

## The Interfaith Committee on Intimate Partner Violence

Minutes for March 18, 2025

**I.** Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Bernita Walker. Present were Co-chair Varsha N., Co-Chair Cecelia Walker, Cynthia Hernandez, Ashley Phillips, LaTisha Davis, Samantha Vanegas, Debbie Dullabaum, Sandra Rodriguez, Jane Kim, Sarah Chavarria, Maria Sanchez, Shacobi Heron.

**II.** Attendees were invited to introduce themselves, Title, Organization Affiliation, and share 'If you had the opportunity to meet with a woman you admire-past or present-who would it be (in light of Women's History month)?

**III.** Guest Speaker: Nadia Shaiq of Women Mosque of America, Khatheeba (meaning: Orator delivering a sermon) provided insights into the experiences of Muslim women as it relates to IPV/DV/GBV. The speaker dispelled commonly held myths/stereotypes (e.g. *women are forced to wear hijab; Muslim women, in general, are oppressed and submit to abuse in relationships*). In contrast, she highlighted deeply held values and beliefs foundational to the practice of Islam (e.g. *no bowing to another human, the importance of living out one's faith in all relationships, as opposed to condoning abuse in relationships; the word Islam means 'submission to God'*).

**IV.** New, Critical, Emerging Issues: None

**V.** Follow-up from previous meeting: None

**VI.** Next Steps and action items: None

**VII.** Matters not posted on the agenda: None

**VIII.** 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

**IX.** Reminder to complete our DVC Monthly Meeting Evaluation Survey:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/C8MC8V9>

**X.** Next meeting: April 15, 2025 at California Endowment.

**XI.** Adjournment