

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Stakeholder Engagement Unit
LGBTQIA2-S UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday April 7, 2022, 2-4 pm**

Welcome/Introductions

Present: Nicole Kristal, Gerald Garth, Bill Sive, Greg Wilson, Jeffrey King, Ana Bernal, JavonTae Wilson, Merry Meyers, Mikey Fields, Bobby Dillard, riKu Matsuda, Hector Ramirez, Jose Guevara, Terri Jay, Tara Omrani, Gabrielle Villa, Jamie Estrada, Erwin Gutierrez, Paul Vallejo, Bryan Scheihing, Maria Garcia, Maureen Chikwelu, Bryan Valencia, Michael Haymer, Carla Ibarra, Sharon Chapman, Andrea Aoun

DMH Admin: Kelly Wilkerson

Nicole Kristal (co-chair) opened meeting by reading the Vision Statement and draft Community Agreements.

Getting To Know You – Greg Wilson shared about himself.

February and March 2022 Meeting Minutes – February meeting minutes approved (first-Greg Wilson, second-Erwin Gutierrez). March meeting minutes approved with corrections (first-Erwin Gutierrez, second-Terri Jay).

LGBTQ+ Tailored Services to Youth (DCFS Program) – Presentation (Jamie Estrada, Program Manager, Office of Equity)

- Jamie Estrada presented regarding the DCFS LGBTQ+ Youth Services Program.
- For questions or to provide feedback, email Jamie at estraja@dcfs.lacounty.gov.

Community Agreements – Discussion

- Gerald Garth and Nicole Kristal presented a draft version of some possible Community Agreements and updated Policy for Violations of the Community Agreements/Code of Conduct.
- Question regarding how one person may view something as offensive that another may not. Clarification that if it is related to a protected category (race, gender, sexual orientation, mental health status, disability, etc.) that would be considered inappropriate; as well as if the statement is demeaning, threatening, or abusive to another member. In the past, there was a system of first and second warnings; however, this has not always been effective. The goal is to be more firm as it relates to these protected categories in order to ensure safety in this meeting space. Further clarification that the possible Community Agreement related to “Challenging ideas, not people” would speak to this area where statements targeting a member’s personhood or a protected category will not be allowed.
- Question regarding the issue of provocation. Clarification that often this is not a space where these sorts of things should be litigated but instead need to be responded to immediately. It can be litigated outside of the meeting space so as not to derail from the meeting agenda.
- Recommendation to reconsider language like “attack” in these Community Agreements and revisit the document as a whole to ensure it is not condescending.
- Recommendation that if statements are made by a DMH contracted agency to someone as it relates to protected categories, that person and the agency staff should no longer be allowed to attend.

- Recommendation to ensure consumer involvement in the development of these Community Agreements and to continue working on them as a subcommittee at a future meeting as well.
- Send any additional feedback to Kelly Wilkerson (liaison), KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov

Consumer Engagement – Discussion

- Recommendation to do resource fairs across LA County to engage more consumers/community members.
- Consider a presentation to the Commission on HIV.
- Increase accessibility on the DMH UsCC website.
- Suggestion to advertise or table at upcoming Pride events (Gerald Garth offered to donate a booth at the LA Pride event in June).
- Recommendation to create a webinar series regarding the subcommittee that could be shared.
- Members can also share regarding the subcommittee with their internal listservs.

Capacity Building Projects – Discussion

- Discussion regarding whether to brainstorm similar to the previous year where a focus is put on groups currently being impacted, look at data for gaps in service delivery, and focus on specific communities that have been particularly underserved.
- Suggestion to focus on the bisexual community of all races and gender identities.
- Suggestion to host a LGBTQIA2-S Mental Health Summit (a non-conference, reimagining of conferences). Recommendation to explore open space technology related to this.
- Other communities/ideas to consider:
 - Latinx
 - Faith-based communities
 - Disabled communities
 - Intersecting identities
 - Theater of the oppressed

General Announcements/Resources

- Greg Wilson shared regarding the www.blackaidsmonument.org website that has recently gone live.
- Bill Sive shared that the Gay Elder Circle has launched a YouTube channel (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCBpdQcpK5ebVMq9RQmDEO-A/null>).
- Bryan Scheihing shared regarding a short video he created with UCLA focused on SOGIE (will be sent out to the subcommittee).
- Ana Bernal shared that the Eastside Queer Stories will be starting again (contact Ana ana@qyouthfoundation.org).
- Send any other resources to Kelly via email (KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov) to be sent out to the listserv.

Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 2-4pm): 5/5/22, 6/2/22, 7/7/22, 8/4/22, 9/1/22, 10/6/22, 11/3/22

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

323-776-6996, Conference ID: 542 042 921#

Meeting recordings and minutes can be found at <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc-meeting-minutes/>