

Los Angeles County Department of Mental
Health

Administrative Operations
API Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
September 28, 2020 2:00pm – 4pm

Present: Leo Lishi Huang, Mariko Kahn, Richer San, Dr. Rocco Cheng, Al Choi, Jackie Wike, Judith Tejero, Norio Iwahori, Dr. Pam Inaba, Chiaki Ueki, Sharon Bustamante-Hilahan, Dr. Sheila Wu, Tracy Zhao, Dr. Ann Marie Yamada, Pastor Kim, Patricia Oh, Young Moon, Yue (Vicky) Hua Xu, Revina, Joseph Oh, Dr. Andy Yang, Payal Sawhney

DMH Admin: Dr. Luis Guzman

Welcome & Introductions

- Subcommittee Members, Housekeeping, Attendance, Co-Chairs & members shared their ideas on self-care during this pandemic
- Leo Lishi Huang welcomed Richer San for his recent leadership role as the new Co-Chair position for the API subcommittee.

Review of Meeting Minutes – Approved with minor corrections

Capacity Building Projects – Leo Lishi Huang – updated the subcommittee members on the previous projects that are still on the table for next year. Leo Lishi Huang took a motion to vote at today's meeting. The members agreed to discuss the projects today and at the October meeting and they will vote on the projects in November 2020.

Luis Guzman will send out the information for the members to vote on the projects, may get the presenters to do a summary next month of their projects, and also new projects can be added as well. Leo Lishi suggested a new summary of the new projects be presented.

Winning Projects:

- Rocco Cheng /Ann Marie Yamada
- Korean Navigation Project
- Presentation by Rocco/Ann Marie Yamada - Our Stores & Our Journey of Mental Health Recovery & Resilience

Rocco Cheng shared the challenges surrounding past UsCC project are language, stigma and social isolation. The purpose of this project is to solicit personal testimony to share personal success stories in mental health recovery to combat stigma and isolation.

Rocco stated this project purpose is to better understand the challenges associated with mental health conditions and to identify effective strategies to help support and guide API family members. API related mental health resources will also be shared with the family members.

Rocco shared that people who will share their personal success stories in mental health recovery will be interviewed, they will use an audio-visual format to present relevant information with printed materials. There will be power-point files with visual information and personal testimonies embedded into audio files in API languages that will be created.

Consumers, family members and service staff, peer advocates, case managers, and clinicians will be recruited. The final product will be made available to DMH and API serving agencies to add to their websites and social media sites. If COVID19 is no longer a threat they will be able to hold community events to showcase the product. Rocco shared the project details, goals and bidding process with the subcommittee.

The API members provided feedback to Dr. Rocco Cheng & Dr. Yamada with suggestions and ideas. Rocco Cheng & Dr. Yamada thanked the subcommittee members for their ideas and suggestions.

Dr. Luis Guzman will send out the information for anyone interested in becoming a vendor and the bidding and voting process information.

Current & Emerging needs of the API Community

- Killing Fields (Oral History) – Promotoras – Richer San had to leave for another meeting. Leo Lishi Huang and Dr. Guzman shared the history and tragedies of the Killing Fields with the subcommittee members. Millions of people were killed during this Cambodian genocide. Currently trauma still affects the Cambodian Community.
- Dr. Guzman shared the Promotoras program that Hilda Solis, Board of Supervisor approved a motion directing the county to expand its Promotoras programs in order to reach more culturally and linguistically diverse and underserved communities.
 - DMH and DPH has to provide a 90-day report back on the feasibility of each department expanding their Promotoras Programs in communities that primarily speak Arabic, Armenian, Cambodian, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Mandarin. The report back must identify potential funding streams.
- Leo Lishi Huang asked to discuss the recent needs of the Khmer community and the Promotoras program. The Promotoras consists of community health workers build bridges between clinical care and local residents
- Dr. Luis Guzman asked the committee for their ideas to focus on the Asian communities using this funding provided. Dr. Guzman asked the subcommittee members to share how and where the needs are in the community so they can hire and train the community health workers.

- Dr. Luis Guzman shared that the community health workers live in the neighborhood and speak the language. They are trained to provide resources to the community through outreach. The Board has allocated 30 million to expand the program to be used, if it is not used in the next few months, the federal government will take the funds back. They want the money to be spent during this covid crisis.

- Payal shared the South Asian community can benefit from this, she is asking for guidance. Dr. Guzman he will share information with the subcommittee members to get started with this program. The money can be used for training, equipment, laptops, any training the community feels they need training, or how to use technology and computers and hazard pay, they can hire more community health workers as well etc.

- Dr. Sheila Wu shared that Riverside County is using the Promotoras program (Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Tagalog) and stated during COVID there is a greater need. She wants to know is there a separate RFP.

- Dr. Yamada suggested focusing on the Samoan communities.

- Leo Lishi stated desire to focus on Tagalog, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Cantonese, Mandarin Vietnamese, Khmer, among others

- Mariko Kahn suggested the subcommittee move forward with their recommendations for the Asian community, this is an opportunity for agencies who are not contract providers to receive funding. South Asian and Southeast Asian and the Pacific Islanders can all benefit from this opportunity. She stated this is a wonderful opportunity to build capacity with the subgroups in the API community.

- Mariko suggested 1 funding source for South Asian and 1 funding source for the API. Include the LGBTQ community as well.

- Dr. Luis Guzman suggested bringing up this recommendation at the next UsCC Leadership Meeting

Mariko and Leo took a motion that they are in agreement with applying for the cares act funding to develop community health worker programs for a number of API communities including but not limited to Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese Japanese, Khmer, South Asian & Southeast Asian, Pacific Islanders, Filipino, Asian Americans and the LGBTQ community.

Leo Lishi asked all the members in attendance to vote on the motion. All members in attendance agreed to move forward with the motion.

Dr. Luis Guzman stated he would send all the information to the members that was requested during todays meeting.

Upcoming Meetings:

10/26/20, 2-4pm