

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
API Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC)
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Monday, 10/27/2025, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm

Present: Dr. Tuan D. Nguyen, Violeta V. Leones, Yailin Noriega, Keith Wells, Kathy Sim, Richer San, Sithea San, Melissa Pantoja, Kara Noble, Jason Park, Barbara Meyer, Patricia Kusaba, Sheila Wu, JR Kuo, Manalo Victor, Jennifer Norman, Krystal Fermin, Belinda Rabano, Keianna Crenshaw, Kerry Chhay, Maria N. Tan, Bea Leung, Anshu Agarwal, Sheetal S. Ayyatan, Kruti Rathod, Grace Leung, Winnie Hsieh, Sophia Yeung, City of Hope. Rhonda Leier, Dr. Christina Barnes-Matthews, Dr. Chiyah Lawrence, Dr. Carla Jaramillo, Korean Interpreter Sun, Mariko Kahn, Yue Hua Xu. CART Captioner: Rhonda Leier DMH Admin: Dr. Anna Yaralyan.	
Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Welcome & Introductions	Co-Chairs and Subcommittee Members
Land Acknowledgment & Community Agreement	Co-Chairs, Anna Yaralyan LA County Land Acknowledgment: https://lacounty.gov/government/about-la-county/land-acknowledgment/
Review of Meeting Minutes	The meeting minutes of 9/22/2025 API USCC Subcommittee meeting were approved. Motion to approve by Mariko Kahn and seconded by Sithea San.
DMH Updates	Keianna Crenshaw provided some updates: - Last BHSA Community Planning Team Meeting, CPT, was on October 14, 2025. At this meeting information was provided on harm reduction, crisis services, residential treatment services, and early intervention level of care. - Another BHSA meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, October 28, 9:30am – 12:30am, where we will be reviewing the state’s definition for prevention and early intervention under the Behavioral Health Services Act. There will also be a discussion on what changes will occur from MHSA funding and ways to highlight opportunities for community stakeholder input and advocacy. - There will also be a CPT meeting scheduled for this Friday, October 31st, where we will provide feedback on workforce education and training, workforce strategy, and medications for treatment. - Please attend the Community Planning Team Meetings to hear the latest on BHSA and share your community’s needs. Community Planning Team (CPT) Meetings are held twice a month with one

	in-person meeting at St Anne's and the other one conducted virtually. - Keianna thanked API USCC Subcommittee members for allowing her to step-in for Rosario Ribleza and give updates.
API UsCC Subcommittee Community Discussions!	API Subcommittee members discussed the need and the importance of continuing Capacity Building Projects for underserved cultural communities, including the API Community members. Mariko Kahn suggested for API Subcommittee members start having different training courses on various Community Defined Evidenced Based Practices, CDEs. This is so when the funding comes around, our agencies will be informed and be in good position to apply for projects for our communities as they're not going to limit it to legal contractors. Mariko said that she does not know enough about community-based evidence-based practices to make recommendations. She added that many API community members do not know what Community Defined Evidenced Based Practices are and need education on this. She asked what the protocols and parameters are on Community Defined Evidenced Based Practices. Sheila Wu stated that there must be a team approach and have a therapist and a case manager at minimum, to get trained and certified on Community Defined Evidenced Based Practices. The Agencies must test the fidelity of a given treatment model. Anna Yaralyan will follow up and inquire from Mirtala whether & when Community Defined Evidenced Based Practice training may be given to community Agencies & CEOs and inform API members about it.
API USCC Subcommittee Flyers!	🚩 API USCC Subcommittee members discussed the necessity of having API USCC Flyers to distribute within API Communities to increase member capacity.

Labor Acknowledgement	Dr. Anna Yaralyan read the Labor Acknowledgement
Upcoming Meeting: Monday, November 24, 2025 (2:00 pm-4:00 pm). more information about the API UsCC, please see its website: ://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mhsa/uscc/asian-pacific-islander-api-	

