

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES-DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Service Area leadership Team Monthly Meeting
Service Area 1

Gino's Restaurant Banquet Room
44960 Valley Central Way,
Lancaster, CA 93536
April 18, 2024
6:00pm – 8:00pm

[Microsoft Teams Link](#) / [Closed Caption Link](#)
 Email: SALT1@dmh.lacounty.gov

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action Item	Person Responsible	Due Date
Welcome, Land Acknowledgement and Introductions	Monica Olsen called the meeting to order at 6:00. Introductions were made in-person and on-line. James Coomes gave detailed background of land acknowledgement and shared having this incorporated into future meetings on an ongoing basis.	Introductions and land acknowledgements done in real time.	Monica and James	
Review and Approve March 21, 2024 minutes	March 21, 2024, minutes were reviewed and approved with 1 correction.	Corrected in real time.	Natalie Williams	
Close out Previous Topics from minutes	None.	None.		
Presenters: Catherine Chen of Roots Food Group	Katherine Chen shared the specifics of her Roots Food group program to include details of the services/products offered as well as eligibility. Katherine answered attendees' questions in real time after her presentation.	Handouts to be shared with participants both in-person (real time) and online upon receipt from Katherine.	Natalie Williams	

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Report – Outreach and Engagement Activities	None for the month of March.	None.		
Report on Upcoming Month	<p>May is Mental Health Month – May 4th, 2024, at Sgt. Steve Owen Memorial Park:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day starting with a 5k walk at 8am. • Maternal Mental Health giveaway details shared taking place from 9am – 11am. • Overall event festivities details shared from 11am – 2:30pm with various service information anticipated to be provided on the spot. • Samples of real-time services to be provided. • Information given on how vendors can get a table at the event. • Questions and answers about the event. • Check-in and setup details provided. 	Those interested in having a table at the event are still able to register. The link will be sent upon email request.	Natalie Williams	Report on Upcoming Month
Committee Member Reports	<p>Mental Health Commission- Judy Cooperberg:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Announced next commission meeting taking place in person, however she will not be attending in person. A Co-Chair announced that they will only be attending online as well. • Town Hall to hear from the residents in Service Area 8 and how their concerns may be similar to our service area. • June to be Judy’s last commission meeting. 			

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	<p>Underserved Cultural Committee – Wendy Cabil:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meeting took place the 3rd Wednesday of the month.• Discussion of Prop 1 Bill passing• Power Point presentation was shared.• Upon MHSA plan acceptance, 152 projects are going to be accepted and moved forward.• Various USCC events for the public to attend. <p>Co-Chair Report – Jean Harris:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shared details of the new bylaws to be followed upon finalization, including having 2 Co-Chairs instead of 3. Jean announced stepping down as Co-Chair upon new voting in June. Informed the group in they are interested in having this role. <p>DMH Updates – James Coomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Shared Prop 1 to go in affect June 2026. Planning to start next spring.• Shared details of AV Children & Adolescent Mental Health program.• Gave location details of May is Mental Health Month event.• Judy Cooperberg stepping down as Mental Health Commissioner and a replacement will be needed. Transportation to be provided for her last meeting.• Co-Chair voting in June.	<p>Power Point presentation and upcoming events to be distributed to group upon receipt.</p> <p>Those interested in replacing Judy can speak with her for the information. Transportation to be provided.</p>	<p>Natalie Williams</p> <p>Judy Cooperberg</p> <p>James Coomes</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LGBTQ+ USCC countywide group getting an event put together taking place on June 1st lead by La Londa Alex • May is Mental Health Month Culminating on June 1st at the Santa Monica Pier • For the Adult Directly Operated programs, 3 vans will be available to take the clients to participate in the Dodgers Opening night. • New Health Neighborhood Liaison: Gabriela Muniz 	Transportation to be provided.	James Coomes	
Consumer and Family/Supporters Time (Public Comments)	<p>A SALT member stated her agency is looking for parents and children in need of support through the help line. Transportation is a major need for their organization.</p> <p>A SALT member shared his frustration with his health insurance giving him a referral for his mental health treatment that was not a successful process.</p> <p>Another community member stated her frustration with her Kaiser referral not being successful as well.</p> <p>2 SALT members expressed the details of their frustrations with the Work Source center and requested a staff from there be a future presenter. One shared how she has been having positive experiences from community members after initially not wanting to move to the Antelope Valley.</p> <p>Community member spoke on the details of upcoming awareness days for the group to participate in.</p>	Work Source staff to present at a future SALT meeting.	Natalie Williams	

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	<p>A SALT member shared the details of the new Spanish support groups being hosted by N.A.M.I. in person. Flyers are present for those interested to obtain the information. Also, the website was given. English groups are online.</p> <p>Another SALT member shared a 2nd time of the emotional distress her son encountered from not having the right services for him upon their relocation due to eviction. He was in high school at the time and became dysregulated. She asked about a parent support group available for parents who experience this. Another member responded to her and stated that this has been an ongoing issue for lack of resources for children to obtain in-patient mental health services in the Antelope Valley. She also expressed the shortage of staff attributing to this. Another member responded to her stating that she will join her in her NAMI efforts to outreach to the schools.</p> <p>A community member shared her observations of children becoming more withdrawn socially since the pandemic. A SALT member responded to her stating that isolation has been on the rise amongst young people. She continued to state the importance of good customer service by providers.</p> <p>Another SALT member shared his experience of his veteran family member who committed suicide due to the stigma of not reaching out to get mental health services. The previous member responded to him by providing the details of how NAMI reached out to the community to help reduce the stigma of mental illness.</p>	<p>Joint efforts to speak to the schools about mental health.</p> <p>8-8:30, DMH directly operated providers will be available after the meeting to address DMH issues and assist with resources.</p>	<p>Jean Harris and Theresa Melendez</p> <p>Rochelle Montgomery and other DMH staff present</p>	

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	<p>She also treated how people of color are at higher rates of 51/50 due to the stigma.</p> <p>A previous SALT member spoke again on how she engaged a young person in the community in trying to link him to services after he shared his trade school training but is dealing with inability to get employment.</p> <p>A community member shared his frustration of being a clergy member and going through the grief of his recently deceased spouse as well as difficulties with being a support to his special needs son. He expressed his details of now realizing that he needs emotional help for himself.</p>	<p>8-8:30, DMH directly operated providers will be available after the meeting to address DMH issues and assist with resources.</p>	<p>Rochelle Montgomery and other DMH staff present</p>	
<p>New Topics and Presentations</p>	<p>Agency Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monica shared her upcoming event for her agency Live Oak Mental Wellness Project on May 18th. • Attendee shared being the Secretary for “Safe Home Housing” with a mission to build tiny homes for homeless people. They have wellness workshops with one coming up this Saturday. Also having a fundraising ball coming up and a table auction on 10/19/24 at the Embassy Suites Hotel. <p>New Agenda Items/Presentations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Survey to be sent out to the email distribution list. • Budget spending and process shared. i.e. evening meeting to be twice a year and vendors for upcoming May is Mental Health event. 	<p>Those interested to obtain a flyer and reach out to Monica for questions.</p> <p>Call 661-528-8897 for any questions.</p> <p>Survey to be created and distributed.</p>	<p>Monica Olsen and Natalie Williams</p>	

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Closing	Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.			

Attendees: See sign-in sheet