

Los Angeles County Department of Mental  
Health

Administrative Operations  
API Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
January 25, 2021 2:00pm – 4pm

Present: Leo Lishi Huang, Dr. Ann Marie Yamada, Christine Oh, Gary Odom, Mariko Kahn, Lidia Perez, Samin Yoak, Shahana Osman, Sharon Hillahan, Dr. Sheila Wu, Tracy Zhao, Vickie Xu, Al Choi, Kishen Bera, Payal Sawhney, Phaly Sam, Sun Lim, Pastor Kim, Chhor Chhun, Michelle Wong, Jess Baker, Richer San, Dr. Anna Lee, Sophia Chin, Dr. Rocco Cheng, Kavisha Prajapati

DMH Admin: Dr. Luis Guzman, Dr. Sandra Chang, Keacha Stewart, Dr. Jorge Partida

Welcome & Introductions

- Subcommittee Members, Housekeeping, Attendance, Co-Chairs

Review of Meeting Minutes – January 2021 Minutes Approved

API Mental Health Focus for 2021 – Dr. Guzman asked the members to provide 10 priority areas to focus on for 2021.

8-10 Priority Areas

- Prioritize funding for the Filipino, South Asian, and Pacific Islanders.
- Develop funding that goes towards prevention programs for the API community.
- Capacity Building Project that focuses on trauma informed strategies for communities that have historical trauma.
- Connect the Vietnamese and Cambodian community that has suffered trauma with displacement and migration
- Create projects that help clarify their history and connect it to trauma.
- Include the undocumented API community
- Immunization confusion misinformation causes mental health issues
- Create culturally sensitive, and linguistically specific outreach work for the mental health community through the Promotoras
- Connecting physical health and mental health
- How do we connect the older adult to the vaccine information how do we get them registered?
- What are the impacts of long term isolation, how do we re-adjust being around others, reopening.
- Seniors need a support system, they have no transportation, and no skills with technology
- Cultural identity
- Expansion of the ISM program to other communities, plus the expansion for the Korean community and the Southeast Asian communities.
- Leo suggested a platform for social media to connect with DMH stake holders, a texting system that sends positive messages daily
- Leo suggested a social media platform like Instagram or Tik Tok to deliver messages daily to the Asian community
- Help the students get connected socially with their peers and friends during this pandemic

- Payal informed the members of the Young Students have a podcast on Spotify where they deliver great content connecting their culture and roots
- Substance Abuse and Substance Addiction in the API community
- Review Board for the API committee where projects can be reviewed and cleared for execution

#### Capacity-Building Project Ideas Review

- Dr. Guzman provided an update on the current capacity building project
- The Subcommittee agreed in the past you must be present at 51% of the meetings in the last months in order to vote
- You must have attended at least 5 meetings in the last 9 months to be eligible to vote
- Dr. Guzman shared the list of names that are eligible to vote
- Dr. Guzman provided an update on the 3 capacity building project from the SAHAS for Cause
- Sharon provided an update on their capacity building project, called "We are Here to Hear you Kapamilya"
- Sharon shared this project is not just for the Filipino community, it is for the Gen X but for all Millennials
- Tracey provided a brief summary of her proposal, a peer-to-peer program for the API and LGBTQIA2+ Community
- Michelle Wong shared the progress of "Sharing Tea Sharing Hope" Tea Cart Project
- Dr Guzman stated he would email the blank PDF again, for those members who would like to submit a project proposal idea
- Dr. Luis shared with the members he will send an email out with the full description of the capacity building projects
- Dr. Guzman explained in detail about information regarding the \$200,000 funding for the capacity building project

#### DMH Update: Dr. Sandra Chang- Cultural Traditions Newsletter

- Dr. Sandra Chang provided information regarding a new project that the CCC is presenting, inviting all of the UsCCs to be included.
- The goal is to provide a space to build connections with the UsCCs and welcome the community to share their voice and address concerns related to the pandemic & social barriers while also making a connection to the community, through humanity and highlighting each culture group.
- There will be a page dedicated for each subcommittee that would like to participate. The Newsletter will be issued on a quarterly basis.
- Dr. Chang will be visiting the UsCC groups to invite anyone who is interested. The project is open to those who want to be a part of it
- The newsletter will be quarterly; it will inform the community of resources available to them.
- It will also allow everyone to connect their cultures by sharing childhood up-bringing experiences, food recipes, photography, and poems.
- Dr. Chang shared they will be forming a work group to compile information to plan the newsletter content.
- Dr. Chang will forward an email to the interested individuals, who have articles and content to add to their individual pages
- Dr. Chang welcomed writers, those who write poems, literature, cultural practices, photos, etc., to share their resources and information
- Dr. Chang invited members to join the UsCC Workgroup, who want to be part of the planning committee for the Newsletter
- There were a few members interested, Dr. Guzman stated he would forward their information to Dr. Sandra Chang

#### Promotoras Update Dr. Partida

- Dr. Partida encouraged the API members to please forward any candidates who is eligible to apply for the Promotoras

- The Promotoras position would be an F item, it is not designed for a person who works a full-time job, you have to attend training classes.
- Dr. Partida shared there is a low count of API applications at this time for the Promotoras.
- Dr. Partida shared the Department is reaching out to student organizations, colleges, universities, and communities.
- Dr. Partida shared there are thirteen workshops that have been adjusted for COVID-19 and revised for COVID-19 content
- Children are learning from home, grief loss is offered during COVID-19, mental health stressors and mental health related to COVID-19
- Dr. Partida shared there are 13 presentations that the promoters can deliver in English and in Spanish to any community.
- Dr. Partida shared the Speakers Bureau is available with experienced clinicians, licensed and certified and they speak the 13 threshold languages.
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Upcoming Meetings: 2-22-2021, 3-22-01, 4-26-01, 5-24-01, 6-28-01