



Los Angeles County Client Coalition

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MEMORANDUM

Betty Dandino
Chair

Ursula Sims
Vice-Chair

Kenneth Goff
Treasurer

James Whitener
Sergeant at Arms

Dennis Miller
Recording Secretary

Jacob Cohen
Corresponding
Secretary

Saadia Jackson
Information Specialist

William Legere
Historian

Oscar Gomez
Timekeeper

Pam Inaba
Steering Committee
Chair

To: Board of Supervisors' Health and Mental Health Deputies
From: Los Angeles County Client Coalition
Re: Support for Recommendation for Steering Committee to Consider
Input from Stakeholder Process Related to Concept of Integrated
Health, Mental Health, and Public Health Agency
Date: February 3, 2015

Dear Board Deputies:

The Los Angeles County Client Coalition was a part of the recent Department of Mental Health (DMH) System Leadership Team discussion regarding the stakeholder process for considering input into the Board of Supervisors' recently adopted motion supporting the concept of a consolidated Health, Public Health, and Mental Health agency.

The Los Angeles County Client Coalition (LACCC) is a social action/advocacy group that has represented and voiced the concerns of former and current mental health client/consumers in the Los Angeles County since 1990.

We are in strong support of the principles adopted by the System Leadership Team, which was previously shared with you by DMH. We especially believe that public health, mental health, and substance use systems must be equity partners with physical health care systems, and that each Department must have an independent voice with the Board of Supervisors to ensure responsiveness to their unique constituency groups.

Moreover, as unanimously recommended by the DMH System Leadership Team, we strongly support that there should be a steering committee comprised of equal representation from the three involved departments – health, mental health, and public health. The steering committee recommended by the System Leadership Team would be comprised of the three Department heads, the Commission representatives identified

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by the Supervisors, and at least one client, family, and provider representative from each of the impacted constituencies. The LACCC firmly requests that we be included in the committee.

We sincerely hope that you will support and advocate for this recommendation, which gives the stakeholder process the best chance of being a fair and impartial one. It also insures that the Los Angeles County has an inclusive service delivery system.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Betty Dandino
Chair



Pamela A. Inaba
Steering Committee Chair

c: Mitchell Katz, MD
Marvin Southard, DSW
Cynthia Harding, MPH
Christina Ghaly, MD
Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission
LACDMH System Leadership Team
National Alliance for the Mental Ill (NAMI)
Asian Pacific Policy and Planning Council (A3PCON)
California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (CAADPE)
Association of Community Human Service Agencies

Cc: Self-Help and Recovery Exchange (SHARE)
Benefits Assistance Clients' Urban Project (BACUP)/The Life Center
Project Return Peer Support Network (PRPSN)
Los Angeles County Client Coalition
Robin Kay, PhD, LACDMH
Roderick Shaner, MD, LACDMH
Dennis Murata, MSW, LACDMH
Debbie Innes-Gomberg, PhD, LACDMH
Helena Ditko, LCSW, LACDMH Consumer and Family Affairs
Rigoberto Rodriguez, PhD, MURP
LACCC Steering Committee
LACCC Members