

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
API Underserved Cultural Communities (UsCC)
Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
Monday, 11/24/2025, 2:00 pm-4:00 pm

Present: Dr. Tuan D. Nguyen, Violeta V. Leones, Yailin Noriega, Marianne Klee, Victor Manalo, Rhonda Leier, Nina Barber, JR Kuo, Grace Leung Patricia Kusaba, Lesley Washington Onyou Kim, Krystal Fermin, JR Kuo, Samantha Yu Korean Interpreter Sun, Alex Spanish Interpreter (Guest), Angelina Mendoza, Traci Higa, Geraldine White, Bea Leung, Rosario Ribleza, Dr. Christina Barnes-Matthews, Dr. Chiyah Lawrence, Dr. Carla Jaramillo, Mariko Kahn, Nina Barber, Suyapa Umanzor, Sheila Wu, Susana Ascencion, Katie Vinh, Sithea San, Kerry Chhay, Richer San, Belinda Rabano, 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 10/27/2025 API USCC Subcommittee meeting were approved. Motion to approve by Mariko Kahn and seconded by Violeta V. Leones. A few modifications of the meeting minutes were made and sent back to API USCC Subcommittee members.
Nina Barber – presentation! The Norooz Clinic Foundation is a Non-Profit Mental Health Clinic.	The Norooz Clinic Foundation, a Non-Profit Mental Health Clinic, (NCF) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit mental health clinic, located in Santa Ana, CA. Norooz is a Farsi word meaning “new day/new beginning.” It was founded in 2012 with the purpose of providing affordable and accessible mental health services to the communities of Orange County and beyond. The goal of the clinic is to have a stigma-free world. The three main aspects of the Norooz Clinic Foundation include: • Clinical Services • Workforce Training

	• Outreach & Advocacy At this clinic, services are available to all CA residents (6 and older). Also, services are available in-person and online (telehealth). Clinic provides therapy in 4 languages, English, Spanish, Farsi, and Mandarin Chinese. Services are given at an affordable cash rate, along with sliding scale & pro-bono, and the clinic accepts different forms of insurance. Contact information: www.noroozclinic.com (714) 386-9171 info@noroozclinic.com 1560 Brookhollow Dr., Suite 214 Santa Ana, CA 92705
DMH Updates	Rosario Ribleza provided some updates: • Last BHSA Community Planning Team Meeting, CPT, was on November 11, 2025. This was in person. There was also a meeting conducted on November 14 & 18, online, which gave a general overview of the BHSA program budget, and the overall DMH and Department of Public Health's substance abuse & housing budget. • At these meetings CPT Meeting participants and community members were given a chance to ask questions and have discussions about community needs. • During the November 14, 2025, meeting, a brief presentation on BHSA housing interventions was also provided, and information was given on different housing programs for individuals without housing and other eligible populations in need of affordable housing. • One of the highlights of this meeting was the difference on how funding will be distributed under BHSA vs. MHSA. • Under BHSA, 30% of the funding must be used for housing interventions. Also, 50% of the funds will be used for individuals that meet the criteria for chronic homelessness and up to 25% may be used for capital development of housing. • After housing budget was presented, community members were given 45 minutes to provide their feedback on the presented housing information. • The integrated plan based on community feedback will be put together and submitted to LACDMH Director for review. Then it will be sent to California Department of Health Care Services in Sacramento for review once again. From March 9, 2026, to April 8, 2026, there will be a 30-day posting period where community members will be able to review the draft. This will also be a time when community members can provide additional feedback, as there will be a public hearing. From April 9, 2026, the BHSA plan will go to the

	Behavioral Health Commission and then LA County Board of Supervisors. The plan will be finalized by May 2026. The Mental Health Services & Accountability Commission will provide the final approval on this plan by June 2026. BHSA implementation will begin effective July 1st, 2026. Rosario thanked API USCC Subcommittee members for allowing her to give updates. API USCC Subcommittee members expressed gratefulness for the information provided.
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. - Proposal was given to send all different translated versions of the API USCC Flyers to subcommittee members for stakeholder feedback & suggestions.

Labor Acknowledgement	Dr. Anna Yaralyan read the Labor Acknowledgement
API USCC Subcommittee will go DARK in the month of December 2025. Next Meeting: Monday, January 26, 2026 (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-	

