

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

April 19, 2022
2:00PM – 4:00PM

Attendees: Betty Mendoza, Britany Flores, Carmen Perez, Claudia Razo, Elsy Molina, Eugenia Cervantes, Gabriela Gonzalez, Hector Ramirez, Joseph Sanchez, Juliana Rojas, Julie Matsumoto, Karla Silva, Martha Ortiz, Martin Almanza, Mercedes Moreno, Norma, Ruiz, Patricia Veliz-Macal, Tara Omrani, Veronica Monge, Vilma Dieguez, Yanira, Yolanda Becerra-Jones

Dr. Luis Guzman

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. Tabled
Discussion of Clinical Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community member voiced concern that not enough services and mental health programs are being offered to Latino children and youth • Suggestion to provide social engagement through arts for youth at-risk of developing Severe Mental illness • Important that DMH help youth graduating from high school be aware and able to access mental health resources as the continue to recover from mental health issues; this includes providing parents with psychoeducation and linkage to resources and services • Severe shortage of bilingual and bicultural psychiatrists to serve the Latino community

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Latino parents continue to face major challenges and hardships with their adult children with SMI, especially Schizophrenia, because many times their adult children live with them but will not consent to medication or mental health services • Virtual appointments continue to be a barrier for many in the Latino community, particularly those who are monolingual Spanish-speaking • Community voiced concerns again that DMH annual budget, as presented, does not reflect the needs of the Latino community and requests that budget is not approved as currently presented • Motion called for DMH to work with Latino community in the coming months and put together a budget for next fiscal year (FY) that represents and accounts for the needs and challenges the Latino community has shared about in the last year. • Community members shared frustration and anger at DMH not complying with MHSA law of incorporating community stakeholder input into budget for yet another year despite the Latino UsCC and Latino stakeholders requesting this every single year • Previous DMH Director was not responsive to ongoing and diverse needs of Latino community and things have not improved with current Director
<p>Creating Taskforce/Ad-hoc groups</p>	<p>A. Workforce</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Severe and Chronic shortage of bilingual and bicultural Latino mental health professions ii. Suggestion to create a taskforce to look at issue, identify solutions, and work with DMH to improve recruitment and retention <p>B. MHSA Priority List - Tabled</p>

	<p>C. Youth/Young Adults</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Largest number of youth currently incarcerated in Los Angeles County are Latino youth ii. Latino youth mental health needs have increased dramatically since the start of the pandemic
<p>DMH/Community Announcements:</p>	<p>A. Co-Chair Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. To be eligible to become a co-chair, community member has to participate in at least 51% of the Latino UsCC meetings in past 9 months ii. Only one nominee: Betty Mendoza who was previous co-chair for Mixed-status/Undocumented ad-hoc subcommittee iii. Betty provided brief introductions and reason for wanting to be new co-chair to replace Bianca Gallegos who finished her two (2) year term in February iv. Britney Flores was nominated as Latino Youth Co-chair representing the mental health interests and needs of Latino youth <p>B. DMH Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Patricia Veliz-Macal shared about upcoming workshops in Spanish for Latino older adults starting with workshops in the San Fernando Valley (Service Area 2) ii. All workshops will be free of charge and open to adults 65+
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>May 24, 2022, from 2:00 pm – 4:00pm Virtual Venue: Microsoft TEAMS</p>