

# MINUTES

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  
Service Area 3 – SALT Monthly Meeting

**Facilitation: SALT 3 Co-Chairs LaVon Robinson and Sophia Rodriguez**

**January 12, 2023, | 2:00pm – 4:00pm**

## Introduction / Welcome

**Call to Order/Introductions - Co-Chairs: LaVon Robinson and Sophia Rodriguez**

**Attendees:**

Aisha Byrd	Isabel Rubio	Melissa Martinez (Guest)	Ruby Nieto Padilla (Guest)
Ana Ventura (Qualified)	Jaime Renteria	Michael Zelman	Ruth L Padilla-king
Ariana Garibay	Jennifer Jiries	Michelle Majors	Shawn Kim
Brent Popham (Guest)	Kristin Gray	Minerva Gomez	Sheila Wu
Carmen Celis (Guest)	Laura Jurado	Norris R Dorsey	Sophia Rodriguez (Guest)
Cristal Divas	LaVon Robinson (Guest)	Osbee Sangster (Guest)	Stan Rushing
Crystal Maldonado	Lorena Contreras	Pamela Inaba (Guest)	Steve Mouton
Edwin Flores	Losha Spanish Interpreter	Rosalba Trias-Ruiz	Tania Flores
Evelyn Lemus	Maria Moreno (CLESGV)	Rosario Ramos	Wing Ng
Garbis Sahatjian	Marinis Jonson	Ruby Gonzalez	Vicki Xu

- Sheila Wu: Asian Pacific Counseling and Treatment Centers now has an office in West Covina, in addition to the Alhambra office.
- Wing Ng: Share Recovery Retreat at Murray Park – program is free to stay for two weeks for men, two weeks of women for two weeks. It's free Tuesday for two weeks and up to be able to host up to eight people at a time.

### **Reported by Service Area 3 Chief, Dr. Michelle Majors:**

- Ariana joins Peer Resource Center at Arcadia Mental Health
- New building/location for Peer Resource Center target completion in June this year.
- Dr. Lisa Wong still the Interim Chief. An update will be given as soon as the Board decides on who the permanent Director of Department of Mental Health will be.

### **Health Neighborhood Updates, Evelyn Lemus:**

- El Monte Health Neighborhood meets virtually every 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month, 1:00 – 2:30.
- East San Gabriel Valley Health Neighborhood virtually meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 10:30 – 12.
- Information will be put in the chat, for those who are interested to join these virtual meetings.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual San Gabriel Valley Health Neighborhood Holiday Fair and Giveaway on December 15, 2022 - partnered with the African-American infant maternal mortality work Group LA Care and also the black mental health task force. The holiday fair held in Pomona, was open to all community, and was pretty well-attended. L.A Care was able to get a lot of donation sense from God's Pantry toys. So, every child, every kid that walked into the event was able to walk away with a toy. There were tamales, tacos, carolers singing.
- December 19, 2022 – Volunteers from health neighborhood, different organizations delivered the items to about 140 nominated families who were not able to pickup the items on the 15<sup>th</sup>. The families were really, really grateful.
- Santa Clause was at the Holiday Fair, and kids and families were able to take pictures with Santa.
- There was also an Ugly Sweater Contest at the Holiday Fair, and raffles.
- San Gabriel Valley Health Neighborhood hopes to continue this tradition and will everybody know once the planning for the next annual event starts.
- Exploring the idea of Maternal Mental Health Conference
- February 22, 2023 – webinar on helping people with Crisis Line response, helping people with personality disorders, and it's geared towards Faith leaders. A flyer is being done.

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## Reading and Approval of the Minutes

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### Read and approved minutes:

#### October Minutes

- Cristal's last name corrected to D-I-V-A-S.
- William Legere's name was added.

#### November Minutes

- William Legere's name was added.
- Marinis' name corrected to M-A-R-I-N-I-S.
- Cristal's last name corrected to D-I-V-A-S.
- Carmen's last name corrected to C-E-L-I-S.
- Pamela's name corrected.
- Both minutes approved by Carmen, seconded by Steve Mouton

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## Committee Reports(s)

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### **Update on 2023 events**

- Sophia Rodriguez: Conference in February is postponed until February 2024, due to COVID-19 surge, and uncertainty with planning and moving forward. Currently collaborating with Baldwin Park for the Mental Health awareness event that will be held in May this year.
- Lavonn Robinson: Juneteenth event – will tap into the community to present at one of the SALT meetings, perhaps on June 2, on what Juneteenth is about, for those who don't know, give some background history. Suggestions (i.e. presenters in mind/referrals) may be emailed to Lavonn or Sophia

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## Your DMH Charter Review

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- Vision, Mission, and Purpose of yourDMH – a community-driven collaboration, where everyone has a voice to share, and communicate with DMH. The values that are highlighted are collaboration, dedication, transparency, communication, integrity, respect, accountability, and quality and excellence.
- yourDMH charter to be revised on an annual basis – it will be reviewed to make sure it is still in alignment with the goals. Membership composition - the groups will vary but at a minimum, it is preferred that there are both adults and seniors, those with

severe mental illness, families of children, adults, and seniors with severe mental illness, mental health providers, non-managerial staff, social services providers, those working directly with the clients, substance abuse service providers, veterans as well as veteran advocacy organizations, law enforcement educational organizations as well as grassroots organizations that advocate for the interest of communities of color immigrants, racial and health equity, cultural inclusion, disability rights, and the LGBTQ+ communities

