

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

**Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes**

August 12, 2020

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Microsoft Teams and Conference Call Meeting

**Attendees:** Roque Bucton, Erik Escareno, Wendi Cabil, Junko Nagamatsu, Amy Kay, Hector Ramirez, Alex Reynoso, Sunnie Whipple, Bernice Mascher, Sylvia Youngblood, Jessica Gholsen, and Pam Inaba

**DMH:** Rosario Ribleza, Dr. Sandra Chang and Connie Acosta Castaneda Alex Elliot, and Pinki Mehta

**Interpreter:** Scott Barlow and Courtney

<b>Agenda Items</b>	<b>Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions</b>
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions - Subcommittee Members</b>	Attendee introductions: Each attendee (On Microsoft Teams and on the phone) introduced himself/herself, and were asked to describe themselves and their surroundings
<b>Meeting Norms – Co-Chairs</b>	Sylvia Youngblood read the Meeting Norms to the subcommittee.
<b>Review of Membership Code of Conduct – Co-Chairs</b>	The subcommittee read and reviewed the Membership Code of Conduct.
<b>Meeting Minutes 6/10/20 and 7/8/20</b> Co-Chairs and Subcommittee	June, 2020 minutes have been reviewed and approved by Amy Kay and seconded by Alex Elliott. July, 2020 minutes have been reviewed and approved by Amy Kay and seconded by Junko Nagamatsu.
<b>General Updates:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Capacity Building Projects – 2018/2019</b></li> <li>• DMH proposed Wayfinder to make 40 presentations and 10 for peer mentors (Total:50; originally 50-70).</li> <li>• Wayfinder would like less presentations due to time constraint.</li> <li>• The project will start in August, and will be completed by December 2020.</li> <li>• Clinical Training will have four (4) presentations instead of eight (8).</li> <li>• Presentations will be held virtually and the survey will be emailed.</li> </ul> <p><b>Capacity Building Projects – 2019/2020</b></p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mental Health Assessment needs for the Blind</li> <li>2. Mental Health Assessment Needs for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing</li> <li>3. Mental Health Assessment Needs for the Physically Disabled Community</li> <li>4. Media Marketing Campaign</li> </ol> <p>Due to COVID-19 the projects are on hold.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Special Requests have been submitted for all four projects.</li> <li>• Revisions of Statements of Work for all projects need to be completed.</li> <li>• The Media Marketing Campaign is on hold. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rosario Ribleza reached out to K-Cal 9 and CBS television stations for quote</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Disability Peers Training (Peer Mentor Program) Disability Resource Center</b>  Roque Bucton shared with the subcommittee a course he is taking.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DMH funded project called, “Peer Specialist Training Course” at the Disabilities Community Resource Center.</li> <li>• Roque stated there is a lot of disability resource knowledge; it is great for networking and advocating for the Access for All subcommittee.</li> <li>• The next class will be in the middle of September and held on ZOOM.</li> </ul> <p>Update on UsCC Funding: All UsCC subcommittees will continue to receive the annual allocation that is provided every fiscal year, in the amount of Two Hundred Thousand dollars (\$200,000.00).</p>
<p><b>Ongoing Discussions Related to COVID-19</b>  Co-Chairs &amp; Subcommittee</p>	<p><b>A. People’s Wellbeing: Mental Health – Open discussion</b>  The subcommittee shared some COVID-19 related challenges they are having and the services that have been beneficial for them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alex Elliott: Every Sunday in the Month of August, Crip Camp is having a virtual summer camp, with expert speakers from the disabled communities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Angel City Sports is holding their annual event virtually. They are an organization that focuses on adapted athletics and adapted sports.</li> <li>- ASL Video Remote Interpreting - Working with ASL interpretation requires a lot of data because it requires a video feed. It requires more bandwidth than other forms of interpreting. Several things are needed - being in the right space with the best reception and internet connectivity; privacy is very important as well.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Jessica Gholson: The Behavioral Health Company she works for is providing telehealth services to their members who are struggling with mental health. Jessica will share information with Rosario to forward via email to the subcommittee.</li> <li>• Erik Escareno: There are challenges on how to make technology more accessible for the Blind, Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Not everyone has all the technology capabilities.</li> <li>• Hector Ramirez: He shared his unpleasant experience with his Psychiatrist via</li> </ul>

