LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH Strategic Communications Division

Eastern-European / Middle Eastern (EE/ME) UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

3/30/2022

2:00PM - 4:00PM via Teleconference

Present: Sarkis Simonian, Rima Safaryan, Dr. Shushan Kalantarian, Maria Tan, Dr. Haydeh Fakhrabadi, Seta

Haig, Mariam Nahapetyan, Mastaneh Moghadam, Joann James, Armineh Stepanyan, Avo Soltanian,

Tara Omrani, Payam Malaz, Vicky Shauza.

DMH Admin: Anna Yaralyan, Destiny Walker

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Introductions	Everyone introduced themselves.
Meeting Minutes from 1/26/2022	Reviewed and approved meeting minutes. Mastaneh Moghadam approved and Sarkis Simonian second.
Capacity Building Project Updates FY2020-2021	 Russian Mental Health Media Virtual Outreach Campaign – Mastaneh Moghadam The Russian mental health PSA project continues to be aired on RTN and ARTN and is going well. Vendor has been getting a great deal of positive feedback about the PSAs. The airing of the PSAs has been done at an appropriate time given the current war between Russia and Ukraine. The airing started on August 1, 2021 and is scheduled to be completed on July 31, 2022. The PSAs are airing during prime-time hours, seven days a week. The Russian PSAs also continue to be posted on social media such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. Vendor also reported that support groups are offered for those effected by the Russia and Ukraine war at her Agency, Cross Cultural Expressions.

Virtual Poetry Night Mental Health Outreach Groups for the Farsi Speaking Community Project – Mastaneh Moghadam

- Vendor reported that the Virtual Poetry Night MH Outreach groups for the Farsi speaking community have been going well.
- Vendor reported that she has been getting a great deal of positive feedback from the community over the Virtual Poetry Night MH classes.
- There was an advertisement of the poetry workshops on a local Farsi speaking Radio station, KIRN 670AM.
- Vendor continues to follow the schedule at hand and various topics have already been covered.
- Flyers and all outreach materials continue to be utilized by the Vendor for advertisement purposes to overall increase participant attendance.
- Vendor also talked about the Farsi Support MH Telephone Line, which Cross Cultural Expressions provides for the Farsi speaking community members in Farsi and English languages.

❖ Virtual Armenian Community Symposiums Project – Sarkis Simonian

- Vendor announced that the third Symposium was completed on March 6, 2022, 2pm 6pm. The Symposium was titled, "Helping soldiers and their Families with PTSD." It included information on PTSD treatment, including breathing techniques. It was done via Zoom. One of the former subcommittee members, Arpe Asaturyan presented on her mental health work in Armenia with soldiers and their families, effected by the 44 day War in Karabagh.
- Vendor reported that the third and final Symposium will be posted online. The first two Symposiums are already posted on YouTube for community members to see it.
- The Final Summary will be submitted to LACDMH.
- Vendor also talked about the current War between Ukraine and Russia. He reported that there are almost 500,000 Armenians currently living in Ukraine and expressed concerns that the war is affecting them all.

❖ Virtual Mental Health Needs Assessment for the Arabic Speaking Community – Anna Yaralyan

- Implementation of this project continues to move along by Vendor, Dr. Laird.
- The confidential interview process has been completed.
- According to the Vendors last updates there would be a public group meeting.

SOW Updates on Capacity Building Projects FY2021-2022

❖ Updates on Capacity Building Project FY 2021 – 2022: Anna Yaralyan

Armenian Mental Health PSAs – SOW completed and pending approval

	 Healing Through Arts Project for the Arabic speaking Community – SOW will be completed soon and submitted for review and approval Russian and Farsi Mental Health Feature Film Project – SOW completed and pending approval
Future Meetings Times and Dates	❖ Next meeting is on Wednesday 4/27/2022, from 2:00pm – 4:00pm
	Join Microsoft Teams Meeting 23) 446-6996 United States, Los Angeles (Toll) Conference ID: 985 297 792#