

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

**Access for All UsCC Minutes**

March 8, 2023

10:00AM – 12:00PM

Microsoft Teams Meeting

**Attendees:** Mary Barraza, Wendy Blanco, Robert Byrd, Wendy Cabil, Stacey Dalgleish, Carmen Diaz, Alex Elliott, Erik Escareno, Alison Freeman, Jo Ann Freeman, Sidra Gifford, Blanca Gonzales, Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood, Cody Hanable, Melissa Hernandez, Pam Inaba, Dalia Jimenez, Martin Jones, Angy K., Amy Kay, Laura Kerr, Ann Kou, Martha N., Becky Nguyen, Jenny Nguyen, Salatiel Pineda, Hector Ramirez, Peggie Reyna, Rosy Tellez, Vienna To, Gabriela Velazquez, Irma Velasquez, Elaine Waldman, and Kelly Wilkerson

**Interpreters:** Kayelle Morgan and Sophia Aguierre  
**Captioner:** Joann

<b>Agenda Items</b>	<b>Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions</b>
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	Participants were welcomed. The meeting honored Disability Awareness Month.
<b>Meeting Norms/Review of Code of Conduct</b>	Hector Ramirez facilitated the review of the Code of Conduct and Meeting Norms.
<b>Welcoming Mary Barraza and Robert Byrd</b>	Mary Barraza, LCSW, introduced herself to the group; she is the new Senior Deputy Director responsible for prevention and child wellbeing at DMH. Mary introduced Robert Byrd, PsyD, who leads prevention services at DMH, and explained that the UsCCs, Anti-

	<p>Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion program, and the Mental Health Promoters will be incorporated into the Prevention Division at DMH.</p> <p>Dr. Byrd highlighted the importance of equity and inclusion, and shared that he is passionate about working with people with disabilities. He shared that he interned at Camarillo State Hospital and Developmental Center, learned ASL, worked for St. Johns Child and Family Development Center with deaf and hard of hearing clients and community members.</p> <p>Mary shared that DMH is hiring a Program Manager III who will report to Dr. Byrd and oversee the UsCCs, ARDI, and the United Mental Health Promoters.</p>
<p><b>Meeting Minutes: Review and Approval</b></p>	<p>Cody noticed a misplaced comma in the minutes, which Elaine will correct. Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood moved to approve the February meeting minutes, and Amy Kay seconded the motion.</p>
<p><b>Community Resources</b></p> <p>Alex Elliott, MSW</p>	<p>Alex Elliott highlighted useful resources. The DMH Access for All UsCC website features the complete listing of his monthly updates, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Benefits Cal: <a href="https://benefitscal.com">https://benefitscal.com</a></li> <li>• Cal Fresh, Cal Works, Medi-Cal, health program, and cash benefits</li> <li>• Annual Disability Statistics Compendium: <a href="https://disabilitycompendium.org">https://disabilitycompendium.org</a></li> <li>• CSUN Assistive Technology Conference Livestream: <a href="https://www.csun.edu/cod/conference/sessions/2023/index.php/public/website-pages/view/63">https://www.csun.edu/cod/conference/sessions/2023/index.php/public/website-pages/view/63</a></li> <li>• Abilities Expo: <a href="https://www.abilities.com/losangeles/">https://www.abilities.com/losangeles/</a></li> <li>• Utilities Bills/Assistance</li> <li>• Live Transcript for Android: <a href="https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/answer/9158064?hl=en">https://support.google.com/accessibility/android/answer/9158064?hl=en</a></li> <li>• Live Captions on iPhone: <a href="https://support.apple.com/guide/iphone/live-captions-beta-iphe0990f7bb/ios">https://support.apple.com/guide/iphone/live-captions-beta-iphe0990f7bb/ios</a></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Live Captions on Microsoft Windows 11: <a href="https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/use-live-captions-to-better-understand-audio-b52da59c-14b8-4031-aeeb-f6a47e6055df#bkmk_turnoncaptions">https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/use-live-captions-to-better-understand-audio-b52da59c-14b8-4031-aeeb-f6a47e6055df#bkmk_turnoncaptions</a></li> </ul>
<b>Honoring Judy Heumann, Disability Rights Activist</b>	Alex noted that the Mother of the Disability Rights Movement, Judy Heumann, died on March 4. Judy was instrumental in organizing for the passage of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the first civil rights protections for people with disabilities in the U.S. Judy will be remembered here and internationally for her lifelong contributions to the movement.
<b>Capacity-Building Project Updates for FY 21-22</b>	<p>Wendy Blanco, Director of Clinical Services for Peace Over Violence, highlighted successes and challenges to date, including partnering with Braille Institute, GLAD, and CSUN, to hold multilingual group skill-building sessions on domestic violence prevention, self-care, and trauma.</p> <p>Melissa Hernandez, Social Worker with Painted Brain, shared the group’s successes and challenges outreaching and engaging individuals in virtual wellbeing support sessions.</p> <p>Mastaneh Mogahdam, founder of Cross-Cultural Expressions, shared her podcast and Youtube successes and challenges to date.</p> <p>Meeting participants asked questions and made recommendations to strengthen the capacity-building efforts, including focusing on outreach and relationship-building with people who are deaf and hard of hearing, are blind and low-vision, and who have physical disabilities.</p>
<b>Graphic Design Guidance by Vienna To</b>	<p>Vienna To, DMH Graphic Artist, presented guidance on formatting DMH-sponsored flyers, so that the Access for All group can create materials to increase community participation in meetings and events. Vienna shared examples of approved flyers and said that this group can create its own materials, and go through Elaine for access to technical assistance and DMH approval.</p> <p>Participants strongly recommended that ASL and CART services information be posted on all DMH flyers and that the color scheme is effective for low-vision audiences.</p>
<b>Next Meeting</b>	The next meeting is on April 12, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM.