

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

**Welcome/Introductions**

**Present:** Greg Wilson, Nicole Kristal, Bill Sive, Jeffrey King, Ana Bernal, JavonTae Wilson, Alexis Glenn, Live Xochi Salas, Mikey Fields, Bobby Dillard, Ashley Flores, Diego Echaveste-Avila, Carl Highshaw, Ryan Sample, riKu Matsuda, Gabriel Uhuru, Jose Guevara, Madeleine Lipshie-Williams, Terri Jay, Sharon Chapman, Yue Hua Xu (Vicky), Andrea Aoun

**DMH Admin:** Kelly Wilkerson, Pinki Mehta, Rosario Ribliza

**Getting To Know You** – Bobby Dillard shared about himself.

**August 2021 Meeting Minutes** – Reviewed & Approved with no corrections.

**Co-Chair Elections – Update**

- Update that Gerald Garth would be stepping in as the next co-chair starting next month as other nominees were not available at this time.
- Subcommittee expressed gratitude to Greg for his work as the co-chair for the last two years.

**Capacity Building Projects – Brainstorm/Discussion**

- Overview provided regarding the capacity building project process including brainstorming, voting, development of Statements of Work, solicitation, and implementation.
- Based on voting that took place after the last meeting, the four targeted communities were confirmed as: elder LGBTQIA2-S community, black gay elders, transgender community, and black LGBTQIA2-S community.
  - Recommendation to differentiate between “indigenous” and “two-spirit” when exploring communities to focus on as they are unique communities from one another.
  - Discussion regarding sustainability – once the project is finished, in particular if it was very successful, what happens next? The community is then left without that resource. Explore inviting grant writers to participate in subcommittee, to provide that feedback on how to access other grants. Look at vendor process and how to refine it – make recommendations to Vendor Relations? Also partnerships between smaller organizations/individuals and midsize/larger organizations to encourage sustainability.
- Black Gay Elders
  - For the Sages proposal was presented and shared with subcommittee members as a potential project to target the black gay elder community.
    - Recommendation to include language pertaining to black gay elders being role models, mentors, and leaders in the community when administering the survey that this proposal calls for.
    - Recommendation to include black bisexual men as well.
    - Explore whether meetings would be in person, virtual, or hybrid.

- Group came to consensus to move forward with the For the Sages proposal.
- Transgender Community
  - Discussion regarding the unique needs of the transmasculine community, in particular with regards to isolation, access to employment opportunities, inequities, harassment and how these issues impact mental health and wellbeing.
  - Recommendation to also consider projects focusing on law enforcement and medical professionals, providing education to those communities regarding the needs of transgender communities.
  - Group came to consensus to focus on the transmasculine community specifically.
- Elder LGBTQIA2-S Community
  - Discussion around looking at intergenerational projects, where youth and elders are brought together.
  - Also look at language that is used to refer to elder community members. Additionally, no specific age requirement – if someone identifies as an elder, then they are a member of that community.
  - Recommendation to explore a capacity-building project around social media for elders with a mentorship component.
  - Consider also creating safe spaces for the LGBTQIA2-S elders to connect with one another first (explore and share history with one another), and then explore how they can engage with the broader LGBTQIA2-S community and share those stories/histories.
  - Recommendation to look at the Black LGBTQ+ Family Unity project (focused on caregivers of LGBTQ+ youth) and look at a version of that – a project focused on caregivers of older adults.
- Black LGBTQIA2-S Community
  - Will be discussed further at the October meeting.
- All proposals should be emailed to Kelly ([KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov)).

#### **DMH Accountability Session**

- Document summarizing recommendations developed during February-April 2021 meetings has been updated and sent to subcommittee members.

#### **General Announcements/Resources**

- Will be shared via email to subcommittee membership.

**Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 2-4pm):** 11/4/21, 1/6/22, 2/3/22, 3/3/22, 4/7/22

[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/>