

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

**Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes**

June 8, 2022  
10:00AM – 12:00PM  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Attendees:** Cody Hanable, Sylvia G. Youngblood, Alison G. Freeman, Pam Inaba, Gabriela Velasquez, Irma Velasquez, Maria Tan, Angelique Lopez, Amy Kay, Ann Nomi, Suyapa Umansor, Tiera SCRS-IL, Gaby Garcia, Stacy Dalgleish, Arnold Youngblood

**DMH:** Martha Ortiz, Alex Elliot, Angel Baker, Luis Guzman, Julio Miranda, Rosario Ribleza, Martin Almanza, Alan Chung Chui

**Interpreter & Captioner:** Jarris Wright and Richard Dickinson  
Joann

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions - Subcommittee</b>	Attendee Introductions: Attendees (On Microsoft Teams and on the phone) were encouraged to incorporate a description of themselves to be mindful of other 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 5/11/22– moved to approve by Dr. Alison Freeman, and seconded by Sylvia Youngblood
<b>Community and Accessibility Resources</b>  Alex Elliot	<b>Community and Accessibility Resources – Alex Elliot</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Veterans Administration App Store - Mental Health Apps These apps equip you with tools and information to assist you in managing PTSD-related symptoms and stress, learning to practice mindfulness and strengthening parenting skills <a href="https://mobile.va.gov/appstore/mental-health">https://mobile.va.gov/appstore/mental-health</a></li> </ul>

- **Mental Health America Screening to Supports**  
A collection of scientifically validated screening tools to help individuals understand and learn more about their mental health. Following screening, you will be provided with information, resources and tools to help you understand and improve your mental health  
<https://screening.mhanational.org/screening-tools/>
- **EBT Online Purchasing Pilot**  
If you receive CalFresh benefits, you can purchase groceries online at Albertsons, Safeway, Vons, Amazon, and Walmart using your EBT card. You can purchase the same food you would normally purchase in the store. At this time, cash assistance EBT benefits can only be used at Walmart. You can find out more about how to purchase food online with your EBT card at [Albertsons.com/SNAP](http://Albertsons.com/SNAP), [Safeway.com/SNAP](http://Safeway.com/SNAP), [Vons.com/SNAP](http://Vons.com/SNAP), [Walmart](http://Walmart.com), and [Amazon](http://Amazon.com). Additional information about the retailers Retailer Information Sheet can be found on the [California Department of Social Services website](http://California Department of Social Services website).  
<https://dpss.lacounty.gov/en/news/2020/12/ebt-online-purchasing-pilot-program--questions-and-answers.html>
- **California Housing Finance Agency - Downpayment Assistance Program: Forgivable Equity Builder Loan**  
Home equity has proven to be one of the strongest ways for families to build and pass on intergenerational wealth and CalHFA is committed to improving equitable access to homeownership for all Californians. The Forgivable Equity Builder Loan gives first-time homebuyers a head start on this with immediate equity in their homes via a loan of up to 10% of the purchase price of the home. The loan is forgivable if the borrower continuously occupies the home as their primary residence for five years  
<https://www.calhfa.ca.gov/homebuyer/programs/forgivable.htm>
- **Headspace – Free Headspace Plus Subscription for LA County residents**  
Headspace and the LA County Department of Mental Health have partnered to provide support and resources during this challenging time.  
Sign up to access meditations, as well as sleep and movement exercises, designed to help you care for your mind — all free.  
<https://www.headspace.com/lacounty>
- **UCLA DMH Public Mental Health Partnership – Resources and Training Videos**  
In partnership with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, the Public Mental Health Partnership at UCLA aims to realize a vision for excellence in care for vulnerable populations that incorporates typically marginalized perspectives and builds capacity to foster health equity.  
COVID-19 Resources – <https://pmhp.ucla.edu/covid19resources/>  
Training Videos/Webinars – <https://pmhp.ucla.edu/media/>

