



**Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council  
General Meeting  
900 S. Fremont Ave., Room C  
Alhambra, CA 91803**

**Minutes of November 20, 2018**

**1. Announcements**

The meeting was called to order by Executive Director Eve Sheedy at 12:05 p.m. Ms. Sheedy initiated a moment of silence in honor of Transgender Day of Remembrance, then introduced Miekko Failey. Ms. Failey invited attendees to share their pronouns during introductions in order to dismantle traditional binary roles and to be more inclusive. She reiterated that this was an invitation, not a requirement, and those who do not wish to share their pronouns will also be supported.

**2. Update/Comments from Executive Director**

Ms. Sheedy reported the following updates:

- The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV) may issue a budget request for more housing.
- A family justice center is planned for the Martin Luther King, Jr. Health Center in Service Planning Area (SPA) 6.
- Ms. Sheedy submitted the Board report to Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director of Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (DPH). The report was submitted to the Board of Supervisors from DPH.
- There will be a standing Immigration Update item on the agenda for each DVC General Meeting.

**3. Safety Cards**

Erika Martinez from the Department of Public Health, Office of Women's Health (OWH) requested that interested parties complete the domestic violence safety card survey.

**4. Introductions**

Niki Madrid, Health Program Analyst III, introduced herself as the new team member in the office of the Domestic Violence Council.

All attendees introduced themselves.

Ms. Madrid reported that she will schedule a meeting with the volunteers to revise the *It Shouldn't Hurt to Go Home* booklet.

## 5. Committee Reports

### **Committee for Systems Improvement Meeting** - Co-Chair Gail Pincus

- No report

### **Immigration Committee** – Co-Chairs Kate Marr and Ardalan Zamani

The Immigration Committee met in November and discussed changes in federal immigration policy. The committee also discussed moving to quarterly meetings and partnering with other County entities involved in immigration issues.

### **LGBTQ Issues** – Co-Chairs Giovanna Martinez and Mieko Failey

The LGBTQ Issues Committee met in November and discussed goals for next year. They also discussed emerging issues and barriers for LGBTQ survivors and updating language to be more inclusive. Ms. Failey reported that the committee will be meeting monthly beginning in January 2019.

### **LA Regional Policy Committee** – Co-Chairs Debbie Ramirez and Nancy Volpert

- No report

### **Religion and DV** – Co-Chairs Bernita Walker and Donna Derden

- No report

### **Shelter Directors** – Co-Chairs Tatiana Dorman and Patima Komolamit

The Shelter Directors Committee met in October. They assessed bed availability data applications and decided to move forward with DVIRC.

## 6. Immigration Update

Brigit Alvarez of the Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA) presented an update on immigration issues. She reported an increase in fee waiver rejections and discussed a new policy that results in a notice to appear for denied applications. She noted that more immigrants are afraid to apply for government assistance and to report crime.

Dr. Susie Baldwin of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health suggested these websites for more information:

- Los Angeles County Office of Immigrant Affairs: <http://oia.lacounty.gov/>
- National Immigration Law Center: <https://www.nilc.org/>

## 7. Approval of the October 16, 2018 Meeting Minutes

On motion of Ms. Madrid, seconded by Kendall Evans, this item was approved.

8. **Panel Discussion: How DV Service Providers and Batterers Intervention Programs Can Work Together**

Moderator Nicole Perras asked the panelists to introduce themselves:

- Iliana Tavera – Executive Director, Haven Hills
- Mary Case – Program Manager for the Legal Advocacy Project for Survivors, Los Angeles LGBT Center
- Kendall Evans – Association of Batterers Intervention Programs (ABIP); Director, Another Way
- Christy Stillwell – Advocate, runs batterers intervention program at Homeboy Industries

The panel discussed how survivors and batterers groups can work together. Some suggestions were:

- Cross-training and collaboration
- Careful assessment to suit the needs of individual clients
- Ensure a trauma informed continuum of care
- Treat the whole problem (survivors and batterers), not half the problem (survivors only)
- Change the language and gender binary: *empowerment* group, rather than *survivor's* or *victim's* group and *stress and power management* group, rather than *batterer's* group.

The panel agreed that survivors' safety is a priority, and acknowledged that shelters are often a last resort when clients are fleeing for safety. However, the panelists welcomed the conversation of exploring how organizations can work together to help end the cycle of domestic violence. The panelists concurred that cross-training, partnerships, and collaboration were some first steps to working together within the framework of building healthy relationships.

The panel responded to questions/comments from attendees.

