

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

Black & African Heritage

UsCC MONTHLY MEETING

January 20, 2021 – via MS Teams

MINUTES

Call to Order and Facilitator Roll Call

Wendy & Desiree DeShay called the meeting to order. Members introduced themselves and engaged in a popcorning to one another with introducing.

Review/Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October were approved. August and September will be approved at the next UsCC meeting due to tight schedule.

Updates from Black Mental Task Force

Nakeya Fields, Marilynn Huff and Imani Bradley gave verbal report about outreach and policy advocacy efforts for the betterment of the Black community. Provided update on Empowering Black Families Conversation series of events and the Minding Our Village Elders projects. Reported high engagement and showed slide show of participants and engagement activities.

Updates from African Coalition

Senait spoke about their meeting with the California Association Local Behavioral Health Board and Commission. This is the commission on the side of OAC, one of the [indiscernible] was OAC, and OAC is Oversight and Accountability Commission for HSA. Senait also spoke about the importance of focusing on black communities, because we are the clients and we need to have a little bit of improvement in services, such as more funding that is also culture-specific treatment in the model and empowering them.

Diversity and Multicultural Calendar Presentation: Hyun Kyung Lee, Ph.D.

Dr. Lee presented the presented on the Diversity and Multicultural Calendar. The DMH Cultural Competency Unit has been trying to build this calendar for a period. The point and purpose of the multicultural calendar with respect to celebrate our diversity in the cultural groups. This calendar could include, not only cultural holidays or festivities, but also kinds of memorials, remembrances, any kind of culturally important day for any cultural group.

Community Engagement:

STACIE HIRAMOTO the director of REMHDCO, the Racial & Ethnic Mental Health Disparities Coalition, spoke and discussed REMHDCO. REMHDCO was formed in 2007 it is a coalition of nonprofit, statewide, and local organizations, and individuals whose mission is to work towards the reduction of mental health disparities among racial and ethnic communities to advocacy and policy change. REMHDCO focuses its advocacy on issues related to Prop 63 or the Mental Health Services Act, primarily at the state level.

DMH Updates

Pinki Metha:

- Pinka will be leaving the Department Mental Health and moving on to another Department. Subcommittee members gave her well wishes on her new journey and thanked her for her service and support to our UsCC.

Capacity Building Project Update:

Nakeya and Imai from the Therapeutic Play Foundation discussed updates on the two capacity building projects that are currently being completed. The “EMPOWERING THE BLACK & AFRICAN-AMERICAN FAMILY” A WELLNESS CONVERSATION SERIES and MINDING OUR VILLAGE ELDERNS PROJECT. **(PLEASE SEE THE TRANSCRIPTS FOR DETAIL)**

Announcements

EMPOWERING THE BLACK & AFRICAN AMERICAN FAMILY COMMUNITY AWARDS GALA WILL BE HELD **February 26,2022 @ PASADENA CITY COLLEGE: 5PM-9PM**

FOR DETAIL ON THE JANUARY MEETING PLEASE REFER TO THE TRANSCRIPTS AND OR RECORDING OF THE BAH MEETING.