

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) Unit**

EASTERN EUROPEAN/ MIDDLE EASTERN SUBCOMMITTEE UNDERSERVED CULTURAL COMMUNITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

March 20, 2019

3pm – 5pm

Present: Arpe Asatunyan, Seta Haig, Dr. Heather Laird (via conference call) Sarkis Simonian, Marian Nahapetyan, Keacha Stewart, Anna Yaralyan, Mirtala Parada-Ward, and Rema Safaryan.

AGENDA ITEM	COMMENTS/DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS
Introductions	Introduction of Members:
Review & Approval of Meeting Minutes	Reviewed and approved meeting minutes from 2/20/19
Debrief from Rand Corporation Group Discussion	<p><u>Members shared their thoughts and concerns from the RAND Presentation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Members stated that it was nice to express their concerns. ● Some members were frustrated about the focus on private practice vs. community mental health services during the conversation ● Members expressed that they would have liked to have more of a DMH systemic discussion and not about private practice. ● It's important to increase community centers that include all ethnicities and provide culturally sensitive services ● Good ideas were shared about things that work, such as providing culturally appropriate services to the EE/ME communities. ● It is important to add different forms of care, incorporating more providers, more styles of reaching people to better serve the EE/ME communities. ● EE/ME communities can work closer and be more unified. From each other, we can learn different ways to reach the community. ● We focus on working with large agencies and sometimes lose people in the process. This is a system problem. ● If we focus on providing services to small populations that are underserved, we also run the risk of losing a huge gap of people who need services. ● If EE/ME consumers don't qualify for mental health services at community agencies and can't afford private insurance or therapeutic services, where do they go? This is a big issue. ● Sarkis Simonian informed the members that once RAND Corporation completes the report, a copy will be shared with everyone.

<p>DMH Updates Mirtala Parada Ward</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Department is implementing a parallel process of the (SAACs) and the (UsCCs), looking into how we work together to provide stakeholder advisory ● The Department is focusing on recommendations from consumers, the needs of the community, what's missing and how to improve our services ● March 27th is the next UsCC Leadership meeting, we will review and discuss as a group YourDMH initiative and the UsCC Bylaws ● UsCC Bylaws have to be converted into a Charter. We will draft the final document and vetted at the subcommittee here for final approval. ● Currently no DMH or Management staff from a legal entity or contractor can serve as a Co-chair of a subcommittee ● Membership recruitment efforts need to be increased. <p><u>YourDMH Stakeholder Event March 1, 2019 – Updates</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The Department reported back to the community and gave public comments and feedback ● Dr. Bonds, discussed Clinical Operations and restructuring of our services, we will no longer be divided by age groups ● In terms of level of care the focus will be on treatment, children's system of care and adult systems of care will be restructured ● The Department has (1) District Chief for Directly operated clinics and (1) District Chief for Contracts, there will be 1 Deputy assigned as the District Chief over all the Contracts. ● Clinical Operations was divided into 4 Service Areas, 2 Deputies will be assigned to 4 Service Areas each and a District Chief will be assigned to each Deputy ● Dr. Debbie Innes-Gomberg, Director for Prevention and Early Intervention gave a full report of the new bureau and program. This program is focusing on school mental health services. ● Prevention services will focus on community education and early identification of mental illnesses. ● DMH is focusing on developing partnerships with schools, community colleges, and libraries, to develop prevention programs for children and parents ● Looking into high risk immigrants, prevention and early intervention services for them is also a primary. ● Edgar Soto, Deputy Administrator discussed HR needs, training for staff, and training needs for Clinicians in the community to better equip on how to serve the diversities within our County ● HR hiring process is on the table for discussion to make the application/hiring process easier ● Public Comments and Feedback from the community was discussed and they complained about the homeless people not having residence.
<p>Future Meeting: Times & Dates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Wednesday May 15, 3pm – 5pm ● Wednesday June 12, 2019 – 3pm – 5pm ● Wednesday July 31, 2019 – 3pm – 5pm <p>● Location of the Meetings:</p> <p>Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services</p>

	1540 Colorado Street, Glendale Ca 91205
--	--

DRAFT