



Our Mission is to Promote an
Inclusive Climate for Utah's
Multicultural Communities.



Utah Division of
Multicultural Affairs



LOCAL NEEDS AMONG UTAH'S **MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITIES** DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

APR 2020 // PREPARED BY THE UTAH DIVISION OF MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

> multicultural.utah.gov

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**PHYSIOLOGICAL AND
SAFETY NEEDS**

As vulnerable and marginalized communities navigate the pandemic, their physiological and safety needs are uniquely threatened.

**LANGUAGE & LITERACY
ACCESSIBILITY**

As the state continues to grow, especially with culturally and linguistically diverse populations, the need for translation services is essential, especially when life-saving measures are involved.

**COORDINATED
DISSEMINATION OF
INFORMATION**

To respond effectively to an emergency, individuals require accurate information from a trusted source and the ability to interpret that information to address unique needs.

**CULTURALLY MINDFUL &
INCLUSIVE APPROACHES**

A central issue voiced by respondents addresses the need to integrate culturally mindful and inclusive approaches in emergency response and preparedness strategies.

**INCLUDE DIVERSE
REPRESENTATION &
PERSPECTIVES**

Utah's demographics are quickly changing and our outreach and communication strategies must take into consideration the multicultural makeup of our constituents.

**ADDRESS SYSTEMIC
INEQUITIES**

Public health studies of past pandemics have revealed racial, ethnic, and income disparities in everything from the level of exposure, to healthcare access, to loss of employment, contribute to increased morbidity & mortality.

TABLE 1.5

UNIQUE BARRIERS FACED BY CLIENTS IN LIGHT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC


ACCESS TO COMPUTERS/TECHNOLOGY	75.27%
FOOD INSECURITY	74.19%
ACCESS TO INTERNET SERVICES	68.82%
MISINFORMATION	66.67%
HOUSING INSECURITY	63.44%
ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE SERVICES	60.22%
LANGUAGE BARRIERS	59.14%
FEAR OF DEPORTATION	51.61%
FEAR OF NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS TO IMMIGRANT-STATUS (I.E., PUBLIC CHARGE)	50.54%
LANDLORD/TENANT CONCERNS	45.16%
ACCESS TO EMERGENCY SERVICES	41.94%
ACCESS TO FAMILY-FRIENDLY WORKPLACE POLICIES	40.86%
ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR AGING POPULATION	29.03%
ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR LGBTQIA+	27.96%
ACCESS TO SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITY	24.73%
OTHER	15.05%
ACCESS TO VETERAN SERVICES	8.60%

*Respondents were encouraged to select all factors that apply, so the percentages do not equal 100.



COVID-19 Multicultural Subcommittee

MULTICULTURAL SUBCOMMITTEE

- 
- NUBIA PEÑA
 - BYRON RUSSELL
 - ZE MIN XIAO
 - JESS ANDERSON
 - DR. MARC BABITZ
 - ADEN BATAR
 - JUAN BECERRA
 - SILVIA CASTRO
 - MAYRA CEDANO
 - NEELAM CHAND
 - REBECCA CHAVEZ-HOUCK
 - DULCE DÍEZ
 - JAKE FITISEMANU, JR.
 - MIKE HADDON
 - EMMA E. HOUSTON
 - DUSTIN JANSEN
 - DENEIVA KNIGHT
 - CELINA MILNER
 - MIKELLE MOORE
 - DR. LEN NOVILLA
 - ASHA PAREKH
 - TAMI PYFER
 - MING WANG

WHO WE ARE



Nubia Peña
Director



Byron Russell
Co-Chair



Ze Min Xiao
Co-Chair



Jess Anderson
Utah Department of Public Safety



Dr. Marc Babitz
Utah Department of Health



Aden Batar
Catholic Community Services



Juan Becerra
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-
Day Saints



Silvia Castro
Suazo Business Center



Neelam Chand
Zions Bank



Rebecca Chavez-Houck
Utah Multicultural Commission



Dulce Diez
Utah Office of Health Disparities



Jake Fitisemanu, Jr.
Utah Pacific Islander Health
Coalition



Mike Haddon
Utah Department of Corrections



Emma E. Houston
MLK Jr. Human Rights
Commission



Dustin Jansen
Utah Division of Indian Affairs



Deneiva Knight
Comcast



Celina Milner
Salt Lake City Mayor's Office



Mikelle Moore
Intermountain Healthcare



Dr. Len Novilla
Brigham Young University



Yehemy Zavala Orozco
Comunidades Unidas



Asha Parekh
Utah Department of Workforce
Services, Refugee Services



Tami Pyfer
Utah Governor's Office



Ming Wang
Utah Department of Human
Services



RESOURCE PARTNER COALITION


- Alliance Community Services
- Christian Center Park City (CCPC)
- Domo
- Encircle
- Encircle LGBTQ Family & Youth Center
- Institute for Diversity & Health Equity
- Ogden Branch NAACP- Nat'l Association for the Advancement of Colored People- NAACP
- Ogden City Corp
- Project Success Coalition
- Salt Lake City Public Library
- Salt Lake Education Foundation
- Same Day Translations, LLC
- SelectHealth
- The International Rescue Committee, Inc.
- Utah Black Chamber
- Utah Black Roundtable
- Utah Film Center
- Utah Pride Center
- Utah State Library
- Utah State University
- Westminster College
- World Trade Center Utah



PURPOSE

The purpose of the Multicultural Subcommittee of the COVID-19 Task Force (MSCS) is to work in collaboration with existing frameworks to amplify efforts and alleviate the growing disparities faced by marginalized and underrepresented communities.

The MCSC aims to work towards long and short term goals that will begin to address the existing challenges the pandemic has compounded through both practical efforts and policy initiatives.





OUR CHARGE


The subcommittee will

- **ELEVATE** best practices inspired by individual and collective achievements
- **COORDINATE** an infrastructure for individuals and groups to work together statewide
- **CONNECT** state and private resources to the community
- **ACCELERATE** existing resources to programs for greatest impact



KEY DELIVERABLES

SHORT TERM:

- Increase language accessible information through translation, interpretation, and literacy skills considerations
 - Assist in the coordination of disseminating information through non-traditional channels for mass access
 - Increase service engagement in underserved communities to address essential needs (food, housing, and social services)
 - Amplify and elevate the efforts community advocates are already engaged in including grassroots initiatives
 - Establish a practice of transparency in subcommittee efforts to increase trust within underrepresented communities
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LONG TERM:

- Influence state and local efforts that address the pre-existing disparity caused by social determinants of health
- Influence policy initiatives that prioritize equitable distribution of state and local resources
- Develop a Language Access Plan
- Build capacity in Utah workforce to work with diverse communities through diversity, equity, and inclusion training



STRATEGY WORK GROUPS

- Food Security
- Social Services & Housing
- Language Accessible Information
- Communications
- Digital Divide
- Economic Sustainability



ACTIVITIES

- Campaign Message
 - Interfaith, diverse, and multilingual PSA's
- Healthcare Partnerships
 - Select Health/ Intermountain
- Work with state agencies to increase access for multicultural communities
- Close communication gaps with CBO's and state agencies
- Advocate for funding and support for CBO's



QUESTIONS?

To contact us:

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- Byron Russell - Byron@byron-russell.com
- Ze Xiao - ZXiao@slco.org

To join the Resource Partner Coalition

- Jenny Hor - JHor@Utah.gov

Thank you!