

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
Office of the Deputy Director of Strategic Communications**

**Access for All UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

May 13, 2020  
10:00am – 12:00pm  
Via Skype Meeting

**Skype Call**

**Attendee's:** Roque Bucton, Sylvia Youngblood, Jessica Gholson, Ary Nassiri, Alex Elliott, Alex Reynoso, Amy Kay, Junko Nagamatsu, Hector Ramirez, Eirk Escareno, Cody Hanable, Angela Kaufman, An Kau and Kathleen Ta

**DMH Staff:** Rosario Ribleza, Dr. Sandra Chang and Connie Acosta Castaneda

**ASL**

**Interpreters:** Lianna Carrera and Martha Villar

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions – Subcommittee Members</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each attendee introduced themselves and shared a word that connects with the disabled community.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Updates: Dr. Sherin's Speaker Bureau - Dr. Sandra Chang</b></p> <p><b>Miscellaneous Updates:</b> Subcommittee Members</p>	<p>Dr. Chang shared the latest resources that are being made available to everyone:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>App called Headspace; Headspace.com/lacounty: Practical set of meditation, mindfulness and other kind of resources that can help connect and help us clear our minds. The subscription is free.</li> <li>Warmline is a 24/7 Helpline. There are two (2) ways to access it:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By phone: (213) 854-7771</li> <li>Via text: LA741-74</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>They are available to community members and department staff who are in need of support.</p> <p>Interpretation services that DMH provides are: ASL, Spanish, Korean, Mandarin and Close Captioning - to be inclusive with everyone as much as possible.</p> <p>Alex Elliott: The warm line is not ADA accessible. You need to change your IOS accessibility setting.</p> <p>Sylvia Youngblood: YouTube also has accessibility videos that can help.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The "We Rise" campaign has been launched virtually this year.</li> <li>DMH is in its early stages of implementing the Speakers Bureau to address the cultural and language needs of community-based organizations and their constituents. It was already approved by Dr. Sherin. We are working with DMH</li> </ol>

	<p>staff at this time, and hopefully expand it to the community.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Dr. Sherin hired a consultant specifically for COVID-19 departmental responsiveness.</li> <li>6. Roque Bucton: Access for All projects are on hold. We need to vote and nominate for the next projects, and regenerate them to adapt to the current condition caused by Corona Virus. A letter to Czar has already been done, but not yet sent.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Coronavirus Pandemic Evaluation</b></p> <p>Subcommittee Members</p>	<p><b>A. Services that are working: Sharing of Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To help with technical challenges, the Scientific Website is giving assistance for adaptive mobility for the blind, and it is free thru June 2020.</li> <li>• Gladinc.org has resources and information regarding COVID-19 online. There are different videos with sign language interpretations.</li> <li>• One of the successful ways deaf people have been communicating is through Facetime. Telehealth has been a very successful way to communicate safely with social distancing.</li> <li>• We encourage parents to take parenting classes to help manage, cope and deal with their children during these stressful COVID-19 times.</li> <li>• Beekenhelptoptions.com has resources on how to parent your children from home and how to handle stress from COVID-19</li> <li>• DMH website has COVID-19 resources <a href="https://dmh.lacounty.gov/covid-19information">https://dmh.lacounty.gov/covid-19information</a></li> <li>• Uniper-care Technologies uses the familiarity of the TV to allow older adult to socialize in a simple and intuitive way. <a href="https://www.unipercare.com">https://www.unipercare.com</a></li> </ul> <p><b>B. Vision: Life for People with Disabilities after COVID-19 –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The department needs to designate for consumers and community members an ADA disability accommodation department office unit. Consumers and community members are having trouble requesting accommodations and requesting ADA services with the County.</li> <li>• Start designing an infrastructure, build a workforce and use collaborations. We need to think about the policies that are universally designed across the board, and ensure that everything is comfortable and accessible to everyone.</li> <li>• Create a division within DMH to help the immediate needs of clients who cannot avail services.</li> <li>• <a href="https://www.nasmhpd.org/content/national-coalition-mental-health-and-deaf-individuals">https://www.nasmhpd.org/content/national-coalition-mental-health-and-deaf-individuals</a></li> <li>• We should continue to have this multi-media meeting even when we go back to our normal face to face meeting. Multi-media meeting will encourage more participation from the community, and therefore more help can be provided to the needy.</li> </ul>

<p><b>Advocacy: Budget Impact on the Critical needs &amp; Services of the Disabled Community –</b></p> <p>Hector Ramirez</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We need to make sure that as a network, the Access for All subcommittee is out advocating for the various disability communities that requires line items budgeting.</li> <li>• At the State level, we are hearing: The Governor announced that there is a significant budget cuts and reductions due to COVID-19.</li> <li>• The Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) is on hold.</li> <li>• Capacity Building Projects should have more of a COVID-19 focus.</li> <li>• Governor Newsom has created a Mental Health taskforce to design the MHSA for the State of California for the next 10 years.</li> <li>• Due to COVID-19 Stay Home order, there are more domestic violence and substance abuse problems which may affect the accessibility for services.</li> <li>• People with disabilities having trouble accessing services can call toll free to the Disability Rights of California at: (800) 776-5746 and (800) 719-5798</li> </ul>
<p><b>Questions &amp; Answers</b></p> <p>Subcommittee Members</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amazon and Walmart are doing free grocery delivery for Cal Fresh EBT recipients.</li> <li>• Los Angeles County Library has a new app for a Digital Library.</li> <li>• Recommendation: Watch a movie on Netflix called “Crip Camp”. It is about disability advocacy.</li> <li>• People are more isolative at this time, and therefore, there is a higher demand for services. Five Acres has the capacity to service more clients, but need more referrals.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Announcements – Subcommittee Members</b></p>	<p>Proposal by Hector Ramirez:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access for All subcommittee needs to create a Domestic Violence Taskforce, that can make recommendations to the departments of Los Angeles County for people with disabilities who need help.</li> <li>• Hector will draft a proposal and the subcommittee will review it at the next meeting.</li> <li>• Subcommittee will work on the criteria for the proposal: What are the success indicators for this endeavor? What is the timeline to evaluate it?</li> <li>• Sandra Chang and the Cultural Competency Committee would like to collaborate and follow State Federal Mandates that apply. She will be drafting a proposal for procedures with the department.</li> </ul>
	<p>Meeting Adjourned - 12:00 P.M.</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>June 10, 2020 from 10:00am – 12:00pm MS Teams and Conference call meeting.</p>