

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES OFFICE OF PREVENTION SERVICES TASK FORCE

PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN ADVANCE OF NOVEMBER 4 MEETING

Contact information for the below correspondence has been redacted for privacy. If you are a Task Force or table member who would like to request this information, please contact Mark Lee at mlee@ceo.lacounty.gov

From: Tinnisha Hutchinson-Nolan Mon 10/3/2022 10:49am Subject: LA County Prevention Services Task Force Hello,

I wanted to thank you for the opportunity to attend the Anti-Racism, Diversity and Inclusion task force meeting that took place today. I am excited for the proactive approach the county has taken in the last several months to address and report matters concerning racism. I appreciate the commitment from the county in being transparent and acknowledging breakdowns that many in the community are facing. I did not get to address my comments in the meeting today but wanted to follow up with an email.

I would like to address the operational barriers that were listed in the agenda today: Structural barriers and existing systems User navigation barriers Community distrust/hesitancy engaging with government systems Ad hoc approach to community partnerships Lack of services tailored to client needs

I applied to become a vendor under the Master Agreement under the ARP with LA County back on May 26, 2022. Our organization still has not heard back from the county in regard to whether we are approved as a vendor under this agreement or not? I have signed up for countless "Doing Business With," various department webinars, just to feel that we are going in circles. Scholar's First Academy LLC is a new organization offering consulting services and tutoring and educational support services. We have signed up for numerous notifications to receive emails for funding specifically from LISC LA and we receive the emails very close to the deadline or the information is not accessible. We have applied to over 13 various grants from LISC LA, Hello Alice, and LA County under the ARP funding CFCI, including the CA Dream Fund, Verizon Wireless Small Business Digital and have received nothing. I have worked with PTAC, SBDC, and East LA Entrepreneur to receive technical support and assistance and we are sent to program after program for funding. We still don't have any funding, after going through and working with some of the programs that were said to give funding for entrepreneurs. We signed up for two Incubation programs ATI-Alternatives To Incarceration, back in August and have heard nothing and recently the Keep It Affordable Academy.

I have read the Anti-Racism Strategic Plan from the County as well as the Equitable Nonprofit Workplace Report recently published by Envision Consulting group. I have also participated in the committee meetings and listening sessions of other community members of color who have had some of the same experiences as our organization.

Lastly, in terms of partnerships our organization is located in Santa Clarita, CA and we sought out partnerships with the Santa Clarita AJCC, College of Canyons and Santa Clarita SBDC office, only to have our programs copied, mimicked and stolen from us and we were cut out of partnership opportunities altogether. The Santa Clarita AJCC tried to label my son and our family as Low Income just for him to work in my program under the Youth@Work program. Once I informed them that we are not low income and that I did not want my son labeled as things that he is not, then we were not qualified to participate in the program.

My question is how do you rectify or remedy this situation, so that members of the community can trust the county and truly offer real partnerships. Individuals of color want to work with the government, however when you have individuals in the county that are working against you, it makes that very difficult to achieve.

Scholar's First Academy LLC applied to do business with LA County because we know that youth and families of color need service providers that look like them and understand the unique challenges that they experience. We have worked in the Watts Community, Van Nuys Community, Los Angeles and Antelope Valley, all service areas need more individuals of color to provide services in education and family support services. We want to partner with the county to deliver these services as we have youth and women in our community that trust us to advocate and stand up for them.

I thank you for the meeting last week and the meetings prior that you have conducted to hear from the community. I truly appreciate that, however I encourage you to reach out to these vendors and please reach out to us for how we can truly reimagine partnerships between individuals in disadvantaged communities and the community overall.

Thank you and have a wonderful day,

Tinnisha Hutchinson-Nolan Scholar's First Academy LLC Co-Founder & CEO

From: Susan Park Mon, 9/30/2022 1:18PM | Tue 10/4/2022 3:08 PM , Subject: Public Comment, Korean language access

Hello,

I've had an impossible time getting answers about Korean language access for PEH (Person Experiencing Homelessness) LEP (Limited English Proficient) Korean speakers.

Five PEH LEP Koreans made over 500 calls during the month of September 2022 to LAHSA, Brilliant Corners, PATH, and SABAN. All five PEH LEP were unable to get any services in Korean. There are 700 plus unhoused LEP Koreans in Koreatown alone. That number grows if we count PEH LEP Koreans who live out of their cars in parking lots or sleep in saunas and church pews. Add another 200 plus, if we count LGBTQ+ Korean youth who have been kicked out of their homes by their parents. Many end up working in the adult night life industries and do sex work for a place to sleep and food.

Hello,

I have another pubic comment.

Why has LAHSA utterly failed to count PEH (Person Experiencing Homelessness) AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander)? Why doesn't LAHSA use language cards to identify PEH AAPI by national origin (language). The majority of PEH AAPI are LEP (Limited English Proficient). LAHSA and the homeless industrial complex in Los Angeles have robbed PEH LEP AAPI of services by not identifying their language access needs.

LAHSA's risk management team has told me directly that they have no policies and procedures in place for PEH LEP AAPI.

Thank you All the best Susan Park <u>www.aa4h.org</u> Asian Americans for Housing and Environmental Justice <u>www.minjokrc.org</u> Korean Resource Center and CDC <u>www.jepwa.org</u> JEPWA Community Land Trust

END OF PUBLIC CORRESPONDENCE