9. **Public Comments - Not to exceed two minutes per person and must be on items of interest which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council**

The South Asian Helpline and Referral Agency (SAHARA) in Artesia, CA is hiring a full-time Elder Abuse Victim Specialist. SAHARA also invites conversations and collaboration with other agencies who also address elder abuse.

10. **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

**ATTENDEES PRESENT NOVEMBER 20, 2018**

| <b>Organization</b>                            | <b>Name</b>          |
|--|----------------------|
| 1,736 FCC                                      | Escobar, Pablo       |
| ABIP, Another Way                              | Evans, Kendall       |
| ABIP, Another Way                              | Lokey, Sally         |
| Advancing Justice - Los Angeles                | Tse, Henry           |
| Amancer Community Counseling Service           | Quintero, Carlos     |
| Angel Step Inn                                 | Walker, Cecilia      |
| CABIP  | Kenworthy, Richard   |
| Community Legal Services                       | Coleman, Jason       |
| Community Legal Services                       | Marr, Kate           |
| DVP of CFC                                     | Rodriguez, Julia     |
| East Los Angeles Women's Center                | Espinoza, Zara       |
| Good Neighbors                                 | Bell, George         |
| Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law           | Smith, Lisa          |
| Haven Hills, Inc.                              | Tavera, Iliana       |
| Helpline Youth                                 | Davidson, Sandra     |
| Homeboy Industries                             | Stillwell, Christy   |
| House of Ruth                                  | Mason, Kimberly      |
| Human Services Association                     | Garcia, Cindy        |
| IMCES  | Alm, Karin           |
| IMCES  | Becera, Beatrice     |
| Interval House                                 | Webb, Nabila         |
| JADV   | Jemba, Oston         |
| Jenesse Center                                 | Alvarez, Bryon       |
| Jenesse Center                                 | Forrest, Kate        |
| Jenesse Center                                 | Rodas, Dulce         |
| Jenesse Center                                 | Youssefi, Karen      |
| Jewish Family Service                          | Rodriguez, Alejandra |
| LACBA DVP                                      | Rondon, Sara         |
| LAHSA  | Conner, Marisa       |
| Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles            | Lee, Julianna        |
| Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles            | Alvarez, Brigit      |
| LGBTQ Center Long Beach                        | Prado, Joyce         |
| LGBTQ Center Long Beach                        | Failey, Mieko        |
| Los Angeles LGBT Center                        | Case, Mary           |
| Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice         | McDonald, Carmen     |
| Los Angeles County CEO                         | Magana, Rowena       |
| Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health | Esparza, Carrie      |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health | Sheedy, Eve          |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health | Cooper, Jolene       |

| <b>Organization</b>                             | <b>Name</b>        |
|---|--------------------|
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Madrid, Niki       |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Martinez, Erika    |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Baldwin, Susie     |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Zapata, Carmen     |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Eidem, Ellen       |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Perras, Nicole     |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Hamil, Linda       |
| Los Angeles County Probation Department         | Schoengarth, Jim   |
| Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department         | Garret, CeeCee     |
| Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) | Cortes, Cristina   |
| Niswa Association                               | Islam, Sami        |
| Office of Samoan Affairs                        | Papanian, Odette   |
| Para Los Ninos                                  | Carmona, Erika     |
| Peace Over Violence                             | Deukmedjia, Terese |
| Peace Over Violence                             | Kung, Chris        |
| Peace Over Violence                             | Martinez, Jennifer |
| Prototypes                                      | Soofi, Olivia      |
| Rainbow Services                                | Quevedo, Leticia   |
| Rainbow Services                                | Fukuroda, Marci    |
| Sahara  | Neece, Marilyn     |
| Santa Monica City Attorney's Office             | Barreto, Halima    |
| SFVCMHC, Inc.                                   | Hulbert, Giselle   |
| Strength United                                 | Rath, Kim          |
| Su Casa   | Montelongo, Gloria |
| Tarzana Treatment Center                        | Sanchez, Crystal   |
| Tarzana Treatment Center                        | Tijani, Yetunde    |
| The Whole Child                                 | Vera, Elizabeth    |
| Valley Oasis AVDVC                              | Hernandez, Vanessa |
| Valley Oasis CaWORKs                            | Hone, Teresina     |
| West Covina Police Dept.                        | Franklin, Diane    |
| WomenShelter of Long Beach                      | Dorman, Tatiana    |
| YWCA Glendale                                   | Maddox, James      |
| YWCA San Gabriel Valley - Wings                 | Velasco, Christy   |