



# Mental Health Committee Fact Sheet 2019

## **The Empowerment Congress (EC)**

The Empowerment Congress, a distinctive and deliberate national model of civic engagement built on the core principles of participatory democracy, reciprocal accountability, and intentional civility, is a dynamic partnership among neighborhood groups, residents, nonprofit organizations, businesses, religious institutions, and community leaders within the diverse communities of Los Angeles County's Second Supervisorial District. The Empowerment Congress' mission is to educate, engage, and empower communities by fostering leadership, capacity building, and impacting public policy.

## **The EC Mental Health Committee**

The EC Mental Health Committee was formed in 2006 by then-Assemblymember Mark Ridley-Thomas as a monthly forum to ensure that constituents are apprised of and can give voice to mental health issues of concern. Mental health providers, allied public and nonprofit organizations, consumers, family members, advocates, concerned citizens and others join to discuss and share ideas that address mental health-related issues and advance policy and other important initiatives.

## **Goals**

1. Collaborate with the LA County Second Supervisorial District (SD2) office to address the mental health needs of the community, especially by addressing the impact of trauma.
2. Bridge disparities in access to and receipt of mental health services by Under-Represented Ethnic Populations (UREP).
3. Serve as a nexus for coalition building to increase services for those who are homeless and mentally ill.
4. Educate participants and the community on Proposition 63 - the Mental Health Services Act – and how constituents can benefit.

## **Issues**

- Increased access to mental health services through health reform implementation
- Housing and homelessness
- Success for SD2 youth through early screening for childhood trauma
- Achieving integrated physical and mental healthcare in SD2

## **Committee Meetings (check the website for any changes)**

1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of each month (12pm – 1:30pm)

Los Angeles Child Guidance Clinic, Exposition Park Office  
3787 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90007

## **For more information:**

Please contact the Mental Health Committee at [mentalhealth@empowermentcongress.org](mailto:mentalhealth@empowermentcongress.org) or (213) 346-3247.



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