

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
LGBTQIA2-S UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 5th, 2025, 2-4 pm

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Welcome/Introductions

Present: Richard (CART Captioner), Sadiyyah Abdul-Mumin, Bill Sive, Crystal Whiteaker, Gayle Alvarez, Sydney Rogers, Jenn Yates, Alex Salazar, Rafael M. Lopes, Irene Ratliff, Susana Ascencion, Eden Luna, Addison Rose Vincent, Ismael Maldonado, Kelly Wilkerson (DMH), Veronica Hernandez (DMH), Keianna Crenshaw (DMH)

UsCC Admin: Jennifer Alquijay, riKu Matsuda, Chiyah Lawrence, Christina Barnes-Matthews

Land Acknowledgement – Kelly Wilkerson read the LA County Land Acknowledgement

Introductions – Everyone introduced themselves, preferred pronouns, and shared the last movie they have seen.

Getting to Know You – Gayle Alvarez and Susana Ascension introduced themselves.

Introduced New UsCC Liaison- Dr. Christina Barnes-Matthews

May 2025 Meeting Minutes – Meeting minutes approved (first- Sydney Rogers, second- Irene Ratliff).

Current Project Updates

Safe Tea Harm Reduction – Eden Luna

- Provided background of the program and updates about outreach and distribution of educational materials about Narcan and testing for Fentanyl
- Provided updates on recruitment of participants, training schedule, and number of after hours events information has been spread to

DMH Updates / Follow-Ups

1. Current projects wrap up date is June 30th
2. Transition from MHSA to BHSA is coming. Encouraged members to join monthly Community Planning Team (CPT) meetings.
3. CPT meetings are hybrid on Tuesdays and virtual at the end of the month
4. LA County Behavioral Health Commission Town Hall Meeting on Wednesday June 18th from 5:00 PM-7:00 PM at Ramona Hall Community Center
5. Black and African Heritage (BAH) UsCC subcommittee meeting on Thursday July 3rd at 10:30 AM for presentation from Dr. Lomeli from the Human Rights Commission to discuss the 2023 LA County Hate Crime report focusing on all 7 UsCC communities

Teams Link: <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/event/black-african-heritage-bah-uscc-meeting-july-3-2025/>

Q: Crystal (in chat)-when will reference quotes for 25/26 projects be requested

A: End of June, latest early July

Co-Chair Updates

N/A

General Announcements / Resources / Updates

Sydney Rogers:

- LA Pride this weekend (Friday June 6- Sunday June 8)
- Trans Pride Saturday June 14th
- Hosting Drag Bingo Night at Solidarity in Santa Monica on Thursday June 5th and Drag Bingo at Skirball on Friday June 6th
- Spoken word event in Long Beach
- Drag queen story time at an elementary school

Website: <https://www.missbarbieq.com/projects>

Crystal Whiteaker:

- Two roundtable events
 - Wednesday June 18th focused on pride and joy <https://www.rexwilde.com/tgx-monthly-roundtable>
 - Thursday June 19th focused on the difference between being nice and genuinely inclusive
<https://www.crystallily.co/roundtable-registration>

Dr. Jennifer Alquijay:

- Aging in Place meeting on Monday June 16th from 7:00 PM-8:00 PM

Bill Sive:

- Showing of *Falling* at Unitarian Church in Long Beach (5450 E Atherton St., Long Beach, CA 90815) at on Friday June 6th at 6:00 PM

Irene Ratliff:

- Added in Pride at the Park infographic to the chat, LA County Parks celebrating pride at 60 park locations
Link:<https://parks.lacounty.gov/pride/>
- Added infographic for “Think Tank” Business Building & Development, every 3rd Friday of the month at 11:15 AM at Inglewood Library Hub Lounge area (101 West Manchester Blvd., Inglewood, CA 90301. Email Irene Ratliff at streetmeetcompany@gmail.com for more information

Dr. Jennifer Alquijay played a video from Gay Elder Circle from community forum “Pride & Resistance Through the Ages” on YouTube sent by Bill Sive <https://youtu.be/ins4nMUF6dk?si=MwJxvY6sF2ECbESS>

Q: Ismael Maldonado: Is there any event that included people with disabilities?

A: Crystal-my event is virtual and accommodations can be made

Irene-there was a recent event on June 1 <https://www.dcrc.co/>

Labor Acknowledgement- N/A

Upcoming Meetings (first Thursday of the month, 2-4pm): 7/3/25

[Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#); 323-776-6996, Conference ID: 542 042 921#

Meeting minutes can be found at <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc/lgbtqia2-s-uscc-meeting-minutes/>