

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS**

**Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Blind, and Physical Disabilities UsCC Subcommittee
MEETING MINUTES**

February 13, 2019
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.
Five Acres

Present: Alex Elliott, Mirtala Parada-Ward, Kelly Wilkerson, Rosario Ribleza, Lisa Schoyer, Amy Kay, Junko Nagamatsu, Sylvia Youngblood, Arnold Youngblood, Denise Johnson, Pam Inaba, Erik Escareno, Bernice Mascher, Sunnie Whipple, Gary Ryan
By phone: (RAND representative)
Roque Bucton, Alicia Rhoden, Pam Inaba

| Agenda Items | Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions |
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| Welcome/ Introductions | All members introduced themselves |
| Review of minutes | Approved January 2019 meeting minutes with no changes. |
| Announcement of the New Deaf Hard of Hearing, Blind and Physical Disabilities Liaison | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly Wilkerson expressed her deep appreciation working with the Deaf Hard of Hearing, Blind and Physical Disabilities Subcommittee, and she introduced Rosario Ribleza as the new liaison of the group. Rosario formally accepted the new responsibility. • Kelly reminded everyone the time limit of the interpreter. Interpreter’s service will be for two hours only. If the meeting needs to continue, interpreter’s service will be terminated. This is because, interpreters are getting paid in increment of 30 minutes and additional minutes will require submission of new requests and additional documentation. |
| DMH Updates and Announcement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mirtala Parada Ward announced: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The 2nd YourDMH Stakeholders meeting will be held on March 1, 2019 at 3201 Riverside Dr., Los Angeles, California 90027. It is open to the public, and no registration is required. She encouraged everyone (at least 4-5 representatives for each UsCC subcommittee) to come and voice their concerns. 2. Stakeholder Subcommittee on Education Committee. Many people already showed interest and signed up to become members. 3. SAAC Co-Chair Meeting – Mirtala Parada Ward and the UsCC Team provide administrative support. |

RAND Discussion

DMH hired RAND to help with a strategic planning process. RAND conducted a 90-minute presentation and asked the Deaf, Hard of Hearing, Blind, and Physical Disabilities subcommittee their feedback on the following questions:

1. What is working?
2. What is not working?
3. What could be improved?

Group Feedback:

- Increase accessibility to:

Technology
social media
transportation
reasonable accommodation
language translation
case management, and supportive services,

- Increase in bed for psychiatric hospitalizations that provide services to deaf, hard of hearing, blind, and physical disabilities.
- Increase the number of peer groups support
- Provide more funding for directly operating programs
- Hiring and Training of Staff
 1. Hiring
 - More qualified clinicians to serve all clients
 - Clinicians who specialized in serving the deaf, hard of hearing, blind, and people with physical disabilities
 - Hire more individuals with disabilities
 2. Training
 - Should concentrate on discipline not just on treatment
 - Staff and clinicians should be trained on how to properly and respectfully connect with clients
- Encourage more participation from clients
 - offer more conferences that could accommodate a large number of participants and provide free transportation for attendees

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of data <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use data quantitatively and qualitatively to better inform service delivery. • Eliminate bureaucracy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Paper works should be streamlined and be culturally sensitive. • Develop Partnership with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools, law enforcement, media, and the community at large • Provide services to individuals with developmental disabilities. Make the services accessible for them. • Immigration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -more focus on immigration issues |
| Next Meeting | <p>Meeting adjourned at 12:00pm</p> <p>March 13, 2019 10:00am – 12:00pm</p> |