

LA COUNCIL FILE
11-0262

**Document in Opposition to
Proposed Boarding House Ordinance:
Case Number CPC-2009-800-CA and
City Council File Number 07-34-27
and In Support of
QUALITY SOBER LIVING HOMES**

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We the undersigned oppose Ordinance CPC-2009-800-CA – Council File 07-34-27 as currently constituted, and find it to be discriminatory against Sober Living Homes and to the families that such institutions help to create and maintain. We wish to bring to the attention of the City Planning Commission and the City Council the following:

Sober living homes provide housing and supportive family environments and resources to people in recovery from addiction. Sober living has been an integral, clinical part of recovery for over 75 years.

As presently constituted, this ordinance will have a disparate impact on groups of disabled persons, including those on parole and probation, seeking single family housing. We believe that this ordinance is supported by an illegitimate and discriminatory intent, ignoring fair housing and reasonable accommodation case law for “families of disabled persons living together in mutual support (Sober Living)”.

This ordinance cannot justify its proposed redefinition of family, single housekeeping units, and reclassification of penal institutions which will severely restrict the way unrelated people can live together in low density residential areas, (zones R1, R2, RD) since the principal means for this type of shared housing is through multiple leases or other individual financial arrangements.

We, the undersigned agree with the findings of the 1997 American Planning Association, Policy Guide on Community Residences⁽¹⁾ which include:

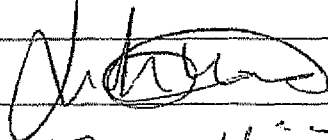
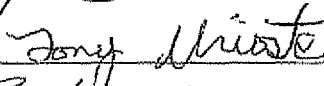


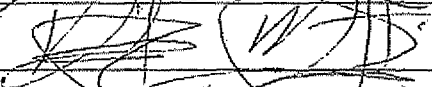


- 1) Community residences (sober living homes) are a legitimate residential use of property, and are not boarding houses.
- 2) Community residences have no effect on the value of neighborhood properties, established by over 50 studies, even for immediately adjacent properties.
- 3) Community residences have no effect on neighborhood safety. In fact residents of group homes are far less likely to commit crimes than members of the general population.

(1) American Planning Association – Policy Guide on Community Residences, 1997 Adopted by Special Delegate Assembly, September 21, 1997; Ratified by Board of Directors, September 22, 1997. The full report can be downloaded at <http://www.planning.org/policy/guides/adopted/commres.htm>

We recognize and value the many benefits sober living homes can provide to the City including; reduced crime, reduced homelessness, reduced dependency on City and other public services, reduced family and neighborhood violence and other benefits. We also recognize that these benefits, unlike other social service programs, are provided at virtually no cost to the City and its residents.

By affixing our names to this document, we implore the City of Los Angeles to reject the proposed ordinance as presently constituted and to provide reasonable access to treatment and recovery for all families.

We the undersigned petitioners:

Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly)	Home Town/Zip Code	Your Signature
1 Justin Roman	90245	
2 Tony Urloste	90250	
3 Randy Allen	90044	
4 Maddy Butler	90203	
5 David Martins-March	91107	
6 Nathalie Torres	91203	
7 Manny Pascua	91203	

Handwritten notes: "Jennette Johnson" and "5/250-11"


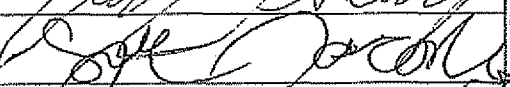
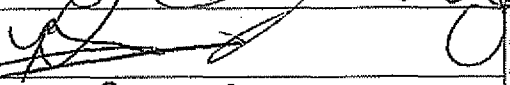
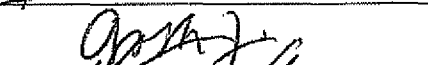
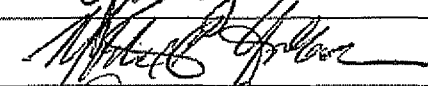
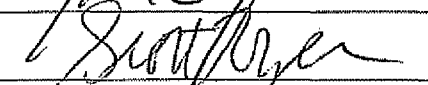
— On **Mon, 1/31/11**, **Jennette Johnson** <cajenjo62@yahoo.com> wrote:

