

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION**

**LGBTQI2-S UsCC Subcommittee**

**MINUTES**

November 7, 2019

2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

695 S. Vermont, 15<sup>th</sup> Floor

**Present:** Michelle Garcia, Nicole Kristal, Jeffrey Fuentes, Danielle Samuel, Josue Vega, Terri Jay, Gregory Wilson, Gustavo Velez, Jennifer Jiries, Jason Brown, Isaias Guzman, Bryan Scheihing

**By phone:** Jeffrey King, Ana Bernal, Louis Smith III, Victor, Gerald Garth, Chris Izmir, Armando, Catherine, Princess Murray, Bill Sive, JavonTae Wilson, Ronald Jackson, Renato Lira

**DMH Admin** Mirtala Parada Ward, Dr. Luis Guzman, Keacha Stewart

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome/ Introductions</b>	Subcommittee Members
<b>Membership Code of Conduct</b>	Terri Jay reminded the members to be mindful and keep a professional and respectful demeanor with each other during the meeting. Please review the code of conduct for compliance purposes.
<b>October Meeting Notes - Review</b>	October Meeting minutes approved.  Action Item for January meeting – status of adding the “A” to the LGBTQI2-S subcommittee name. Next steps include subcommittee members doing outreach to individuals from the asexual community who would be interested in participating as part of the subcommittee. Nicole Kristal may have a possible new member to join the subcommittee (shared during final LGBTQI2-S Cultural Competency Training Ad Hoc). Also discussion regarding having someone from the asexual community provide an in-service training to subcommittee regarding the unique mental health needs of the asexual community.
<b>Getting To Know You</b>	Gustavo Velez volunteered to give a short description about himself. He was born and raised in South Central Los Angeles, and he has a history in psychology. He currently works with the transitional aged youth population, he is an experienced dancer, he recently adopted a bird named Papaya, and he enjoys advocating for mental health.
<b>FY 19-20 Capacity Building Projects - Update</b>	Mirtala provided an update to the subcommittee members about their current projects. The statement of work has been completed for <b>all</b> three projects. We are awaiting final approval and we are hoping to have that by next week. Once this is completed, we will find three vendors in the community that want to give us reference quotes. Hopefully by early spring, these three projects will be awarded, whoever receives them will be notified by the Internal Services Department (ISD), and then the subcommittee will be informed.
<b>FY 20-21</b>	For the fiscal year 2021, we are trying to stay on task with the utilization of our funding. We want to engage the group in a

<p><b>Capacity Building Projects - Timeline</b></p>	<p>discussion about what capacity building projects to implement early in the year. Moving forward for FY 20/21 during the months of January, February and March, the subcommittee will be focusing on developing new capacity building project ideas, that way, we could roll out those projects sooner than later.</p> <p>Mirtala informed the subcommittee members that she will have Kelly bring previously proposed projects that were not selected and the subcommittee can decide to continue with those projects or share new ideas.</p> <p>Mirtala shared information regarding the goals of the capacity building projects including community education, stigma reduction, mental health promotion, as well as outreach and engagement of underserved communities. The projects need to focus on increasing penetration rates and on promoting mental health education and awareness, and increasing the capacity of DMH.</p> <p>Jeffrey King suggested that part of a project should include a component where some data is collected.</p>
<p><b>LGBTQI2-S Cultural Competency Training Ad Hoc</b></p> <p><b>Isaias Guzman</b></p>	<p>Isaias Guzman provided the subcommittee with an update regarding the recommendation to Executive Management of DMH that a policy be implemented that mandates LGBTQI2-S specific cultural competency training for all DMH staff and contractors. An up-to-date rough draft copy of the letter was provided to the subcommittee for review. Isaias is requesting feedback from the community about what they want to include in the letter as well. Before finalizing this letter, Isaias is requesting another ad hoc meeting to receive any final recommendations before the letter will be shared with Executive Management.</p> <p>Mirtala asked the subcommittee to read the letter and email their feedback by November 15, 2019.</p> <p>Isaias shared with the subcommittee members that this letter is being worked on by different organizations as well for additional feedback and recommendations.</p>
<p><b>2020 Meeting Schedule</b></p>	<p><b>1/23/20, 2-4pm</b> - 550 S. Vermont Avenue, <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> Floor Conference Room  <b>2/27/20, 2-4pm</b> - 550 S. Vermont Avenue, <b>9<sup>th</sup></b> Floor Conference Room  <b>3/26/20, 2-4pm</b> - 550 S. Vermont Avenue, <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> Floor Conference Room  <b>4/23/20, 2-4pm</b> - 550 S. Vermont Avenue, <b>9<sup>th</sup></b> Floor Conference Room  <b>5/28/20, 2-4pm</b> - 550 S. Vermont Avenue, <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> Floor Conference Room  <b>6/25/20, 2-4pm</b> - 550 S. Vermont Avenue, <b>9<sup>th</sup></b> Floor Conference Room</p> <p>Locations are tentative if the subcommittee is interested in moving the meetings back into the community. Kelly to follow up prior to the January meeting.</p>
<p><b>Announcements</b></p>	<p>Brian from The Help Group (Kaleidoscope Program) shared some fun free upcoming events for LGBTQ youth ages 13 to 17. They will be hosting an improv night workshop on November 14, 2019. There will also be a parent support training on Friday, November 15, 2019. Please go to <a href="http://KaleidoscopeLGBTQ.org">KaleidoscopeLGBTQ.org</a> for more information. Brian shared that these events are free and they are trying to get parents and more young adults to attend.</p> <p>Mirtala suggested giving a UsCC flyer to the subcommittee members and whenever they attend community events they can</p>

	<p>provide a copy to the stakeholders, to increase subcommittee membership.</p> <p>Mirtala shared with the subcommittee that every time UsCC staff attend a SAAC meeting, they provide the SAAC members with flyers to pass out to the community in order to increase membership. Mirtala shared her next step is to email all the program managers at the clinics a copy of the UsCC flyer and ask that they start distributing the flyer to consumers. DMH also has an email address where people can email their interest forms (<a href="mailto:uscc@dmh.lacounty.gov">uscc@dmh.lacounty.gov</a>).</p> <p>Strength United is working with DV survivors in the valley, they have a support group for those within the community. If anyone is interested, you can send a flyer electronically so you can share with your clients and call the hotline to sign up for the group. The group is free to attend.</p> <p>Mirtala suggested that the members send their flyers digitally to Kelly so they can be distributed throughout the subcommittees.</p> <p>On November 19, 2019 from 9:30 AM to 12:30 PM there will be a Joint SAAC/UsCC Co-Chair Meeting as part of YourDMH. This meeting is open to the public, there will be public comments provided at the end of this meeting. This meeting will be held at 550 S. Vermont Ave. 10<sup>th</sup> floor conference room. These two groups are going to come together to work on developing some common goals and objectives between the SAACs and the UsCCs, so we can create stronger advocacy for the department.</p> <p>The American Indian/Alaska Native Mental Health Conference will be held at the California Endowment Center on November 12, 2019 from 8 AM to 4 PM. This event is free for community members and consumers. DMH contractors and employees have to pay \$35 to attend, breakfast and lunch will be provided.</p> <p>Terri Jay informed the subcommittee members that they will be developing a focus workshop, to create and discuss the mission and vision for our LGBTQI2-S group, and to make sure everybody is involved and everybody's feedback and ideas are included in creating a vision for the LGBTQI2-S group. This meeting will take place in January of next year to discuss the vision and mission statement.</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>See schedule listed above.</p>