

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Office of the Deputy Director of Strategic Communications
LATINO UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE

MINUTES –Wednesday, February 19, 2019

1:30 – 3:30 P.M.

Location: 3031 So. Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, California, 90010

ATTENDEES: Mirtala Parada Ward, Paco Retana, Rosario Ribleza, Mercedes Moreno, Betty Mendoza, Mathew Mizel, Amy Sheaner, Elsy Molina, Maritza Lebron, Juan Alfaro, Guadalupe Yepiz, Isaias Guzman, Connie Acosta Castaneda, Celia Cortez, and Lucy Rivero (Spanish Translator)

People on the phone: Dr. Ana Nogales, Hector Ramirez

DISCUSSIONS

I. Welcome and Introductions

II. Review and Approval of Minutes of the Meeting for 11/06/18

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

III. Rand Corporation Presentation – Dr. Nicole K. Eberhart

DMH has hired RAND to help them with a strategic planning process. RAND conducted a 90-minute presentation and asked the Latino subcommittee their feedback on the following questions:

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

Group Feedback:

DMH Employee

- Lack of compassion
- Lack of Training – administrative staff and therapists, and management
- Staff are intimidating
- They don't provide help to fill out paperworks provided by staff – consumers are not given copies of their paperworks

DMH Program and Services

- Lack of urgent care centers
- Meeting Location – not comfortable (air/heat)
- Lack of community driven programs – non-traditional services such as dancing, music and art classes, cooking, etc.
- lack of funding for other programs
- Poor handling of medical records
- No transportation is provided to clients to attend meetings and other DMH activities
- Lack of incentives for clients to actively get involved with DMH programs
- Lack of services for LGBTQ12-S

Immigration

- Clients dis-enrolled from services/program due to their immigration status

Housing

- Lack of housing for clients

Suggestions:

DMH Employee

- Staff should be more sensitive to the needs and feelings of the clients
- More trainings for administrative staff, therapists and management

DMH Program and Services

- More urgent care centers
- Accessible and more comfortable (air/heat) meeting location
- More community driven program – non-traditional services such as dancing, music and art classes, cooking, etc.
- More funding for other programs
- Better handling of medical records
- Provide transportation for clients to attend meetings and other DMH activities
- More incentives for clients to actively get involved with DMH programs
- More services for LGBTQ12-S

Immigration

- DMH to provide immigration assistance to clients
- DMH Staff and contractors need training with Immigration issues

Housing

- More housing for clients
- More board and care for the elderly/older adult and people with physical disabilities
- Better coordination between shelters and DMH

IV. Announcements

Mirtala: Update on The Latino Mental Health Stigma Reduction Community Theater project and The Latino Youth Mental Health Comic Book project – out for solicitation

YourDMH event will be on March 1, 2019

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