

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Stakeholder Engagement Unit
LGBTQIA2-S UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday May 5, 2022, 2-4 pm**

Welcome/Introductions

Present: Nicole Kristal, Bill Sive, Greg Wilson, Ana Bernal, Cynthia Ruffin, Merry Meyers, Mikey Fields, Addison Rose Vincent, Jose Guevara, Tara Omrani, Paul Vallejo, Bryan Valencia, Michael Haymer, Carla Ibarra, Amy Wallman, Maria Garcia, Shawn Griffin, Sharon Chapman, Rebecca Gitlin, Yue Hua Xu (Vicky)

DMH Admin: Kelly Wilkerson, Destiny Walker, Angel Baker

Nicole Kristal and Kelly Wilkerson announced that Gerald Garth had stepped down as co-chair to focus on his new position with the LA LGBT Center. Kelly to follow up via email for co-chair elections.

Getting To Know You – Mikey Fields shared about himself.

April 2022 Meeting Minutes – Meeting minutes approved with corrections (first-Addison Rose Vincent, second-Cynthia Ruffin).

LGBTQIA2-S Youth Community Engagement Campaign Project – Presentation (Addison Rose Vincent)

- Addison presented the findings from the LGBTQIA2-S Youth Community Engagement Campaign Project including an overview of all deliverables.
- Link to final summary report and videos:
- [LGBTQIA2-S Youth Mental Health Community Engagement Campaign Final Summary](#)
[Video #1](#), [Video #2](#), [Video #3](#), [Video #4](#), [Video #5](#)

DMH Updates (Kelly Wilkerson)

- UsCC funding for capacity building projects has been increased from \$200,000 to \$350,000/fiscal year. This will go into effect for fiscal year 2022-2023.
- Dr. Luis Guzman, liaison for the API and Latino UsCCs, is working on developing a framework for a Youth Advisory Council. As part of this effort, each of the UsCCs will have one youth (aged 16-24) identified as a co-chair. Dr. Guzman to present at a future meeting regarding this. Recommendation to consider something similar for the elder community as well.

Community Agreements – Discussion

- Kelly provided an update regarding the draft version of the Community Agreements that were shared at the last month's meeting. It was recommended to start from scratch during the UsCC subcommittee meetings.
- Recommendation to consider some meeting norms such as breathing and mindfulness at the start of each meeting.
- Recommendation to develop a process where issues unrelated to the agenda can be addressed outside of the meeting space. Consider adding this language (once developed) to the Community Agreements. One possible example is including language that states that if

someone has a concern or issue unrelated to the agenda, the co-chairs and/or DMH liaison will schedule a time to meet with that member prior to the next month's meeting.

- Further research should be conducted on whether a person can be excused from attending the meeting (either for a period of time or permanently) based on the severity of the situation. Also consideration for how this can be subjective.
- Discussion regarding how during the meeting, the co-chairs and DMH staff have to determine in the moment if someone needs to be removed, but then outside of the meeting, they should meet with the member to talk about what occurred and come up with a plan to move forward.
- Recommendation to consider an ad hoc accountability committee for when continued disruptions occur (I.e. a circle of accountability).
- Suggestion to plan mini retreats for new and returning members to get together and talk about the work of the subcommittee, the purpose, and reconnect. This could be held virtually.
- Send any additional feedback to Kelly Wilkerson via email (KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov)

General Announcements/Resources

- Greg Wilson announced that In the Meantime's For the Sages program is rolling out. Please email Greg for more info: gret.itmt@yahoo.com
- Maria Garcia shared regarding free summer programming from Rainbow Labs: <https://www.rainbowlabs.org/one-bold-summer-2022>
- Cynthia Ruffin shared regarding recent events at The AMAAD Institute including an ARDI Listening Back Session and Spring Revival. Contact Cynthia for more info: cynthia@amaad.org
- Paul Vallejo shared regarding the Queer Mercado in East LA: <https://linktr.ee/TheQueerMercado>
- 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): 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/>