From: Jennette Johnson <cajenjo62@yahoo.com>
Subject: Flyer
To: rfair2006@yahoo.com
Date: Monday, January 31, 2011, 12:14 PM

Please see attached

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and In Support of

QUALITY SOBER LIVING HOMES

Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly)	Home Town/Zip Code	Your Signature
8 Joey Scobey	T.O. 91360	
9 Cole Tardif	Victorville 92392	
10 Ronald Montes	ENCINO, CA 91346	
11 Josh Fineman	Woodland Hills, CA 91367	
12 Mitchell Holden	Sherman Oaks, CA 91403	
13 SCOTT TREBER	CULVER CITY, 90232	
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WESTSIDE MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK
PMB 58, 3435 Ocean Park Blvd., #107, Santa Monica CA 90405

*****Please Note: Future Meeting Dates are listed at the end of these minutes*****

NETWORK MEETING MINUTES: Wednesday January 12, 2011

WELCOME AND CALL FOR AGENDA ITEMS: The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm by Chair, Penny Mehra at the GI Office. Our thanks to Karen Williams and all the Staff for their hospitality.

ATTENDANCE: Fawzy Botros, *Access-DMH*; Heriberto Camarena, *Didi Hirsch*; Juliana Carranza, *The Help Group*; Mindy Glazer, *NAMI-WLA*; Terry Masi, *The Chicago School*; Penny Mehra, *Alcott Center for MH Services*; John Melina, *Access-DMH*; Keith Miller, *WCIL*; Mariam Nahapetyan, *DMH-WLA-GI*; Sear Nuong, *Housing Rights Center*; Marjorie Rothman, *WLA-DMH/WCIL*; Karen Williams, *DMH-WLA GI*; Barbara Wood, *Network Treasurer*.

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS: Announcements are made during self-introductions. (Note: For inclusion in Minutes, attendees must give announcements to the Secretary in writing.) *Announcements can also be sent to Celinda by fax (310) 306-2996 or by email (celinda@isp.com) until the 20th of each month to be included in the minutes.* If you would like to receive your minutes by email please notify Celinda Jungheim at fax number or email above.

- **NAMI Support Group Meetings:** For information on support groups and upcoming classes go to www.namila.org or call 310-889-7022
- **Daniel's Place and WCIL** have a monthly calendar of events that they will happily share with anyone who is interested. If you would like to be on the email list to get the calendar contact rachel@stepuponsecond.org for Daniel's Place and Andrea@wcil.org for WCIL.

SAVE THE DATE:

- **Connections for Life Through Employment & Education** (sponsored by DMH and the Mental Health Commission) will be Wednesday, April 6th at the California Endowment.

The minutes of the November 2010 meeting were approved as submitted. Our thanks to the Alcott Center for copying the minutes, to Mariam Nahapetyan for emailing the minutes and to Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center for mailing the minutes.

Presentation: Housing Rights Center, Sear Nuong

HRC presented a Fair Housing 101 presentation that introduced its services which include: housing discrimination investigation, outreach and education, litigation and advocacy, and landlord-tenant counseling services. Attendees were given information

