

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

**Welcome/Introductions**

**Present:** Ana Bernal, Bill Sive, Merry Meyers, Addison Rose Vincent, Cynthia Ruffin, Rex Wilde, Paul Vallejo, Kevin Perez, Shawn Griffin, Alexis Glenn, Mayerling Torres, Elio V., Dejon Smith, Vicky Xu, Claudia Fierro, Keianna Crenshaw, Andrea Aoun

**DMH Admin:** Kelly Wilkerson, Mirtala Parada Ward

**Getting To Know You** – Alexis Glenn shared about herself.

**October 2023 Meeting Minutes** – Meeting minutes approved (first-Bill Sive, second-Cynthia Ruffin).

**Co-Chair Updates**

- Co-chair updated the subcommittee regarding the recent CCC/UsCC Leadership meeting where the recent MHSA amendment bill and the potential changes were discussed again. The leadership group also continues to review and provide feedback on the UsCC governing documents including bylaws and capacity building project guidelines.

**DMH Updates**

- Mirtala provided an update regarding Proposition 1 (MHSA amendment bill) including some of the potential impacts of the bill such as Suicide Prevention services being centralized at the state level and funding being utilized to address unhoused communities.

**Subcommittee Goals for 2024 – Discussion**

- Leadership development for future co-chairs.
- Look at Gender refugees, people leaving other states for California, for example to receive gender affirming care. Are we in a position to help those individuals?
- Recruitment of new members.
- Consider capacity building projects for LGBTQIA2-S youth in foster care.
- Explore in person opportunities to connect with the subcommittee.
- LGBTQIA2-S mental health conference or summit.
- Bring in outside speakers who are not part of our traditional network.
- Look at burnout and self-care.

### **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 – Shawn Griffin (vendor) provided updates to the subcommittee, currently in Phase 4, townhalls being conducted and surveys being gathered, project will be completed by December 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - The Panthera Project – Cynthia Ruffin (vendor) provided updates to the subcommittee, cohort meetings completed, survey responses being gathered, will be completed by January 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Bi+ Affirming Mentorship and Storytelling Lab – beginning second phase including Lab recruitment.
  - Transforming Community Care: API LGBTQ+ Mental Health and Wellness Project – will begin January 1<sup>st</sup>.
  - Proyecto Mariposa Monarca – beginning first phase including flyer/promotional materials creation.
  - Two-Spirit Storytelling Project – beginning second phase including Storyteller recruitment.
  - Neurodivergent Voices Album Project – submitted to Procurement, will be assigned a buyer in ISD.
  - LGBTQIA2-S Violence Prevention Lab Project – solicitation closed, pending update from ISD.
  - LGBTQIA2-S Housing Listening Sessions Project – solicitation closed, pending update from ISD.
  - Liberation Workshop Series Project – submitted to Procurement, Kelly will alert subcommittee when sent out for solicitation.

### **General Announcements/Resources**

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

**Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 2-4pm):** no meeting in December, 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/>