

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Strategic Communications Division**

American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

December 17, 2019
10:00AM –12:00PM

Present: Hector Ramirez, Bernice Mascher, Sunnie Whipple, Mark Parra, Carrie Johnson, Andrea Garcia, Nancy Mithlo, Farrah Ferris, Raul Garcia, Charlotte Lujan, Keith Vielle, Sylvia Gonzalez Youngblood, Melanie Cain

By Phone:

DMH Monique Smith, Jazmin Navarro, Monique Castro

Admin Curley Bonds, Debbie Innes-Gomberg, Mirtala Parada Ward, Kelly Wilkerson and Connie Acosta Castaneda

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome, Prayer & Introductions	Attendee introductions, Sunnie Whipple lead the meeting with prayer.
Announcements – Subcommittee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farrah Ferris thanked Dr. Bonds for attending the meeting. • Monique Castro announced that there will be a Wellness Gathering on January 11, & February 8, 2020, 11:00am – 1:00pm, a flyer will be sent out. • Hector Ramirez encouraged the members to become board members of the California Disabilities Commission. Hector will provide information to Kelly to distribute among the membership. • Sylvia Youngblood would like for the subcommittee to support in the efforts of Children with special learning disabilities. Sylvia will follow up with Kelly.
11/6/19 Meeting Minutes – Review	Minutes were approved by Bernice Mascher and seconded by Farrah Ferris.
Promoters Program – Discussion – Dr. Curley Bonds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Dr. Curley Bonds announced to the group that the Mental Health Promoters Program specifically for the Native American Community will be rolled out via a solicitation process. He reported that the department will no longer roll out this project via the directly operated clinic, the American Indian Counseling Center (AICC). He stated that the budget does not allow for this project to be split between a legal entity provider and a contracted provider. Dr. Bonds reported that the curriculum for the Native American Mental Health Promoters will be developed using culturally specific adaptations that are reflective of the traditions of the Native American community. ❖ Debbie Innes-Gomberg reported that part of the RFP will include a clause that will allow the awardee of the project to develop the curriculum that will incorporate community feedback and input. She further clarified that the content of the curriculum must be culturally relevant to the Native American community. She also emphasized the importance of involving the community as key stakeholders in the curriculum development process.

	<p><u>FEEDBACK</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offset current positions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ AICC use staff: Could take away from other programs • Will be sent to bid like other Promotoras Programs • Other programs have also not launched yet • Promotoras Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently only Latino Program ▪ Expansion • Solicitation: EE/ME (Armenian), AAA (Ethiopian), API (Filipino) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Master agreement list or anyone who wants to bid can (via newspaper) ▪ In solicitation, proposer will decide how curriculum will be developed (include that in RFP) • Curriculum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Require input from larger community • How many years of funding? • Community planning process – how? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Focus groups ▪ Consultation with UsCC's • Sustainability: How to sustain beyond 3 years • Purpose: Outreach / Engagement: linkage, education, prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Be creative in approach to outreach • Gatherings
UsCC Business	<p>➤ FY 19-20 Capacity Building Projects – Update</p> <p>❖ Farrah Ferris informed the subcommittee of upcoming changes related to the UsCC subcommittees. She informed the group that DMH is thinking of placing the UsCC's under the SAAC's. She is concerned about the impact of this change. She shared that most SAAC's do not understand the specific cultural needs of underserved communities. She asked members to join an ad-hoc group to further discuss this upcoming change and advocate at the departmental level as well as the Board of Supervisors.</p>
Meeting Adjourn	Meeting ended in Prayer.
Next Meeting	January 8, 2020 10:00am – 12:00pm – CSULA