

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
PROGRAM SUPPORT BUREAU - QUALITY IMPROVEMENT DIVISION
ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE**

MINUTES – Thursday, February 9, 2017

Location: Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Centers (APCTC), 520 S. LaFayette Park Pl, Los Angeles, California, 90057

ATTENDEES: Sokha Chan, Usophea Chim, Teresa Cho, Al Choi, Lishi Leo Huang, Jane Kim, Jae Soo Lim, Larry Lue, Mariko Kahn, Jeffery Liang, Young Moon, Patricia Oh, Kim Ovalle, Moon Park, Phaly Sam, Ruth Satele, Chong Suh, Maria Tan, Uy Te, Vanda Va, Ok Yoon, Mirtala Parada Ward, Nina Tayyib

DISCUSSION

- **Welcome and Introductions**
- **9/8/16 Meeting Minutes review and approval**

API UsCC subcommittee Code of Conduct

The API UsCC subcommittee was informed that a Code of Conduct for UsCC meetings has been developed, which has already been reviewed and approved by LACDMH and the UsCC Leadership. The Code of Conduct is being implemented across all UsCC subcommittees at this time. Mirtala reviewed the goals of the Code of Conduct, which is to create a safe and respectful atmosphere where all meeting attendees feel comfortable participating and contributing to the meeting. Nina read the Code of Conduct to the group. All attendees signed the form. For those calling into the meeting, they agreed to sign and fax or email the form to Nina.

At the beginning of each meeting, the Code of Conduct will be on the agenda and reviewed by the Co-Chairs. Each attendee will be asked to sign the form which DMH will keep on file. Each member only has to complete the form only once. Those calling into the meeting will be asked to sign and fax or email the form to Nina after the meeting.

API UsCC Community Co-Chair election

Elvie Quintos, the previous API UsCC Community Co-Chair for the past few years, has stepped down at this time and the API UsCC subcommittee needs to elect a new Co-Chair. DMH reviewed the role and responsibilities of the API UsCC Co-Chairs and the UsCC Rules and Agreements document. It was clarified that anyone can run for Co-Chair as long as he/she meets the requirements in the UsCC Rules and Agreements. Voting requirements were also reviewed. Leo Lishi Huang, who is one of the present Co-Chairs, talked about his experience as Co-Chair and shared that he felt it was a wonderful opportunity to learn about how to advocate for the needs of the API community.

Ruth Satele and Phaly Sam expressed interest in being the next API UsCC Community Co-Chair and had an opportunity to share why they were interested and about their experience advocating for the API community. Voting members submitted their votes during the meeting. **Phaly Sam was elected as the new API UsCC Community Co-Chair.**

DMH WET UsCC Graduate Recruitment Program update (Mirtala Parada Ward)

At a previous API UsCC meeting, the DMH WET UsCC Graduate Recruitment Program was discussed. The program is a pilot program that will offer financial incentives/assistance to bi-lingual/bi-cultural individuals to attend graduate school to become a mental health professional and then work at LACDMH. The applicants must have bilingual capability in one of the languages that has been identified by LACMDH as underserved and/or represent an unserved/underserved community as identified by LACMDH. The goal is to increase workforce capacity to increase the number of bilingual/bicultural staff in order to serve underserved communities who may not access services due to barriers such as language capacity. There are two program options. For both programs, individuals must have bilingual capability in one of the languages that has been identified by LACMDH as underserved and/or represent an unserved/underserved community as identified by DMH. Priority will be given to those with lived experience as a consumer or family member in the mental health system.

The program has 14 slots. Of these slots, two will be for the individuals from the API community. There will be two slots for each of the other 5 UsCC subcommittees (Latino, AAA, AI/AN, EE/ME, and LGBTQ) as well as two slots for the Hearing Impaired community. At this time, the DMH WET Division has received 70 applicants, of which approximately 15 applicants were from the API community. The application review/scoring is complete. The interviews have almost been completed. The DMH WET Division plans to announce the awardees in the next few weeks.

DMH Mental Health Promoters Program update (Mirtala Parada Ward)

At a previous API UsCC meeting, the DMH Mental Health Promoters Program (MHPP) was discussed. The MHPP is based on the Promotoras de Salud model. In this model, community leaders are trained to educate their community on mental health, with a focus on prevention, and also to provide linkage to mental health resources in a culturally and linguistically competent manner. The goal is to educate those who have never received mental health services due to barriers (i.e. language, immigration status, stigma, etc.) so that if the time comes, community members feel comfortable accessing mental health services. Due to the success of this program thus far, the DMH System Leadership Team (SLT) committed to expand this model to other ethnicities within LA County as part of the MHS 3 year plan and changed the name to the Mental Health Promoters Program. Specifically, the MHPP is being expanded to the African/African-American, American Indian/Alaska Native, API and Eastern European/Middle Eastern communities. Each UsCC subcommittee was asked to identify one ethnic/linguistic community for the MHPP to target countywide. The API UsCC subcommittee voted to target the Filipino community (Tagalog speaking). As of now, the RFS for the MHPP is still being finalized and estimated to be released in September 2017. **It was also discussed how, at this time, DMH Contracted agencies have the option to use PEI dollars to implement a MHPP that targets other API communities outside of Filipino community.**

API Family Member Mental Health Outreach, Education and Engagement Program – Project Outcomes (Nina Tayyib)

The API Family Member Mental Health Outreach, Education and Engagement Program was the previous API UsCC Capacity Building Project and was completed in July 2016. The project included the following activities:

- Six API ethnic communities were targeted, including the following: Chinese community (Cantonese and Mandarin speaking); Vietnamese community; Korean community; South Asian (Indian/Hindi speaking) community; Cambodian community; and the Samoan community.
- The collection and distribution of linguistically and culturally appropriate mental health education and resource materials. All materials were in English and translated into the 6 target languages.
- An API Family Mental Health Resource List of mental health services and supports for API families in LA County and an Outreach and Engagement survey were developed. All materials were in English and translated into the 6 target languages.
- Outreach, Education and Engagement (OEE) events were implemented countywide targeting API families from specific Service Areas for each target API ethnic community. The OEE events were held in collaboration with consumer & family member support groups and community based agencies that serve the API community. The formats of the OEE events varied, depending on the needs of the community.

