

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
ANTI-RACISM, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION DIVISION
LATINO USCC COMMITTEE MINUTES**

January 16, 2024
2:00PM – 4:00PM

Community Participants: Barbara Rabelo, Belia Lopez, Betty Mendoza, Blanca Watson, Christian Ponciano, Dayanna Covarrubias, Elsy Molina, Gabriela Gonzalez, Gabriela Velasquez, Hector Ramirez, Irma Velasquez, Ivana Arteaga, Maria Elena Arauco, Maritza Lebron, Martha Ortiz, Martin Almanza, Sara Mijares, Stacy, Suyapa Umazor, Yolanda Becerra-Jones, Yoselinne Castillo

DMH Staff: Dr. Luis Guzman; Mirtala Parada-Ward; Darlesh Horn

Interpreters / CART: Losha Soriano & Lucy / Richard Farrell

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome & Introductions – Subcommittee Members	A. Housekeeping, Attendance Each attendee (On Microsoft TEAMS and on phone) introduced themselves
Review of Meeting Minutes	A. Approval of Meeting Minutes tabled
Planning for Latino Retreat 2024	A. Community Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Co-Chair Betty invited community to share thoughts about date/location for Latino Retreat 2024 ii. Community members discussed the need for a retreat facilitator that could provide safe space for the community to discuss all the pressing issues iii. Concern was raised that current MHSA consultant/facilitator created unsafe environment for Latino community and requested a different facilitator iv. Mirtala clarified that rationale for retreat that it could not be held because community wants to celebrate something but rather and it must be something that you want to achieve and want to achieve as a committee.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> v. Possible meeting venues suggested included: LACDMH HQ; CalEndow; St. Anne's; WellNest; La Plaza de Artes y Cultura vi. Retreat duration would be between 3-4 hours and include continental-type breakfast and lunch with stakeholders wanting to have retreat in March vii. Community shared that retreat should be inclusive of Promoters and Spanish Peer Support Members as well as WOW volunteers viii. Retreat must be held before end of Fiscal Year (June 30)
<p>LACDMH Mental Health Service Act Updates</p>	<p>a. Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Betty Mendoza shared some recent updates regarding MHSA Community Planning Process (CPP) Meetings ii. Proposals and recommendations initially submitted were categorized into those that were strong and could move forward for considerations, those that needed more community input, and those that were unfundable under MHSA and could not move forward iii. Proposals and concepts provided by LACDMH MHSA admin team during CPP meeting lacked critical information including who the target demographic of the proposal or concept was; how many people were going to be provided services under proposal, etc. iv. LACDMH was not transparent about switching community input process from providing input/voting for proposals to voting simply for general mental health concepts <p>b. Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Only 13 stakeholders voted and decided proposals that should move forward; none from the Latino community

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii. Community continued to raise concerns about MHSA process not giving bilingual/bicultural workforce shortage the highest priority likely leading to many more community members not receiving services iii. Latino community only had 2 votes out of 105 Community Planning Team (CPT) leading to concerns that Latino community would be left out of equitable funding iv. Community was concerned that there were other stakeholders who shared anti-Latino comments and spoke out against services and programming for the Latino community
<p>Reports: LACDMH Updates</p>	<p>A. Mirtala shared that proposals and recommendations provided by Latino community stakeholders via the tracking sheet was given over to different units in DMH to follow up on but would come back next meeting with specific updates on the different units and what the progress is re: the concerns</p>
<p>Listening Session/Comments/Announcements</p>	<p>Items Not on the Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. DMH Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Capacity Building Projects Updates – None available ii. MHSA Updates (Darlesh Horn) B. Community Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. None
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>February 20, 2024, from 2:00 pm – 4:00pm Virtual Venue: Microsoft TEAMS</p>