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Your Name (Please Print or Write Legibly)	Home Town/Zip Code	Your Signature
30 Ben L. Blaker	Camarillo / 93010	<i>[Signature]</i>
31 Ty Leonard	Camarillo 93010	<i>[Signature]</i>
32 [Crossed out]	[Crossed out]	[Crossed out]
33 Christy Barron	Santa Monica 90404	<i>[Signature]</i>
34 DAN Garcia	Santa Monica	<i>[Signature]</i>
35 Mike Deek	Santa Monica	<i>[Signature]</i>
36 Mandy Levin	Encino CA 91436	<i>[Signature]</i>
37 Dustin Conrad	Topanga, 90290	<i>[Signature]</i>
38 Graham Nethercott	Topanga, 90276	<i>[Signature]</i>
39 DIANNE M Frost	Malibu 90265	<i>[Signature]</i>
40 Phil SATTARIANO	OAK PARK	<i>[Signature]</i>
41 Dawn Petersen	Agoura Hills 91301	<i>[Signature]</i>
42 <i>[Signature]</i>	Malibu 90265	<i>[Signature]</i>
43 <i>[Signature]</i>	WESTLAKE 91361	<i>[Signature]</i>
44 JAMES BECK	Thousand Oaks 91360	<i>[Signature]</i>
45 Gary Becker	OAK PARK 91377	<i>[Signature]</i>
46 Dan Vard	Malibu, CA	<i>[Signature]</i>
47 CHRISTOPHER KELLY	MALIBU, CA 90265	<i>[Signature]</i>
48 ROBERT DEES	Thousand Oaks 91360	<i>[Signature]</i>
49 Claire Singleton	Newbury Park	<i>[Signature]</i>
50 Paola Mercedo	Aliso Viejo, 92656	<i>[Signature]</i>
51 Kayley Cargua	KYRAMAN, AZ	<i>[Signature]</i>

and resources regarding the Fair Housing laws, the protected classes, unlawful housing discriminatory practices, and landlord rights and responsibilities. HRC also conducts a monthly 'Walk-In Clinic' in West Los Angeles, every second Tuesday of each month, from 10-12pm at LA Housing Department office at the Sepulveda Center building, where residents or housing providers can come learn about housing discrimination or landlord-tenant issues. For more information, or if you would like a presentation to be conducted for your agency/clients, please contact Sear Nuong at (800) 477-5977 x27 or at snuong@housingrightscenter.org.

SERVICE AREA 5 & DMH REPORT Karen Williams, District Chief, Westside

Geographic Initiative: Karen Williams gave an update of various programs and budget status.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Over the years we have had committees on the Homeless/Chronically Mentally Ill; Older Adults, Children & Youth and Legislative issues. Although recently we haven't actually had working committees we do appreciate reports on these issues. Therefore if anyone would like to take a more active role in Network by reporting on any of these issues we would appreciate it. If you are interested please contact Penny Mehra at 310-785-2121 ext. 202.

Treasurer's Report: Barbara Wood, Treasurer, reported for 2010 our income was \$1,070.00 and our expenses were \$1120.29. Bank Balance as of 12/31/10 was \$2,732.10.

Annual dues are coming in. If your agency has not paid yet please send in your dues. A notice was sent with the January minutes. If you need a copy of the notice please contact Celinda Jungheim (Celinda@isp.com or 310-306-6766)

SAAC 5 –meets the 4th Tuesday of every month, 5-7 pm at various agencies to do community based planning on MH issues. All are welcome. Any agency wishing to host a meeting for around 35 people, please contact Celinda Jungheim at 310-306-6766 or celinda@isp.com,

Next SAAC 5 Meeting:

- **February 22nd** - City of Beverly Hills, Library Mtg Room South (park in library parking (2 hours free) and follow signs to meeting room)
- **March 22nd** – St. Johns Child & Family Development, 1339 20th St., Santa Monica 90404, street parking or parking structure (not validated).

WESTSIDE MENTAL HEALTH NETWORK meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month (except June & December) from 12 noon - 1:30 pm at various agencies. Any agency wishing to make a presentation or host a meeting for around 30 people, please call Penny Mehra at (310) 785-2121 ext 102.

Next NETWORK Meeting:

- **February 9** – Westside Center for Independent Living, 12901 Venice Blvd. at Beethoven, LA 90066. Street parking