



Latino UsCC
Cultivating Healthy Communities
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health

Meeting Minutes

Latino UsCC Subcommittee Meeting

Date: September 16, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Virtual Meeting (Microsoft Teams)

Co-Chairs: Maria Elena Aruaco

Participants: Alexandra Blanc; Angelina Mendoza; Augusto Huerta-Minakata; Betty Mendoza; Coach Afi G; Erendina Delgadillo; Irma Velasquez; Jenny Rivera; Jennyfer Ibarra-McMahon; Lilia Morales Perez; L. Perez; Magda Reyes; Maria Vasquez; Martha Guerra; Monica Martinez; Susana Asencion

DMH/Interpreters/Captioners: Alex(Interpreter); Alicia Morales Claudia (Interpreter); Claudia Fierro; Dr. Carla Jaramillo; Dr. Chiyah Lawrence; Dr. Christina Barnes-Matthews ; Dr. Evelyn E. Espinoza; Katryna Rangel (presenter);; Mirtala Parada Ward; Regina Ramirez; riKu Matsuda; Sara Hill, Stephany Romero (Presenter); Yolanda Renteria (Presenter); Yue Hua (CART services)

1. Welcome & Opening

Delayed start due to new meeting link changes

- **Dr. Jaramillo-** Participants were reminded to check their forms and verify attendance eligibility.
- **Land acknowledgment by Dr. Carla Jaramillo**
- **Community Agreements for Stakeholders Summary by Dr. Carla Jaramillo.**

2. Welcome – Suicide Prevention month and informative statistics by Maria Elena

- **Maria Elena:** reviewed thoughts and reflections related to Suicide Prevention, stigma within Latino Community, shared statistics and video

- Community members shared personal stories and thoughts related to suicide ideation, experiences and mental health awareness.
- Community members shared mental health service support links in chat

3. Presentation: Access to Care” Yolanda Renteria & Stephany Romero (DMH School Based Community Access Point)

- Provided information on how to access mental health services via DMH website in preferred languages
- Provided information on demographics for mental health access providers
- Shared links to access sites and information in chat

4. Minute Meets review by Maria Elena and Dr. Jaramillo

- Check attendance and inquired about 2 phone numbers with unknown names
- Motion to approve by Irma Vasquez and seconded by Maria Vasquez

5. BHSA Updates by Maria Elena

- Change from MHSA to BHSA and changes in housing emphasis
- Budget changes for new fiscal year
- Requested feedback from group

6. DMH and BHSA Updates by Mirtala Prada Ward

- Budget pending for UsCC units for 26-27 fiscal year
- Changes in funding and how it affects community and prevention funds
- Respond to questions by community members related to funding changes
- Encouraged members to attend BHSA meetings or send inquiries related to BHSA shared calendar of upcoming events

7. Community Building Project Updates, DMH updates by Dr. Jaramillo and Mirtala Prada Ward

- One project has been posted
- Informed subcommittee regarding co-chair Dr. Erik Hernandez's inability to continue as co-chair and seeking of new co-chair, requirements of co-chair, CAF stipend and alternate co-chairs
- Shared eligible voting members names and request for nominations
- Provided update on next meeting

8. Meditation Moment by Maria Elena

9. Labor Acknowledgement: Dr. Carla Jaramillo

Next Meeting:

Date: October 21, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Location: Virtual (Microsoft Teams)