

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
AFRICAN/AFRICAN AMERICAN UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES – November 2, 2017
Location: 3731 Stocker Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90008
2:00m to 4:00pm, 2nd Floor**

Date: November 2, 2017

Present: Romalis Taylor, Mirtala Ward, Desiree DeShay-Weakley, Karen Gunn, Kandee Lewis, Senait Admassu, Mc Harris, Lorenzo Murphy and Dorothy Banks.

Participants via conference call: Mesbal Mohamoud, Erlinda Abella, Terri Boykins, Makesha Jones-Chambers and Reba Stevens.

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions	Action Item	Person(s) Responsible
Welcome & Introductions	Attendee introductions		AAA UsCC membership
Review of Minutes	The September 2017 meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with no corrections noted. Romalis Taylor asked for a motion; the motion was made by Markesha and seconded by Kandee. Romalis called for the vote and the motion was carried and minutes were approved.		Co-chairs
ICAN Conference	Romalis reported on the following: The NEXUS Conference examined wide range of issues related to family violence and the relationship between child abuse and domestic violence. Numerous workshops with such critically important subjects such as: effects on children witnessing family violence, child abuse and domestic violence fatalities, adolescent suicidal crises, the effects of substance abuse on children, abuse of disabled children and adults, teen dating violence, understanding and responding to children in crisis, and youth involvement in violence prevention/intervention.		Romalis Taylor
SLT Updates	SLT(System Leadership Team) Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romalis reported on the following: There will be recruitment for more psychiatrists and nurse practitioners and secondly, the efforts to recruit staff that are culturally competent. Dr. Gunn discussed recruiting gaps in DMH; the concerns that are pertaining to the AAA applicants and how they are navigating the DMH application process for better employment opportunities. 		Romalis Taylor Mirtala Ward

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirtala discussed the UsCC Graduate Recruitment Program, in which 14 scholarships that were awarded and this was sponsored by DMH WET Division. • DMH is exploring the possibility of developing a Prevention program. • Romalis reported that Mimi McKay will be working on restructuring the community stakeholder process for DMH. Looking at our stakeholder engagement process and how to improve it across the department. • INN2 Update: INN2 will roll out in early 2018. Mirtala spoke about the bidders' conference and the scoring on contracts. 		
Other Items discussed	<p>The subcommittee would like to invite Dr. Sherin to attend to the AAA meeting.</p> <p>Dr. Gunn discussed building up our subcommittee prior to inviting Dr. Sherin. She suggested for different segments of the AAA community to be present at the meeting that Dr. Sherin attends.</p> <p>Networking:</p> <p>MC: reported that he did not know that the AAA UsCC subcommittee existed until a few weeks ago and he believes people in the community don't know what it is.</p> <p>Kandee expressed not knowing that the AA meeting existed and how important this meeting is to the community. She expressed the lack of visibility of the AAA UsCC subcommittee and how important this platform is for the community.</p> <p>Dorothy Banks: We still need to do a presentation at the SAAC 6 meeting and make announcements about the AAA UsCC mission, objectives and projects.</p> <p>Romalis: We will need to create an additional form to add to the flyer to have community members sign up.</p> <p>Senait: Stated that the AAA UsCC has been around a very long time and we</p>		Desiree DeShay

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	<p>have done really a good job. We need to inform the AAA community of our great work and projects.</p> <p>Romalis: Provided detail description of how to get involved with the AAA UsCC subcommittee and the role of community involvement.</p> <p>Romalis: We have great capacity building ideas and it is important to have sufficient funding for them. He stated that we need more funding and should ask for that when meeting with Dr. Sherin and Mimi McKay.</p> <p>Lorenzo spoke of the success of the Black Mental Health Awareness Campaign, and how great this program was. He is interested in talking about how to expand this program because it was very impactful in our community. We really need this project to continue due to the positive responses.</p> <p>Mirtala: Discussed since we are going through reorganization, DMH is trying to expand the success of UsCC capacity building projects using PEI dollars. These projects would be ongoing. We will try to meet with the Deputy Director Brian Marshawn in 2018.</p> <p>Shavonda: Who works for LA Care reported that L.A. Care provides community grants and she suggested for the subcommittee to explore this option for a possible funding source.</p> <p>Terri: Suggested to develop a list of all the projects that we have done based on the outcomes and measurements as well as how it has impacted the community. Look at what has helped the community. She also suggested looking at all of these as a vehicle to recommend programs for PEI funding.</p> <p>Reba: Suggested to increase the AAA membership with consumers and wants a better understanding of those in attendance. Reba will send her thoughts to Mirtala and Desiree regarding suggestions in trying to do a better job with</p>		

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	<p>outreach and engagement to peers, stakeholders, family members and young people in our communities.</p> <p>Mesbel: Shared concerns about how the youth can be involved in the AAA UsCC meetings.</p> <p>Dr. Gunn: We need to be more strategic in how we connect with persons of color in the community and she suggested that NAMI also needs to be involved in this process as well.</p> <p>DMH Update:</p> <p>The Black Immigrant Youth Empowerment project will go out for solicitation soon; subcommittee was asked about agencies that could provide reference quotes. We have two at the present time. This capacity building project is designed to understand the impact between first and second generation black immigrants as well as educate and address concerns about mental health issues, It will also help to empower and provide leadership skills.</p>		
Next meeting	<p>January 18th, 2018 Holman United Methodist Church 2pm-4pm</p>		Desiree DeShay

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Respectfully Submitted,

Desiree DeShay-Weakley

LACDMH

Program Support Bureau

Quality Improvement Division

AAA UsCC Liaison