

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Stakeholder Engagement Unit

Black & African Heritage Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 2, 2023 - 10 am-12 pm

WELCOME

Introductions/Check-In

Co-Chairs: Romalis Taylor and Sade Richardson

Attendees: Senait Admassu, Wendy Cabil, Joshua Charles, Carlene Davis, André M. Edmund, Nicole Edun, Alex Elliott, Nakeya T. Fields, MC Harris, Erica Melbourne, Kirsten Pannell, Hector Manuel Ramirez, Joyce Sales, Sutiweyu Sandoval, Elaine Waldman, Bruce Wheatley

DMH Admin: Darlesh K. Horn, Jacqueline Martin

Presenters: Dr. Daiya Cunnane, Dr. Hyun Kyung Lee, Philip Butler, Ms. Yvette Crayon

Approval of Minutes:

- January 5, 2022 Minutes approved: Nakeya T. Fields Seconded: Senait Admassu

DMH Updates

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Life Links Resources Book status of SOW

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Presentation: ICCTM Reducing Disparities Learning Collaborative:

- Project background "Class Standards," began in 2016, Solano County joined with UC Davis to create a five-year MHSA project with the same name
- Focuses specifically on cultural linguistic needs: three groups identified for that county; Hispanic, Latino, Filipino American, and LGBTQ+
- Developed work groups of consumers, community organization leaders, advocates, and staff in addition to community providers
- Work towards improving appropriate services and care services respectfully and responsively to the cultural and linguistic needs of all we serve
- Conduct regular assessments of humanly -- of community health needs and use those results in our planning
- Currently in the planning phases of project, meeting with each of the UsCCs to get their thoughts, feedback and suggestions

(for further information see attached information)

Presentation: The Artificial Intelligence (AI) Conversations Project Update: Philip Butler

- Update on recruitment via the flyers and talk a little bit about the 3 weeks of focus groups
- Offered \$30 Visa gift card for participation, participants had to sign up and take the pre-survey, small group phase in the large group setting then take exit survey
- Three focus groups compromised at total of 54 participants, brainstorming what participants would like to see within an app geared specifically towards the Black and African Heritage residents
- Seekr made people feel safe, gave them a sense of relaxation
- 5 options being evaluated

(for further information see meeting transcript)

Presentation: Green Thumb A.V. Youth Program: Ms. Yvette Crayon

- Green Thumb AV Youth Program developed in 2010 in the Antelope Valley
- The program is used as a gang reduction intervention program
- Provides "wraparound referral resources," services working with the homeless, the reentry, the youth, and DV, in a collaborative effort creating a "closed loop of resources" within the community of different organizations to be able to resource and refer the children out
- The GRIP program is the increment for Growth Resilience Intellectual Providence program offers

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interventions for youths, the components of cultural holistic wraparound case management

- a one-year post follow-up
- Green Thumb mission is to rehabilitate youth from all walks of life, predominantly the African American male, assisting in building a foundation for youth success by providing holistic cultural wraparound preventative intervention services, creating a second fair chance for success for youth

(for further information see Green Thumb presentation)

Moving Forward: 23-24, 24-25 Capacity Building Project Concepts: Romalis Taylor

- Four topics that we focused on
- Covering '23, '24, and '24, '25 capacity building projects
- Critical issue is to get the solicitation out and get the proposals in and give everyone the appropriate amount of time that the department has for them to submit their proposals on these different project concepts

Community Engagement (Public Comment):

- Share community engagements via email to BAHUsCC@dmh.lacounty.gov for general distribution

Community Event Announcements

- Nakeya Fields
 - Black Mental Health Task Force, in partnership with the Black Health Promoters, is having a Black History Month Mental Health Summit, Feb. 22nd thru Feb. 24th, virtual & in person, registration
 - Black maternal mental health and early childhood town halls on Feb. 22nd and 24th and these particular events are free, some events not free
 - Sound Healing Sound Bath for Restoration and Relaxation on Feb. 23rd at Midtown Gardens and Watts
 - Summit finale: the screening of our documentary Black Mental Health: Changing the Narrative, Miracle Theater in Inglewood
- Senait Admassu
 - The African Cultural and Wellbeing Annual Summit, at the Endowment, Feb. 23rd, all day session 9:00am-6:00pm, celebrating what Pan-Africanism means, registration is free
- MC Harris
 - Pan-African Arts and Film Festival, Feb. 9th thru 20th, Baldwin Hills Mall

Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 10am-12pm):
3/2/23

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

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