

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
OFFICE OF PERFORMANCE DATA - QUALITY IMPROVEMENT DIVISION
LATINO UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE**

MINUTES –Tuesday, September 25, 2018

2:30 – 4:00 P.M.

Location: 3787 So. Vermont Avenue, 9th Floor Los Angeles, California, 90007

ATTENDEES: Mirtala Parada Ward, Katty Callender, Paco Retana, Rosario Ribleza, Christina Ballenger, Elsy Molina, Martha Moya, MarAnthony Aparicio, Betty Mendoza, and Lucy Rivero (Spanish Translator)

People on the phone: Gloria Sistos, Lorraine Ragosta, Leticia Ximenez, Dr. Ana Nogales, Felicia Flores, Michelle Wong, and Melisa Acoba

DISCUSSIONS

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Review and Approval of Minutes of the Meeting for 08/09/18

Minutes of the meeting was translated to Spanish for Spanish-speaking attendees. It was reviewed and approved by all members (moved to approve by Lorraine Ragosta, and seconded by Felicia Flores).

III. Announcement of the New Latino UsCC Co-Chairs

Mirtala announced the new Latino UsCC Co-Chairs – Paco Retana and Katty Callender were re-elected as co-chairs.

Mirtala briefly explained the by-laws for all UsCC subcommittees including voting privileges. Only members attended at least 50% of the meetings in a year can vote.

IV. Updates on Capacity Building Projects

Mirtala reminded the subcommittee about the \$200,000 allotted fund for the Latino UsCC, and that the subcommittee should develop capacity building projects that will reduce stigma and improve services. She reported the following:

A. Latino Mental Health Stigma Reduction Community Theater Project

The 2017-2018 project went through solicitation with ISD and it was 95% approved. However, due to client participation, HIPAA compliance to protect clients' confidentiality became a big concern, and because of too much requirements, the vendor back out. If the 2017-2018 fund will not be used; it will be forfeited. Mirtala will request to keep the budget and use it for the same project. The Statement of Work (SOW) will be revised to take out consumer's participation. The consumers' ideas can be used to write a script. Actors will be

hired, and Dr. Nogales, Dr. Ximenez, and Gloria Sistos agreed.

Michelle Wong - suggested to collaborate with the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) as they have their own theater group.

Betty Mendoza – suggested to hire children to be trained as actors and dancers or recruit from the community who have lived experience.

LACGC will send clinicians during practice to support the clients and be there if needed.

Katty Callender – reminded everyone that removing clients from the project will not take away the liability. She suggested to use college students and get their input.

Paco – agreed with Katty, and suggested different community colleges

B. Latino Youth Mental Health Comic Book Project – Statement of Work (SOW) is in process

Mirtala described the four parts of the comic book project:

1. Recruitment and Writing Workshops
2. Comic Book Contest
3. Comic Book Printing
4. Distribution of Comic Books in the Community

V. Announcements

YourDMH: Vision and Guidelines

Mirtala asked the Latino subcommittee to review the YourDMH: Vision and Guidelines and provide input/feedback. She advised everyone to find strategies that are grassroots and culturally sensitive. The subcommittee was given 5 working days to submit their input/feedback. Feedback received will be submitted to Dr. Sherin. The documents are written in English only.

Dr. Ximenez expressed her concern that many people will have difficulty understanding the documents and suggested that they should be written in 13 languages or conduct focus groups or dialogue in several languages in order for people to express their ideas.

Dr. Nogales suggested to conduct focus groups in different agencies or groups that could give a lot of information in a very direct way.

Mirtala will invite Spanish-speaking people in her office to discuss about it.

Katty assured that names are not going to be disclosed when providing input, only group names (example: Latino UsCC)

VI. Adjourned – Meeting adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

