

**Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
API Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC)
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Feb. 24, 2025, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm**

Present: Richer San, Norio Iwahori, Andria McFerson, Angela Reyes, Ann Marie Yamada, Annie Chou, Bea Leung, Chanthy Yi, Chiyah Lawrence, Damisha Jones, Maria N Tan, Grace Leung, Jed Baris, Jennifer Norman, JR Kuo, Kaajal Sheth, Kerry Chhay, Krystal Fermin, Mariko Kahn, Onyou Kim, Reginald Van Appelen Jr., Riku Matsuda, Samnang Tith, Sharnyle Gonzales, Sheila Wu, Sithea San, So Yun Park, Tuan D. Nguyen, Violeta Leones, Young Choi, Michelle Wong, Mikey Olbes, , Rosario Ribleza, , Sophia Yeung, Kaajal Sheth, Presenter: Vishesh Anand and his assistant, Skye Connors Interpreters: Samantha Yu (Korean line), Sun Lim (Korean Line) CART Captioner: Dawn DMH Admin: Jennifer Alquijay, Tsuyen Chen, Yailin Noriega,	
Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome & Introductions	Subcommittee Members, Housekeeping Attendance, Co-Chairs
Land Acknowledgment	Co-Chair, Jennifer Alquijay LA County Land Acknowledgment: https://lacounty.gov/government/about-la-county/land-acknowledgment/
Review of Meeting Minutes	The meeting minutes of January 27, 2025 were approved with the name correction. Motion by Sithea to approve minutes and seconded by Tuan.
Presentation on Prop One	Vishesh Anand, Deputy Director of Special Projects, External Affairs for Governor Newson • More mental health care for all, substance use treatment for all, urgent action, accountability, partnership, and nation-leading investment on behavioral health services, treatment sites, workforce, and housing with supports. • Two websites: (1). Accountability.CA.Gov, and (2). MentalHealth.CA.Gov including life-saving mental health resources and tracking of behavior health transformation with transparency and accountability tools • Focus on high-risk/high-need residents: Behavioral Health Bridge Housing, Encampment Resolution Funds, Mobile Crisis and SA 988, CARE Act, Full Service Partnership, LPS Conservatorship Reform (SB 43), and Opioid Response.

- \$ 6.4 billion Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond (AB 531) including:
 - a. \$ 4.4 billion for behavioral health treatment sites (Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program: BHCIP),
 - (1). Round one: \$3.3 billion BHCIP voters passed last March and expects to award in May 2025, and
 - (2). Round two: \$1.1 billion Unmet Needs will available in May, 2025,
 Prop 1 will keep lots of funding criteria as for the BHCIP already existing at the state level, and
 - b. \$ 2 billion for supportive housing (Home Key Plus) and \$200 million HHAP
 - (1). \$1.1 billion CalVet and HCD for vet housing and
 - (2). \$1.1 billion HCD for housing.
 We do not call “Home Key” now because of the emphasis on behavioral health. Same guideline to apply for projects. RFA’s is live April 3 for vet financing projects and May 30 for all other projects. We’ve been able to fund just under 260 projects under Home Key.
- Behavior/Mental Health Service Act Reform (SB326) for the most seriously ill or at-risk population with the prioritizing in funding.
 - a. BHSA allocation \$3.5 billion including 90% county allocation and 10% Statewide Investment (3% Statewide Overnight and Monitoring Activities, 3% workforce, and 4% Prevention).
 - b. 30% of county allocation for Housing Intervention, 35% Full Service Partnership Services, 35% Behavioral Health Services and Supports including early intervention, outreach and engagement, workforce, education, training, capital facilities, and technological needs, and innovative pilots and projects.
- The County Integrated Plan (3-year) is due next year (beginning 2026 to 2029).
- Accountability: each county is required to submit annual expenditures of all local, state, and federal behavioral health funding, spent and un-spent including service utilization and outcomes with health equity lens, workforce metrics, and urgent dollars and other information. If fail to meet the criteria requirements, Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is authorized to impose corrective action plans on the counties.
- The details provided in the attached power point



