

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
PROGRAM SUPPORT BUREAU – QUALITY IMPROVEMENT DIVISION**

**LGBTQI2-S UREP SUBCOMMITTEE
MINUTES**

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
695 S. Vermont Ave. 15th Floor, Small Conference Room
Los Angeles, CA 90005

Date: December 17, 2015

Present: Anna Yaralyan, Mastaneh Moghadam, Jordyn Sun, Johana Lozano, Andres Magana, Richard Zaldivar, Hector Ramirez, Jeffrey King, Roxana Linares, Mirtala Parada Ward, Sermed Alkass, Stephanie McClain, Marta Alquijay

Co-chairs: Kim Peterson, M.A. and Marta Alquijay, Ph.D.

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/ Conclusions	Action Item	Person(s) Responsible
Welcome & Introductions	Attendee introductions		
Review of minutes	October minutes reviewed and approved		
Capacity Building Project Presentations for FY 2015-2016	<p><u>The Black LGBTQ Network – Jeffrey King</u> Description: The black LGBTQ Network is a coalition of Black LGBTQ stakeholders and communities focusing on addressing mental health issues that do not exist at this time.</p> <p>Project Purpose: To educate and empower the Los Angeles County Black LGBTQ community on mental health to build a stronger and more cohesive community.</p> <p>Project objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop a CAB of Black LGBTQ community stake holders who will co-develop a survey 2. Conduct Outreach to disseminate educational/resource information regarding Black LGBTQ that is very limited at this time 3. Conduct 4 quarterly (Mental Health) Community town hall forums 4. Develop a Facebook group that will target the broader Black LGBTQ, the broader Black, and the broader LGBTQ communities and the mental health care professionals 5. Develop a white paper from the information gathered from the survey data collected <p>*Mirtala stated that all of the projects need to be related to the following three (3) components: Promotion, Education, and Outreach to increase access and penetration rates. The projects cannot include mental health services.</p> <p><u>LGBTQ Outreach and Engagement with the Iranian Community – Mastaneh Moghadam</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Being a part of the LGBTQ community is highly stigmatizing in the Iranian community 		

- Mastaneh started a support group about a year ago called “We do care Iranian American parents of the LGBTQ”
- It is illegal to be gay or lesbian in Iran. The president said that there are no gays or lesbians. You either change your gender or die, which has been the big lead to trauma.

Project Description: Significant Outreach and Engagement to the Iranian community

Project Objective: Reduce cultural stigma and normalizing the LGBTQ lifestyle so that these individuals can begin to live a life free of shame, isolation and harassment.

- There’s about 1 to 1.5 million Iranians living in America, but Mastaneh believes that there is 1 to 1.5 million living in the Southern
- According to the census reports, Iranians tend to check off the Caucasian part of the census
- The areas that seem to be more populated with Iranians are Beverly Hills and the San Fernando Valley

Project Objective: Start by creating connections with the Iranian Student Clubs of local college’s and high schools. Create PSAs for Iranian radio and getting articles into to the Iranian print media. Establish and implement monthly support groups for Iranian LGBTQ individuals. Present at seminars, holiday gatherings and celebrations and implement an educational celebratory event for LGBTQ individuals and their supporters.

- There was a support group in San Francisco called “Who Man”, but it has been discontinued

LGBTQI2-S Mental Health Conference – Hector Ramirez

- Have a multigenerational mental health LGBTQI2-S conference that will be the first of its kind in the LA County to be presented by the Department of Mental Health
- Provide a platform for LA County stakeholders to learn about agencies that provide mental health services to the LGBTQI2-S community
- Provide outreach, education, engagements relating to mental health issues impacting LGBTQI2-S stake holders in the Los Angeles County.
- How to deal with the cultural determinants of health and “cultural responsiveness”
- Provide outreach, education, and professional development opportunities to people, families, and communities that are impacted by LGBTQI2-S mental health issues (i.e. mental health, homelessness, stigma, substance abuse/miss-use, discrimination, etc.)
- Reach out to providers and DMH staff
- Have an attendance of 500 people
- * A board letter needs to be written to the Board of Supervisors six (6) months prior to conference

LGBTQI2-S Community PSA – Hector Ramirez

- Outreach during the LGBTQI2-S History Month in October

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight the different agencies that the community may reach out to <p><u>Speak Your Mind Academy – Andres</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project name changed from “Speak Your Mind Campaign” to “Speak Your Mind Academy” • Outreach to the LGBTQ community using existing tools in the County of Los Angeles (e.g. brochures, posters, etc.) and also utilizing social media and grass roots campaigns • Outreach to campuses, clinics, after school programs and identify key youth leaders that can represent and empower the LGBTQ community and who can also become spokespersons • These young adults will then go into a training process that includes four (4) workshops on mental health services, the power of advocacy, story-telling, and public speaking, working with the professionals within the County of Los Angeles • This is a short version of what The Wall Las Memorias is doing with the “Leadership Circle” which consists of forty-five (45) young adults in Boyle Heights <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ They’ve been reached out by speaking to them about Mental Health and addressing stigma mental health as a social justice issue ○ This group is continuing and has gathered over 1500 signatures of petitions asking for services that focus on the LGBTQ community • The goal is to normalize these conversations and address stigma in the local neighborhoods • The goal is to outreach up to 2,000 and recruit 50 members • A small grant was submitted to continue this work by allowing these recruited members to become a part of the Advisory Board for the organization becoming more holistic rather than just mental health issues • In the future, this organization would like to capture these moments in social media and target the High Schools and Colleges and start conversations • No lived experience or mental health symptoms are required for this recruitment <p><u>LGBTQI2-S Consultation Groups – Martha Alquijay</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The goal is to increase capacity to provide services to the LGBTQI2-S community • Propose consultation groups that will meet in each of the eight Service Areas • It will be a ten month commitment by mental health providers either directly operated or contracted agencies who will meet for two (2) hours once a month • Each meeting will consist of thirty minutes of didactic training on issues impacting LGBTQI2-S communities across different age groups and family members • Outreach 25 participants per group (8 Service Areas); a total of up to 200 professionals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ These participants can be clinicians, case managers or any person who provides direct services • This project is targeted towards professionals to build the clinician’s capacity to provide services • This project is geared towards retention rates which are currently low in the County of Los Angeles 		
Voting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirtala reviewed and explained the guidelines of the voting process and the funding for the 		

	<p>capacity building projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcommittee chose to vote on the top three (3) capacity building projects • A silent vote was then completed • Mirtala will reveal and share the final three projects via email 		
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirtala announced that the title Under Represented Ethnic Populations (UREP) has changed, to be more inclusive of the LGBTQI2-S population, but it is not yet official. The UREP Leadership team members have second thoughts about the new name in place, therefore, another meeting will be held to finalize a name for the UREP. The Ethnic piece will be taken out and either the words “unserved populations” or “unserved multi-cultural groups” will replace it. • Hector mentioned that he invited every LGBTQ agency that he knows to join the LGBTQI2-S subcommittee meeting today • Mirtala is in the process of hiring a new Liaison for this group 		
Next meeting	TBA		

Respectfully Submitted,