

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

**Access for All UsCC Subcommittee Minutes**

April 14, 2021  
10:00AM – 12:00PM  
Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Attendees:** Alison Freeman, Amy Kay, Amparo Ostojic, An Kou, Aracely Monge, Ari Nassiri, Ashley Flores, Cody Hanable, John Bunyi, Junko Nagamatsu, Maritza Lebron, Martha Neary, Osvaldo Carrizoza, Pamela Inaba, Peggie Reyna, Roque Bucton, Stacy Delgleish, Sylvia Youngblood, Tuyet Dang and Wendy Cabil

**DMH:** Rosario Ribleza, Pinki Mehta, Julio Miranda, Yue Hua Xu, Alex Elliott and Connie Acosta Castaneda, Jenny Nguyen

**Interpreters & Captioner:** Jonathan Gleicher and Jarris Wright. Joann

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions -</b> Subcommittee Members	Attendee introductions: Each attendee (On Microsoft Teams and on the phone) was encouraged to incorporate a description of themselves to be mindful of those attendees with disabilities: individuals with visual impairments who cannot see the computer screen, and those who cannot hear what is happening in the meeting.
<b>Meeting Norms/Review of Code of Conduct – Co-Chair</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cody Hanable reviewed the Code of Conduct and Meeting Norms to the subcommittee.</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Minutes: Review and Approval – Co-Chair &amp; Subcommittee members</b>	<b>March 10, 2021</b> meeting minutes have been reviewed and approved by <b>Amy Kay</b> and seconded by <b>Amparo Ostojic</b> .
<b>General Updates:</b>	<p><b>A. DMH Updates – Pinki Mehta</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MHSA 3-year plan public hearing will be on April 22, 2021.</li> <li>• April 16<sup>th</sup> &amp; 17<sup>th</sup> 2021 - there will be monolingual speaking lessons being held to educate the Spanish speaking community around MHSA</li> </ul>

- May is Mental Health Awareness month.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual “We Rise” will be in May. There will be live pop-up art displays and celebrity performances. This will be a COVID-19 friendly event.
- There is a “We Rise L.A.” website with a calendar of information.
- The Department of Mental Health along with DPH have started vaccinating clients in clinics. There is a home-bound older adult program to assist in bringing in clients into the clinics for vaccinations.

**B. Capacity Building Projects – Rosario Ribleza**

- Rosario provided an update on 3 Capacity Building Projects: 1) Mental Health Assessment for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; 2) Mental Health Assessment for the Blind, Partially Sighted and Visually Impaired; and 3) Mental Health Assessment for the Physically Disabled.
- Vendor has been identified and bid was accepted.

**C. Resources – Alex Elliott**

**COVID 19 – Vaccination Appointments**

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/acd/ncorona2019/vaccine/hcwsignup/>

Residents with disabilities or without computer access can call 833-540-0473 between 8:00 am and 8:30 pm, 7 days a week for help with appointments.

<https://myturn.ca.gov/>

<https://carbonhealth.com/covid-19-vaccines/los-angeles>

JAN - Searchable Online Accommodation Resource - <https://askjan.org/soar.cfm>

JAN's Searchable Online Accommodation Resource (SOAR) system is designed to let users explore various accommodation options for people with disabilities in work and educational settings.

**Assistive Technology for Online Learning – Stanford University**

<https://oe.stanford.edu/students/learning-and-coping-during-covid-19/assistive-technology-online-learning>

**WeCapable: Text to Sign Language (ASL) Converter**

	<p><a href="https://wecapable.com/tools/text-to-sign-language-converter/">https://wecapable.com/tools/text-to-sign-language-converter/</a></p> <p>PsyberGuide  <a href="https://onemindpsyberguide.org/">https://onemindpsyberguide.org/</a>  <a href="http://www.psyber.guide/dropins">www.psyber.guide/dropins</a></p> <p><b>D. Meeting with the Commission on Disabilities – Co-Chairs: Roque and Cody</b></p> <p>Roque Bucton, Amy Kay and Cody Hanable, met with the Commission on Disabilities to seek assistance for the resolution on following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of therapeutic services for adults with hearing impairments.</li> <li>• Lack of ASL clinicians and trained ASL services.</li> <li>• There is a large systemic issue regarding ASL education and learning ASL as part of a career path.</li> <li>• Lack of an ADA coordinator at DMH and at MHSA to address issues directly.</li> </ul> <p>Access For All formed an Ad-hoc committee to draft a letter for Dr. Sherin to communicate the above-mentioned issues and seek for a resolution. The letter was sent to the subcommittee members for their review and recommendations. Subcommittee is advised to contact the co-chairs for any recommendations. The letter will be sent to Dr. Sherin as soon as possible.</p> <p>The co-chairs hope that DMH can become the model for providing services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing within Los Angeles County.</p>
<p><b>Presentation By: The Department of Children and Family Services –</b></p> <p>Araceli Monge &amp; Tuyet Dang</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Araceli Monge and Tuyet Dang informed the group that the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) has devoted a specific unit to serve deaf clients and provide access to ASL interpreters to communicate with the clients.</li> <li>• DCFS identifies Families in need and make sure they are able to provide services to them.</li> <li>• DCFS partnered with 5 Acres and Peace Over Violence but still have limited services available for their clients.</li> <li>• They have challenges within the Spanish speaking families who need Spanish ASL interpretation.</li> <li>• There is a lack of resources for parents to complete court ordered Parenting Education Programs.</li> <li>• The presenters hope to connect with Access for All subcommittee to receive more resources for the Families that are in need now.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Evaluation –</b></p>	<p><b>A. <u>Outreach to Increase Membership</u></b></p>

Subcommittee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roque Bucton shared with the group that the Access for All subcommittee have been making a concerted effort to increase outreach and membership.</li> <li>• Roque Bucton, Cody Hanable, and Rosario Ribleza have been reaching out to each of the Service Area Leadership Teams (SALT) in the eight various regions throughout Los Angeles County, and to all Underserved Cultural Community (UsCC) groups.</li> <li>• They recruited a few new members.</li> </ul> <p><b>B. <u>Peer to Peer Training Outcome (Wayfinder)</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Roque Bucton stated that Wayfinder did the training virtually, and it impacted the way they interact with the community.</li> <li>• Roque suggested that peer mentoring training and development should be done by an actual Peer.</li> <li>• Cody Hanable believed that the 6-hour training for peers was not enough. He recommended more training for peers to prepare them to become more confident trainers.</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion –</b> Subcommittee Members	<p>A. Asian Hate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pam Inaba expressed her frustrations that Asians work hard, but it is very difficult for them to speak out. She encouraged people to be more vocal and expressive, to talk about the issue and come up with a solution, and to unify and support one another.</li> <li>• Roque Bucton shared his experience of being a victim of multiple hate crimes when he was a young boy. He was attacked by Hispanic adult.</li> </ul>
<b>Announcements –</b> Subcommittee Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Cultural Competency Committee will be hosting a panel on the subject of Asian hate on April 14, 2021. Roque and Pam will be speaking in the event.</li> <li>• Amparo Ostojic is a Peer Crisis Counselor for CalHope. Their warm line is (833) 371-4673. This warm line is for anything related to COVID-19 nonclinical crisis. <a href="http://www.Calhope.org">www.Calhope.org</a>.</li> <li>• Rosario Ribleza asked the subcommittee to please send any information that they would like to share, and she will email out to the group.</li> </ul>
<b>Meeting Adjourned</b>	12:00 P.M.
<b>Next Meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next meeting is on May 12, 2021 at 10:00-12:00noon</li> </ul>