- US Department of Justice - Algorithms, Artificial Intelligence, and Disability Discrimination in Hiring  
This guidance explains how algorithms and artificial intelligence can lead to disability discrimination in hiring.  
<https://beta.ada.gov/ai-guidance/>
- Los Angeles Unified School District – Division of Special Education:  
Mission - Provide leadership, guidance, and support to the school community in order to maximize learning for all students within an inclusive environment so that each student will contribute to and benefit from our diverse society.  
**Services/Programs** - <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/16735>  
**Deaf/Hard of Hearing Programs** - <https://achieve.lausd.net/Page/17248>
- Los Angeles Unified School District -All Families Connected  
The Los Angeles Unified School District is working to ensure every student and employee has access to the internet connectivity needed for high-quality teaching and learning.  
Families who have submitted connectivity requests at [device.lausd.net](https://device.lausd.net) may be eligible to receive district-sponsored high-speed internet connectivity for their homes. Qualifying families are sent correspondence inviting them to accept 12 months of service at no cost to them.  
All families are encouraged to visit [device.lausd.net](https://device.lausd.net) to let us know of any support needed with devices and/or internet connectivity.  
<https://achieve.lausd.net/connect>
- Apple previews innovative accessibility features  
Software features coming later this year offer users with disabilities new tools for navigation, health, communication, and more  
<https://www.apple.com/newsroom/2022/05/apple-previews-innovative-accessibility-features/>
- California Broadband for All  
Home internet service is critical for all individuals. The cost of internet remains a barrier for many people.  
We've partnered with EveryoneOn\* and the California Emerging Technology Fund to help you find programs in your area:  
The Affordable Connectivity Program  
Low-cost internet service  
Computer offers  
Digital skills training (like computer and internet basics)  
<https://broadbandforall.cdt.ca.gov/affordable-service-programs/>
- **LA County Library Resources**  
LA County Library – Digital Library Card Application  
Receive immediate, unlimited, and free access to LA County Library's online resources, including

eBooks and audiobooks, movie and TV streaming, and music downloads. Your Digital Library Card also gives you the ability to place holds and check out 3 physical items from the library at a time <https://catalog.lacountylibrary.org/custom/web/registration/index.html>

- LA County Library – Digital Library **Resources:**
  - **Hoopla**

Your public library at your fingertips. Borrow and enjoy audiobooks, eBooks, comics, movies, TV, magazines, or music everywhere you have a screen-your computer, your phone, your car, even your TV. All you need is a library card.  
<https://www.hoopladigital.com/>
  - **Kanopy**

Find movies, documentaries, foreign films, classic cinema, independent films and educational videos that inspire, enrich and entertain. We partner with public libraries to bring you an ad-free experience that can be enjoyed on your TV, mobile phones, tablets and online.  
<https://www.kanopy.com/en/lacounty/>
  - **Freegal**

Freegal® is a free music service from your library. All you need is your library card number and possibly a PIN if your library utilizes them. Freegal offers access to about 15 million songs, including Sony Music’s catalog of legendary artists, and over 40,000 music videos. In total the collection is comprised of music from over 40,000 labels with music that originates in over 100 countries.  
<https://lacountylibrary.freegalmusic.com/home>
  - **OverDrive**

OverDrive is a company that provides digital content (like ebooks and audiobooks) for free to public library patrons and students. OverDrive offers a number of apps for different audiences: **Libby** for libraries, Sora for schools, and Kanopy to watch streaming videos.  
All you need to get started is a library card or student ID.  
<https://lacountylibrary.overdrive.com/>
  - **PressReader**

Subscribers get access to more than 7,000 of the world's top publications as soon as they're available on shelves  
<https://www.pressreader.com/>
  - **Brainfuse**

Get help on demand, anytime, anywhere. Brainfuse is eLearning for all ages and all levels offering skill-building in a variety of subjects and features like live tutoring, job

