

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Administrative Operations
API Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2022, 2:00pm – 4:00pm

Present: Dr. Ann Marie Yamada; Dr. Anna Lee, Belinda Rabano, Eddy Gana, Eric Hernandez, Jin Bae, Joseph Sanchez, Julie Matsumoto, Kishen Bera, Kishen Bera, Melisa Acoba, Patricia Oh, Pastor Peter Kim, Paul Kang, Payal Sawhney, Phaly Sam, Richer San, Shane Villanueva, Sheetal Ayyathan, Sithea San

Bo - Cambodian Interpreter

Sung - Korean Interpreter

DMH Admin: Dr. Luis Guzman

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome & Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Subcommittee Members, Housekeeping, Attendance, Co-Chairs
Review of Meeting Minutes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tabled
API Mental Health Workforce Shortage	<p>A. API Current State</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stigma around mental health prevents people from the API community entering this particular area • Very few nurses from the API community would consider becoming a psychiatric nurse because (1) perception that pay is really low and (2) misconceptions about mental health • Lack of understanding what a social worker is, what they do, and who they work with • Social workers associated with foster care system; pay is insufficient • Mental health fields associated with shame in Filipino community; have lowest rate of help seeking behaviors • Lack of Representation in education systems • Psychology or Humanities professions not considered in Asian countries • Parents often pay for tuition which influences what fields students choose • Parents were resilient so often hold negative view of seeking mental health

	<p>services in the younger generations or going into the mental health fields</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current clinicians in directly operated and legal entities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cambodian: 37 2. Chinese: 58 3. Korean: 205 4. Tagalog: 134 5. Vietnamese: 62 <p>B. Brainstorming</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having a very clear and visible campaign targeting API community on mental health careers • DMH needs to have Career Days in high schools focusing • Having events at school focused on providing information to the parents • Having more representation in DMH clinicians through intentional recruiting
LAC DMH Annual Budget	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical that DMH not reduce Outreach & Engagement (O&E) efforts and funding aimed at the API community due to strongly embedded stigma and mistrust • API community will avoid government institutions if possible • DMH annual budget needs to allocate (O&E) funding to community-based clinics to successfully engage API community in services • Current DMH agreement with legal entities (community clinics) pose cash-flow problems for the legal entities because reimbursement usually takes 45 days • Budget should reflect recruiting, hiring of bilingual and bicultural clinicians, particularly at directly operated clinics that are located where large populations of API community members live
Open Community Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community suggested reducing barriers to mental health-related services to allow clinics to work with clinics outside of the consumer/clients Service Area • Community member commented on the need to continue to improve access and support for tele-mental health services for the API community • Thoughts about having a centralized online location with all services and available bilingual and bicultural clinicians available through DMH (including legal entities)
DMH Announcements/Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None reported - Meeting Adjourned
<p>Upcoming Meeting: May 23, 2022</p>	