

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
LGBTQIA2-S UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 7, 2023, 2-4 pm**

Welcome/Introductions

Present: Ana Bernal, Mikey Fields, Bill Sive, Merry Meyers, Nicole Kristal, Addison Rose Vincent, Cynthia Ruffin, Hector Ramirez, Rex Wilde, Eden Luna, Alex Salazar, Erwin Gutierrez, Merice Cole, Tyrique Wilson, Elisa Fonseca, Mark, Carl Highshaw, Carla Ibarra, Londa Alex, Vicky Xu

DMH Admin: Kelly Wilkerson, Darlesh Horn, Mirtala Parada Ward

Getting To Know You – Merice Cole shared about herself.

July 2023 Meeting Minutes – Meeting minutes approved (first-Cynthia Ruffin, second-Rex Wilde).

Co-Chair Updates

- Co-chairs updated the subcommittee regarding the CalBHBC Training which took place on 8/3 during the regularly scheduled subcommittee meeting specifically for the LGBTQIA2-S UsCC subcommittee. Kelly to send recording to members once available.
- Co-chairs updated the subcommittee regarding the recent MHSA Community Planning Team meetings taking place related to the three-year MHSA plan.
 - Subcommittee to discuss unmet needs and service gaps for the LGBTQIA2-S community as it relates to Prevention/Early Intervention, Community Supports Continuum, Homeless/Housing Services, and Workforce Education and Training at the October meeting. Kelly to send materials out in advance.
 - Visit [MHSA Announcements - Department of Mental Health \(lacounty.gov\)](https://lacounty.gov/mhsa-announcements) for more information.
- Co-chairs updated the subcommittee regarding the monthly UsCC/CCC Leadership meeting, including their continued effort to explore opportunities to collaborate with the different UsCCs on projects or possibly bid on projects.

Black LGBTQ+ Community Engagement Project – Project Presentation (Cynthia Ruffin, Carl Highshaw, AMAAD)

- Cynthia and Carl from The AMAAD Institute shared regarding the Black LGBTQ+ Community Engagement Project.
- The project is wrapping up and the Black LGBTQ+ Community Needs Assessment and Gap Analysis as well as the final summary will be submitted by mid October.
- For more information, contact Cynthia at Cynthia@AMAAD.org.

Trans and Non-Binary Career Fair – Presentation (Carla Ibarra & Eden Luna)

- Carla and Eden presented regarding the upcoming trans and non-binary career fair taking place on 9/13 at LA Trade Tech College.
- For more information, visit [Trans & Non-Binary Career Fair Tickets, Wed, Sep 13, 2023 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trans-non-binary-career-fair-tickets-41711834079) or contact Carla at carla.ibarra@lacity.org.

DMH Updates

- Kelly updated the subcommittee regarding the training recommendations that were gathered from the subcommittee and provided to ARDI administration. This will be an ongoing request for training recommendations. Kelly to send list out to subcommittee via email.
- Dr. Darlesh Horn updated the subcommittee regarding the MHSA process. The
 - Proposal links:
 - Innovation (INN) Proposals link: [Innovation Project Plan Worksheet \(office.com\)](#)
 - Workforce, Training and Education (WET), Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI), Community Services and Supports (CSS), and Capital Facilities and Technological Needs (CFTN) Proposals link: <https://forms.office.com/g/hFe6wc9LA2>
 - If you have questions, contact MHSAAdmin@dmh.lacounty.gov
- Mirtala Parada Ward, ARDI Program Manager, updated the subcommittee regarding the ongoing revision of the UsCC bylaws with the UsCC leadership including co-chairs. The draft of the bylaws will be shared with the membership ASAP and presented at the October meeting. Mirtala also shared that a supervisor had been hired for the UsCC unit and will hopefully be starting soon. Mirtala to keep everyone updated.

Current and Future Capacity Building Projects – Update

- Updates on capacity building projects currently being implemented and status of the upcoming projects.
 - What We Think Project – currently in Phase 4, townhalls being conducted, project will be completed by October 31st.
 - The Panthera Project – cohort meetings completed, survey responses being gathered, will be completed by January 31st.
 - Bi+ Affirming Mentorship and Storytelling Lab – solicitation completed, pending copy of Purchase Order from ISD.
 - Transforming Community Care: API LGBTQ+ Mental Health and Wellness Project – solicitation completed, pending copy of Purchase Order from ISD.
 - Proyecto Mariposa Monarca – solicitation completed, pending copy of Purchase Order from ISD.
 - Two-Spirit Storytelling Project – solicitation completed, pending copy of Purchase Order from ISD.
 - Neurodivergent Voices Album Project – Statement of Work being finalized, reviewed with PIO and County Counsel for feedback.
 - LGBTQIA2-S Violence Prevention Lab Project – SOW finalized, documents will be submitted in PTS next week.
 - Liberation Workshop Series Project – SOW finalized, will be submitted in PTS after signature received from Deputy.
 - LGBTQIA2-S Housing Listening Sessions Project – SOW finalized, documents will be submitted in PTS next week.

General Announcements/Resources

- Send any resources to Kelly via email (KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov) to be sent out to the listserv.

Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 2-4pm): 8/3/23, 9/7/23, 10/5/23, 11/2/23, December TBD, 1/4/24, 2/1/24, 3/7/24, 4/4/24
[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#); 323-776-6996, Conference ID: 542 042 921#
Meeting minutes can be found at <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc-meeting-minutes/>