



Health Neighborhoods

Health Neighborhoods (HN) is a countywide initiative led by the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to improve health equity through better coordinated care and community collaboration. This network of coalitions has brought together diverse stakeholders including personal, mental and public health providers, community based agencies, social service providers, and community members to refine and improve clinical and community supports in designated neighborhoods throughout LA County. Their goals are to enhance access to services; increase care coordination among clinical and community providers to improve quality of care; and improve the health and well-being of neighborhood residents.

Department of Public Health (DPH) also collaborates with community coalitions that address key issues at the heart of improving health and well-being for residents through its Community Health Services Division and four Area Health Officers (AHOs). Community collaborations currently underway include:

- **The Baby Friendly Initiative** designed to promote breastfeeding to improve maternal and child health outcomes;
- **The Asian American, Native Hawaiian & Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Health Initiative** with the purpose of increasing awareness and elevating AANHPI diverse health issues;
- **The Trauma Prevention Initiative** meant to decrease homicides and violence in Westmont-West Athens; and
- **Partnerships with community organizations advocating for expedited cleanup of lead-contaminated homes** adjacent to the former Exide Technology Battery Recycle Plant.

Together, the Health Agency intends to enhance, expand, and leverage opportunities to collaborate on initiatives that address health inequities, and to implement policy and system changes that strengthen community environments to achieve equitable health outcomes. Linking population-based approaches and comprehensive service delivery models would help identify and quickly respond to health trends across multiple sectors at a micro-geographic level, address gaps in services, and offer a broader spectrum of interventions that both address determinants of ill health and ensure availability of effective treatment services for affected individuals.

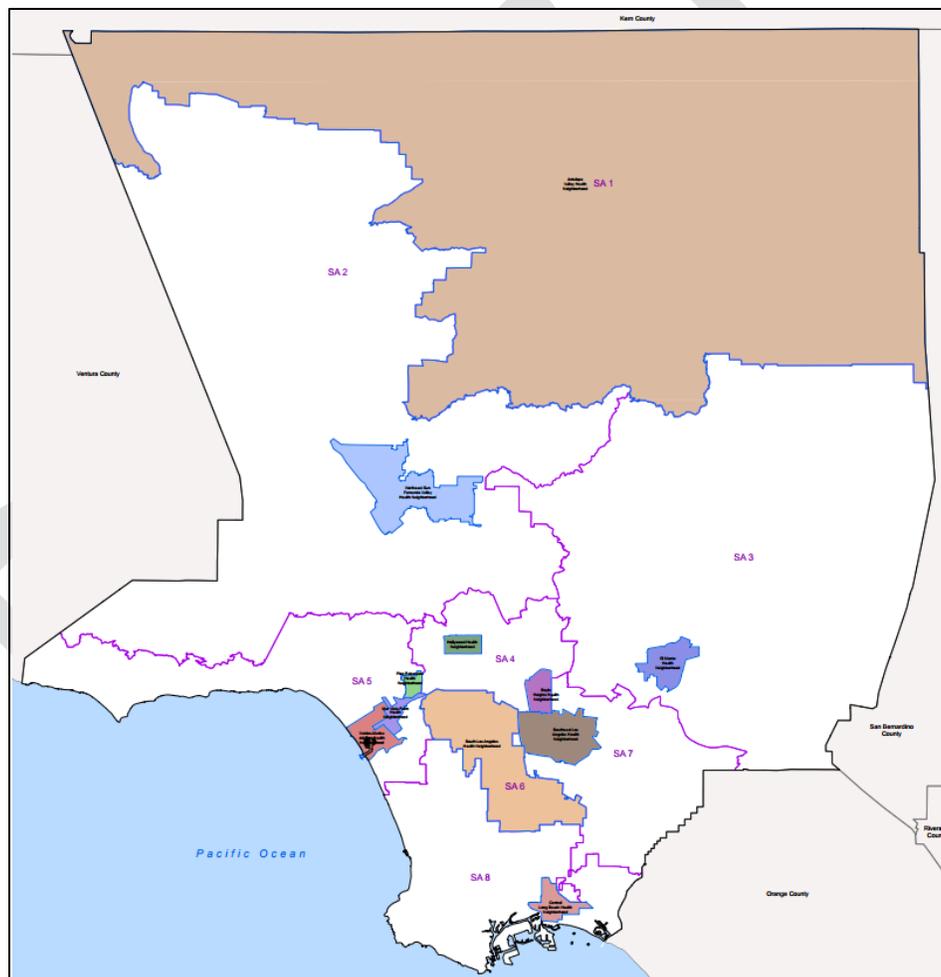
For example, linking the work on trauma prevention, a place based initiative to reduce violence in communities, with service linkage through HNs to providers that deliver trauma informed care

provides a powerful solution to improving the myriad of health inequities caused by trauma and violence.

There are now 11 health neighborhoods throughout LA County. They include:

- Antelope Valley
- Northeast San Fernando Valley
- El Monte
- Boyle Heights
- Hollywood
- Mar Vista-Palms
- Pico-Robertson
- Venice-Marina Del Rey
- South Los Angeles
- Southeast Los Angeles
- Central Long Beach

Another health neighborhood site in East San Gabriel Valley will launch in the near future.



Additional information can be found at:

http://dmh.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/dmh/about_dmh/about_detail/?current=true&uril=wcm:path:/DMH+Content/DMH+Site/Home/about+dmh/about+dmh+detail/health+neighborhoods