

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Strategic Communications Division
American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
February 3, 2021
2:00PM – 4:00PM via Teleconference and Microsoft TEAMS

Present: April Skinas, Bernice Mascher, Bridget Garcia Vera, Charlotte Lujan, Farrah Ferris, Hector Ramirez, Mark Parra, Nikki Crow, Robyn Gomez, Shannon Rivers, Sunnie Whipple and Sylvia Youngblood
DMH Admin: Kelly Wilkerson, Dr. Jorge Partida Del Toro, Dr. Sandra Chang and Connie Acosta Castaneda

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome, Prayer & Introductions	Members were asked to introduce themselves.
Meeting Minutes – Review	January 6, 2021 minutes were reviewed and approved by Mark Parra and seconded by Sunnie Whipple.
Capacity Building Projects – Updates – Kelly Wilkerson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly Wilkerson shared with the group regarding the three Capacity Building Projects that are being implemented. • Two out of three have been sent out for solicitation: Needs Assessment and Tool Kit projects. • The Wellness Forum project is pending. ISD is asking for some clarifying information, Kelly will follow up.
UsCC & CCC Newsletter – Introduction & discussion on Information to Include – Dr. Sandra Chang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sandra Chang shared with the group a new project that the CCC has been working on and would like to connect with the UsCCs; a Multicultural Newsletter put together for the community by the community. • There will be a page dedicated for each subcommittee that would like to participate. The goal is to create opportunities to connect cultural expertise to reach the community to bring hope. • The project was approved a week and half ago. They will be forming a workgroup, and will be meeting in a week to plan newsletter content. • The newsletter will be quarterly; it will inform the community of resources available to them. It will also allow us to connect our cultures by sharing childhood upbringing experiences, food recipes, photography and poems. • The subcommittee shared that they are very much interested in participating in the Newsletter. Dr. Chang asked to please leave their contact information in the chat box and she will be connecting with everyone soon. Dr. Chang thanks everyone in advance for their participation.
Mental Health Promoter Expansion Program – Update – Dr. Jorge Partida Del Toro	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Partida Del Toro shared with the group that there are 150 (F) Items (Positions) for the MH Promotores Expansion program. The positions are up to thirty hours a week with some benefits. It gives an entry position into the department. • There have been no applicants for the AI/AN community. The department is looking for qualified candidates to join the MH Promoters Expansion program.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Partida Del Toro will share the MH Promoters Expansion program flyer and link will be on the DMH website. Kelly will email to the group. • The Promotores will also be receiving the COVID-19 vaccine. • All Promotores presentations have been done virtually via Microsoft Teams. In April 2020 there were seven presentations and by October 2020 there have been 590 presentations.
General Announcements/ Resources – DMH Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sylvia Youngblood announced on February 25, 2021 Los Angeles County Commission will be doing a virtual input session on the aging. • This virtual platform will accommodate 500 people to participate and make comments through Zoom. Sylvia asked the subcommittee to please forward the flyer to the community. • On Saturday February 6, 2021 United American Indian Involvement will be hosting a virtual tribal gathering. • Throughout the month there is a calendar of workshops for the American Indian/Alaska Native community. 7-Generations Prevention and Aftercare offers workshops on beading, Parent Café, education, budgeting and finance. • Robyn Gomez shared with the subcommittee some resources in the San Fernando Valley. They are providing food on Tuesday from 1:00pm – 4:00pm. Open to the community. • Pukuu Youth Empowerment Program will be providing youth cultural programming for up to six hours a week and Case Management Services once a week and academic tutoring up to four hours a week. • Robyn Gomez announce that they are looking to hire someone for Pukuu for their new youth leadership program, that they will be rolling out where the youth will be involved in civic engagement. • Kelly will be sending out flyers/resources for these events via email.
Closing Prayer	Charlotte Lujan ended the meeting with Prayer.
Audio Recording	All meeting audio recordings are available on the DMH website: https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc-meeting-minutes/
Next Meetings:	<u>Next Meetings (first Wednesday of the month, all meetings 2-4pm):</u> 3/3/21, 4/7/21, 5/5/21, 6/2/21 New login information for 2021: Join Microsoft Teams Meeting ; 323-776-6996, Conference ID: 806 867 419#