

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Stakeholder Engagement Unit
Black & African Heritage Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC) Subcommittee Meeting
Minutes Thursday, 3/7/2024 - 10 am-12 pm**

WELCOME

Introductions/Check-In

Co-Chairs: Romalis Taylor and Queen Nina Womack.

Attendees: Donnise Vonner, Karina Martinez, Gloria Jones, Sara Hill, Erica Melbourne, Blanca E. Watson, Fireflies.ai Notet, Wendy Cabil, Jae, Hector Ramirez, Jasmine Harris, Jennifer, Joyce Sales, Kimberly Harvey, Nathaniel Washington, Kevin Hatcher, Jamie Walker, Gregory Par, Aleyne Eatman, Adrianna Carrillo, Carolyn Brown, Chell Le TPF, Crystal Clark, MC Harris, Moss Sonita, Sade Richardson, Senait Admassu, Tanisha Grant, Tora Miller, Sir, Pharaoh.

DMH Admin: Mirtala Parada Ward, Darlesh K. Horn, Anna Yaralyan, Jennifer Alquijay.

Approval of Minutes:

- 2/1/2024 Minutes approved: Wendy Cabil,
- Seconded: Queen Nina Womack.
- BAH USCC Subcommittee approved the minutes.

DMH Updates

Mirtala Parada Ward provided Black History Month Event updates:

√Black History Month Event was on Thursday, February 29, 2024, 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM, at SA 6 Peer Resource Center (Behavioral Health Center, MLK Campus), 12021 Wilmington Ave., Building 18, Los Angeles, CA 90059.

- The Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Anti-Racism, Diversity, and Inclusion (ARDI) Division in collaboration with the Black and African Heritage (BAH) UsCC, Cultural Competency Committee, and the Service Area 6 Peer Resource Center held this important in-person event about Black Maternal Health & Well-being.
- There was an expert presentation, poetry, African naming ceremony, singing, prayer, soul food, refreshments, and much more. This event was a success; more than 130 people attended.
- Mirtala thanked BAH & CCC Co-Chairs, Romalis Taylor, Queen Nina Womack & Wendy Cabil as they played a major role in making this event a great success.
- Community members expressed positive feedback and gratitude for this event. They really liked Queen Nina's presentation. They were also thankful of the prayer conducted and enjoyed the singing. " "

○ This month ARDI Division is planning to have a Women's History Month Event, and we must start planning soon for it to be well attended.

- **Women's History Month Tribute** - Queen Nina Womack. She presented & showed a film about Mary Elizabeth Bowser, who was a black undercover agent during the American Civil War. She also presented about world famous Afro-Latina Singer, Celia Cruz.
- **FY 2025 - 2026 Capacity Building Concepts Survey Selection:** Romalis Taylor - Send 13 CBP ideas to BAH Subcommittee members, and top 3 CBP ideas will be selected prior to the next BAH UsCC Subcommittee Meeting.
 - ▽ Outreach/Events, (O & E): BAH UsCC Subcommittee will be planning retreats, & ongoing O & E events to increase subcommittee capacity and come up with ideas/topics for Capacity Building Projects, CBPs.
 - ▽ BAH USCC & ARDI Black History Month Event Planning - Meetings will be held in the month of January & beyond to secure date & time, venue, guest speakers, catering, etc.
 - ▽ Review of Annual Update and opportunity to give input via: MHSA Announcements:
 - ▽
 - ▽ Department of Mental Health (lacounty.gov)
 - ▽ Transitioning to 3-year Plan in the coming months
 - ▽ Input of leadership from the various UsCCs, CCs, and SAACs

Community Engagement (Public Comment):

- Share community engagements via email to BAHUsCC@dnh.lacounty.gov for general distribution
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Community Event Announcements

- Continue discuss on 2-year Retreat

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Minutes Thursday, 4/4/2024 - 10 am - 12 pm**

Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month,
10am-12pm): 4/4/2024

[Click here to join the meeting](#)
323-776-6996, Conference ID: 101 721 830#