<p>Subcommittee</p>	<p>coaching, and a 24-hour writing lab  <a href="http://main.lacounty.ca.brainfuse.com/authenticate.asp">http://main.lacounty.ca.brainfuse.com/authenticate.asp</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Online Learning</b>  Did you know the Library offers free online classes? From new skills to new languages, diplomas to tutors, we have something for you! The Library can help you find the best tools for learning whatever you want!  <a href="https://lacountylibrary.org/learn/">https://lacountylibrary.org/learn/</a></li> <li>• <b>Virtual Programming</b>  Collection of Live Events and YouTube Playlists  <a href="https://lacountylibrary.org/virtual-programming/">https://lacountylibrary.org/virtual-programming/</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Recommendations from the subcommittee</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Resources must be accessible to the deaf and hard of hearing community</li> <li>• Include the law on person’s rights for reasonable accommodation</li> <li>• Educate the deaf and hard of hearing on how to find an alternative/backup when interpreter is not available</li> <li>• Create a video in sign language on how to advocate for oneself because of difficulties reading the resources (for the deaf and hard of hearing persons)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Presentation:</b>  <b>Youth Advisory Subcommittee</b></p> <p>Dr. Luis Guzman</p>  <p><b>DMH Updates:</b>  Angel Baker</p>	<p><b>Youth Advisory Subcommittee – is very similar to the UsCC subcommittee but tailored to youth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth – ages 16-24; recruitment will start once students get back to school</li> <li>• Co-chairs will be attending two (2) meetings monthly: their own Youth Advisory subcommittee meeting and the UsCC subcommittee monthly meeting</li> <li>• Youth Advisory Subcommittee meetings will be arranged based on their school schedules; there is a designated subcommittee member to attend the UsCC if co-chairs are not available</li> <li>• The UsCC subcommittee will partner and collaborate with the Youth Advisory Commission to support them</li> <li>• Dr. Guzman will work closely with the Los Angeles County CEO Youth Commission to align with all their services, programs, and resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggestion:</b> Provide Certificate to high school students, signed and awarded by the Board of Supervisors. This can be used by students for college applications.</p> <p><b>DMH Updates - Angel Baker</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capacity Building Project funds increased to \$350,000</li> <li>• Liaisons to create a Tracking System that will be used to monitor all the issues and concerns to bring to the Executive Management, and work on the resolution. Resolutions will be brought back to the subcommittee or inform the group of what DMH can do.</li> <li>• Build structural changes so that communication is back and forth</li> <li>• Enhance the community process – Rigo will provide trainings to UsCC co-chairs and liaisons</li> <li>• ADA requirements – Angel is currently searching the issues and work with the CEO to find out what the ADA requirements are at a minimum for the County</li> </ul>

<p><b>Capacity Building Projects Update</b></p> <p>Rosario Ribleza</p>	<p><b>Capacity Building Projects – Rosario Ribleza</b></p> <p>FY 2020-2021 - Focus groups under 3<sup>rd</sup> Deliverables were completed. Final reports are due by June 30, 2022. Painted Brain will provide presentations to Access for All subcommittee once final reports are finalized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Mental Health Assessment for the Blind, Partially Sighted, and Visually Impaired</li> <li>▪ Mental Health Assessment for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing</li> <li>▪ Mental Health Assessment for Physically Disabled</li> </ul> <p>FY 2022-2023 – all projects were awarded to vendors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Domestic Violence Task Force – awarded to Peace Over Violence</li> <li>▪ Podcast and YouTube Series – awarded to Cross Cultural Expressions</li> <li>▪ Talking Circle – awarded to Painted Brain</li> </ul> <p>Liaison will be meeting the vendors to discuss the implementation</p>
<p><b>Brainstorming for 2022-2023 Capacity Building Projects</b></p> <p><b>Co-chairs and Members</b></p>	<p><b>Capacity Building Projects for FY 2022-2023</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Distribution of PSA</li> <li>2. Building Stakeholders Employability <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide training to the blind, deaf and hard of hearing, and physically disabled on technology, resume preparation, completing job application, interviewing, and developing skills</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Pilot Program: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction of American Sign Language Interpretation (ASL) to Middle and High School Students in partnership and collaboration with Los Angeles Middle and High School administration.</li> <li>• Conduct survey on students’ knowledge on American Sign Language (ASL), accessibility, and rights to reasonable accommodation. Survey would include finding students’ interests in learning ASL</li> </ul> </li> <li>4. Workshop for Interpreters – 40 hours <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Train interpreters for correct/appropriate mental health interpretation</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p><b>Projects for DMH:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Instructional Videos on Accessibilities for Disabled Communities (blind, deaf and hard of hearing, and physically disabled).</li> <li>6. Translate all resources into video using ASL for the deaf and hard of hearing, so they can watch instead of reading captions</li> <li>7. Promoters – Vendors to advertise hiring of the Promoters using videos with ASL</li> </ol>
<p><b>Topic Suggestions for Next Meeting/ Announcements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promoters are still hiring – apply if you qualify</li> <li>• There is a DMH Executive/Director Departure Event on Friday, June 10, 2022 at 3:00-5:00 P.M.</li> <li>• American Indian/Alaskan Native Capacity Building project coming up on June 25, 2022 in Los Angeles Wellness. Accommodations are available</li> </ul>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Next meeting is on Aug 10, 2022 – 10:00 am – 12:00 noon / Recording &amp; Transcriptions at DMH website</b></li> </ul>