

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Strategic Communications Division
LGBTQIA2-S UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday July 8, 2020 2-4 pm

Welcome/Introductions

Present: Josue Vega, Gustavo Velez, Greg Wilson, Kathryn Aguenza, Isaias Guzman, Terri Jay, Jeffrey King, Bill Sive, Ana Bernal, Hector Ramirez, JavonTae Wilson, Renato Lira, Nicole Kristal, Claire Kobren, David Haynik, Gerald Garth, Cynthia Ruffin, Bianca Gallegos, Bryan Scheihing, Princess Murray, Gia Olaes, Live Salas, Miguel Diegas, Alex Rodriguez, Alex Reynoso, Brian Navarro, Sharon Chapman, Rebecca Gitlin, Robbie Montgomery
DMH Admin: Kelly Wilkerson, Sandra Chang, Keacha Stewart

Getting To Know You

- Renato Lira shared his background with the LGBTQIA2-S UsCC subcommittee.

Membership Code of Conduct for review:

- Co Chairs reviewed the code of conduct with the subcommittee members.
- Co Chairs will continue to follow up with the members regarding the code of conduct on a monthly basis.
- Subcommittee will revisit the code of conduct and by-laws in a future meeting for recommended modifications or revisions.
- Members were asked to sign the code of conduct once a year, it is voluntary not mandatory, but all members are expected to abide by the code of conduct.

Review of May & June 2020 Meeting Minutes

- Meeting minutes Approved for May and June.

Community Check-In

- Robbie Montgomery shared with the subcommittee an update from a SALT meeting.
- Community Members are experiencing issues with law enforcement, 5150's and arrests in public places.
- The Board of Supervisors meeting on June 23rd requested DMH to provide a report on the re-allocation of funding for correction and law enforcement support.
- Robbie Montgomery will send the document from the meeting to Kelly Wilkerson to share with the subcommittee
- Terri Jay informed the members that L.A. Mayor Garcetti approved the renter's relief program, he allocated \$2,000 a month for individuals to pay their rent. Registration begins at 8:00 am on July 13th, it will close on July 17th, 2020 @ 12pm. Log onto HCIDLA.LACITY.ORG to apply.

- Gia Olaes shared that incarcerated juveniles who are LGBTQIA2-S identified have been experiencing inconsistencies with their mental health treatment, as well as DCFS and medical care.
 - Please share how can a team member reach out to a counselor for individuals experiencing detention, particularly youth.
 - How can a team who works with the youth coordinate more efficiently?
 - The change of therapists happens often, which is inconsistent support for the youth, how can this be addressed?
 - Rebecca Gitlin shared she would share the Psychologist contact information within DMH
- Terri Jay expressed concerns regarding referrals that match the LGBTQIA2-S youth, information needs to be updated with the appropriate referrals who work directly with the LGBTQIA2-S youth when it comes to MH services.
- Sandra Chang stated a summary report highlighting the concerns and issues is being shared with Pinki Mehta who is reviewing and addressing this information. Clinical issues that arise are also shared with the Deputy Directors of DMH.

Community Leadership Team Meeting: Dr. Sandra Chang

- The UsCC, SALT, and CCC co-chairs will have a joint conversation with Dr. Sherin on July 15, 2020 @ 1:00pm to 3:00pm.
- UsCC Leadership Meetings will resume on July 21, 2020 @ 10:00am to 12:00 pm.
- Brian Navarro asked about the past decision to have the UsCC members be in each of the SALTs.
- Sandra Chang will ask Pinki Mehta to provide an update to the subcommittee regarding this decision.
- Currently the Covid-19 pandemic is their main focus, they are addressing pandemic related issues.
- Hector Ramirez requested that the co-chairs make a recommendation to meet with the Director, to establish a specific unit within the department that focuses on the specific needs of the LGBTQIA2-S community.

Rebecca Gitlin: Training Feedback/Open Discussion:

- The training division is in the process of compiling a comprehensive training plan for the department.
- The training will include every training that DMH staff has to take, there is no current timeline when this will happen.
- The Executive Leadership Team and the County CEO approval is needed. This is a brand new structure of approval that is needed.
- The LGBTQIA2-S specific trainings will be included in their plan, there will be a competition for funding, it is not guaranteed.
- Rebecca Gitlin asked the committee members, what are the priorities for training content? What would your priorities be for what the training includes? What are your priorities for who is conducting the training?
 - Addressing street drugs and sexual health in the community.
 - Community Models that promote educating the LGBTQ community about the importance of mental health.
 - Core practice concepts for working with the LGBTQ youth.
 - Sexual Exploitation for the LGBTQ community, substance abuse and gender differences.
 - Integration of ecosystemic, feminist, LGBTQ affirming models.
 - Dynamics of prejudice and discrimination, how it affects the LGBTQ community.

Accountability Session: Johana Lozano recommended keeping this as an ongoing agenda item. The Accountability Session is to keep DMH staff in line with following up, holding people accountable, revisiting topics of discussions from prior meetings that were not addressed.

General Announcements/Questions:

What happens to the \$200,000 for the Capacity Building Project for this fiscal year. How many projects does the group want to propose for funding this time around? Kelly to follow up regarding funding Capacity Building Projects. During COVID, there has been a hard freeze on the budget due to the pandemic, except for crisis or emergency related services.

Audio/Video Recording for Meeting:



[LGBTQIA2-S](#)

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Upcoming Meetings:

- **8/6/20, 2-4pm**
- **9/3/20, 2-4pm**
- **10/1/20, 2-4pm**
- **11/5/20, 2-4pm**
- **December: No Meeting**

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