

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
AI-AN Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC)
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
January 8th, 2025, from 2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Present: Jessica Mosher, Mikey Olbes, Erika Corral, Anastasia Escareño, Erik Escareño, Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood, Eva Powless, Farrah Ferris-(#2609), Stephanie Mushrush, Rae Lopes, Gabriela Vasquez, Mirtala Parada Ward, Elena Nourrie, Antonia Rios, Dan Dickerson, Harrelson Notah CART Captioner: Joseph Lang DMH Admin: Jennifer Alquijay / Yailin Noriega		
Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions	
Welcome, Introductions, & Opening Prayer	Welcome by Jessica Mosher – Ice breaker: What's your favorite ice cream flavor? Opening Prayer – Erik Escareño	
Land Acknowledgment	Co-Chair Jessica Mosher opened the floor for any elders – no volunteers. DMH Staff - Jennifer Alquijay read County Land Acknowledgement.	
Review of Meeting Minutes	The meeting minutes of December 2024 were approved. Motion by Farrah Ferris to approve minutes and seconded by Silvia Gonzales-Youngblood and Erik Escareño	
Indigenous Mindfulness Exercise	Wombat – Erik Escareño Close our eyes. Imagine we are sitting. Take deep breaths in and exhale in unison. Breathe out any negativity we do not want to carry.	
Report-Outs Dr. Alquijay	Presentations during Community Planning Team (CPT) meeting. Links provided on Agenda to presentations in English, Spanish, and Korean.	
Community Updates	Jessica Mosher: Uplift things happening in Indian Country / LA County - Saw lots of beautiful pictures from the Christmas parade. - An idea for the future: - o Share pictures of events to continue engagement. - o Uplifting events and making the community aware. - o Send images to Jessica so that they can be shared with everybody. Behavioral Health Funding sources for Indian Country: - Funding has opened. Starting January 6th, 2025, through beginning of March. - No CAP Funding. Medi-Cal and Traditional Healers:	

	- Contract with UAI to be a healer and bill for services. - Billing Medi-Cal for services. Honor President Jimmy Carter – opened the floor for community members to share their stories.
Stakeholder Newsletter Brainstorming	<u>Dr. Alquiay:</u> We put a link to the newsletter on the Agenda. Extended deadline for submissions to Monday, February 10th, 2025. They will be sending email with specifics. Encouraged to participate: Harrelson Notah by Jessica Mosher Stephanie Mushrush by Farrah Ferris Sylvia Gonzales-Youngblood by Jessica Mosher / Dr. Alquiay <u>Stephanie Mushrush:</u> - Has a draft she can send. (to Dr. Alquiay, Jessica Mosher, and Yailin) - Picked together a draft about events held by program for community. Native Owned Focused on providing services for the following communities: - Deaf, disabled, LGBTQIA2-S, BIPOC, Kink, and Sex Workers - Especially Native-Americans <u>Anastasia:</u> History / Summary of previous Capacity Building Projects Sacred Gathering: Event to share all projects
Wombat Community Outreach Presentation & Video	
Capacity Building Projects	<u>Dr. Alquiay:</u> You should have received emails. 3 projects out for bid right now. Food Sustainability – Out for bid. Native Excellence – Out for bid. New Outreach for American Indians – Out for bid. Decreasing Negativity – Has been awarded to SSSP. Start brainstorming. Shared timeline graphic. Encouraged everyone to come up with ideas. <u>Erik:</u> - Noticed an increase in deliverables but not in budget. - o If bids are too high, we will lower the requirements for deliverables - o Asking for a reference quote with SOW's now <u>Sylvia:</u> - Wants to make sure that we're looking at where the chunk of money is going. Make sure organizations being awarded projects are using the money effectively. Salary vs Community. <u>Erik:</u>

	- Was referring to requirements on deliverables. For example, 10% of budget has to go to social media. Makes it 10k less that can go to community. <u>Elena:</u> - Echoed the need for an increase in budget/funds. - Wants to confirm Decreasing Negativity and Wellness has to be completed by June 2025. - o Yes, project is to be completed by June 30th, 2025. - o We can no longer carry over projects into next FY. <u>Jessica:</u> - How do you want to share ideas? During meetings? Submit proposals and vote? Ad hoc mtgs? <u>Sylvia:</u> - How it's always been done. During UsCC mtgs - All separate tribes with different cultures. Get blended together during projects. Be specific on what tribe is doing projects. <u>Erik:</u> - Volunteered to write proposals. Willing to sit down with anybody and help (with other fundings also) <u>Elena:</u> - The language on SOW's. Referring to community members as being part of an "experiment" Three projects at \$99k each. Combination of brainstorming and Erik help write proposals. Community needs assessment project Shared Instagram post – Other funding resource - @calartscouncil <u>Mirtala:</u> Administrative costs/project breakdown: 30/70 Mental Health Promoters Program is also providing funding and accepting bids. Over \$100k
Community Announcements / Resources	<u>Erik:</u> - Sacred Gathering Event in May - Digital Hygiene project – participants have already been selected
Closing Prayer	Erik Escareño did the closing prayer.
Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, February 5th, 2025 (2:00 pm-4:00 pm) 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/	