

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
AFRICAN/AFRICAN AMERICAN UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES – January 29, 2019
Location: Lennox Library 4359 Lennox Blvd.
Lennox, Ca 90304
2pm-4pm**

Date: January 29, 2019

Present: Makesha Jones-Chambers, Desiree DeShay-Weakley, Romalis Taylor, Anna Yaralyan, Mirtala-Parada Ward, Keacha Stewart, Erica Melbourne, Cheryl Branch, Lisha Singleton, Belanie Brown

Participants via conference call: Wendy Cabil, Dr. Shani Byard

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions	Action Item	Person(s) Responsible
Welcome & Introductions	<p>Welcome and Introductions.</p> <p>It was announced that Dr. Anna Yaralyan will be the new DMH Administrative Liaison for the AAA UsCC subcommittee. Dr. Yaralyan is excited to work with this Subcommittee and support their community efforts. Ms. Desi Deshay will continue to be part of this sub-committee, but she is stepping down from her role as the Liaison.</p>		AAA UsCC membership
Review of Minutes	<p>The December 6, 2018 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with one correction. Romalis Taylor needs to be added to the minutes as he participated in the December 6, 2018 meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ●The revised minutes will be emailed to all the members. 		Co-chairs/ Romalis Taylor
Co-chair Updates	3-Year MHSA Plan Public Hearing - Is scheduled for March		Romalis Taylor

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	<p>28, 2019. A copy of the flyer for this event was provided to the group. Members were encouraged to attend and provide public comments.</p> <p>YourDMH Quarterly Stakeholder Event – is scheduled for March 1, 2019 at the Friendship Auditorium. Members were provided with the information regarding this event and again, they were encouraged to attend. It was noted that the input of the members regarding the YourDMH Initiative is very important and this Subcommittee needs to start to discuss the role of the UsCCs and how they will work with the SAACs. It was noted that the AAA UsCC subcommittee needs to provide feedback on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify cultural dynamics for our communities ● Invite them to join us, discuss cultural things ● Discuss future meeting locations ● How will we integrate into the SAACs 		
DMH Update	Our Department is going through a re-organization process at		Mirtala Parada

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DMH Update	<p>Supervisors have approved funding sources that could provide up to 10 million dollars for LAUSD to enhance Mental Health & well-being. Mental health prevention programs will be developed to address the needs of students. We were task to develop a stakeholder group to roll out these school related programs. Thus far, we have recruited over 75 community members, advocates, stakeholders who have RSVP'd to attend the first Stakeholder Subcommittee on Education meeting. This meeting will take place on January 31, 2019 at 550 S. Vermont Bldg. 2nd floor Conference Room.</p> <p>Mental Health Commission meeting – is scheduled for March 28, 2019, right before the 3-Year MHSA Plan Public Meeting at the Cathedral. These two meetings are open to the public and members were encouraged to attend. Members were encouraged to check the DMH website for more information regarding these meetings.</p> <p>Romalis Taylor commented it is very important that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● AAA UsCC communities' voices are being heard● The issues pertaining to the AAA communities are brought to the attention of the mental health commission and the DMH Director.	Mirtala Parada Ward, LCSW	Mirtala Parada
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to increase our recruitment, engage and outreach efforts, we need to invite the Commissioners to be part of our group • Meeting Locations, food and transportation needs to be provided and this needs to be further discussed. • Increase our social media efforts • For example, First 5 is currently pushing for Morbidity and Inequities in the AAA Woman, African American women are dealing with post-partum depression and prenatal health problems. <p>Belanie Brown - suggests bringing forward the outreach community and engagement principal shared by Dr. Shields, so people can bring their ideas forward. It is important for the budget that is allocated to match the, outreach and engagement principle and we can easily pull funding from MHSA.</p>		Ward, LCSW
UsCC Leadership Update	Dr. Cynthia Kelartanian gave an overview of the older adult communities, and the need for specific services for the Mental Health UsCC groups. She advocated for older adults to either recognize in the UsCC by adding a new group or by integrating the older adults as a sub-group of each of the UsCC groups. She shared with everyone received an		Makesha Jones-Chambers

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	<p>Executive Summary that expressed the needs for older adults, including effective trauma on older adults and the historical trauma that many older adults experience. Some of the issues that they experience are: Co-occurring disorders, the dementia, Alzheimer’s, and neglect.</p> <p>Romalis Taylor commented that we need to look at the Cultural Dynamics of all the older adults who live in the County. Look at different areas of the county, see what is going on from a culturally relative standpoint. Other AAA communities may want to be a part of this group. We need to sit with them and help them identify what are the needs, what the group will look like, and how it’s going to serve all of our needs in an equitable way.</p> <p>Mirtala Parada Ward commented, that Dr. Kelartanian expressed that many of the older adults are homeless. Many of the older adult who are homeless now, have been homeless since they were in their 40’s. They have now aged and they are approaching 60+ years.</p>		
<p>Proposal AAA Capacity Building Project Update</p>	<p>The Statements of Work were completed and they are in process of being reviewed. Once reviewed, they will be submitted to initiate the solicitation process.</p>		

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Questions & Announcements	Belanie expressed concerns regarding the authentic recommendations and feedback for future capacity building projects, and wants the AAA group to be acknowledged for their efforts continually and be given authorship for the projects that they developed.		
Next meeting	Lennox Library 4359 Lennox Blvd, Lennox, CA 90304 January 29, 2019 2pm-4pm		Desiree DeShay

Revised 3/22/19

Final 3/22/19

Respectfully Submitted

Desiree DeShay-Weakley, MSW
Office of the Deputy Director of Strategic Communications
AAA Underserved Cultural Communities Liaison

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