

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  
LGBTQIA2-S UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, March 7, 2024, 2-4 pm**

**Welcome/Introductions**

**Present:** Ana Bernal, Bill Sive, Merry Meyers, Addison Rose Vincent, Cynthia Ruffin, Hector Ramirez, Rex Wilde, Eden Luna, Paul Vallejo, Nicole Kristal, Alex Salazar, Mark Gonzalez, Alexis Glenn, Jennifer Yates, Lourdes Rabello, Hannah (Hazel) Soffa, Brooke Balestreri, Mahtab Javed Siddiqui, Blanca Watson, Vanessa Westwood, Marcos, Jess, Stacy Dalgleish, La Londa Alex, Sharon Chapman, Vicky Xu, Keianna Crenshaw, Cinthia Vargas, Andrea Aoun

**DMH Admin:** Kelly Wilkerson, Jennifer Alquijay

**Getting To Know You** – Cynthia Ruffin shared about herself.

**February 2024 Meeting Minutes** – Meeting minutes approved (first-Nicole Kristal, second-Hannah (Hazel) Soffa).

**Co-Chair Updates**

- This subcommittee is looking for a delegate to participate in the regular MHSA CPT meetings. Anyone interested should email Kelly at [KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov](mailto:KeWilkerson@dmh.lacounty.gov).

**FY 23-24 Capacity Building Projects – Vendor Updates**

- Bi+ Affirming Mentorship Storytelling Lab – Nicole Kristal provided an overview of the project and shared regarding the status: currently wrapping up recruitment and the location for the lab has been confirmed.
- Proyecto Mariposa Monarca – Eden Luna provided an overview of the project and shared regarding the status: currently exploring dates and locations to host the project related events. Once that is secured, flyers will be shared.
- Liberation Workshop Series – Addison Rose Vincent provided an overview of the project and shared regarding the status: recruitment has wrapped up, the series is set to begin in late March.
- Violence Prevention Lab – Addison Rose Vincent provided an overview of the project and shared regarding the status: recruitment is wrapping up, the location had to be shifted and so project related events will take place in May.

**UsCC Retreat**

- Kelly shared regarding the UsCC retreat focused on developing stakeholder priorities for the new year, creating an action plan, exploring short-term next steps/roles/responsibilities, and strengthening collaborative relationship among subcommittee members and DMH staff.

- A survey was sent out to members and the retreat will take place on Saturday, 5/11 from 10am-2pm at DMH Headquarters (510 S. Vermont Ave., Terrace Level Conference Rooms, Los Angeles, 90020).
- Catering options are currently being explored. One member recommended the LA LGBT Center, who has a catering program/school.

### **DMH Updates**

- Jennifer Alquijay provided updates including the ongoing review of the UsCC bylaws at the leadership level.
- Also shared a quick reminder that all UsCC capacity building projects are designed to be funded under \$100k.

### **Current Capacity Building Projects – Update**

- Updates on capacity building projects currently being implemented:
  - What We Think Project – Currently in final phases, was extended and will be completed by April 30<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Panthera Project – Project extended and will be completed by May 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Bi+ Affirming Mentorship and Storytelling Lab – starting third phase including Lab, vendor provided updates during meeting.
  - Proyecto Mariposa Monarca – currently in second phase including participant recruitment, vendor provided updates during meeting.
  - LGBTQIA2-S Violence Prevention Lab Project – currently in second phase including participant recruitment, vendor provided updates during meeting.
  - Liberation Workshop Series Project – currently preparing for third phase including hosting the series, vendor provided updates during meeting.
  - Transforming Community Care: API LGBTQ+ Mental Health and Wellness Project – currently in third phase, leadership academy sessions are taking place.
  - Two-Spirit Storytelling Project – currently in third phase including Storyteller gatherings.
  - Neurodivergent Voices Album Project – currently in first phase including material development.
  - LGBTQIA2-S Housing Listening Sessions Project – wrapping up second phase including participant recruitment, sessions will begin this month.
- FY 24-25 Capacity Building Projects – targeted communities/focus areas – survey sent out to voting members. Results will be shared via email next week.

### **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):** 4/4/24, 5/2/24, 6/6/24, **7/4/24**, 8/1/24, 9/5/24, 10/3/24, 11/7/24

[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/>

