

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

EASTERN EUROPEAN/ MIDDLE EASTERN SUBCOMMITTEE UNDERSERVED CULTURAL COMMUNITIES SUBCOMMITTEE

May 15, 2019

3pm – 5pm

Present: Anna Perne, Keacha Stewart, Sarkis Simonian, Heather Laird, Mastaneh Moghadam (call), Seta Haig, Mariam Nahapatyan, Shakeh Ghazaryan, Mirtala Parada Ward, Anna Yaralyan

AGENDA ITEM	COMMENTS/DISCUSSION/RECOMMENDATIONS/CONCLUSIONS
Introductions	Everyone introduced themselves.
Review & Approval of Meeting Minutes	Minutes were approved with no corrections.
DMH Updates Heather Laird Mirtala Parada Ward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Heather Laird explained to the group what the SAAC's are and how they operate. She provided an update from the Joint SAAC/UsCC meeting on April 26, 2019. Heather gave feedback of what she gathered from the meeting and she shared some of the similarities of the committees. ● Dr. Heather Laird and Mirtala Parada Ward provided updates on the UsCC & SAAC conjoint meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The UsCCs/SAACs discussed how the two groups are going to work together. ○ SAAC meetings are much broader, larger and they can address service concerns at their meeting. ○ UsCC meetings are more project based, focus on advocacy and how to help the underserved communities. ○ SAAC meetings are a great place to recruit consumers, because they are present. ○ The SAACs comes together monthly and talks about the needs of all of the 8 service areas as a whole. ○ The SAACs develops our objectives and goals based on the needs of each service area and how to fill the gaps. ○ The SAACs does not have money to implement projects, like the UsCCs. ○ The two groups brainstormed and discussed ways to work together and respect their different missions. ○ We have many different cultural communities and there is some intersectionality that gets lost within this division. ○ The UsCCs look at diverse groups' cultural and ethnic needs. The UsCCs advocate for the needs of the community and look at their underserved, isolated and invisible nature. ○ The UsCCs hold a dual role as an Advisory/Advocacy group, related to the needs of the community. ○ The UsCCs receive funds to create mental health capacity building projects yearly; this is unique for the UsCCs. ○ The UsCC subcommittee members provide a lot of input, as well as recommendations and proposal ideas for

	<p>capacity building projects.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mirtala Parada Ward provided DMH updates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The WeRise Event 2019 will be May 18 thru May 27th at Downtown Los Angeles Art District, 1262 Palmetto Street, Los Angeles, Ca 90013. We Rise is a cultural event featuring arts, live performances and bold conversations to help us explore mental health well-being and a wide range of related social issues. It includes a full program of special events like music, art activities, workshops and screenings. It is a free event and it is open to the public each evening and the weekend. ○ WeRise Gala for the Co-Chairs only will be on Friday Opening Night, Elaine Waldman is the contact person for WeRise. ○ WeRise is closed during the day for the public school field trips. During the weekend, the event is open to everyone. ○ UsCC Leadership meeting will be on May 28th, we will distribute a copy of the bylaws to everyone for review ○ The Co-Chairs cannot be DMH employees, or employees of the contracted legal entities ○ The ReOrg process is continuing
<p>Translation Project Presentation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Peer Actions for Change, a community based organization asked the LACDMH for assistance with a translation of articles for different threshold languages. Two articles which needed to be reviewed were the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Recovering your Mental Health which is a self-help guide through Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMSHA). ▪ A Temple University Community Participation Measure. ● These two articles were reviewed and translated by DMH staff. ● Anna Perne from the Office of Consumer and Family Affairs asked the EE/ME subcommittee members to review the two articles, and give their approval and feedback. This is for the community to let LACDMH know whether the articles were translated correctly and efficiently. ● The articles were translated into the following threshold languages; Armenian, Farsi, Russian, and Arabic. ● The translated information will be printed out with graphics and used for outreach and engagement ● Anna Perne distributed copies of the SAMSHA article. The article will also be sent out to EE/ME subcommittee members electronically. ● Anna Perne asked for a 4-week deadline. ● Sarkis Simonian suggested sending the document in all the languages to all EE/ME subcommittee members, so they could share it with others in the community. ● Mirtala Parada Ward asked whether the information on the document is accurate and up to date. ● Anna Perne replied that the content is relevant but the resources are outdated.
<p>Capacity Building Project Updates</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting Seminars for the Arabic Speaking Community Project – is with (ISD) Internal Service Department. 2. The Russian and Farsi speaking Mental Health Theatrical Performances Project - is with (ISD) Internal Service Department. 3. Parenting Seminars for the Armenian Community Project – is with (ISD) Internal Service Department.

	4. Armenian Mental Health Show – ARTN/Shant received the bid. The first show will air on June 8, 2019.
Follow-Up Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Yaralyan will forward the articles from Anna Perne to all EE/ME subcommittee members, and everyone can reply to Anna Perne with any corrections
Future Meetings	<p>Future Meeting: Times & Dates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday: June 12; 3pm – 5pm <p>Location of Meetings: Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services – 1540 Colorado St. Glendale Ca, 91205</p>