The project outcomes were shared with the API UsCC subcommittee. The survey data showed that participation in this program increased the knowledge of signs and symptoms of mental illness and encourage early access of services by the individuals that attended the OEE community activities.

Multimedia Mental Health Awareness Campaign for the Cambodian and Vietnamese Communities – Project Update (Kim Ovalle and Vanda Va)

The Multimedia Mental Health Awareness Campaign for the Cambodian and Vietnamese Communities project was awarded to Cambodian Association of America and was implemented on September 1, 2016. The goal of this project is to increase awareness and knowledge of mental illness signs and symptoms as well as improve access to mental health services for the Cambodian and Vietnamese communities in LA County. This project includes the implementation of linguistically and culturally appropriate mental health educational and engagement workshops (10 Cambodian and 10 Vietnamese) and an ethnic media campaign (2 TV Advertisements and 4 Newspaper articles).

At this time, the project is in its second Quarter. The workshop curriculum has been finalized and translated and, as of the meeting, 4 free workshops had been held. Kim shared that the workshops for the Vietnamese community have had low attendance. She also shared how she is outreaching to community agencies that serve the Vietnamese community in order to provide workshops at convenient locations. APCTC stated that they have some Vietnamese clients and would like to discuss coordinating a possible workshop at APCTC. There was discussion about outreaching to youth who may be interested in the workshops using social media and going to locations where youth gather (schools, church groups, etc.). Kim shared the published newspaper articles that were printed in local Cambodian (in Khmer) and Vietnamese (in Vietnamese) newspapers. Kim also shared that the Radio Ad for the Cambodian community and the TV Ad for the Vietnamese community are being finalized at this time.

Kim Ovalle provided the API UsCC subcommittee her contact information for any questions or requests for presentations: Phone number (714) 251-6589 and email kim@cambodianusa.com

Kimthai Kuoch and his team will be providing updates on behalf of CAA on the progress of the project on a quarterly basis.

API Youth Mental Health Video Contest: “Go Beyond Stigma” – project update (Nina Tayyib)

At a previous API UsCC meeting, the API UsCC subcommittee voted to implement a API Youth Mental Health Video Contest as the next API UsCC Capacity Building Project. The goal of this project will be to provide API youth (ages 16-25) an opportunity to share how mental health issues impact their life, their family and their community, using video. Through collaboration with community agencies, API Youth will be recruited and provided education about mental health issues and resources. As well, API Youth will also be introduced to the art of storytelling using video and also provided training and technical assistance to support the development of his/her own video (maximum of 3 minutes) on how mental health issues impact his/her life. The videos will be submitted as part of a Video Contest and will be showcased at an Awards Ceremony, which will be part of a larger community event. All API youth countywide will be targeted, with special efforts to recruit South Asian youth and API LGBTQ youth.

Since the last meeting, DMH held a focus group on November 10, 2016 in order to tailor the project to better meet the needs of API youth. Approximately 15 individuals participated in the focus group who were API youth (ages 18 and older) and/or staff of API providers/community based organizations that work with API youth. DMH rec'd valuable feedback from the focus group.

At this time, the Statement of Work (SOW) is still being finalized. DMH UsCC Admin will continue to work with the API UsCC Co-chairs and the API UsCC subcommittee (as needed) as well as DMH Admin in order to tailor the proposal into a Statement of Work (SOW). This may mean adjusting some of project activities. All costs for the project (translation, etc.) must come out of the awarded amount and are the responsibility of the Consultant who is awarded the contract. Once the SOW is finalized, the API UsCC subcommittee will be informed. Because the project will be sent out to bid, the specifics of the project will not be released.

The project will be put out to bid by LACDMH Internal Services Department (ISD) independently. Anyone can be bidder, as long as he/she is a registered vendor for LA County. A bidder can be an individual or organization. When ISD puts the project out to bid, there is a separate independent application process that interested parties, who are registered vendors, need to complete. ISD makes the decision as to who is awarded the bid and the bidding process is a public process. Instructions will be provided to the API UsCC subcommittee via email on how to register as a vendor.

There are multiple steps and each step has their own timeline, which can sometimes be unpredictable, but DMH will keep the API UsCC subcommittee updated.

API UsCC subcommittee logo (Nina Tayyib)

The API UsCC subcommittee was informed that they are able to develop a logo for the API UsCC subcommittee. Logos from the Latino UsCC and EE/ME UsCC were shared. There was discussion about ideas for a logo. The subcommittee suggested ideas such as a logo that included a semi colon, lotus flower, cherry blossom, ying-yang symbol, bamboo, and/or hands that were touching. The subcommittee stated that they did not want any dragons or coy fish.

Sample of logos based on the ideas would be provided at the next API UsCC meeting. The API UsCC subcommittee was informed that a DMH staff person will be making some sample designs. Interested subcommittee members were invited to also submit samples at the next meeting. The subcommittee was informed that no funding is available to compensate the artist.

Announcements

- The MHSA 3 Year Plan Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, 2/23/17 at the Cathedral in Downtown Los Angeles. The hearing is free and open to the public.
- Pacific Clinics is conducting Health Navigator training

Next Meeting: TBD