

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
ADMINISTRATIVE OPERATIONS
Latino UsCC SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 17, 2022
2:00PM – 4:00PM

Attendees: Alexis Godinez, Betty Mendoza, Bianca Gallegos, Carmen Perez, Clemencia, Deborah Villanueva, Elsy Molina, Eric Hernandez, Eugenia Cervantes, Felipe Ocampo Jr, Gabriela Gonzalez, Gabriela Velasquez, Genesis Samuell, Hector Ramirez, Ismael Maldonado, Jennifer Hernandez, Josof Sanchez, Karla Silva, Leticia Perez, Lindsay Hovermale, Maria Arauco, Maria Leyva, Maria Tamayo, Maria Zamaro, Maritza Lebron, Martin Almanza, Norma Ruiz, Paco Retana, Patricia Pascua, Patricia Veliz Macal, Rosario Moreno, Silvia Ramirez, Suyapa Umanzor, Veronica Monge, Yolanda Becerra-Jones, Yue Hua Xu

Dr. Luis Guzman

DMH Staff:

Claudia & Lucy Ferraez Rivero / JoAnn

**Interpreters /
CART:**

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome & Introductions – Subcommittee Members	A. Housekeeping, Attendance Each attendee (On Microsoft TEAMS and on phone) introduced themselves
Review of Meeting Minutes	A. Motioned made by Irma Velasquez and Seconded by Maria Arauco
Mental Health Service Act (MHSA) Timeline/Updates	A. Overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Dr. Guzman shared brief history of MHSA timeline which was passed in 2004 as Prop. 63 ii. MHSA mandates that community/stakeholders be involved in the annual budget revision and three-year plan iii. Timeline of key dates regarding MHSA stakeholder involvement and budget approval were reviewed. See attached below. iv. Dr. Guzman explained the connection between monthly UsCC meetings and MHSA stakeholder process as well as annual budget

- v. Key items/concerns identified by the Latino community were discussed and next steps were identified to ensure that Latino mental health priorities were addressed by LACDMH
- vi. Betty Mendoza shared about DMH MHPA Stakeholder process changes including the 3-day retreat by UsCC and SALT co-chairs
- vii. Latino community only had 3-4 people out of nearly 60 co-chairs representing the Latino mental health interests
- viii. Ways for community organizations to submit funding proposals as part of MHPA for funding through the annual budget process

B. Opportunities for Advocacy

- i. Overview of LACDMH MHPA stakeholder/community engagement process was provided including key dates for engagement
- ii. Community can provide input (questions, concerns, comments) during Stakeholder engagement period between January – March of every year, including during the 30-day public comment period
- iii. Stakeholders/Community can also provide input when MHPA annual budget or 3-year budget is being considered by the Mental Health Commission:
MHPCommission@dmh.lacounty.gov or [Monthly Virtual Meeting](#)
- iv. Finally, Community Stakeholders can provide direct input on MHPA annual or 3-year LACDMH budget to the Board of Supervisors at:
<http://bos.lacounty.gov/>

C. Discussion

- i. Community shared concerns that funding for services and resources are not being distributed equitably based on documented need with the Latino community disadvantaged

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Spanish-speaking community continues to be excluded from MHSA stakeholder process as materials and information are not provided in Spanish or are provided last minute or after the fact despite repeated community requests iii. Community members shared concern that DMH does not follow-up or follow-through and that they are wasting their time in providing feedback every month and engaging with DMH iv. Comments by community members indicated many in the Latino community wonder if the Latino community is important to DMH Director Dr. Wong and executive leadership since they do not have time nor put in much effort to address key mental health issues impacting Latino community v. Community shared frustration and anger at lack of responsiveness by DMH towards Latino community as reflected in the annual budgets and requested that letter from Latino UsCC go to BOS
<p>Capacity Building Projects 2023-2024</p>	<p>A. Overview/Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Agenda item tabled; motion by co-chairs for community debrief ii. Motion adopted by unanimous voice vote
<p>DMH/Community Announcements:</p>	<p>Items Not on the Agenda</p> <p>A. DMH Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. None at this time <p>B. Community Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. None at this time
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>February 21, 2023, from 2:00 pm – 4:00pm Virtual Venue: Microsoft TEAMS</p>