

CLCC 2022 Survey Results

At the request of the Committee Chair, Mayra E Alvarez, staff sent a survey to all CLCC members which asked for thoughts on the Committee's work in 2021 and suggestions on areas of focus for 2022. Survey questions were as follows:

- 1) Are there new or additional goals we should consider for this year?
- 2) What is the most important thing that this committee should be working on?
- 3) Have you found attendance at the CLCC meetings a valuable use of your time?
- 4) What do you suggest we change to increase your participation?
- 5) Is there anything else you want to share to inform our work for 2022?

Seven responses were received and a summary of the feedback is below.

Summary of Feedback:

Responses indicate that the Committee should be working to inform the Commission about equity strategies for communities of color and guide the Commission's efforts on specific initiatives, like capacity building and sustainability of effective programs. The Committee could also be working to identify and promote mental health programs that have addressed the need for safety among populations who may not be comfortable seeking mental health treatment, including through recruiting representatives from underserved populations to attend Committee meetings and provide input.

Survey responses recommended that new Committee goals could include a review of clinical modalities and programs that address inequities. There was also a call to highlight effective community outreach efforts that provide resources, identify prevention and early intervention strategies, and address inequities in underserved communities of color in the LGBTQ population. Feedback also suggested a goal of highlighting the need of small community-based organizations to have additional time to respond to funding opportunities and implement programs which may align with the Committee's feedback on the Racial Equity Action Plan for grants and contracts.

In regard to whether or not the CLCC meetings have been a valuable use of time, most found value, feel they were heard, and expressed the value of a collective effort. Others felt that meeting agendas could include stated outcomes and more clarity on where feedback is needed. There was also a call to address more emerging needs and the strategies to address the needs.

Responses indicate that committee member participation could be increased if we identify our shared goals and refer back to those goals during our meetings. Additionally, including CLCC members in Commission or CLCC presentations, and increasing clarity on the outcomes desired from discussions. Others indicated that more meetings would be helpful to meet objectives and to move meeting times to accommodate public attendance.

Additional responses urged the Committee to learn more about one another, such as a retreat, and to seek unity and input from all members which could initiate "doing business differently" to heal our communities.

Specific Feedback from the Survey:

Are there new or additional goals we should consider for this year?

- The implementation of clinical modalities/programs that help to reduce/address inequities.*
- None at this time*
- Wellness Events/Pop-ups for communities to provide resources during the continuation of the pandemic?*
- Support modifications in MHSA funding for small organizations so that entry-level points are reachable by community-based organizations; this includes securing grants payment periods.*
- Practical strategies to improve prevention and early intervention outreach to underserved populations that also provide adequate time for behavioral health providers to apply for funding and implement given the current staffing challenges*
- Addressing Equity in underserved communities of color in the LGBTQ populations.*

What is the most important thing that this committee should be working on?

- Have Equity for all communities of color is the most important*
- Providing informed decisions about health equity programs to the Commissioners*
- Being a direct voice for the MHSOAC providing input or additional perspectives actively.*
- The most important thing is that we are committed to advocate for continued capacity building funding around the organizations' sustainability and growth.*
- Recommendations for ensuring that underserved populations feel safe to look for services in our mental health systems- including undocumented, limited English proficient, gender diverse, neurodiverse, homeless individuals*
- Creating a recruitment plan for underserved communities to participate in committee work and to be more inviting to those who are not currently at the meetings.*

Have you found attendance at the CLCC meetings a valuable use of your time?

- Sometimes we use too much time in discussing the same topic, we need to set up time for every topic.*
- Yes.*
- Very proud and appreciative of the opportunities and experience I have gained so far. I feel like I'm being heard and contributing. Sitting at the table gives unique and rare chances.*
- Yes, increased our collective efforts to ensure more equitable practices to serve our communities.*
- Not really. I'm not always sure what the person who developed the agenda has in mind as the outcome of the meeting. If the outcome were stated, that could make it easier to participate, so then saying the outcome of this presentation is that we'd like to hear your feedback whether or not you think this program should be implemented at the state level and why? Something like that would be really helpful because I'm always feeling like I have to guess what the reason is that certain items were included on the agenda.*

-The items on the agenda have been fairly useful. I would like more a focus on identifying emerging needs and how can the state address those needs.

What do you suggest we change to increase your participation?

-We need to follow up the goals of the committee and made the recommendations for implementation.

-Nothing.

-Actively advising chances by giving CLCC members a short slot during commission meetings or presenting during a slot during a CLCC meeting.

-We would need to meet more often so we can continue focusing on objectives.

-Increased clarity. What is the outcome desired for us to hear certain topics, which areas they would like to hear from each of us on, what our scope is in sharing our thoughts and transparency in terms of what happens after our meetings are held and what happens with the information we discussed.

-I suggest that we move meetings around where we can invite the public to attend and learn more about the process so that they can engage it. We need new community members to be involved.

Is there anything else you want to share to inform our work for 2022?

-The inequities of health and behavioral health on communities of color is a big issue in our country, we need to be unity and provide the input/recommendations that the whole committee provide base in the knowledge, experience and expertise in this issue.

-None at this time.

-Incentives with trainings or fellowship opportunities

-This initiative is the start of doing business differently in the counties and we would need to focus on how to heal our communities.

-Since we are a group of individuals from varying cultural perspectives, to ensure clarity for all required thinking outside of one's own cultural lens. When writing the agendas, being specific about the outcomes desired for the items will make it easier for all committee members to understand how to participate because that outcome portion will help create a common understanding among all committee members and CLCC staff

-I suggest that we allow sufficient time for the members of the committee can learn more about their co-members. Maybe a one-day retreat so that we can learn more about each other and our own communities.

Thank you for your valuable input!