

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Black & African Heritage Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC)
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
October 3, 2024 10am-12pm**

WELCOME

Land Acknowledgement

Introductions/Check-In

Co-Chairs: Romalis Taylor and Queen Nina Womack

Attendees: Leyne Eatman, Alica Forneret, Blanca E. Watson, Renda Ingram, Candace Walker, David Piller,, Dewayne Harvey, Donnise Vonner, Erica Melbourne, Eron Johnson, Felipe Ocampo Jr., Hajar Muqtasid, Irene Ratliff, Jamie Walker, Janet Kelly, Jasmine Harris, Jasmine Sampson, Joy Ellington, Joyce Sales, Juanita Randle, Kristen Pannell, Pharoah Mitchell, Philip, Queen Nina Womack, Richard Farell, Rickie Collins, Romalis Taylor, Seun Adebowale, Tatiana Turner, Tina Beam, Wendy Cabil

DMH Admin: Dr. Chiyah A. Lawrence, Dr. Evelyn Espinoza Dr. Jennifer Alquijay, Mirtala Parada Ward

Approval of Minutes

- The September 2024 meeting minutes were approved.
 - Motion by Dewayne Harvey to approve minutes and seconded by Dr. Brenda Ingram
 - BAH UsCC Subcommittee approved September 2024 meeting minutes
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DMH Updates

Dr Jennifer Alquijay provided the following DMH Updates:

- DMH ARDI name change to ARISE (Anti-Racism, Inclusion, Solidarity, Empowerment)
- We will let the subcommittee know when the other two projects are out for solicitation

Mirtala Parada Ward provided the following update:.

- Stakeholders are encouraged to attend learning listening sessions sponsored by the state because how many of our services are provided will change
 - BHSA will be implemented July 1, 2026
 - Listening sessions are about BHSA, funding requirements
 - We are hoping that a lot of our swervices under Prevention will meet the criteria for Early Intervention which will remain untouched by BHSA
 - SALT and UsCC leadership agreed to reduce monthly meetings to bimonthly meetings
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Capacity Building Project Proposals 25-26

Brian McCulin from Inspire2Gether

Bridging the Gap Between Foster Youth & Systems

- Presentation
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Community Engagement

- Concerns re: budgetary impact of Prop 1
 - Stakeholders are invited to participate in the community planning team meetings for the mental health commission and the community planning team meetings
 - Questions re: budget impact of Prop 1 and transition from MHSA to BHSA will likely be answered at the public information sessions. Dr. Lawrence will send information re: BHSA webinars to subcommittee
 - It is Dr. Alquijay's understanding that the county does see the UsCCs as important and they want to prioritize making sure that budget stays in place as much possible

Community Events and Announcements

- Queen Nina Womack shared information re: an emergency town hall meeting to address California reparations (SB 1403)
 - We as black people part of the healing and mental wellbeing is to be able the to feel that we have the proper restitution from the pain and suffering that our ancestors that we still carry to this day with systemic racism.
 - Thursday, September 5th at 6pm in Leimert Park (3423 W 43rd PI LA, CA 90008

Labor Acknowledgment

Upcoming Meeting: September 5, 2024 (10:00am – 12:00pm)

For more information about the BAH UsCC, please see its website:
<https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/black-african-heritage-uscc/>