

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

MINUTES –Tuesday, November 6, 2018

2:00 – 3:30 P.M.

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

**ATTENDEES:** Mirtala Parada Ward, Katty Callender, Paco Retana, Rosario Ribleza, Christina Ballenger, Carlos Valdez, Robert Valdez, Perla Valdez, Mercedes Moreno, Zoila I. Ilbay, Martha P. Simon, Carlos Ludena, Haydee Guevara, Morena Chavez, Bertha Uribe, Norma Caceres, Celia Cortes, and Lucy Rivero (Spanish Translator)

**People on the phone:** Gloria Sistos, Lorraine Ragosta, Dr. Ana Nogales, Mar Anthony Aparicio, and Elsy Molina

## **DISCUSSIONS**

### **I. Welcome and Introductions**

### **II. Review and Approval of Minutes of the Meeting for 09/25/18**

Minutes of the meeting was translated to Spanish for Spanish-speaking attendees. It was reviewed and approved by all members (moved to approve by Katty Callender, and seconded by Mercedes Moreno).

### **III. DMH Update: MHSA 3-Year Plan- by Mirtala Parada Ward, Katty Callender, and Paco Retana**

Mirtala, Katty and Paco discussed and explained Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Information Fiscal Year 2019-2020 in Spanish to the attendees. The report includes the number of unique clients served, and how the different ethnic communities in each of the eight (8) Service Areas across Los Angeles County were provided services by the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH). The report was translated to Spanish for the attendees to fully and clearly understand. The attendees were strongly encouraged to attend the Stakeholder Engagement Event that will be held on December 19, 2018 at the California Endowment Center, to voice out their concern and provide their recommendations for the Latino community. The importance of their presence on that event to represent the voice of the Latino community was reiterated. They were advised to prepare with their ideas and recommendations on how to better serve the Latino community.

Mirtala conveyed that less Latinos received services may be due to inadequate services offered and/or less therapists to serve. Katty suggested that it may be because of insufficient Spanish speaking therapists. Paco challenged everyone to find out the reasons why less Latinos received services.

Elsy Molina expressed her concern on immigration issue that becomes a barrier for Latino population to access services. Carlos Ludena suggested to inform the community where to go to receive services. In addition, he wanted to reach out to the Promotores and WOW members to be the voice of the Latinos. Martha Simon recommended to provide trainings for the community. Mercedes Moreno provided the idea of posting the LACDMH services and programs at the clinics.

#### **IV. Update on the Capacity Building Projects – Mirtala Parada Ward**

A. The LACDMH increased the Capacity Building Project budget to \$200,000 per year, and the subcommittee was encouraged to think on culturally sensitive projects to utilize the money.

B. Current Projects:

i. Community Theater

The first vendor failed to comply with the HIPAA requirements, but Statement of Work (SOW) was revised, and now ready to go.

ii. Comic Book Writing and Contest

It targets the youth (ages 16-25). The winners will be given prizes as incentives. It will be open to the public.

#### **V. Announcements**

Dr. Nogales announced their job opening for therapists.

VI. **Adjourned** – Meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

