

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
AI-AN Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC)
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
October 2nd, 2024, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm**

Present:

Farrah Ferris, Jessica Mosher, Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood, Wildflower Ontiveros, Dr. Carol DeLilly, Eva Powless, Kara Noble, Evelyn Espinoza, Jennifer Yates, Lesley Hunt, Antonia Rios, Rae Lopez, Thomas Roache, Rosario Riblesa, Shannon Rivers, Harrelson Notah, Iva Maes, Dria Yellowhair, Soledad Vergara, Commissioner Dalglish, Mirtala Parada Ward

CART Captioner: Dawn Frischer

DMH Admin: Jennifer Alquijay

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Prayer	Co-Chairs (Farrah Ferris & Shannon Rivers) and Subcommittee Members
Indigenous Mindfulness & Land Acknowledgment	Co-Chairs, Jennifer Alquijay Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood
Code of Conduct Review	Co-Chairs, Jennifer Alquijay
Review of Meeting Minutes	The meeting minutes of September 2024 were approved. Motion by Eva Powless to approve minutes and seconded by Jessica Mosher.
Co-Chair Report Out Shannon & Farrah	<p>Co-Chair Shannon Rivers was running late, report-out was provided by Farrah Ferris.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attended both the leadership meeting and also portions of the CBT meeting - New things happening through DMH <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Recovery of data- putting active efforts to ensure services are being provided throughout the county. o Explanations on surveys are important. Not everybody knows that they are labeled as an acronym/know of the acronym that represents them. o DMH changed format for Report Outs from other Co-Chairs in meetings to have more time. o Bimonthly meetings. - Community Planning Team meetings are 2x a month. Provided updates and information on Prop 1 which is going to change the dynamics of how funding will look like on both a local and state level - Usually, 2nd Tues and Last Fri of the month.

Introduction to new AI-AN Co-Chairs (Starting in Nov.)	<p>Co-Chair Farrah Ferris introduced new AI-AN Co-Chairs Jessica Mosher and Lesley Hunt.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are new Co-Chairs every 2 years. - Lesley and Jessica's terms will end June 30, 2026.
Capacity Building Project Updates	<p>Four Capacity Building Projects total. Two of which are out for bid.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Two projects out for bid are the Food Sustainability and Wellness & Decreasing Negativity and Wellness. - Other two (Native Excellence and a smaller outreach project) should be coming out by hopefully end of this wk or the following wk. - Bids close October 24th and 25th. - Dr. Jennifer Alquijay - discussed slides and recordings as well as other resources she can provide to walk you through on how to request to be a vendor as well as how to bid for projects. - Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood – requested a short summary of each project as full statements/proposals aren't shown/released. - Dr. Alquijay - indicated that the statements of work are accessible via a link that was provided in the chat. An email was also sent out with information regarding projects and bids. Dr. Alquijay shared screen and showed how to view information and details of each project. - Co-Chair Farrah announced and shared that the capacity building projects were brainstormed in the AI-AN UsCC meetings. - Each statement of work has a minimum bidder requirement. Each vendor needs to demonstrate experience working in the AI-AN community. - Co- Chair Farrah - Both projects are for children and families. (Not a targeted demographic.)

**2024 Data Notebook for
L.A. County Mental
Health Commission**

Moved to the end of meeting as Commissioner Dalglish was running late.

- Meet once a month online
- Data Notebook is compiled every year. Each year it's a different subject.
- 2023 subject was Stakeholder Engagement
- 2024 subject is Housing and Homelessness
- The questions for the data notebook are compiled by a group at a state level called The Behavioral Health Planning Council.
 - o The Behavioral Health Planning Council comes up with the set of questions and subject every year.
 - o Once the questions and subject are made/decided on, they go to the Commissioner, and finally is the meeting to discuss the survey and data.
- State and federal levels have different definitions of homelessness/unhoused.
- The county and department have access to housing and staff to assist with housing.
- Commissioner Dalglish provided a phone number for texts regarding the questions for the survey for the Data Notebook (310-701-9876) as questions hadn't been received prior to discuss in meeting.

