



Domestic Violence Council (DVC) General Membership Meeting

Friday, March 21, 2025

10:00am to 11:30am (Pacific Time)

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
& Virtual (MS Teams)





Welcome Remarks



Welcome and Introductions

- Your name
- Pronouns
- Title/Role
- Agency or Affiliation

Land Acknowledgment



The County of Los Angeles recognizes that we occupy land originally and still inhabited and cared for by the Tongva, Tataviam, Serrano, Kizh, and Chumash Peoples. We honor and pay respect to their elders and descendants — past, present, and emerging — as they continue their stewardship of these lands and waters. We acknowledge that settler colonization resulted in land seizure, disease, subjugation, slavery, relocation, broken promises, genocide, and multigenerational trauma. This acknowledgment demonstrates our responsibility and commitment to truth, healing, and reconciliation and to elevating the stories, culture, and community of the original inhabitants of Los Angeles County. We are grateful to have the opportunity to live and work on these ancestral lands.

We are dedicated to growing and sustaining relationships with Native peoples and local tribal governments, including (in no particular order) the

- Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians**
- Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council**
- Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians**
- Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians – Kizh Nation**
- San Manuel Band of Mission Indians**
- San Fernando Band of Mission Indians**

To learn more about the First Peoples of Los Angeles County, please visit the Los Angeles City/County Native American Indian Commission website at lanaic.lacounty.gov.

Meeting Protocol



- Please be reminded that this is an open and public convening. Anything discussed in this space is not protected nor confidential. No client or survivor identifying information should be discussed/shared.

- This meeting is not recorded. We ask that attendees do not record the meeting with your own computers or personal devices.

- Similar to other DVC meetings, agendas are available/posted 3 days before the meeting.

- Notes and other handouts are available within 10 business days:
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dvcouncil/minutes/minutes.htm>

- If you need additional information or have questions about this or other DVC meetings, please email us: DVC@ph.lacounty.gov.

Agenda



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	LEAD
1.	Welcome and Introductions. (10 min.) <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Remarks by the Chair▪ DVC Co-Chairs and Attendees Introductions	Lan Pham, Executive Director <i>Domestic Violence Council (DVC)</i> <i>LA County – Dept. of Public Health</i>
2.	Discuss proposed changes to DVC Bylaws. (20 min.)	Lan Pham, Executive Director <i>Domestic Violence Council (DVC)</i> <i>LA County – Dept. of Public Health</i>
3.	Update from DPH-Office of Violence Prevention’s new LA County Sexual Assault Council. (10 min.)	Nicolle Perras, Executive Director <i>Sexual Assault Council (SAC)</i> <i>LA County – Dept. of Public Health</i>
4.	Discuss proposal for a joint LACCW – DVC “DV Briefing” in May 2025. (10 min.)	Aquilina Soriano Versoza, Chair Yasmin Tarver, Commissioner Yi Ding, Commissioner <i>LA County – Commission for Women/ Violence Against Women and Girls Committee</i>
5.	Immigration Report from LA VAWA Network (20 min.)	Julie Rivera-Coo, Sr. Attorney <i>Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County</i>
6.	Matter not on the posted agenda (to be presented and placed on a future agenda) (10 min.)	
7.	Public Comments not to exceed two minutes person and must be on items of interest which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the DVC. (10 min.)	
8.	Meeting adjourns.	

Item II. Proposed Changes to DVC Bylaws



BACKGROUND AND UPDATE

- The Current DVC Bylaws is outdated; last update was 11/12/2009).
- Board Motion on 11/07/17 directed DPH to *(a) conduct an assessment to support changes to bylaws; and (b) work with LA County Counsel to update and revise the current DVC by-laws to reflect any changes in structure, composition, or where necessary to effectuate LA County Board of Supervisor's desire to view, address DV/IPV issues within a public health framework.*
- The DVC experienced several leadership transitions between 2018 thru 2023 thus a delay in.
- October 2023 – October 2024: DVC Executive Director conducted additional assessments (observed DVC Standing Committee meetings, meet with community members, conducted in-person site visits, and led listening sessions on key issues impacting DV programs in LA County) to ensure that DPH 11/19/2018 assessments were still applicable given changes in the past 5+ years.

