

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Administrative Operations
API Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
June 28, 2021, 2:00pm – 4pm

Present: Richer San, Dr. Andy Yang, Dr. Anne Marie Yamada, Belinda Robineau, Eddy Martin, Patricia Oh, Emma Lin, Pastor Kim, Jessica Baker, Mariko Kahn, Melisa Acoba, Pam Inaba, Naomi Mizushima, Paul Kang, Payal Sawhney, Phaly Sam, Dr. Rocco Cheng, Samin Yoak, Dr. Seema Arora, Maria Tan, Elena Lanto, Sheetal Ayyathan, Dr. Sheila Wu, Sithea San, Sunghee Moon, Sunnie Whipple, Usophea Chim, Wendy Gao, Hector Ramirez, Maria Arauco, Myung Chung, Inae Yoo, Young Kim, Mei-Yin Wang, Kishen Bera

Bo-Cambodian Interpreter

Samantha- Korean Interpreter

DMH Admin: Dr. Luis Guzman, Keacha Stewart, Pinki Mehta

Welcome & Introductions

- Subcommittee Members, Housekeeping, Attendance, Co-Chairs

Review of Meeting Minutes (Approved with some corrections)

API Co-Chair Elections

- Kishen Bera expressed he is interested in helping the south Asian community with resources and he was nominated for Co-Chair
- Pastor Kim is working with the under-privileged Korean immigrants, and he is interested in becoming a Co-Chair
- Luis Guzman will send out the voting information to the subcommittee members
- Dr. Rocco Cheng recommended sending the information via email with a week turnaround to submit their vote for the Co-Chair position

Capacity Building Projects/Question Pastor Kim

- Pastor Kim raised concerns about an API Capacity Building Project for the Korean Community, that was awarded to an African American Business in SA5
- Luis Guzman & Pinki Mehta will meet with Richer and Pastor Kim to further discuss
- Luis will follow up with the subcommittee and Co-Chair

Capacity Building Project Presentation

- Sheetal Ayyatan provided an overview of their project to promote mental health awareness in the 1st & 2nd generation of Southeast Asians
- This project will target the South Asian Community for all ages, youth, and seniors in Los Angeles County
- Engaging and outreaching to the community to provide them with resources and education and remove the stigma
- Acculturation plays an important role in the mental health of south Asians
- Sheetal shared there will be 1 on 1 engagement, open conversations between two generations, and educate by using existing platforms
- There will be Tech & language classes, translation of education materials, and will create infographics on mental health issues

Capacity Building Projects-Presentation

- Mariko provided an overview of their capacity building project to the subcommittee
- Cambodia Town, Inc proposes to study the impact of trauma on Cambodian American Adults who were children during the genocide
- A team will be developed from the Cambodian community in Long Beach to investigate the population
- Team members will consist of community members, a documentarian, member from academia, mental health professionals and project coordinator
- Team members will research the literature on the impact and trauma the Cambodian community suffered
- They will identify information on coping strategies and MH of the 1.5 Cambodian American Generation and use this approach to better provide mental health services.
- This project will help the Cambodian community better understand how trauma impacted them, and how to accept mental health services

Capacity Building Project Presentation

- Naomi Mizushima gave an overview of the 1000 cranes for recovery program
- The purpose of 1,000 cranes for recovery is to raise awareness and educate frontline care providers on cultural humility, to better connect and serve the Asian American Community
- Naomi shared her son is the reason she started 1000 cranes for recovery dealing with his own mental health issues and recovery
- Origami Cranes and Pins offer a softer approach to talk about mental health challenges
- Participants will complete training courses folding Origami Cranes that will be publicly displayed throughout Los Angeles
- This program plans to hold two sessions a month reaching 1000 frontline care providers
- All the programs will have Asian American speakers with lived experiences

Agenda Items tabled to next meeting

API Mental Health-Current Needs/Staff Training Recommendations

DMH Updates: Dr. Luis Guzman

United Mental Health Promoters

UCLA Training Curriculum

Upcoming Meetings: 8-23-21, 9-27-21