	<p>Telehealth. Due to lack of accessibilities, he recommends trainings for the front line staff and Clinicians.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Junko Nagamatsu: Sometimes there are difficulties via telehealth for Deaf clients to have their interpreter on the call with them.</li> <li>• Dr. Sandra Chang informed the subcommittee that the Department is exploring a new technology called VC (Video Capability). Psychiatrists and Clinicians are testing it, and this will be made available soon. The feedback has been positive.</li> <li>• Amy Kay: Suggested for DMH to provide training on how to work with interpreters. It will also benefit clients who have transportation problems. The Access for All subcommittee should support that.</li> <li>• Sunnie Whipple invited the Access for All subcommittee to attend the CCC Leadership meeting this afternoon. They will have speaker from WET (Workforce Education Training) who can answer their questions.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Law Enforcement Agencies: Their Role in Mental Health Issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Law Enforcement do not have training on how to handle a situation that might involve a physically disabled, Blind, Deaf or Hard of Hearing person.</li> <li>• Statistics says that <math>\frac{3}{4}</math> of the people killed by law enforcement are from the disabled community.</li> <li>• A Community Wellness Team needs to be developed.</li> <li>• People with Mental Health Disability issues can be approached by unarmed trained team members who can provide medical assistance if needed.</li> <li>• The team would be composed of a Social Worker and an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).</li> <li>• With proper training, a dispatcher will be able to determine if a call should go to Law Enforcement or the Community Wellness Teams.</li> <li>• Law Enforcement is dealing with something that they are not prepared to be doing.</li> <li>• The number of deaths are rising in the Disabled, Deaf, Hard of Hearing community while in need of help, due to lack of training within Law Enforcement.</li> </ul> <p><b>C. Social Media Platforms: Talking Circle – Web Conferencing &amp; The Healing Circle</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talking Circle – can be done through social platform to help the group figure out the logistics to connect with one another and provide services to the community.</li> <li>• Sunnie Whipple suggested that we have it non-sanctioned by DMH to prevent the democracy aspect of it all.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Policies, Procedures, and By-Laws for Voting Members and Co-Chairs – Rosario R.</b></p>	<p><b>A. Voting Members Composition &amp; Requirements B. Co-Chair Requirements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Rosario Ribleza read the requirements to the subcommittee.</li> <li>• Eligible voters were announced. Subcommittee members with voting privileges</li> </ul>

	<p>were encouraged to nominate themselves or other members who are eligible to be nominated for Access for All Co-Chair.</p>
<p><b>Nominations for New Co-Chair – Co-Chairs and Subcommittee</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amy Kay nominated Alex Reynoso.</li> <li>• Roque Bucton nominated Erik Escareno.</li> <li>• Sylvia Youngblood nominated Junko Nagamatsu and Erik Escareno.</li> <li>• The nominations process will continue via email for the eligible voters.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mental Health Commission &amp; DMH Updates</b></p>	<p><b>A. Mental Health Commission – Pinki Mehta</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pinki explained to the subcommittee that she is not the Commissioner. She provides administrative support to the Department. She cannot provide any updates on the Commission. However, she can relay the subcommittee’s message or questions to the Commissioner.</li> <li>• August 13, 2020 is the next Executive Meeting. They voted on a new Executive Committee of the Commission. Everyone was invited to attend.</li> <li>• Britney Wiseman is the Chair; Imelda Padilla Faust is the 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair. Kevin E. is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair, Patrick Ogala and Harold Turner are members.</li> <li>• The Commission will go DARK in August and resume in September.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. DMH Updates – Dr. Sandra Chang</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Chang invited the subcommittee to attend today’s 8-12-20 Cultural Competency Committee Meeting at 1:30-3:30 P.M. There will be special presentations: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. “Racism: A Global Pandemic”.</li> <li>2. WET (Workforce Education Training) on Telehealth training. Speakers can answer your questions.</li> </ol> </li> <li>• The County continues to work with different Board Motions with other County Departments related to COVID-19. They continue to provide COVID-19 testing.</li> <li>• August 25, 2020 at 10:00am – 2:00pm- UsCC Leadership meeting via Microsoft TEAMS. Dr. Chang will send the link with all the accommodations for the meeting to Rosario, and she will e-mail it to you.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Announcements – Subcommittee Members</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roque Bucton shared with the group about a new accommodation called Tempero/Time, for people with severe stuttering speech challenges. It really allows people to understand the nature of a disability.</li> <li>• In behalf of the Access for All subcommittee, Roque extended her great gratitude to Sylvia Youngblood, for all her support and dedication as a Co-Chair for the subcommittee for two years. Her 2-year term expires.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Meeting Adjourned</b></p>	<p>12:00 P.M.</p>
<p><b>Next Meeting</b></p>	<p>August 12, 2020 - 10:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M.</p>