	Q & A: Vishesh Anand: • The State collects data after graduation from the Care Court Program to make sure the individual continues to succeed in response to Tuan's question on after-care. Also, Tuan addressed the mental health is important to the Asian community. • BHSA (formerly known as MHSA) and Prop 1 are two different pools of funding and the bond funding is one time funding to get the infrastructure up while the BHSA funding is ongoing in response to Rosario's question. • Local input is going to play a critical role...make sure statewide behavioral health workforce development is culturally competent...the Governor has allowed for a greater degree of engagement across all issues when it comes to equity...the API commission at the state level is leading lots of dialogues on issues historically asked as well as on future, innovative programs...the innovation bucket at the county level does allow for a greater degree of flexibility in response to Mariko's inquiry about prevention for the API community. • Some programs you mentioned are for prevention, but focus more on outcome can still be funded through counties. • The prevention funding (concerning the statewide investment), State is doing that for several critical health programs on a more efficient level...we are not giving counties specific buckets for this, because State is going to do this. • In coming weeks and months from California Department of Public Health (CDPH), a lot of more engagement from the local level, will be launched...I will make sure the group gets that information on this as well as on the workforce development piece in response to Mariko's concern that API gets left out form statewide plans. • A certain degree of uncertainly when one does not know what to expect, (yet) lots of success stories coming out of it concerning the Care Court Programs in response to Mariko's comment regarding the discussion and conflicts of the LPS and Care Court. • We never deny if we receive more than what is basically required at the state level...will relay back to our cabinet on firsthand responsiveness and communication with people who are served in response to Andria's suggestions including surveys, SALT's involvement, and accountability.
DMH Update	Dr. Jennifer Alquijay: • Funding allocations for FY 25-26 capacity building projects: around (up to) \$100,000 each for those two proposals currently approved, and split \$150,000 between the last two

	proposals, that is \$75,000 each...that is what 50% of the eligible voters voted for. • Terms for co-chairs end on 6/30/25. • Stakeholder newsletter submission deadline: Feb. 24, 2025...articles such as success story or personal story. • The API Flyers will be submitted to Language ACCESS Services for translation into different languages in response to Tuan's request. • Request to submit reference quotes for FY 25-26 project proposals. Liaison: • Alternative Crisis Response Program will present in April and still look for presenter in March (possibility of contacting speaker from legal service centers to address immigration issue) Ms. Mirtala Prada Ward, Program Manager III of this administrative division: • Presentation on immigration issue is pending for approval by the DMH Public Information Office and for Board of Supervisors to take a stand on this (political) issue in response to Riku's question. • Resources (such as red card) we distributed and disseminated are not DMH's property...those information have been approved and disseminated by the Office of Immigration Affairs. • Suggestion: a. DMH drafts a letter for all of our programs to develop a protocol on how to deal with ICE and make our clients safer...will bring someone next month to talk about the clinical aspect of the Department. b. Office of Immigration Affairs has released information in the 13 threshold languages in LA county...will bring back to this meeting. c. Will email the Office of Immigration Affairs for a presentation (request) for March in response to Richer's clarification on the need for legal safeguard in facing ICE. Liaison: • A tie in votes for colors and number of flowers in the API brochure. Per Richer, send it out for votes again.
Capacity Building Project Update	Dr. Jennifer Alquijay: • Not bidder for the Cambodian Youth Center...attempt(s) to reach the bidder started yet not completed the bidding process...did not hear back...will not bid again because we are running out of time.

	• Bidders should follow the instructions to complete bidding, such as complete submission of required documents. • Not sure if we can change the allocation set for the Outreach Project now...will check into this. • Southeast Asian Youth Project and Stress Management Project are progressing • The Outreach Project will be awarded
Community Announcements & Open Discussion on Non-Agenda Items	Andria: • 4 pm, Feb. 26, 2025, presentation with the LA Care on the immigration issue at the Community resource center and 911 north Avalon Boulevard Wilmington. Mariko: • Compliments on the training put together by Elaine Waldman. Norio: • Welcome newcomers and allocate time for introduction of their programs/organization Rosario: • Invitation to the CPT on-line meeting on Friday Dr. Jennifer Alquijay: • Will email API language specific red cards... red cards can be ordered for free from the red card web. • Land acknowledgement is mandated by the County and labor acknowledgement is not required yet...we include the labor acknowledgement voluntarily just to acknowledge the fact this country really was built on the back of enslaved Africans. So we don't want to underestimate and also don't want to miss out on that acknowledgement because a lot of the wealth in our country was built on back of the enslaved Africans as well as all the API as well in response to Mariko's question.
Labor Acknowledgement	Liaison read the long version of Labor Acknowledgement provided by Dr. Alquijay after receiving the group's approval.
Upcoming Meeting: Monday, March. 24, 2025 (2:00 pm-4:00 pm) For more information about the API UsCC, please see its website: https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/asian-pacific-islander-api-uscc/	