

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

June 5, 2024

2pm – 4pm via Microsoft TEAMS

Co-Chairs Present: Shannon Rivers

Members Present: Eva Powless, Jennifer Yates, Erik Escareño, Anastasia Escareño, Lesley Hunt, Carol Delilly, Rosario Riblesa, Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood, Vicky Xu, Stephanie Mushrush, Christine Cauble, Claire Kobren, Wildflower Ontiveros, Ryan Caldwell, Coyote Park, Susan Lowe.

Presenter: None

DMH Admin Present: Jennifer Alquijay, Mirtala Parada Ward, Kelly Wilkerson, Robert Byrd

Agenda Items	Discussion
Welcome, Prayer, Land Acknowledgment & Introductions	Meeting opened with prayer. Members were asked to introduce themselves in the chat. Prayer Land Acknowledgment - Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood
Meeting Minutes	June 2024 minutes were reviewed and approved (1st – Erik Escareño, 2nd – Sylvia Youngblood).
Co-Chair Report Out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retreat - May 6th at Cielo - hosted the Retreat - had SSP members, Indigenous Circle of Wellness, MH dept and Education dept. Many others. Rigo Rodriguez - facilitated • Survey/eval after the retreat would be helpful • Solicited feedback from people who attended • Parking wasn't the best in that area.
Presenter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erik Escareño - presented on Project Updates <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Youth Graphic Novel 2. Gardening Project • So'oh-Shinálí Sister Project Presented on Project Updates

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Elder Gathering 2. Cooking for Wellness 3. MMIWG <p>Will send Feedback Surveys for Elder Gathering and Cooking for Wellness feedback</p>
DMH Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sending out survey to voting members to vote on top 3 ideas for proposals for projects - proposals written and then DMH staff will get input on projects, and then SOWs • All Projects MUST be completed by June 30, 2025 • Proposal Guidelines and Fillable PDF
Discussed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sylvia - Right to wear Regalia at graduation - AB 1248 - Tribal Regalia at Graduation Ceremonies - students given right to wear regalia. But there are exceptions that • Local agency retains discretion - they still can say • Has to be without substantial disruption • Can't be any "material disruption" • Shannon shared Google Doc template for advocating for wearing regalia at graduation ceremonies - last year and in NM had issues recently. • Also we need to help parents with FAFSA - help for free • Knotts give grants • Whitehorse - grants to help give money for kids going to college • If students need mental health and wellness - there are counselors on college campuses • Kids still in HS - hone on in their interests - can request a school interest inventory, and vocational assessment. MH promotors can help link • Transition Assessments - to find out where they are and what they may need to get up to speed to be college ready • Sylvia commented on Parenting Projects - laws change, thought process change, and they change without informing parents. What is socially acceptable parents often don't know. Need to educate community and parents about what is legal, more healthy, etc. Plug for parenting. • Coyote - Pride month - TAY youth - is there any initiatives for displaced Natives? Also similarity between indigenous communities everywhere. Turtle Island, impacted. Is there any community outreach? to build a bridge between these communities • Shannon - brought up Phil Hale funeral services -and memorial - singer, drummer, important member of our community. Take a moment to remember Phil Hale - send good thoughts to his family

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Task force regarding Regalia - called CA State Native American Adornments Task Force - July 18th -3-5pm - virtual. Asking the community if there is interest in LA county about having a listening session - about graduation and regalia - let Shannon know - shannonk.rivers@gmail.com
Discussion Re: Capacity Building Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminder - projects must be under \$100K • Proposal Guidelines and Fillable PDF
Community Announcements & Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sylvia - Gathering of Rumsen Indians in July - Sylvia will send info to Jen • Claire Kobren - At Amer Ind Changing Spirits - contact information ckobren@changingspirits.org; ccauble@changingspirits.org • Stephanie Mushrush - invite to volunteer mtgs - Many Winters Gathering of Elders - Next mtg is Wed. June 26th. • Send any resources to Jennifer via email (jalquijay@dmh.lacounty.gov) to be sent out to the listserv.
Closing Prayer	Meeting closed with Prayer - Shannon
Meeting Minutes	All meeting minutes are available on the DMH website: https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc-meeting-minutes/
Upcoming Meetings & Links	<u>Next Meetings (first Wednesday of the month, all meetings 2-4pm):</u> 7/3/24, 8/7/24, 9/4/24, 10/2/24, 11/6/24, 12/4/24 Join Microsoft Teams Meeting ; 323-776-6996, Conference ID: 806 867 419#