

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Administrative Operations
API Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
May 24, 2021, 2:00pm – 4pm**

Present: Leo Lishi Huang, Richer San, Pam Inaba, Patricia Oh, Dr. Ann Marie Yamada, Pastor Kim, Jessica Baker, Kishen Bera, Mariko Kahn, Vickie Xu, Naomi Mitzushima, Dr. Rocco Cheng, Rimal Bera, Dr. Anna Lee, Eva Fukumoto, Melisa Acoba

Bo - Cambodian Interpreter

Samantha - Korean Interpreter

DMH Administration: Dr. Luis Guzman, Keacha Stewart

Welcome & Introductions

- Subcommittee Members, Housekeeping, Attendance, Co-Chairs

Review of Meeting Minutes (Approved with some corrections)

API Co-Chair Elections

- Leo shared his term has ended as the API Co-chair; he is retiring from this position.
- Dr. Luis Guzman shared with the members that they can have up to three co-chairs, including Richer.
- The co-chairs selected would be only those who are eligible to be a voting member, which requires 51% or more in the last nine months
- Dr. Guzman shared he has the eligible list of voting members, that would also include the people that are able to vote for the co-chairs.
- Dr. Guzman shared the group can do nominations today and have a vote through email.
- Richer San suggested there should be at least two co-chairs, because it is a lot of work.
- Kishen Bera stated he is interested in becoming the co-chair for the API group
- Leo & Richer agreed to table the nominations until the next meeting
- Leo shared that it has been a fantastic experience co-chairing for the past four to five years.

Coordinated Outreach efforts to Diverse API communities (Open Discussion with the Group)

- Dr Luis Guzman stated their focusing on the diverse cultural communities within the API
- Leo stated a diverse awareness training to educate the communities would be suitable, cultural diversity is very important
- Specify a training for people that are helping the homeless and people struggling with substance use, explore more about cultural diversity.
- Pam Inaba suggested covering different populations in Koreatown and the Vietnamese community in Long Beach, Japanese in Gardena, and Chinese in the San Gabriel Valley.
- Pastor Kim stated DMH has an Outreach & Engagement division and Dr. Guzman shared that information with the group
- Pastor Kim suggested that DMH provide support for API community in terms of API specific counseling team, where they could provide support to each language or each cultural group.

- Dr. Luis Guzman shared the idea would be to involve the API clinicians from the department and support the organizations to help them develop capacity and recruitment.
- Jessica recommended focusing on more outreach that is person-to person, like stone banking or digital.
- Leo stated its important for DMH to reach out to some of these groups that already have an audience to sponsor ideas that they want to promote
- Mariko suggested DMH leadership look at the need for flexibility in terms of funding, Mariko asked can this group make recommendations
- Mariko shared information about CalAIM, which is a state initiative that will have an impact on mental health services in the future

Anti API Hate Incidents

Mental Health Needs (Open Discussion with the group)

- Mariko shared a legislation passed, both in the Senate and the House of Representatives, regarding COVID anti hate, which is directly brought about by the current API situation.
- Funding was released to the State of California. that is allocated to API anti hate situations.
- APCON is advocating, they will keep the API community informed.
- Mariko encouraged everyone to read and listen to the radio, to be on top of the situation
- Petitions coming out in terms of how to spend the money for public health and mental health situations.
- Pam Inaba shared there she did four presentations to peer run and to Disability Rights California, one was closed caption and one Spanish interpreted
- Pam shared they had a Speakers Panel at the CCC meeting and there were a great number of attendees
- Jessica Baker shared queer/trans POC communities and queer/trans like API organizing spaces is concerned about some of the bills that are coming up because there has been a lack of clarity about how the police will be required to act within these bills
- Jessica expressed concern about increased funding to police, due to recent attacks that have been involved with mental health work.

DMH Staff Trainings (Open Discussion with the group)

- Dr. Guzman stated API training for DMH to add training for clinicians and psychologists and therapists within the department on API in terms of diversity training and culturally responsiveness.
- Provide some of these trainings to legal entities or community mental health clinics that are not directly operated, to support community agency.
- Dr Guzman asked members to send him an email, if there's specific trainings that they want DMH to start offering in-house and work with community health agencies.

Tabled for the next meeting in June

- Capacity Building Projects Brainstorm
- Nominating next API Co-Chairs

Upcoming API UsCC Meetings: 7-26-21, 8-23-21, 9-27-21