

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**Strategic Communications Division**  
**American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**  
 December 2, 2020  
 2:00PM – 4:00PM via Teleconference and Microsoft TEAMS

**Present:** April Skinas, Charlotte Lujan, Genevieve Clavreul, Hector Ramirez, Mark Parra, Monique Smith, Nikki Crow, Shahana Osman, Shannon Rivers, Sohaib Butt, Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood  
**DMH Admin:** Kelly Wilkerson, Sandra Chang, Connie Acosta Castaneda

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome, Prayer &amp; Introductions</b>	Members were asked to introduce themselves.
<b>Meeting Minutes – Review</b>	November 2020 minutes were reviewed and approved by Sylvia Youngblood and seconded by Monique Smith.
<b>Capacity Building Projects – Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kelly Wilkerson shared with the group that she is currently working on the Statements of Work for the three capacity building projects: Wellness Forums, Outreach and Engagement Tool Kit, and Needs Assessment.</li> <li>• The Social Media Campaign will be done internally so that UsCC funding does not have to be utilized.</li> <li>• Conferences are usually held at the California Endowment; they require 12 months in advance to make a reservation. Unfortunately, the Cal Endow is not currently taking any reservations due to COVID-19. Kelly will keep in touch with them and keep the subcommittee posted via email.</li> </ul>
<b>Community Events – Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Mental Health Matters: Culture as a Social Determinant – Sylvia Youngblood</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This event was hosted by CPEN and held on 10/29/20. Sylvia Youngblood and Farrah Ferris were asked to speak and talk about what the AI/AN UsCC does for the community and how DMH is working to meet the needs of the Native American community.</li> <li>• Sylvia shared regarding a term she learned during the event: “Cultural Congruence”, which goes deeper than being culturally competent. It resonates with the issues society is going through, and truly being able to understand and come together.</li> </ul> </li> <li>➤ <b>LA County Native American Wellness Forum – Monique Smith</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monique Smith shared with the group about the Wellness Forum that took place on 11/20/20. There was an attendance of 112 participants. The feedback received was very positive.</li> <li>• The Speakers and the Panel presentations were very powerful and very informative.</li> <li>• It was done in collaboration with United American Indian Involvement and DMH.</li> <li>• Kelly Wilkerson will download the full video presentation to Google drive to share with the subcommittee, the video is approximately three hours long.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>End of Year Check In – Building Connections</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shannon Rivers shared with the group and asked how can the subcommittee pull resources together to make our community stronger and create actions to actually manifest themselves.</li> <li>• There are five areas in Los Angeles that have Native organizations that need to be focused on. We need to think of new and different ways for outreach.</li> <li>• Hector Ramirez shared with the group regarding the conversations they are having at the state level. There are significant challenges to having the proper equipment to participate in these meetings. Reliable internet services and Wi-Fi.</li> <li>• They would like to make sure that the participants have access to the internet, Wi-Fi, and equipment to utilize the services they are given. The County provides reimbursement for participation in events like the AI/AN subcommittee meetings.</li> </ul>
<b>COVID-19 Community Check In</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shannon Rivers shared with the group the importance on wearing a mask especially around the Elderly. When he visits his elderly mother, he makes sure they both are wearing a mask.</li> <li>• There is a concern of more people becoming homeless due to COVID-19. There is also more domestic violence, and mental and physical abuse on children in the home.</li> </ul>
<b>General Announcements / Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food pantry at the United Methodist Church in Koreatown on Saturdays from 7:00am – 12:00pm or until food runs out.</li> <li>• Southern California Indian Center will have a diaper distribution and will be connecting people with food pantries.</li> <li>• May 2021 American Indian Counseling Center (AICC) will be celebrating Mental Health Month via a virtual platform. There will be presentations and ceremonies.</li> <li>• Monique Smith shared with the group there will be a Symposium on December 3, 2020. Sioux Chief Sean Sherman will be presenting. Also there will be a needs assessment on Oral Health, with age range, zip code and tribal affiliation.</li> <li>• Please pass by United American Indian Involvement (UAI) as they will be passing out goodie bags.</li> </ul>
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Charlotte Lujan ended the meeting with Prayer.
<b>Audio Recording</b>	<b>All meeting audio recordings are available on the DMH website:</b> <a href="https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc-meeting-minutes/">https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc-meeting-minutes/</a>
<b>Next Meetings:</b>	<p><b><u>Next Meetings (first Wednesday of the month, all meetings 2-4pm):</u></b>  2/3/21, 3/3/21, 4/7/21, 5/5/21, 6/2/21</p> <p>New login information for 2021: <a href="#">Join Microsoft Teams Meeting</a>; 323-776-6996, Conference ID: 806 867 419#</p>