

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

**Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes**

December 8, 2021  
10:00AM – 12:00PM  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Attendees:** Cody Hanable, Roque Bucton, Hector Ramirez, Maria Arauco, Ruth Wen, Sylvia G. Youngblood, Joann Freeman, Amy Kay, Alison G. Freeman, Isabel Ramirez, Marcus Hailey, Angy Kaufman, Maria Tan, and Bernice Mascher

**DMH:** Alex Elliott, Rosario Ribleza, Adriana Carrillo, Sandra Chang, Julio Miranda, Hyun Kyung Lee, Connie Acosta, Blanca Gonzalez, and Debra Berzon-Leitelt

**Interpreter & Captioner:** Julie Miller and Theresa Watson  
Joann Jaimes

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions - Subcommittee</b>	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.
<b>Meeting Norms/Review of Code of Conduct – Co- Chair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cody Hanable reviewed the Code of Conduct and Meeting Norms to the subcommittee.</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Minutes: Review and Approval</b>	The meeting minutes were approved: 11/10/ 21 – Motioned to approve by Roque Bucton, and seconded by Amy Kay
<b>The “Moving On” of Sunnie Whipple</b>	The subcommittee paid tribute to the late member of Access for All subcommittee, Sunnie Whipple. Some members reminiscence their good experiences with Sunnie, and many appreciated his strong advocacy to the community.

## General Updates

### Capacity Building Projects - Roque Bucton

- a) Mental Health Assessment for the Blind, Partially Sighted, and Visually Impaired; b) Mental Health Assessment for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; and c) Mental Health Assessment for Physically Disabled Community.
- b) Updates:
  - Recruitment of participants for all projects was already done. More people wanted to join, but registration already reached to its full capacity. Some participants came from Braille Institute.
  - Two (2) focus groups have already been conducted (December 1 & December 8).
  - The concern on the validity and accuracy of American Sign Language (ASL) interpretations was raised. Some members of the subcommittee recommended hiring a consultant to ensure that the interpretation provided by ASL interpreters are valid and accurate.

## Community and Accessibility Resources

### Community and Accessibility Resources – Alex Elliott

- **LA Metro Transit – Low-Income Fare is Easy (LIFE Program)**  
<https://www.metro.net/riding/life/>
- **Access Paratransit Eligibility Information**  
[https://accessla.org/riding\\_access/gaining\\_eligibility.html](https://accessla.org/riding_access/gaining_eligibility.html)
- **Crip Camp: A Disability Revolution Movie**  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OFS8SpwioZ4>  
**Crip Camp Curriculum**  
<https://cripcamp.com/curriculum/>
- **UCLA - STAND for All - STAND for All is an online program offered with remote coaching support designed to teach you skills and strategies to address common issues like low mood, worry, poor sleep, panic and discomfort around others. Courses are self-paced and can be taken anonymously.** <https://www.stand.ucla.edu/Stand-all>
- **NAMI – People With Disabilities**  
<https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Identity-and-Cultural-Dimensions/People-with-Disabilities>
- **Inclusive Disaster Preparedness Resources – American Red Cross**  
<https://www.redcross.org/get-help/how-to-prepare-for-emergencies/inclusive-preparedness-resources.html>
- **Headspace For Los Angeles County**  
<https://www.headspace.com/lacounty>  
**Headspace For Teens - Headspace is now free for all teens in the US. If you're between the ages of 13–18 years old in the US**  
<https://www.headspace.com/teens>

<p><b>Diversity and Multi-Cultural Calendar</b></p> <p><b>Dr. Kyung Lee</b> <b>Dr. Sandra Chang</b></p>	<p>The <b>Diversity &amp; Multi-Cultural Calendar</b> was created based on the community’s suggestions to honor, respect, and celebrate everyone’s culture.</p> <p>Attendees were encouraged to include in the calendar the cultural holidays or festivities, memorials, and remembrance of their culturally important activities.</p>
<p><b>2021 - Recap</b></p>	<p><b>Access for All UsCC subcommittee’s accomplishments for 2021</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accessibility and Sensitivity Workshop</li> <li>• Outreach of Access for All UsCC to other UsCCs and SALTs</li> <li>• Access for All UsCC’s Presentation with the Commission on Disability</li> <li>• Letter to Dr. Jonathan Sherin (Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health) requesting for American with Disability Act (ADA) Coordinator and direct or contracted mental health services for the deaf and hard of hearing adults. Dr. Sherin and Debbie Innes Gomberg (DMH Deputy Director) met with Access for All subcommittee to discuss the issues.</li> <li>• Understanding of various types of accommodations and support in meeting facilitation like ASL interpretations, CART, closed captioning, and Microsoft Teams technical support</li> <li>• Capacity Building Projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Peer to Peer Network – ended April 2021</li> <li>ii. Clinical Mental Health Training – ended April 2021</li> <li>iii. Mental Health Needs Assessment for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing - On-going Implementation</li> <li>iv. Mental Health Needs Assessment for the Blind – On-going Implementation</li> <li>v. Mental Health Needs Assessment for Physically Disabled – On-going Implementation</li> <li>vi. Podcast Series – In process</li> <li>vii. Talking Circle – In process</li> <li>viii. Domestic Violence Task Force – In process</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p><b>Public Comments / Announcements</b></p>	<p><b>Marcus Hailey</b> – requested assistance to appeal for the denial of his application for services from Access Paratransit. Roque advised him to contact the Federal Transit Authority.</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Next meeting is on February 9, 2022 – 10:00 am – 12:00 noon</b></li> </ul>