

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
Office of the Deputy Director of Strategic Communications**

**Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes**

March 9, 2022  
10:00AM – 12:00PM  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Attendees:** Cody Hanable, Hector Ramirez, Roque Bucton, Sylvia G. Youngblood, Amy Kay, Alison G. Freeman, Pam Inaba, Angy K., Stacy Dalgleish, Maria Tan, Junko Nagamatsu, Jim Hatt, Angelica J. Kay, Carey, Maria A., Gabriela Velasquez, and Irma Velasquez

**DMH:** Julio Miranda, Miriam Oprisan, John Flynn, Anna Bruce, Martha Ortiz, Jenny Nguyen, and Rosario Ribleza,

**Interpreter & Captioner:** Liz Bream and Jonathan Gleicher  
Joann

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions - Subcommittee</b>	Attendee Introductions: Each attendee (On Microsoft Teams and on the phone) was encouraged to incorporate a description of themselves to be mindful of those attendees with disabilities: individuals with visual impairments who cannot see the computer screen, and those who cannot hear what is happening in the meeting.
<b>Meeting Norms/Review of Code of Conduct – Co- Chair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cody Hanable reviewed the Code of Conduct and Meeting Norms to the subcommittee.</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Minutes: Review and Approval</b>	Approval of Meeting Minutes 2/9/22– moved to approve by Sylvia Youngblood, and seconded by Amy Kay
<b>General Updates Pinki Mehta</b>	<p><b>DMH Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pinki reminded everyone the importance of the community’s participation with their recommendations and feedback for the MHSA Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Annual Update. She explained that when the 30-day review concluded, it will go to Mental Health Commission for public hearing.</li> <li>• Pinki bid farewell as she transitioned to her new role with the County CEO’s Office.</li> <li>• Subcommittee members expressed their heartfelt gratitude to Pinki for the work she has done for Access for All UsCC.</li> </ul>

Rosario Ribleza

## Capacity Building Projects

**FY 2020-2021:** Focus Groups that were completed: Total of 12

- Mental Health Assessment for the Blind, Partially Sighted, and Visually Impaired – 4 completed
- Mental Health Assessment for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing – 4 completed
- Mental Health Assessment for Physically Disabled – 4 completed

**FY 2021-2022**

- Domestic Violence Task Force – Special Request submitted
- Podcast and YouTube Series – Special Request submitted
- Talking Circle – Special Request Submitted

## Community and Accessibility Resources

**Community and Accessibility Resources** – Alex Elliott was not able to attend the meeting, but provided the following resources through e-mail:

- **COVIDtests.gov - Free at-home COVID-19 tests**

Get free at-home COVID-19 tests

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. If you haven't already, order yours today.

Starting this week, every home in the U.S. will be able to order an additional set of 4 tests for a total of 8 free at-home COVID-19 tests.

<https://www.covidtests.gov/>

- **Long COVID and the Americans with Disabilities Act (askjan.org)**

The Job Accommodation Network (JAN) provides free, expert, and confidential guidance on job accommodations and disability employment issues.

<https://askjan.org/blogs/jan/2021/03/Long-COVID-and-the-Americans-with-Disabilities-Act.cfm>

**Microsoft 365 Accessibility Features** - Making it easier to create content that everyone can use—what's new in Microsoft 365 accessibility features for Winter 2022

<https://blogs.microsoft.com/accessibility/m365-winter-accessibility-updates/>

- **Transit - LA County Metro's Official App** - Whether you're a first-time rider or if you use Metro frequently and need to plan your trip, use Transit to find the fastest way around Los Angeles.

- <https://www.metro.net/riding/transitapp/>

- **Five Digital Literacy Resources You Need to Know About - National Digital Inclusion Alliance**

The National Digital Inclusion Alliance is a unified voice for home broadband access, public broadband access,

personal devices, and local technology training and support programs.

<https://www.digitalinclusion.org/blog/2022/02/11/five-digital-literacy-resources-you-need-to-know-about/>

- **Mental Health America's County and State Data Map** is a dashboard that geographically visualizes data from over 2.6 million mental health screens taken at MHAScreening.org in 2020 and 2021. The interactive maps are able to identify the current need for mental health resources at a pace and scale that was not possible before.

<https://mhanational.org/mha-state-county-data>

### **Resources - The A11Y Project**

- Accessibility is incredibly important, yet often overlooked in traditional digital design and development education. Because of this, The A11Y Project strives to be a living example of how to create beautiful, accessible, and inclusive digital experiences.

<https://www.a11yproject.com/resources/#additional-resources>

- **WebAIM: Articles**

- WebAIM's mission is to expand the potential of the web for people with disabilities. We empower individuals and organizations to create accessible content by providing knowledge, technical skills, tools, organizational leadership strategies, and vision.

<https://webaim.org/articles/>

- **VR Is Here to Stay. It's Time to Make It Accessible | WIRED**

The platform is relatively new—which means now is the opportunity to advocate for all players.

<https://www.wired.com/story/virtual-reality-accessibility-disabilities/>

### **Digital 2022: The United States of America — DataReportal – Global Digital Insights**

This page contains the data, insights, and trends you need to help you understand how people in the United States of America use connected devices and services in 2022.

<https://datareportal.com/reports/digital-2022-united-states-of-america>

#### **Presentations:**

**A. Miriam Oprisan**

**- DMH Human Resources**

#### **A. ADA Coordinator for the Department of Mental Health (DMH) Employees**

The Los Angeles County DMH has a **Return-to-Work Unit** which is responsible for providing reasonable accommodation to employees, volunteers, and job applicants.

DMH fully comply with the two (2) Disability Laws, and ensure that reasonable accommodations are provided to employees, volunteers, and job applicants, and make it possible for employees with disabilities to enjoy benefits and privileges of employment:

<p><b>B. Anna Bruce</b></p> <p><b>-DMH Patients' Rights</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>American Disabilities Act (ADA)</b> – federal law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities</li> <li>2. <b>California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA)</b> – state law that provides employees with protection from discrimination, retaliation, and harassment in employment</li> </ol> <p>Ms. Oprisan encouraged everyone to share the challenges they face whether as an employee or an applicant, because that is the only way DMH Human Resources will be able to help them with any accommodations needed. Any questions or requests for accommodations can be sent to <a href="mailto:rtw@dmh.lacounty.gov">rtw@dmh.lacounty.gov</a>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>B. Patients' Rights Office - DMH</b></p> <p><b>Roles DMH Patients' Rights Office</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Investigate any grievances filed or reported by clients</li> <li>▪ Investigate appeals for grievances that have investigated and rendered decisions for all Medi-Cal beneficiaries.</li> <li>▪ This unit also provides immediate solutions for clients' urgent needs.</li> </ul> <p>Anna Bruce expressed her willingness to attend Access for All UsCC meetings monthly or send her staff to work with the subcommittee in resolving issues and responding to questions. She committed to work with the subcommittee in finding effective strategies to better serve the community, which includes providing continuous updates and training for advocates.</p>
<p><b>Topic Suggestions for Next Meeting</b></p> <p><b>Announcements:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issues/Problems on Microsoft Teams</li> <li>▪ Assistive Technology and Disabilities Conference: March 14 -18, 2022 at Anaheim – sponsored by California State University, Northridge</li> <li>▪ CLT, MHSA Process, and Mental Health Commission Meetings – tomorrow</li> <li>▪ American Indian/Alaskan Native Project coming up at the Wellness Forum</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Recording and transcriptions of this meeting is posted at the DMH website.</i></p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Next meeting is on April 13, 2022 – 10:00 am – 12:00 noon</b></li> </ul>