

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

Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes

June 10, 2020

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Skype and Conference Call Meeting

Attendees: Roque Bucton, Ary Nassiri, Cody Hanable, Amy Kay, Alex Reynoso

DMH:

Interpreter: Rosario Ribleza, Kelly Wilkerson, Sandra Chang, Alex Elliot
Mark Robinson and Martha Villar

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome/ Introductions - Subcommittee Members	Attendee introductions: Each attendee (On Skype and on the phone) introduced himself/herself, and shared a word that connects with the disabled community.
Meeting Norms - Roque Bucton	Roque briefly reminded the attendees of the following protocols: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be mindful and respectful of others.• Please put your phone on mute, and unmute when you need to talk.• Please ask to be added to the “que” if you want to give input or have a comment.• The Code of Conduct is reviewed at every meeting as a reminder.
Code of Conduct Review - Roque	The Code of Conduct was briefly reviewed, and everyone is required to abide.
Review of Meeting Minutes - Subcommittee Members	Not Available

Re-Exploring Access for All Mission: Planning for the Future

Subcommittee Members

- ❖ **Roque Bucton**– Disparity could be different and bigger in terms of services for underserved communities at this time. UsCC Access for All is experiencing challenges because the subcommittee is not fully activated:
 - Projects are on pause.
 - No face to face meeting that limits dialogue about the services needed during this critical time.
 - There is a need to unify advocacy to increase services, and to find out who the decision makers are: Board of Supervisors? Or DMH?
 - Request for networking capacity among other UsCC subcommittees.

- ❖ **Ari Nassiri** – It is important to look at the issues of defunding Police Department and other service providers like emergency responders, social workers, etc. They need to be provided with adequate training and be truly available to serve especially during this COVID 19 pandemic.

Budget Assessment: Where are We Now?

- **Subcommittee Members**

Amy Kay – “There is no issue in receiving mental health services, but we don’t see an increase of referrals at Five Acres at this time. We need to figure out how to spread the word to the community. Advocacy needs to increase.”

Rosario Ribleza requested Amy to e-mail her the flyers for dissemination.

Roque Bucton– DMH has to simplify the accessibility/link to information.

Alex Reynoso – suggested the use of social media. He inquired about the status of PSA project.

Rosario Ribleza- Special Request (SR) has already been submitted for PSA project, and a quote was obtained from CBS (Channels 2 & 9), however the project was put on hold due to COVID 19 pandemic.

Roque – Advocate for In-Home Supportive Services: Budget must be apportioned in a more effective way, but how will DMH approach it?

- Clients – less services, because less hours/budget are allotted to serve them
- Providers – cut their hours or being eliminated
- Lack of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

A letter for Tom Insel, the head of Mental Health Services in California State level was already finished, but needs revision due to conditions changed.

<p>UsCC Subcommittee Webpage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Subcommittee Members A. Accessibility B. Addition of Co-Chair’s Name in DMH Website <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion on Other Issues 	<p>Roque suggested the following to include in DMH website posting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co-chair’s names of each UsCC subcommittee – community members are more comfortable talking with co-chairs. DMH staff are busy most of the time, so co-chairs are easier to reach. • Project updates and available trainings • Available services • ASL video to increase awareness in the deaf community (suggested by Alex Reynoso) <p style="text-align: center;">Responsibility and Accountability Discussion</p> <p>Amy Kay – Police Officers need adequate training to respond to complicated situations especially when people with mental illness are involved. Provide translators when needed.</p> <p>Roque Bucton -The solution is not to defund the Police Department, but to create an effective team of law enforcement and mental health providers, skilled to identify and deescalate person’s situation. The question is, “who or what department has the accountability to do the job?”</p>
<p>DMH Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Sandra Chang 	<p>Dr. Chang reported:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. DMH staff are deployed to different projects. Clinicians provide mental health support to the community where help is needed, using 13 threshold languages. 2. DMH reached out to different faith-based communities who are suffering from depression, anxiety, trauma, domestic violence, etc. DMH staff target multi-racial/multi-ethnic groups of different ages including people with physical disabilities, and provide services to them. 3. DMH Speaker’s Bureau was just implemented. 4. Headspace App – is available to all Los Angeles County residents for free. It provides relaxation, exercises, and reflections. <p>Roque Bucton raised the questions on the status of leadership meetings, advocacy, and re-assessment of budget and funding, and to whom those issues must be addressed.</p> <p>Dr. Chang stated that Pinki Mehta is the contact person. Pinky is currently working on the issues mentioned.</p>

<p>Announcement</p> <p>- Subcommittee Members</p>	<p>1. Rosario Ribleza announced that effective July, DMH will be using Microsoft Teams Meeting.</p> <p>Ary Nassiri suggested that it will be useful if there is a live document.</p> <p>Alex Elliot assured that Microsoft Teams provides closed captioning, and a person can go over it again after the meeting.</p> <p>2. Amy Kay & Cody Hanable</p> <p>They provided invitation for COVID-19'S "PERFECT DANGEROUS STORM" - in American Sign Language (ASL) - to be presented by Jayne Kim June 18, 2020 at 3:00-4:00 P.M.</p>
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>12:00 P.M.</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>July 8, 2020 - 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.</p>