

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**  
**American Indian / Alaska Native (AI/AN) UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

Apr 3, 2024

2pm – 4pm via Microsoft TEAMS

**Co-Chairs Present:** Shannon Rivers  
**Members Present:** Jessica Mosher, Eva Powless, Jennifer Yates, Blanca Watson, Elizabeth Kono, Charlotte Lujan, Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood, Harrelson Notah, Lesley Hunt, Dr. Carol DeLilly, Avril Cordova, Hector Ramirez, Stacy Ann Smith, Rosario Ribleza, Dria Yellowhair,  
**Presenter:** None  
**DMH Admin Present:** Jennifer Alquijay, Mirtala Parada Ward

Agenda Items	Discussion
<b>Welcome, Prayer, Land Acknowledgment &amp; Introductions</b>	Meeting opened with prayer. Members were asked to introduce themselves in the chat. Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood provided a land acknowledgment.
<b>Meeting Minutes</b>	March 2024 minutes were reviewed and approved (first – Farrah Ferris, second – Jessica Mosher).
<b>Co-Chair Report Out</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reminder to submit proposals</li> <li>• Budget year for next years projects – All projects must be completed within 9 months – no later than June 30, 2025 completion date.</li> <li>• Shannon – Community Planning Team Mtg – Discussion of Behavioral Health as preferred term, Also suggested names for new call center –               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Call Center</li> <li>- Mental Health and Substance Abuse</li> <li>- Behavioral Health and Recovery</li> <li>- Caring Access and Entrance to Recovery (CARE)</li> <li>- Crisis Access Recovery and Emotional Support (CARES)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

<b>Presenter</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Farrah Ferris – Stress Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention Month</li> </ul>
<b>DMH Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mirtala report – Support for idea of not using the word “mental” in our language</li> <li>• Leadership mtg – talked about data – and making arrangements for data presentation specific to each Uscc mtg, Medi-Cal population data vs all population data, and not all Medi-Cal recipients need/want mental health</li> <li>• Take Action Campaign (<a href="#">Take Action L.A.</a>)</li> <li>• Continuing need for projects to do culturally appropriate outreach and engagement in the communities</li> <li>• Discussion of data inaccuracies due to “bi-racial” identification category. - misses AI-AN data</li> <li>• Encouragement of community members to write letters to DHS on behalf of AI-AN community, just now getting SOGI data, and now trying to get disability data (since both exist in EVERY ethnic community) <a href="https://census.ca.gov/contact-us/">https://census.ca.gov/contact-us/</a></li> <li>• April – Child Abuse Prevention Month - <a href="https://dcfs.lacounty.gov/youth/when-to-call-dcfs/">https://dcfs.lacounty.gov/youth/when-to-call-dcfs/</a></li> </ul>
<b>UsCC Retreat Discussion</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May 6th - Mon - 10am-2pm</li> <li>• Jen to send Survey to get RSVPs so we make sure we have enough food.</li> <li>• Will be cultural sharing during the retreat</li> </ul>
<b>Discussion Re: projects</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reminder - projects must be under \$100K</li> <li>• <a href="#">Proposal Guidelines and Fillable PDF</a> (See attachment for pdf of form)</li> <li>• Need to fill out a completed proposal in order to have project considered by the committee</li> <li>• Need to go over Brainstorm ideas and have people submit proposals for committee consideration</li> <li>• How AI-AN data is not collected accurately - example of misidentifying someone as Caucasian in recent home buying interaction.</li> <li>• Maybe community needs assessment?</li> <li>• Other ideas</li> <li>• Docuseries? Video game therapy outreach?</li> <li>• Discussion on some of Dr. Escareno’s</li> </ul>
<b>Capacity Building Projects – Updates</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AI/AN Community Engagement Campaign – project is wrapping up, vendor to present at a future meeting.</li> <li>• AI/AN Mending the Hoop Project – project is wrapping up, vendor to present at a future meeting.</li> <li>• AI/AN Youth Graphic Novel Project – currently in phase 2, in the process of recruiting participants.</li> <li>• AI/AN Cooking for Wellness Project – currently out for re-solicitation until 1/9/24.</li> <li>• AI/AN Community Garden Project – currently out for solicitation until 1/9/24.</li> <li>• MMIWG2-S Awareness Campaign Project – solicitation closed 12/11/23. Pending award by ISD.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AI/AN Elder Mental Health Support Project – currently out for solicitation until 1/9/24.</li> <li>• Suicide in Native Communities Project – solicitation closed, no bids received. Will be re-solicited.</li> <li>• AI/AN Intergenerational Storytelling Project – this project will be revisited this year at a future meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Kelly and Mirtala met with PIO to discuss any copyright concerns, legal issues, and intellectual property.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Community Announcements &amp; Resources</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Send any resources to Jennifer via email (<a href="mailto:jalquijay@dmh.lacounty.gov">jalquijay@dmh.lacounty.gov</a>) to be sent out to the listserv.</li> <li>• Dr. Carol DeLilly - from CalBright college - They have a Community Health Worker Certificate Program</li> </ul>
<b>Closing Prayer</b>	Meeting closed with Prayer.
<b>Meeting Minutes</b>	<b>All meeting minutes are available on the DMH website:</b> <a href="https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc-meeting-minutes/">https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc-meeting-minutes/</a>
<b>Upcoming Meetings &amp; Links</b>	<p><b><u>Next Meetings (first Wednesday of the month, all meetings 2-4pm):</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4/3/24, 5/1/24, 6/5/24, 7/3/24, 8/7/24, 9/4/24, 10/2/24, 11/6/24, 12/4/24</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">Join Microsoft Teams Meeting</a>; 323-776-6996, Conference ID: 806 867 419#</p>