



**DRAFT**  
**Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee**  
**Minutes**  
**November 10, 2010**

**CLCC Members Present:**

Richard Van Horn, Chair  
Eduardo Vega, Vice-Chair\*  
Rocco Cheng  
Stacie Hiramoto  
Janet King\*  
Marina Augusto  
Gitane Williams  
Gwen Wilson  
Doretha Williams-Flournoy  
Gwen Slattery  
Amber Burkan  
Dr. David Grant  
Will Rhett-Mariscal  
Monica Nepomuceno  
Leticia Alejandrez  
JoAnn Johnson\*

**MHSOAC Staff Present:**

Sherri Gauger  
Filomena Yeroshek  
Bev Whitcomb  
Thomas Powers  
Dee Lemonds  
Norma Pate

**Others Present:**

Autumn Valerio  
Kathleen Derby  
Delphine Brody\*  
Lin Benjamin\*  
Danielle (Unknown)  
Patti Gaynor  
Viviana Criado\*

**CLCC Members Absent:**

Nancy Carter  
Kelvin Lee

**Welcome and Introductions**

Richard Van Horn, Committee Chair, convened the meeting.

**Review and Approve October 13, 2010 Minutes**

The minutes were adopted without change.

**Preview of CLCC Training to be presented to Commission at November 18, 2010 Meeting**

- An introduction to the CLCC training was presented by a member of the committee's workgroup who discussed the importance of leadership in addressing cultural and linguistic issues and the need for tools that can promote

---

\* Telephone participation

thinking about how best to examine policies influencing cultural and ethnic disparities.

- Members of the CLCC training workgroup and Dr. David Grant presented the one hour training developed for the November Commission meeting. This included the 20 minute video on U.S. policies that have contributed to ethnic and cultural disparities.

### **Discussion/Comments Regarding CLCC Training**

- The structure for the upcoming training presentation was discussed as follows:
  1. Introduction by Doretha Flournoy-Williams
  2. Presentation of video
  3. Discussion of lived experience by Eduardo Vega
  4. Presentation of disparities data by Dr. David Grant
  5. Conclusion and Recommendations
- Discussion about how to wrap-up the training presentation. Include policies that the Commission could address. Highlight one or two county strategies that have been implemented to reduce disparities.
- The committee and others discussed the 20 minute video to be included in the training.
- Dr. David Grant presented the disparities data intended for the upcoming Commission training
- There were questions and considerable discussion about the data presented, what it meant, and suggestions for the Commission presentation. That discussion included the following:
  1. What is the best way to get more information related to disparities? Is there a possibility of investing in an existing survey mechanism, the California Interview Survey (CHIS) which was a source for data in Dr. Grant's presentation? The Commission could decide to invest in additional questions being added to the CHIS.
  2. Question about where you would find other data that indicates that disparities can result in more persons from ethnic/cultural backgrounds going to jail.
  3. Comments about the need to help low-income families with resources and child care, etc.
  4. Comment about the lack of insurance being a clear barrier to receiving mental health services
  5. Comments asking what the MHSOAC can really do with regard to some of these issues since they cannot fix economic disparity.
  6. Comment that Asian disparities are frequently misunderstood with the public believing there is not a serious need among Asians for mental health services

7. Comment that if you split out the various groups that comprise Asian Pacific Islander (API) the data would look quite different, particularly when adding variables for income and education.
8. Comment about the disparity that exists when there are language barriers and no translation services available
9. Comment about DMH having an existing contract for translation services and the need to invest more in this effort
10. Comment about the need to support counties' efforts to collect data
11. Request that Dr. Grant's presentation include recommendations
12. Request that Dr. Grant define "serious psychological distress" as used in his materials for the presentation
13. Suggestion for recommendation that the MHSOAC review its current policies to determine how better language access might be provided
14. Suggestion that the term "generational trauma" be introduced with examples of county programs addressing this issue
15. Discussion of preparing a "take-away" document for the training. One suggestion "Ten Things about Race"
16. Suggestion that there is way to get feedback from Commissioners about the training presented. Question about whether they might fill out anonymous evaluations
17. Suggestion that the MHSOAC continue to use the CLCC to develop future recommendations regarding cultural and linguistic issues

### **Discussion/Comments regarding MHSOAC Committee Structure**

#### **(Includes Public Comment)**

- Question about whether the CLCC could make its own recommendations about MHSOAC committee structure
- Comment that the committee ensures that there is a wealth of multiple voices represented
- Comment that in the past the CLCC has not produced a lot of work products and should focus more on specific work activities and revisit the purpose of the committee
- Comment that the CLCC is not allowed to do more meaningful things and that there should be discussions about institutional racism
- Comment that since the CLCC training presentation will be on the Commission agenda before the Committee Structure item, it could strengthen the need to retain the CLCC

- Discussion of “Option 2” presented at the last Commission meeting as an option for MHSOAC committee structure. This option would collapse the CLCC and CFLC into one committee whose primary focus would be developing, organizing, implementing and reporting on ongoing community forums to be held around the State.
- Commissioner Van Horn acknowledged that he had proposed Option 2 above and explained why he thought the focus on community forums would be of benefit to the Commission
- Question about how the Commission envisioned the community forums helping to reduce disparities
- Comment that we will not significantly reduce disparities until we have outcomes
- Comments in support of retaining both the CLCC and CFLC
- Comments: (1) noting disappointment that the CLCC has not done more; (2) suggesting an Action Plan that is more inclusive; (3) indicating that people with lived experience are outnumbered on the Committee; and (4) noting that the client/family perspective was not included in the CLCC training presentation.
- Comment that formal “public comment” on the MHSOAC committee structure is included in the document presented to the Commission and made available at today’s CLCC meeting
- Question about previous comment related to evaluation and outcomes impacting the reduction of disparities. If CLCC is eliminated who will review that type of evaluation?
- Comment that both the client/family member perspective and cultural/ethnic perspective are needed and that collapsing the two committees would limit input. Instead we need to make the CLCC more helpful to the MHSOAC.

**The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.**