

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT UNIT
Latino UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 18, 2022
2:00PM – 4:00PM

Attendees: Aaron Icedo, Belia Lopez, Betty Marín, Betty Mendoza, Bianca Gallegos, Blanca Watson, Britany Flores, Cristina Rojas, Daniel Hallaby, Daniela Hernandez Chong Cuy, David Serrano, Dezmond James Eggers, Gabriela Gonzalez, Gabriela Velasquez, Hector Ramirez, Imelda Padilla-Frausto, Irma Velasquez, Laura Iniguez, Laura Kerr, Leanor Johansen, Lourdes Rabello, Maria Arauco, Maritza Lebron, Martin Almanza, Mercedes Moreno, Oscar Alvarez, Patricia Veliz-Macal, Ruth Wen

Dr. Luis Guzman, Pinki Mehta

DMH Staff:

Angelica, Alex & Lucy Ferraez Rivero

Interpreters:

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome & Introductions – Subcommittee Members	A. Housekeeping, Attendance Each attendee (On Microsoft TEAMS and on phone) introduce themselves
Review of Meeting Minutes	A. Motion to approve by Patricia Veliz-Macal and Second by Irma Velasquez
Community Check-in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community reported feeling physically and emotionally more prepared than at the beginning of the pandemic even though COVID-19 continues to disproportionately impact the Latino community • Continued source of stress that Latino community is at higher risk if one family has member becomes infected so does the entire family. • Stressful and challenging for Spanish-speaking community to know what testing and vaccinations sites are legitimate and which ones are not • Misinformation and lack of information has caused confusion in parents regarding COVID-19 and infection rates, so parents are often reluctant to send kids to school • Even when community has access to psychiatry/medication services to help with

	<p>their mental health issues, little information is provided by Psychiatrists, particularly Spanish-speaking patients regarding psychiatric medication and treatment for COVID-19 (including “long-haulers”)</p>
<p>Latino Data Collection</p>	<p>A. Current Data Collection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Guzman shared current clinical intake document used by DMH and contracted MH clinics, specifically focusing on current data collection specific to the Latino community • Latin American Indigenous languages are not currently tracked or collected by DMH so current mental health among this population is unknown • Data on Latino community is not currently desegregated by Country of Origin or Language • Currently, data is only collected on language preference, ethnicity, and a fill-in category for “Cultural Considerations” • Co-Chair Gabriela shared concerns about DMH putting safeguards in place to make sure protect the collection of sensitive MH demographic data • Additional concern shared that gathering additional information needs to be done carefully because it can carry stigma or touch on highly sensitive issues • Multiple stakeholders shared concern about DMH currently only collected cultural data as one fill-in line title: “Cultural Considerations” and stated that diversity of Latino community is not captured by current data collection practices • Community stakeholder shared need for DMH to provide training for clinical staff to understand clinical terminology may carry different meanings depending on country of origin in Latin America. <p>B. Expanding Data Collection</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation for DMH to be intentional about recruiting bilingual speakers from the Latino community across LA County, especially those who speak an indigenous dialect or language • Addition considerations for data collection include level of education, specifically asking in a culturally sensitive manner to assess literacy ability • Latino UsCC mixed-status families ad-hoc has done work on MH needs of immigrant families in Los Angeles County so consider collecting status in a sensitive manner that will not cause future harm to people sharing of this information
<p>Areas of Priority for 2022</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equitable distribution of resources and services • Making sure that DMH follows up / follows through on recommendation from community stakeholders • Community will continue to have discussion in future meetings
<p>Hollywood 2.0</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Innovation grant from the MHSAs for DMH spend innovation dollars on a project in the Hollywood community • Pilot is taking place in Hollywood is because there was a significant amount of leverage in the Hollywood community, so it has to leverage a lot of our existing programs and resources, in addition to a lot of collaboration with the city community-based organizations, landlords, and building owners • Goal by DMH to expand pilot program to other Supervisorial Districts with community input to tailor Pilot to other culturally diverse communities • Co-Chair Gabriela raised the issue that Latino community was excluded from input process when developing Hollywood 2.0 Pilot project • Housing instability impacts the Latino community different than it does other cultural groups because Latinos are less likely to be living on the streets, therefore the

	<p>Latino community is not often included in funding and resources to address housing instability/homelessness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for spending by DMH to be done in a more equitable fashion
DMH Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None - Meeting Adjourned – 4:00pm
Next Meeting	<p>February 15, 2022, from 2:00 pm – 4:00pm Virtual Venue: Microsoft TEAMS</p>