Item II. Proposed Changes to DVC Bylaws



- November 2024: Draft of updated Bylaws reviewed/discussed internally/DPH.
- December 2024: Draft of updated Bylaws reviewed/discussed with DVC Co-Chairs.
- January 2025: Draft of updated Bylaws review/discussed with LA County Counsel and Government Affairs
- March 2025: Draft of updated Bylaws review/discussed with community members.
- April/May 2025: Final draft with feedback from key stakeholders completed and routed through proper channels for review, discussion, and adoption.
- June 2025: Updates shared at June DVC General Membership Meeting.



NOTABLE PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS

1. DVC Leadership

- Currently, DVC Leadership consists of DVC Co-Chairs.
- Proposed change is to formalize leadership to be called “DVC Steering Committee” and increase the size of the DVC leadership 15 Co-Chairs to 25 members; and
- Representation would include members of the community from a wide range of areas including survivors with lived experience, representatives of DV service providers, DV legal services providers, DV/batterer intervention programs, healthcare, academia, philanthropy, religious organizations, schools, homeless services, senior services, services for people who are disabled, immigration services, the LGBTQ community, and law enforcement.

Item II. Proposed Changes to DVC Bylaws



2. Membership

- Currently, only agencies may become members of the DVC.
- Survivors must be employed or affiliated with an agency for 3 years to become members.
- There is no path for allied individuals, private educational institutions, health clinics, funders, or other individuals or agencies whose work focuses on sexual assault (outside of DV/IPV), trafficking, gang violence, child abuse, or other related fields.
- Proposed changes include are to lower the barriers for membership to less than 3 years; opening membership to individuals with sponsorship from current DVC members of good standing; and allowance of allied agencies to apply for membership.



3. Increase Effectiveness of Committees and Reduce the Number of Meetings

- Annually, the DVC convenes more than 60 ongoing meetings per year. These include General Membership, Standing Committees Meetings, Ad Hoc Committees, Workgroups, and Special Training Presentations.
- Currently, DVC meetings serve as a forum for business updates, information sharing, and systems coordination, as well as a training space.
- The proposal is to separate the business content from the training content of these meetings to ensure more effective and efficient use of time for business needs, while opportunities for focused trainings.



YOUR PARTNERSHIP IS IMPORTANT TO US

If you are interested in reviewing and providing feedback on DVC bylaws, please sign up here before noon on Friday, March 28th:
<https://forms.gle/GvG6jtrg8NYifsst6>

Your time commitment will include: (1) Approximately 4 hours of reviewing current and proposed changes to DVC bylaws and sharing your comments/feedback. (2) Approximately 4 hours of engagement with DVC staff and other key stakeholders regarding proposed changes.

Thank you!

Item III. DPH – OVP Sexual Assault Council



Nicolle Perras, Executive Director

Los Angeles County – Sexual Assault Council (LAC-SAC)

Department of Public Health

**Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Office of Violence Prevention**

Los Angeles County Sexual Assault Council Update – DVC General Meeting

March 21, 2025



**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health**





Introduction

- The LA County Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) was established in 2019 to bring together county departments and community partners to create a **common vision and to coordinate efforts for a violence free LA County.**
- Our goal is to **strengthen collaboration, capacity, and partnerships** to prevent multiple forms of violence and promote healing across all communities in LA County.





New OVP Initiatives

Gun Safety Initiative (2022)

Youth Suicide Prevention Pilot (2023)

Gender Based Violence Prevention (2024)

Sexual Assault Council (2024)



Background of LAC SAC

- Need – no dedicated LA County Body Prevention and Response to SV
- Informal SAC Coordinating Council (2001-2006)
- LA County Commission for Women Ad Hoc Committee on Sexual Assault
- Board Motion (October 2022)
- Formalized in OVP with Staff and Budget of \$1.76M



Landscape Analysis and Data

Emergency Department, Law Enforcement, Survey data

- Reported sexual assaults decreased during 2020.
- Most victims reporting sexual assault are female and young.
- Black individuals are over-represented among sexual assault victims compared to their share of the population.
- An estimated 427,000 adults in Los Angeles County have ever experienced unwanted sex by an intimate partner.



