

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
Office of the Deputy Director of Strategic Communications**

**Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes**

April 8, 2020

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Skype and Conference Call Meeting

**Present on Skype and Conference Call line:** Roque Bucton, Sylvia Youngblood, Ary Nassiri, Pam Inaba, Alex Elliott, Cody Hanable, Wendi Cabil, Angela Kaufman, Amy Kay, Alex Reynoso

**ASL Interpreters:** Mark Robinson and Martha Villar

**DMH Staff:** Rosario Ribleza, Mirtala Parada Ward and Connie Acosta Castaneda

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome/ Introductions</b> - All Members	Attendee introductions: Each attendee (On Skype and on the phone) introduced himself/herself, and shared a word that connects with the disabled community.
<b>Meeting Norms</b> - Sylvia Youngblood	Sylvia Youngblood reminded the attendees of the following protocols: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be mindful and respectful of others.</li> <li>• Please put your phone on mute, and unmute when you need to talk.</li> <li>• Please ask to be added to the “que” if you want to give input or have a comment.</li> <li>• The Code of Conduct is reviewed at every meeting as a reminder.</li> </ul>
<b>Code of Conduct Review</b> - Sylvia Youngblood	The Code of Conduct was briefly reviewed, and everyone is required to abide.
<b>Review of Meeting Minutes</b> - Subcommittee Members	Not Available

**Updates -  
Rosario Ribleza**

**A. 2018-2019 Capacity Building Projects**

- **Peer to Peer Network Project**  
Phases 1 and 2 were completed. Only 3 individuals who participated in the training are willing to do the public presentations, so another training will be conducted to recruit more people. Training was scheduled on March 30, 2020, but will be rescheduled due to the Corona Virus pandemic. This project is extended until September 30, 2020.
- **Clinical Mental Health Training** is extended to March 30, 2020. It will be fully completed on October 2020.

**B. 2019-2020**

- **Mental Health Assessment for Blind Partially Sighted & Visually Impaired Community**
- **Mental Health Assessment for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community**
- **Mental Health Assessment for Physically Disabled Community**

❖ Special Requests (SR) for all three projects were already submitted. The projects are currently pending due to many employees deployed to emergency assignments as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

**C. 2020-2021 – Due 4-30-20**

- **Accessibility Slam: Outreach & Engagement**

❖ Need to brainstorm for more capacity building projects.

**Coronavirus Pandemic Updates and Protocols –  
Mirtala Parada Ward**

**A. DMH Updates – Mirtala Parada Ward**

- All County Departments have declared working on Disaster Emergency. The Department of Mental Health (DMH) has identified what are the essential and non-essential functions. The essential functions are related to the response of DMH to the mental health needs of the community. All of the Clinical Operations are running as normal, and they continue to provide services at every clinic with some changes. No one will be denied of mental health services.
- Most of the services are being done remotely - telepsychiatry and teletherapy. DMH staff are triaging and working together to make sure everyone's mental health needs are being met.

- **Impact on the Capacity Building Project Budget**

- Since the DMH is on a disaster schedule right now, the Capacity Building Projects are temporarily on hold, and will move forward once the Disaster or Crisis is over. They are not going away; they just are not part of the disaster.
- ❖ Mirtala Parada Ward is temporarily a Deployment Manager for all the staff that are being deployed to the Shelters and Motels to help serve the Homeless population during disaster period.
  - UsCC meetings will continue virtually for community members to come together and be provided with updates from the department. However, capacity building project brainstorming will be placed on hold – a three-month delay. Hopefully normal operations will be back up and running in June 2020.
  - We have a total of 17 capacity building projects right now that are in the middle of implementation. The majority of the projects require community engagement but since people are working home, it is not possible at this time. All vendors agreed to continue their effort to complete the projects.

**List of Shelters and Hotels**

**Tier 1.** Provides resources for homeless people over the age of 60 who are not ill. They are being isolated to practice partial isolation.

**Tier 2.** Quarantine/Isolated who have Covid-19 and individuals with chronic medical conditions/symptoms.

**Tier 3.** Managed by the City of Los Angeles. People come in and out for services. They can get food, and are able to take shower. DMH provides services such as food and transportation.

**B. Resources for the Disabled Community**

**Alex Elliott:**

1. DMH website - click on Covid-19 Resources.
2. LA County Library Apps - sign up for a Digital Library Card. It will give you access through your phone, home TV or your Kindle. On your Kindle you can get books, movies, music and magazines.
  - Covid-19 Hotline (323) 409-3090
  - LAUSD Mental Health Hotline (213) 241-3840
  - Statewide Hotline for Older Adults (833) 544-2374

**Sylvia Youngblood:** United American Indian Involvement Center (UAIL) has a lot of virtual workshops for the community. It's open to the public They serve American Indians and have something to offer to the community. They offer a Credit Management class. The workshops are good for kids who are transitioning out of school. They will help develop their skills.

**Suggestions of Amenities from the Access for All Members and Announcements**

**Roque Bucton:** Students with disabilities are given "hotspot" but some of them do not have the devices to use it. Cal-Fresh is reducing the requirements and offering Emergency Funds. Roque shared that while being quarantined, he has been practicing playing his guitar.

**Sylvia Youngblood:** For children who do not have proper devices/computer for their home school work, they should contact the School District. Students will be provided with a device/computer. Take this opportunity to know your kids better. Watch television with them, a show that they like. Connect with friends.

**Wendi Cobil:** They are offering free Wi-Fi for students for 60 days. Wendi can provide information on Domestic Violence issues.

**Pam Inaba:** Suggested meditation, mindfulness, breathing and walking. Take breaks and reach out, call people, family and friends.

**Amy Kay:** Five Acres is still open for business. They are still doing Tele Help to clients. Five Acres will still be able to support families.

**Meeting Adjourned**

12:00 P.M.

**Next Meeting**

May 13, 2020 - 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.