

## For Immediate Release

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## Long Beach Health Center Begins Offering Free and Low-Cost Behavioral Health Services

New LGBT-focused health center adds additional services and continues construction on state-of-the-art dental clinic

Los Angeles, CA; May 5, 2016)—APLA Health & Wellness (APLAHW) is proud to announce that our new Long Beach Health Center is now offering free and low-cost behavioral health services. The health center currently also offers primary medical care, pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) counseling and management, HIV testing, STD screening and treatment, and health insurance enrollment assistance.

Behavioral health services include individual, couples, and group counseling, as well as substance abuse counseling—all of which are available for free or on a sliding scale for low-income clients. While all services are available to anyone, the Long Beach Health Center focuses on providing care to the LGBT community.

"Well-being includes mental health as well as physical," APLA Health & Wellness CEO Craig E. Thompson says. "By providing counseling services to our clients we are better able to serve the specific health concerns faced by the LGBT community, which include higher rates of depression and anxiety."

A final phase of construction to the Long Beach Health Center is currently underway. It will add a four-chair dental clinic and additional medical exam rooms to the center. Once fully complete, the Long Beach Health Center will encompass 7,000 square feet of space and will have the capacity to serve more than 5,000 patients per year.

The Long Beach Health Center is located at 1043 Elm Ave., Suite 302, in Long Beach on the St. Mary Medical Center campus and is currently open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. and 1-5 p.m. (closed for lunch 12-1 p.m.). All services are available in English or Spanish.

For additional information about current APLA Health & Wellness services and locations, please call 562.432.7300 or visit www.aplahw.org. You can also follow APLA Health & Wellness on Twitter @apla\_hw or on Facebook.

APLA Health & Wellness provides primary medical and oral health care, behavioral health services, HIV testing, PrEP counseling and management of eligible clients, STD screening/treatment, and health education and HIV-prevention services, with a specific focus on low-income LGBT people of color living in Los Angeles County. APLAHW is a federally qualified health center that includes: the Gleicher/Chen Health Center in Baldwin Hills; the Long Beach Health Center; the Wilshire Dental Clinic downtown; the S. Mark Taper Foundation Dental Clinic in South Los Angeles; Behavioral Health Services at the David Geffen Center in Mid-City; and a mobile dental facility. APLA Health & Wellness serves more than 8,000 people each year. For more information, please visit aplahw.org.