- your DMH service area group should have at least 25% of their regular voting membership consists of the following: mental health advocacy organizations, homeless advocacy organizations, health equity advocacy organizations, academic institutions, neighborhood council representatives, faith-based organizations, local members of the your DMH cultural community groups, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Probation, immigration advocates kiss the organizations and grassroots community-based organizations, as well.
- Each service area can elect to establish a membership committee who oversees and reviews the approval of service area memberships.
- Membership eligibility -- everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend and participate in all meetings
- Voting membership terms and some voting items which include decisions to officially support or modify specific stakeholder priorities, decisions to bring certain topic issues to the next quarterly your DMH full meeting, decisions on how to spend the service area budget, decisions to form an ad-hoc group, decisions to remove voting members for non-compliance with attendance requirements or for, reasons other than non-compliance, decisions to re-elect or elect, decisions, to remove current leader or decisions to approve changes to the group's charter.
- DMH will provide each service area with an annual -- annual budget with the goals as stated, which is secure access to adequate space for regular convening, efforts to recruit representative memberships, and then efforts aimed at strengthening the Mental Health Community in the service area, including efforts to reduce mental health stigma, promote early awareness of mental illness, reduce the risk of suicide, and as other indicated and approved.
- The cultural committee's leadership committees and its subcommittees include but are not limited to African-American, um, subcommittee, the American Indian Alaskan native subcommittee, the Asian Pacific Islander subcommittee, Eastern European Middle Eastern subcommittee, the deaf, hard of hearing, blind physical disability subcommittee, the Latino subcommittee, the lesbian, gay bisexual, transgender, queer questioning intersex and two-spirit subcommittee, as well as the cultural competency advisory subcommittee, and the client coalition subcommittee.
- Discussed Membership Code of Conduct. The purpose of this code of conduct is to conduct meetings in accordance with the County of Los Angeles applicable rules and regulations with the highest standard of ethics and values. This code of conduct is to promote a safe and welcoming community engagement environment. The matter covered in this code of conduct are the utmost importance of to the department's goal of ensuring each Community member is treated with respect and dignity.
- Accountability. Co-chairs, voting members, and members of the general public must adhere to the membership code of conduct. If co-chair, voting members, or members of the general public violate the membership code of conduct, the DMH administrator or the co-chairs have the right to ask that person to leave. Co-chairs may be removed with prejudice from their position with two-thirds,

67% majority vote from the voting members for violating the membership code of conduct. Co-chairs and other official members are expected to remain unbiased in their recommendation and decision-making.

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## Presentations

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### **Easterseals' Systematic Therapeutic Assessment Resource Treatment (START) Crisis Prevention and Intervention Program- Rosario Ramos, M.A., M.S., BCBA and Dr. Rick Gutierrez**

- Presenter, Dr. Rick Gutierrez
- Easter Seals Southern California's vision and impact plan is to create, by 2030, Southern California as the most inclusive place with, for people with disabilities to live, learn, work, and play, and we really want to apply that to individuals that are experiencing crisis as well.
- Easter Seal Autism Therapy Services service line operates and serves about 11,000 participants annually through a partnership with Kaiser Permanente. So generally, a Kaiser member with autism typically gets referred to Easter Seals for Behavioral, physical speech, and occupational therapy.
- In December 2022, start services with East LA were launched, in partnership with Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center. People served have to be referred by the East Regional Center. Crisis line is operating from 7 A.M till 11 PM, seven days a week, including holidays. And in the next few months, will be moving to 24/7 for that crisis line.
- Philosophy is adopted from a positive psychology, and follows PERM model
- In partnership with LA Sheriff to start to create and support the capacity of the Eastern Los Angeles community.
- Not serving anyone under the age of six, unless with developmental disability, and individual must be willing to receive the services.

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## Unfinished Business and General Orders

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- N/A

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## Public Comments

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- Sophia Rodriguez: A quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, "If you can't fly, then run. If you can't run, then walk. And if you can't walk, then crawl. But whatever you do -- whatever you do to have to keep moving forward."
- Pamela Inaba: In the future, to put more emphasis on Native Americans, Hawaiian natives - to recognize this community, especially in terms of labor and land acknowledgments. Same is true with the Asian community/Pacific Islander population.

- Aisha Byrd: Service Area 3 Peer Resource Center (PRC) is open to the community. Open house on January 24, 2023. Registration not required. Address: 330 East Live Oak Avenue, Arcadia, CA 91006. Starting January 26, 2023, PRC will be having peer support groups on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. These will be in person, and anyone who wish to join does not need to be a DMH client, nor be enrolled in DMH Services. It is open to the entire Service Area 3 community.

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## Announcements

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- Cristal Divas: Spirit Family Services out of the South El Monte office has a year-round parenting classes in both English and Spanish domestic violence support groups. There are also mental health services for children and young adults. With Medi CAL, a wraparound program family preservation and community capacity building. Information will be provided for those who are interested.
- The black Los Angeles County client Coalition literacy project has launched in providing technology to communities in Los Angeles County needed stakeholders -- needy stakeholders. Giveaway Chromebook computers to help provide access to digital inclusion that includes a full year of I.T support and a full-year warranty, and our replacement. In addition, we can help apply for low-cost internet through affordability connectivity program, ACP, along with Blacks H.P. Chromebook intake interview giveaway enrollment to determine if you're a L.A County stakeholder eligible for the ACP connectivity program.

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## Adjournment - Meeting adjourn at 3:59pm – Next meeting, February 9, 2023 from 2pm-4pm.

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Microsoft Teams meeting  
**Join on your computer or mobile app**  
[Click here to join the meeting](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**  
1 323-776-6996, 156219976#  
Phone Conference ID: 156 219 976#

**SPANISH LINE:**  
**888-204-5987**  
Access Code 9639884#

**SALT 3 CART LINK:**  
<https://www.streamtext.net/player?event=SALT-3>