Establishing the Council

The purpose of LAC SAC is to assemble multiple sectors and individuals with lived experience that have a connection to sexual violence to coordinate across systems, facilitate communication, and create alignment between public safety agencies, healthcare providers, legal systems, survivors, county, and community partners that will allow for better service collaboration and integration, and therefore, better support survivors and more adequately meet the needs of the community.



Establishing the Council

Roles and Responsibilities

- Assist in the development of a LA County sexual assault strategic workplan.
- Provide guidance and recommendations on needs, barriers, and opportunities as it relates to sexual assault services, policies, and practices across the spectrum of prevention, intervention, and healing.
- Serve as a liaison to your local network, community, or coalition.
- Identify systemic, entrenched barriers, develop and help implement recommendations to improve the sexual assault response, increase access to support, and strengthen prevention strategies.



Establishing the Council

- **Brown Act Body**

- **Council Should Include:**
 - Those with Lived Experience
 - Hospitals/Healthcare
 - Immigration Agencies
 - LGBTQ+ Agencies
 - Elderly and Disabilities
 - Child Protective Services/CSEC
 - Colleges/Universities
 - Public Safety/Law Enforcement/Crime Lab
 - SV Service Providers
 - District Attorney/Victim Services/Courts
 - Rape Crisis Centers
 - Agencies serving Re-entry/Unhoused populations
 - SART Centers/Forensic Nurses
 - Military and Veteran Affairs



Establishing the Council

Eligibility Criteria

- Applications are restricted to individuals who live or work in Los Angeles County
- Members should be dedicated, committed, resilient, hopeful, and creative, and remain civil and respectful when emotions are heightened, and passionate ideas are shared
- Members should have either lived experience, work with survivors, or be involved in some aspect of responding to and/or addressing sexual violence.
- Members should have the ability to serve as a liaison to local agencies, networks, or community coalitions.
- Members should be able to commit to regular attendance and participation in meetings for two years starting in June 2025. Meetings and other activities are anticipated to take between 4-8 hours a month.



Selecting Council Members

Selection Process

Applicants were self-nominated

- 50 received
- wide variety of sectors, disciplines, lived experiences, geography, etc.

LAC SAC applications currently under review by a selection committee,

- 3 Community Partners,
 - 3 County partners (HRC, DHS, , and DYD)
 - 3 OVP representatives
-
- Applicants will be selected based on eligibility criteria and who represent a diverse spectrum of experiences, communities, and demographics.
 - Notifications will go out in May 2025.



Multipronged Process

- Establish the LAC SAC
- Strategic planning process
- Inclusive of stakeholder feedback and Brown Act parameters
 - Council members must abide by Brown Act
 - Ad Hoc committees, work groups, etc. have more flexibility

Immediate Goals:

- 1) Stakeholder convening end April 2025
- 2) First Council meeting end of June 2025



Priorities and Recommendations for

Sexual Violence

- Prevention
- Intervention
- Healing

System Level Coordination

- SART centers and providers
- Law Enforcement
- Resources and Referrals (warm handoffs)
- County Departments and Services (MH, SUD, Housing, etc.)

Training

Advocacy

Data

Role and Functions of LAC SAC



Thoughts, Questions, Comments



For more information about OVP,
please visit:

<http://ph.lacounty.gov/ovp/> or scan
the QR code

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County Sexual Assault Council
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Item IV. JOINT LACCW-DVC “DV BRIEFING”



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health



Yi Ding

Tenured Faculty Librarian
California State University
Northridge

Yasmin Tarver

**Director of Workforce
Development**
Jenesse Center, Inc.

Aquilina Soriano Versoza

Executive Director
Pilipino Workers Center of Southern
California

Item V. LA VAWA NETWORK



Julie Rivera – Coo, Sr. Attorney

Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County

LA VAWA Network

Item V. LA VAWA NETWORK



Link for Red Card (Rights if ICE stops you)
<https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas>



LOOKING FORWARD

Thanks for your patience. We will be posting DVC 2025 meetings
by/before March 31, 2025:

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dvcouncil/calendar/calendar.htm>

Item V. Matter Not Posted on the Agenda

