

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
AI-AN Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC)
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
November 5th, 2025, from 2:00pm - 4:00pm

Present: Nancy Steward, Kigech Wilson, Lesley Washington, Suyapa Umanzor, Christina Barnes-Matthews, Melanie Estrella, Chiyah Lawrence, Brenda Caloca, Roberta Javier, Jessica Mosher, riKu Matsuda, Rae Lopes, Rosario Ribleza, Patricia Kusaba, Yue Hua Xu, Laura Tejeda, Javier Garcia, Scott Black, No Name (#9393), Farrah Ferris, Mirtala Parada Ward, Soledad Vergara, Olina Bishop CART Captioner: Richard Farrell DMH Admin: Carla Jaramillo	
Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome, Intros, & Opening Prayer	Welcome by Co-chair, Jessica Mosher – Ice breaker: What is your favorite holiday dish? Opening Prayer – Roberta Javier provided an opening prayer.
Land Acknowledgment	Dr. Jaramillo shared screen and read the LA County Land Acknowledgement.
DMH Community Agreements	Dr. Jaramillo shared screen and summarized the DMH Community Agreements.
Review of Meeting Minutes	The meeting minutes of October 2025 were approved. Motion by Roberta Javier to approve minutes and seconded by Laura Tejeda .
Indigenous Mindfulness Exercise	Jessica Mosher shared about Native American Heritage Month. Highlighting events in Indian Country during the month of November. - Native American Heritage Parade – in Sacramento. Saturday, November 8th, 2025, from 10am – 3pm. - Native American Monument Commemorative Event – Downtown Sacramento – November 8th, 2025. Native American Heritage Month in a school setting - resources/information to share. Opened the floor for the community to share how they view/approach “Thanksgiving Day”. Roberta shared: UAI Native American Heritage POW WOW at Griffith Park Crystal Springs will be on Sunday, November 16th, 2025.
Report Outs & Community Updates	Community Planning Team (CPT) Meeting – Upcoming meeting is November 14th, 2025. Jessica Mosher attended the last meeting which was virtual. - Voiced the importance of <i>implementing</i> the Traditional Healing and Natural Helper policy. - Knowledge doesn’t equal implementation. Rosario Ribleza echoed the need of AI/AN community members to attend the CPT meetings so that they can voice their community needs. Roberta Javier has volunteered to attend the in-person CPT meetings moving forward. Scott Black – working with Los Angeles County to have a contract to offer Traditional Healing and Natural

	Helper services. Reaching out to partners in the area. Requested follow up to introduce himself and see who their partners are within the County. Roberta celebrates Friendsgiving. Rae – The flyer for the POW WOW states that it will be held Sunday, November 16th, 2025. Brenda – The California Low-Cost Auto Insurance Program – available. It is a State Sponsored program that has some qualification metrics. Would like to share information with the agencies/programs that are present in the meetings. Provide presentations on Emergency Preparedness as pertaining to different sorts of insurances. The qualifications being: - Vehicle valued at less than \$25,000 - A valid driver's license - If they're recipients of Medi-Cal, CalFresh, CalWORKs, EDD, pension, any benefits (with proof of benefits), it'll typically cover the income eligibility component. - Required to have a good record – allow two points – no DUI's. - Would pay an average of \$25 a month depending on the driving record. - Only liability to fulfil the requirement that the State mandates. Lesley W. – Star View Teammates – New program: Early Psychosis Intervention - Accepts Medi-Cal and is DMH funded - Currently outreaching to get clients - Originally started with an age range of 12-25 but have extended the range from 12-40 - Open to hold a presentation for staff and/or participants - Long lasting program – outpatient – able to go out to the client Roberta: 11th Annual Toy Drive - Received requests of all kinds of gifts – including concert tickets - Beneficial and good gifts that help individuals grow - Shared email in chat and examples of previous donations - Jessica shared the flyer in the chat - Farrah volunteered to help with Raiders tickets
Food Sustainability and Wellness – Capacity Building Project Final Report	<i>Pathways of Wellness Empowerment Resilience, LLC. (POWER)</i> *** Presentation/video was spotty. Sound went in and out*** Started by giving Roberta a shout out. Shared 2 short videos – overview of project. (Jessica shared the second video – feedback from participants) Heavy ICE presence – moved some workshops to virtual. POWER went above and beyond the County deliverable requirements – better serve the AI/AN community. Families/participants were able to take something home after each workshop/activity. Final Report is on the AI/AN UsCC Webpage: SEEDS OF RESILIENCE SUMMARY
DMH Updates/Follow-Ups	Upcoming CPT meeting – November 18th, 2025 Two of the CBP have been awarded – one is currently open for solicitation. (Closes November 10th, 2025)

	Suyapa: introduced herself – will be overseeing the projects Jessica: We need someone from our group to submit content for the Q1 2026 Quarterly Newsletter. Jessica will follow-up with previous volunteers. We need 4 in total for the next year.
Community Announcements/ Resources/Comments	
Closing Prayer	Nancy Steward provided a closing prayer.
Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, December 3rd, 2025 (2:00pm - 4:00pm) 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/	