

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
Strategic Communications Division

Eastern-European / Middle Eastern (EE/ME) UsCC Subcommittee Meeting Minutes
9/24/2025
2:00PM - 4:00PM via Teleconference

Present: Nane Avagyan, Mitra Shabani, David Arakelian, Keianna Crenshaw, Nelly Ghukasyan, Jibril Hussen, Rhoda Addam, Karima Sudan, Riku Matsuda, Dr. Carla Jaramillo, Dewayne Hervey, Dr. Chiyah Lawrence, Armineh Stepanyan, Seta Haig, Mastaneh Moghadam, Amal Ibrahim, Darlesh Horn, Dr. Christina Barnes-Matthews, Rubou Sous, Yue Hua Xu.

DMH Admin: Dr. Anna Yaralyan, Mirtala Parada Ward.

Agenda Items	Comments/Discussion/Recommendations/Conclusions
Introductions	• Everyone introduced themselves. • Dr. Anna Yaralyan read the Board of Supervisors Land Acknowledgement.
Meeting Minutes Review and Approval	• Reviewed & approved 8/27/2025 EE/ME Subcommittee meeting minutes. - Nelly Ghukasyan motioned to approve & Seta Haig second. - Minutes were accepted by subcommittee members. There were no subcommittee member objections.
DMH Updates	Mirtala Parada Ward provided the following DMH updates: • LACDMH Community Planning Meetings are continuing. We urge stakeholders to attend these meetings and community members to share their voice about our community's mental health needs so the department can hear them. In case co-chairs can't attend some of the meetings, they can appoint other subcommittee members to appear. • 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. • It is important for all USCCs to be aware of the MHSA to BHSA transition. • During the last BHSA meeting on September 9, at the Community Planning Team Meeting, the focus was on the MHSA & BHSA budget.

	• Under the new BHSA which will take effect on July 2026, there are budget changes. The Full Service Partnership Program, FSP budget will continue, but will be less under BHSA. • Services for homeless population and substance abuse will increase. An added component will be rental assistance for those in need. • BHSA does not have funds for prevention. • Funds are available for early intervention services, workforce education and training, housing, capital technology and innovation projects. • Funds will be provided for outpatient recovery and wellness-oriented services, and outreach & engagement. • Funds will also be provided for treatment services in institutional settings, including probation halls and camps. Also, for youth services and locked mental health treatment beds for adults. • Funds will also be given for outpatient & intensive outpatient services, and crisis stabilization.
	• There are currently no funds for the Underserved Cultural Communities yet, however, a proposal will be submitted for the UsCCs to continue. • Highlights were provided from the Community Agreement protocols which are created for all the USCCs.
EE/ME Subcommittee Capacity Building Project Proposals.	○ Subcommittee members presented Capacity Building Project (CBP) Proposals for EE/ME USCC communities. ○ Informed Subcommittee members that we must wait to see if funds will be given to USCCs to conduct CBPs in the new fiscal year.
Next Meeting	❖ Labor Acknowledgement ❖ Next meeting will be on Wednesday 10/29/2025, from 2:00pm - 4:00pm. Capacity Building Capacity Building Project Proposals for FY 2025 - 2026 will be presented during the next EE/ME UsCC Subcommittee meeting.

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