

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  
Strategic Communications Division  
LGBTQIA2-S UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
Thursday August 5, 2021, 2-4 pm**

**Welcome/Introductions**

**Present:** Greg Wilson, Nicole Kristal, Bill Sive, Jeffrey King, Cynthia Ruffin, Alexis Glenn, Live Xóchi Salas, Merry Meyers, Mikey Fields, Bobby Dillard, Addison Rose Vincent, Nina Barkers, Gia Olaes, Princess Murray, Jeffrey Fuentes, Bianca Gallegos, Emme Fayez, Ryan Sample, riKu Matsuda, Jay Guzman, Sharon Chapman, Rebecca Gitlin, Yue Hua Xu (Vicky), Andrea Aoun  
**DMH Admin:** Kelly Wilkerson, Keacha Stewart, Pinki Mehta

**Getting To Know You** – Cynthia Ruffin and Ryan Sample shared about themselves.

**July 2021 Meeting Minutes** – Reviewed & Approved with two corrections

**Co-Chair Elections – Update**

- Kelly reviewed the requirements for co-chair position (must be a voting member and have attended 50% of the meetings over the last 9 months)
- Members can nominate themselves or others
- Co-chair guidelines are outlined in the UsCC by-laws, as well as on pages 3-4 of the agenda
- Jeffrey King nominated Cynthia Ruffin
- Members can email Kelly with other nominations ([KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov))

**Capacity Building Projects – Brainstorm/Discussion**

- Subcommittee discussed communities to potentially focus on for current fiscal year projects based on data and critical need:
  1. Ace/aro spectrum awareness
  2. API communities
  3. BIPOC-inclusive
  4. Bisexual awareness
  5. Black communities
  6. Black gay men elders
  7. Consumer populations (also recommended to include in all future projects)
  8. Elders
  9. Indigenous communities
  10. Intersex awareness
  11. Justice involved LGBTQ+ youth
  12. Latinx communities
  13. LGBTQ+ foster youth
  14. Neurodiverse communities
  15. Transgender communities
- Consider a collective/united campaign developed by the subcommittee as a whole

### **Recommendations/Discussion**

- Provide education to individuals proposing project ideas on how to present their ideas and what the solicitation/bidding process consists of. Possibly partner established organizations with individuals with less experience proposing ideas (mentorship)
- How do we address sustainability
- Explore the available resources that are being allocated towards youth vs. aging communities
- Be mindful of using the language “inclusive” or “inclusion”, it implies that there is a spot for you, but does not look at what work is actually being done. Instead focus on being “culturally empathetic”
- Look at what way these projects will address stigma, how will they outreach, how will they educate the people they're trying to reach, providing them with information, educating that community, creating a pathway
- Request additional funding for this subcommittee due to the many overlapping identities and the need for more capacity building projects
- Look at opportunities to partner with other UsCC, collaborate on projects

### **SOGI Board Motion/Training – Update**

- All LA County departments are working on the implementation phase
- Dr. Gitlin is working with the clinical informatics team at DMH to see how best to roll out these changes
- Also looking at training for all staff on how best to ask questions related to SOGI identities
- Board of Supervisors also put out a mandate for more gender affirming services across the different County departments – working on the Board response and partnering with teams at DHS and other departments
- Open invitation to subcommittee members to be involved in these conversations
- Ryan asked what the criteria are for “affirming providers” – possible conversation for a future meeting

### **General Announcements**

- Alexis and Jamie from DCFS Office of Equity, LGBTQ+ to possibly put together a presentation for the subcommittee on the work happening at DCFS
- Black Gay Men’s Wellness Month happening in August – visit In The Meantime Men’s Facebook page for upcoming events
- Colors at Antioch is starting to offer CEUs – Bill Sive is doing a piece on working with gay elders, upcoming training for parents of gender expansive youth, etc.
- Abusua Pa project was awarded to AMAAD and Colors will be subcontracting along with Project Q
- King Scholarship Fund - \$10,000 – provides support for young black LGBTQ+ youth leaving high school and going into college – 2 possible scholarships
- Long Beach Trans Pride event September 18<sup>th</sup>
- LGBTQ Center in Long Beach is looking for an Older Adult Program Manager
- Black Queer Summer Camp partnership with DCFS, Colors, and Brave Trails – looking at October

**Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 2-4pm):** 9/2/21, 10/7/21, 11/4/21

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

323-776-6996, Conference ID: 542 042 921#

Meetings recordings can be found at <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc-meeting-minutes/>