

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

Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes

May 12, 2021
10:00AM – 12:00PM
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Attendees: Alex Reynoso, Amy Kay, Amparo Ostojic, Ann Kou, Bernice Mascher, Cody Hanable, Jim Hatt, Junko Nagamatsu, Noel King, Roque Bucton, Shannon Rivers, and Sunnie Whipple.

DMH: Rosario Ribleza, Pinki Mehta, Julio Miranda, Keacha Stewart, Alex Elliott, Connie Acosta Castaneda and Kelly Wilkerson

Interpreter & Captioner: Judith Aboufares and Hope B. Simon

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome & Introductions - Subcommittee Members	Attendee introductions: Each attendee (On Microsoft Teams and on the phone) was encouraged to incorporate a description of themselves to be mindful of those attendees with disabilities: individuals with visual impairments who cannot see the computer screen, and those who cannot hear what is happening in the meeting.
Meeting Norms/Review of Code of Conduct – Co-Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cody Hanable reviewed the Code of Conduct and Meeting Norms to the subcommittee.
Meeting Minutes: Review and Approval – Co-Chair & Subcommittee	April 14, 2021 meeting minutes have been reviewed and approved by Amy Kay and seconded by Amparo Ostojic .
General Updates:	<p>A. DMH Updates – Pinki Mehta</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is a discussion on how to reconstitute the return to work for our clinics by Los Angeles County Administration along with Public Health Department. • Clinics remain closed but services are still available to the public via virtual platform.

- The CEO has advised the departments to start looking at their workforce to determine what kind of work requires people to come back to the office, and what kind of work can still be done through virtual platform.
- May 1, 2021 was the kickoff for “We Rise”. Pinki asked the group for a feedback on any of the virtual events they participated in, especially in terms of accessibility. Unfortunately, no one from the attendees participated any of the “We Rise” events.
- Roque Bucton expressed his interest to try to attend some of the events.
- Any questions regarding We Rise - contact the DMH Public Information Office at pio@dmh.lacounty.gov
- Roque Bucton asked for clarification of the word “Unserved” added to “Underserved Cultural Communities”, as stated on May’s UsCC Leadership meeting agenda.
- Pinki Mehta will find clarifications on the issue.
- Bernice Mascher shared the history on how the subcommittees changed the name into “Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) so that more cultural and subgroups can be represented.

B. Capacity Building Projects – Rosario Ribleza

Rosario provided an update on the Capacity Building Projects:

1. Mental Health Needs Assessment for the Physically Disabled.
2. Mental Health Needs Assessment for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.
3. Mental Health Needs Assessment for the Blind, Partially Sighted, and Visually Impaired

- The bid has been accepted from the Vendor and the PO has been approved.
- Next is to make arrangements for a meeting with the Vendor. Projects are moving forward.

4. PSA

- Roque inquired if it is possible for the PSA be played in Youtube and in between We Rise events. He also suggested to run it at the start of each UsCC meeting. Pinki agreed and suggested to add the link in the monthly agenda as part of the announcement. It can be utilized by other groups as well.

C. Community and Accessibility Resources – Alex Elliott

- Accessing the COVID-19 Vaccine:
 1. For people who needs access - contact the Call Center for help with transportation; make an appointment for an in-home vaccinations.

	<p>2. Starting today, 12 years and older may receive the vaccination.</p> <p>3. To schedule appointment for vaccination, go to “My Turn” website or call 1-833-422-4255 (8:00am – 8:30 pm).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency Broadband Benefit program provides a \$50 a month discount on broadband service, and a \$100 one-time discount on a device. • May 20, 2021 is Global Accessibility Awareness Day - this day brings awareness of all digital access and inclusion. • Stanford University has a website that curates helpful distance education resources for people with disabilities. <p>D. Letter to Dr. Sherin – Roque Bucton</p> <p>The letter is at the final draft and ready to be sent to Dr. Sherin. It addresses the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insufficient therapeutic services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing community • There is no existing directly contracted services for DMH to provide • The lack of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) coordinator • The letter requests for a meeting with the person who is in the Patients’ Rights Activist position to discuss issues related to ADA that fall under Patient’s Rights Advocate <p>Sunnie Whipple suggested to bring the letter to the next UsCC/CCC Leadership meeting and have all the Co-Chairs signed for support. The Access for All subcommittee members agreed.</p>
<p>American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) UsCC Co-Chairs Presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shannon Rivers gave a presentation on “Indigenous Peoples/First Nations Facts Sheet For the Poor People Campaign”. • The members of the AI/AN subcommittee would like for all the UsCC subcommittees and other groups within DMH to understand the relationship on why indigenous people continue to be erased during larger discussions on some of the problems they see in the country. • Shannon shared that Native people were considered to be recognized as “other”. • The document presented was initiated by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. before he was assassinated. • Shannon encouraged the subcommittee to go over the document together and participate by reading it. He feels that by reading it together, the important content can be better absorbed

Disability Rights California: Sacramento Task Force	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tabled till next meeting.
Announcements – Subcommittee Members	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Roque Bucton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spoken Word Fundraiser is for people with mental illness, physical, sensory, and mobility disabilities. It is designed to provide full accommodation, open and closed captioning, audio description for graphics and visible things appearing on the screen. It will be held on June 26, 2021 with a goal of raising funds to acquire venue for people with mental and physical disabilities. 2. Shannon Rivers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The AI/AN subcommittee is putting up Capacity Building Projects for FY 2021-2022 focusing on Mental Health Education and other needs of the Los Angeles County population. 3. Amparo Ostojic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amparo Ostojic is a Peer Crisis Counselor for CalHope. • CalHope warm line is (833) 371-4673. This warm line is for anything related to COVID-19 nonclinical crisis. www.Calhope.org. – website <p>3. Rosario Ribleza asked the subcommittee to please send any information that they would like to share, and she will email out to the group.</p>
Meeting Adjourned	12:00 P.M.
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting is on June 9, 2021.