Co-Chair Farrah Ferris asked if the new definition of homelessness will incorporate AI-AN statistics and data regarding temporary homelessness due to domestic violence.

- There is a separate question that pertains to women and children in the survey.
 - o Commissioner is going to circle back and see if there is a mention of domestic violence.

Co-Chair Farrah Ferris asked if the new definition include dependent adults.

- o There are places in the survey that allows you to expand/input thoughts where there are "other" options.

Commissioner Thomas Roache announced that there will be 2 new openings under Supervisor Solis in District One for Commissioner on the Commission.

AI-AN often don't consider themselves unhoused/homeless because it is their home territory and often have great resources within their family.

Silvia Gonzales-Youngblood mentioned holding the media accountable for creating false stigma for the sake of creating news.

Commissioner Thomas Roache invited UsCC's to attend meetings and represent their organizations as well as express their point of views.

<p>New Outreach flyer for AI-AN UsCC</p>	<p>Dr. Alquijay started by sharing a draft of the new UsCC flyer that included all of the UsCC subcommittees. Dr. Alquijay shared the flyer for the EE-ME UsCC subcommittee.</p> <p>The one pager was shared for the AI-AN subcommittee but the goal is to create a tri-fold brochure that can be shared/sent for outreach.</p> <p>Samples of brochures/flyers were shown for the other UsCC subcommittees.</p> <p>Co-Chair Farrah Ferris shared some input/had a suggestion to add some acorns and white sage as representation. Canva is a great resource for AI-AN representation. Farrah as well as Lesley Hunt also mentioned wanting the AI-AN trifold/flyer to acknowledge that DMH is on tribal land.</p> <p>Jennifer Yates suggested the medicine wheel as it seems welcoming and invitational.</p> <p>Dr. Mirtala Ward shared ways to share documents/drafts of the AI-AN flyer/trifold so that others can edit and add their input.</p>
<p>DMH Updates. Follow-Ups</p>	<p>Dr. Alquijay shared the news of the name change to ARISE Division.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There were two departments using the same acronym. - The Staff Advisory Council gave suggestions, and the department voted on the name. - The new name/acronym stands for Anti-Racism, Inclusion, Solidarity, and Empowerment. <p>Dr. Mirtala Ward shared that the department is engaging in work groups at the state level to start looking at the implementation of BHSA and what the transformation from MHSA to BHSA would look like.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr. Ward will be sharing an opportunity for stakeholders to join some of the discussions and listen in on some of the discussion. - There will be lots of changes for BHSA. Dr. Ward will be sharing a link with all UsCC's subcommittees. All committees should be informed on how the change will impact the service delivery. Prevention dollars are being allocated to state level and not county level. - Dr. Ward assured members that there are DMH members that are present at state level and advocating for program moves such as moving the programs under the prevention umbrella into early intervention which can not be touched as they are early intervention dollars. <p>There was an announcement in the leadership meeting regarding bylaws. Dr. Horn wanted feedback from the group as a whole. The Co-Chairs were sent a survey regarding the proposed change. Of the 16 Co-Chairs, 10 voted. Of the 10, 6 voted to go back to the old voting requirement, which stated that you must participate in 51% of the meetings in the past 9 months. The survey was a recommendation to Dr. Horn, it has not been approved or denied.</p> <p>Leadership Group will be meeting once every other month with the next meeting being in November.</p>

Closing Words & Prayer	<p>Antonia Rios- encouraged to share information when it comes to the California parent and youth helpline. Dr. Alquijay did the closing prayer.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, Nov. 6th, 2024 (2:00 pm-4:00 pm)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For more information about the AI-AN UsCC, please see its website: https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/american-indian-alaska-native-ai-an-uscc/ </p>	