

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Stakeholder Engagement Unit

Black & African Heritage Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 6, 2023 - 10 am-12 pm

WELCOME

Introductions/Check-In

Co-Chairs: Romalis Taylor and Sade Richardson

Attendees: Cheryl Branch, Wendy Cabil, Kevin Collins, Nakeya Fields, Aquanetta Gayden, Tanisha Grant, Carey Grier, Staci Haskell, Jim T. Hatt, Adjoa Jones, Black M, Andria McFerson, Dr. Erica Melbourne, Nashon Mitchell, Pharaoh Mitchell, Cornelius Page, Joyce Sales, Bruce Wheatley,

DMH Admin: Angel Baker, Carolyn Brown, Crystal Clark, Darlesh K. Horn, Eron Johnson, Felipe Ocampo Jr., Arleen Santizo, Anna Yaralyan

Presenters: Dr. Donald Grant, Jason Floyd, Lydia Floyd, Marcia Atkins

Approval of Minutes:

- March 2, 2023 Minutes approved: Kevin Collins Seconded: Pharaoh Mitchell

Introduction of new BAH UsCC Liaisons

- Carolyn Brown
- Crystal Clark
- Eron Johnson
- Felipe Ocampo, Jr.

DMH Updates

- Reviews completed of Capacity Building Projects (CBP)
- Pending: Wendy Cabil, **Black Homeless Outreach**, and Senait Admassu, **Prevention Works 4 Communities (PW-4- C)**
- Work will begin on new proposals for CBP

MHSA Update

- Review of Annual Update and opportunity to give input via: [MHSA Announcements - Department of Mental Health \(lacounty.gov\)](https://www.lacounty.gov/mhsa/announcements)
- Transitioning to 3-year Plan in the coming months
- Input of leadership from the various UsCCs, CCs, and SAACs

Presentation: Hands4Hope LA:

- 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, prevention & early intervention program, empowering at-risk youth
- Provide resources (free afterschool programs, academic and creative activities, nutritional snacks, and enriching field trips) for youth ages 8 to 24 and their parents from low income, underserved, predominantly single parent minority households
- Staff trained to foster positive social skills and teach children how to communicate with one another and have empathy for one another
- Promotes diversity and inclusion
- Offer STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) classes

Black Maternal Health (BMH) Town Halls Presentation & Black Mental Health Task Force (BMHT):

BMHT

- Formed and led by community-based organizations
- Board led decision-based structure on funding
- 75 members who have signed membership agreements
- New Vice Chairs of Advocacy and Outreach: Keith & Nashan Mitchell

BMH Town Halls

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Stakeholder Engagement Unit

Black & African Heritage Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 6, 2023 - 10 am-12 pm

- Recruited 11 Black mothers for DMH, to do a series of workshops and interviews and film project
- Created a community survey that is Black mama-led
- Gathering 100 unique surveys from Black mothers on how better to serve them
- February had a 4-day Mental Health Summit, of which 2-day Town hall workshop took place
- Premiere of 1hour 15-minute documentary series

CBP Update: Strengthening Community Connections for Black Men-Boys Project: Dr. Donald E. Grant Jr.

- A study on how Black men perceive their services in LA County, their awareness of their history and how it impacts their current mental health
- In need of more men to sign up, take surveys
- Have held 2 sessions working with Cal State Dominguez Hills and a football program in Long Beach
- Working to create a cohort for 25 men
- Program begins April 14, 2023

Community Engagement (Public Comment):

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

Community Event Announcements

- Wendy Cabil, Salt 6
 - Youth Awareness & Education event, Saturday, April 15th, Leimert Park area, catered lunch, panelists, author, lived experienced native Californian, LAPD
- Black Maternal Health Week, April 11th through the 17th
 - BMH Walk on Saturday, April 15th, Curtis Tucker Health Center
- Wendy Cabil, Cultural Competency Committee
 - Event: "Historical Moments", Tuesday, April 25th, flyer will be emailed

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

5/4/23

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

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