


LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Strategic Communications Division

Eastern-European / Middle Eastern (EE/ME) UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
1/29/2025

2:00PM – 4:00PM via Teleconference

Present: Nane Avagyan, Mitra Shabani, David Arakelian, Hala Babeller, Rhoda Addam, Christina Myers, Magda Kirakosyan, Yailin Noriega, Dr. Haydeh Fakhrabadi, Karima Sudan, Jibril Hussen, Jamie Walker, Rubou Sous, Seta Haig, Mastaneh Moghadam, Katarina Terzyan, Rima Safaryan, Avo Soltanian, Amparro, Armine Stepanyan, Mariam Nahabetian, Dr. Heather Laird, Kara Noble, Josephine McMahan, Julia Monteon, Yue Hua Xu, Ani Zoneveld, Sydney Sonnier.

DMH Admin: Dr. Anna Yaralyan, Dr. Jennifer Alquijay, Mirtala Parada Ward.

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Everyone introduced themselves.Dr. Jennifer Alquijay read the Board of Supervisors Land Acknowledgement.
Meeting Minutes Review and Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Reviewed & approved 11/27/24 EE/ME Subcommittee meeting minutes.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Avo Soltanian motioned to approve & Mastaneh Moghadam second.Minutes were accepted by subcommittee members. There were no subcommittee member objections.
DMH Updates	<p> Mirtala Parada Ward & Dr. Jennifer Alquijay provided the following DMH updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) has been active with providing support and resources for those impacted by the LA County Wildfires by offering mental health support at disaster recovery centers, linking residence to long-term counseling services, providing access to mental health resources, and offering the 24/7 helpline for individuals to access mental health services & crises support at any time.Promotors have been assisting and providing resources at shelters & recreational centers.On June 30th, 2026, Mental Health Service Act will come to an end and Proposition 1 will come to effect. Funds will be spent to build or renovate housing for people who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness, or who have mental illness or substance use disorders.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On February 11, 2025, there will be a Community Planning TEAM Meeting, 9:30am – 12:30pm, & Joint SALT and UsCC Mtg, at St. Anne's Conference Center (155 N Occidental Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90026).
EE/ME Subcommittee Capacity Building Proposals FY 2023-2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Arabic Speaking Poetry Night Mental Health Outreach Project – Vendor is in the process of completing the second half of the project, including the final poetry events & the project summary report.
EE/ME Subcommittee Capacity Building Updates FY 2024 - 2025	<p>Anna Yaralyan announced which projects have been rewarded to Vendors:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Support Group and Mental Health Educational Seminar for Afghan Refugees - Qazizada Multicultural Therapy Clinic: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vendor is in the process of completing the PowerPoint Curriculum and identifying the Venues to conduct mental health seminars to the Afghan Community members. Armenian Wellness Festival Project – Nuway Express Inc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vendor has identified a Venue for the Armenian Wellness Festival. Vendor completed several community flyers in the Armenian & English languages. Vendor is also in the process of collecting the credentials & PowerPoint presentation abstracts from individual seminar presenters. Armenian Poetry Circles for Mental Health - Prolific Styles LLC, Sydney Sonnier. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vendor has identified several venues for the Armenian MH Poetry Project to be conducted, such as Armenian Adult Daycare Centers, community public libraries, and children's day care centers. Various Armenian Poetry Events will be conducted for Armenian seniors. A few poetry events will be conducted for children and the general Armenian population as well. Vendor completed the flyer for the poetry events both in English & Armenian languages. Vendor also had a meeting with USArmenia TV station to begin the advertisements of the poetry events.

	<p>4. Russian and Farsi Mental Health Film Project #2 – Cross Cultural Expressions, Mastaneh Moghadam, LCSW!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Russian and Farsi Mental Health Film script has been completed & approved by LACDMH. • Vendor has recruited the actors & actresses of the film. • Vendor has identified several filming sites and the schedule of the recordings. • Vendor is in the process of filming the movie.
Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Labor Acknowledgement ❖ Next meeting will be on Wednesday 2/26/2025, from 2:00pm – 4:00pm.
	<p><u>Join Microsoft Teams Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (323) 446-6996 United States, Los Angeles (Toll) Conference ID: 985 297 792#