulge or reveal here, but she had a very terrible experience with the provider at first. However, now she's getting help through the staff of DMH and she's getting better and I really appreciate it. And I think it's a great thing. As I am observing the big problem for Korean community, the parents are working three jobs. It's really hard for them to, you know, detect any mental issue of their children. It takes a long time for them to realize, comparing to any other community. So when they find out it's already, you know, late. That's the biggest problem, I think. Not only the language barrier or cultural barrier.</p>
Public Comment	Ezekiel Reyes	In Person	General	<p>: Hot meals. It's not necessarily a significance. I failed at my job to help my constituents because people are dying. A lot of homeless people don't steal, they don't lie, they don't cheat. That's the main reason why they are homeless. In this day and age, you have to do some kind of shady business in the background, in order to get forward in some cases. So a lot of the homeless don't do any of that. So in order to change their perspective, instead of giving up, we need to produce a hot meet on a regular basis, in order for them to change their perspective of when they are dealing with their situation. It also helps with people doing drugs. I've helped and come across many people who use substance, and they develop storeds on it. They have told me that the reason why they continue to do so is because there's a lack of food. Preferably, how it's being delivered. Yes, people say food is written in bylaws on how we're</p>

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				going to be giving it to them, but it's the similarly. It needs to be a hot meal, not a cold meal. They already eat cold meals continuously, year round. Nobody in this room can eat a cold meal for a full month and coming out unscathed, without looking at things negatively. We need to introduce things that can slow down mental health it developments on those on the streets and you do so by something that is insignificant in some people's minds, a hot meal. That is that's my public comment.
Public Comment	Ezekiel Reyes	In Person	Stakeholder Report SALT 4	Now for my co-chair update. As of right now, we hosted an event in November. There was a small turn out. We are finding it hard to draw in more people. We're looking into hosting events in multiple locations at this point, in order to attract more people from those different areas. L.A. is much such a large area, hosting one event in one area for a prolonged time doesn't necessarily bring in new people and new perspectives in a sense. So we're going to trying to host more events. But throughout the community, whenever we do in-person meetings, we're going to try to do it in one location. We have virtual meetings as well. We're the kind of Co-Chairs na has an in-person meeting once every three months. We do host in-person meetings. But it's not that much. Primary because after the shift from COVID dynamics, it never came back. Like, we're not drawing in what we used to have before. I don't know what ways we need to work in to draw in more people. But we are definitely willing to try new things. So thank you very much.

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Public Comment	Ricardo Kim	In Person	General	<p>Good morning First Vice-Chair Dalgleish. Ricardo K. I'm an L.A. County stakeholder. Questions on written reports. On January 8, there was a briefing on the integrated plan, and then key differences, there's mention etch additional focus, and substance use disorder and cooccurring and all FSP services require co-occurring services. We might want to revisit the written report that Dr. Helene gave. There's a lot of questions on co-occurring. That report is a great report and it's really important in the unhoused community, where people -- services for people for cooccurring disorders. April 9, the Commission will be holding their BHSA meeting. Last year was disappointing. What will The Department do to provide a more robust and full attendance for the April 9 meet something how does the public find on stipends for people who are interested in being employed in County Mental Health, how does the public find information on County stipends for people who are interested, such as psychiatric technician program?</p> <p>Mental Health Community Health Workers. What progress has been made in implementing career training, career development, leadership training? How can they seek career advancement and promotions? I talked about it almost a year ago. I want to see if there's any progress made on their career advancement and opportunities. Thank you very much.</p>
Public Comment	Nick Manzig	In Person	General	<p>Hello everyone, my name is Nick Mansick I am one of the founders of "ELOMIA". We build AI agents specifically designed for mental and behavioral health. We have models designed specifically for children and adults. I am a LA County resident and I really do want</p>

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				to help the people of the county. I know how much mental health affects everyone. If anyone here or online is interested in learning more about the agents that we build and how we might be able to help. Our agents offer CBT and DBT techniques to the user and also refer out to other programs if the AI detects the user needs help with something other.
Public Comment	Yvonne Sandoval	In Person	Stakeholder Report SALT 7	<p>Hi everybody good after noon, its not morning anymore. My name is Yvonne Sandoval and I think ill start off as a co-chair so I get three minutes. Its in front of me also , so it can remind me. So okay, number 1, we will have our in person, in the evening hour, our salt 7 meeting and it will be out at East Los Angeles and it's in the corner of Caesar Chavez and 4th Boulevard. It a great big place to eat tacos, and they make delicious tacos. And I know we're going to be fed very well. And that will be held on the second Friday like always, but this time in the evening between 5 and 7. And the date is Friday the 13th.</p> <p>To be exact, Friday the 13th. So that's the one thing I want to share. We had already made that decision in December. So I'm looking forward to it. I'm looking forward to seeing everybody, anybody there. Remember, when we come as a group, whether it's the library, church, anywhere, you wind upcoming. You wind up going back home with more than you went in with. So by all means, I hope you can attend that evening meeting. The second thing is that I have it written down. But I don't have the address. Now, for those online, and everywhere else, this is another CARE Court Town Hall information. And I'm really ecstatic about that. If someone can</p>

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				<p>provide me the address for that, because somehow I dint write that down.</p> <p>>> Of course we can. Do you have something else to say in your next minute?</p> <p>>> I have a minute. Can you believe that? I did want to start by saying, you know, everybody, it's a trying time. There's always been trying times. It's either medical chaotic stuff that continues to happen. So I want to invite everybody at this moment to take a deep breath. [Inhale] let it out. You know, I would like for everybody to, hopefully, do that when you first wake. And get your bloodstream going. And we're always here for everyone to lend a hand. I know that this is a good year. It's a good year. And I wish everybody well. Wellness is very important through and through. Thank you.</p>
Public Comment				
Public Comment				
Emailed Public Comment Correspondence				
Public Comment				

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