

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Stakeholder Engagement Unit**

**Black & African Heritage Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 1, 2022, 10 am-12 pm**

WELCOME

Introductions/Check-In

Co-Chairs: Romalis Taylor and Sade Richardson

Attendees: Andria McFerson, Jordan Thomas, Reba Stevens, Alpha Gee Timbo, MC Harris, Chad Williams, Debra, Bruce Wheatley, Queenmother Nina Womack, Shalae Lewis, Nashon Mitchell, Erica Melbourne, Dario Grant, Kristie Summerville, Jim T. Hat Whitener, Felica Jones, Edwi, Nakeya T. Fields, Joyce Sales, Philip Butler, Wendy Cabil, Carey Grier, Nashon Mitchell, Janie, Sir

DMH Admin: Angel Baker, Donald Daughtry, Jacqueline Martin, Kelly Wilkerson

Presenters: Senait Admassu, Alpha Gee Timbo

Approval of Minutes:

- November 3, 2022, Minutes approved: Wendy Cabil Seconded: Senait Admassu

DMH Updates

- Executive Assistant for the Mental Health Commission, Kiana Fuentes, will start on December 5th. Will be introduced at December meeting
- Stakeholder groups will no longer be a part of the responsibility of the executive assistant but will now be assigned to other managers where focus of work they are doing best fits. Structure to be in place by January
- It is confirmed the SALTs will be a part of the MHSA unit reporting to Lead Manager, Kaylene Gilbert
- UsCCs are slated to go under ARDI program, more information to come
- Community Planning Process is moving along, meetings are recorded and will be provided to all UsCCs & other stakeholder groups

Life Links Resources Book status of SOW

- Expanding to include SPA 1, 6 & 8
- Approval received to move forward with Life Links, to include all UsCCs, if they have an interest
- BAH SOW being developed, solicitation pending if funding has to be spent and booklets delivered by 6/30/23

Update for 21-22 Capacity Building Projects Update: Nakeya Fields & Nicole Edun, MBA, Executive Director, Therapeutic Play Foundation

- Black Maternal Health & Early Childhood Intervention Empowerment Project
- "*Mom Squad*," cohort consisting of 13 Black women committed to attend 8 cohort meetings engaging in psychoeducation, and the disparities that Black families suffer from, shared their stories about childhood, motherhood and being a Black woman in society
- Self-recording their narrative videos
- Townhalls on 2/21/23 & 2/23/23, to be incorporated into Black History Month, Black Mental Health Summit. Flyers to follow

Update for 22-23 Capacity Building Projects: Angel Baker

- SOWs are begin developed for Empowering Black Student Wellness Leaders and Brothers' Keeper Program, to be ready week of 12/5/22, internally reviewed then sent to ISD for solicitation
 - BAH subcommittee to notify communities for registered vendors to bit on
 - BAH Peer-to-Peer Network pending, additional information needed
 - In January, BAH UsCC begin work planning '23-'24 projects and voting by February on all new projects
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BAH Flyer Update: Sade Richardson & Jacqueline Martin

- Draft tri-fold brochure
- Input on wording, design, distribution
- Final version will be available on the website

Capacity Building Presentation (22-23): Prevention Works 4 Communities: Senait Admassu, Executive Director of African Communities Public Health Coalition & Alpha Gee Timbo

- short term, 1 year prevention workshop to prevent an onset and reduce mental health progression and related problems for African descent immigrants and refugee communities
- Continue addressing, empowering, and also reducing stigma through outreach and education

(refer to presentation)

Community Engagement (Public Comment):

Community Event Announcements

- Romalis Taylor
 - Speakers Bureau Multicultural Conference, December 7th, 8:00am to 5:00pm oFerson

Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 10am-12pm):
1/5/23

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

323-776-6996, Conference ID: 101 721 830#
