



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

**Minutes of June 18, 2019**

**1. Announcements and Introductions**

The meeting was called to order by Executive Director Eve Sheedy at 12:00 p.m.

**2. Approval of Previous Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the May minutes and was seconded. The motion carried with no nays or abstentions.

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

Ms. Sheedy reported the following updates:

- The *It Shouldn't Hurt to Go Home* resource booklet has been revised and replaced. It is now called *Reaching Out* and has been printed in English and translated in 16 other languages. In the next fiscal year, it will be printed in several languages and posted on the DVC website in all languages.
- Ms. Sheedy will coordinate the DV-DCFS Committee with Julianna Lee until someone is identified to fill the co-chair role. The committee is being revamped; a short survey will be distributed to obtain feedback on issues the committee should focus on to support improved communication. The next meeting will likely take place at the end of the summer or the beginning of September.
- The Guide for Effective Response to Domestic Abuse (GERDA) was developed as a protocol for first responders where there were children on the scene of DV incidents. The GERDA executive committee is developing a train-the-trainer training for certain County departments. Ms. Sheedy will meet with ICAN sometime in July to discuss the training and ability to obtain input from council members about the training before it is launched.
- The DVC and Office of Women's Health (OWH) conducted a "Deeper Dive" 11-week training for Public Health employees about domestic violence, human trafficking and sexual violence. Many DV provider agency representatives graciously spoke (for free) at various sessions. Efforts are in place to continue the effort to institutionalize these trainings by seeking additional funding to compensate subject matter experts for their time. Initial plans are to train all DPH employees.
- OWH is also providing a DV/SV/HT training for clinics run by DPH wherein they are working to create "Clinic Champions" that can support work in DV/SV/HT on site.
- DVC recently held a "Domestic Violence in the Workplace" conference for Los Angeles County departmental human resource professionals. Adrienne Green, a

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works employee, shared her personal experience. A significant success of the conference was a presentation from the Department of Human Resources (DHR) team which encouraged internal support and ongoing conversations about domestic violence. Additionally, over 5,600 County staff have completed the domestic violence online training. These efforts are raising the profile of domestic violence throughout LA County.

- One of the impacts if SB 144 passes is a cut to shelter funding paid through batterer's fees. This amounts to approximately \$800,000 annually. It's critical if that bill passes, that we find a means within the County to replace those funds or that there be some sort of carve-out to make sure those funds remain available. Conversations are ongoing within DPH.
- The process for providing stipends to help people with lived experience participate in DVC meetings is being finalized. It is expected to be based on an hourly rate of approximately \$25 per hour to cover time and to assist with transportation and/or childcare.
- The DVC prepared a paper in support of voluntary use of pronouns in employee signature blocks throughout the department. DPH leadership is in strong support of this effort and has combined it with a similar language-focused project.
- Ms. Sheedy will be away in September on the date of the DVC meeting and offered DVC members the opportunity to lead the meeting in her place. Individuals interested in taking more of a leadership role may benefit from this experience
- The Awards Committee will resume efforts to recognize important efforts in the community. A meeting will be scheduled soon.

#### **4. Immigration Update**

Kari White presented an overview of Kids In Need of Defense (KIND) and an immigration update.

- It is recommended to always use the current forms from the website for U-Visas due to constant updates and additions.
- The "means tested benefit" no longer qualifies for a fee waiver.
- Asylum applications now require fees.
- Under the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), minors can go to asylum office instead of before a judge. However, there is an anticipated policy change that will weaken protections.
- Government funding is suspended for shelters/facilities where immigrant children are held, resulting in no education or counseling.

## 5. Policy Update

- U Visa & T Visa Certification Requests - Assembly Bill 917 (Reyes) reduces the timeline for processing certification requests to within 30 days of the request or, if the person is in removal proceedings, within 7 days of the first business day after the request was received. The bill also requires that state and local law enforcement agencies provide a copy of the police report to the victim, victim's family member, victim's attorney, or victim's fully-accredited representative within 7 days of a request for the police report. The bill passed the Assembly and will be heard in the Senate Public Safety Committee on June 25, 2019.
- Pretrial Diversion for Primary Caregivers - Senate Bill 394 (Skinner) allows courts to grant pretrial diversion to a criminal defendant if the defendant is the custodial parent or legal guardian of a minor child, resides in the same household as the child, and provides a significant portion of the care and financial support that the child needs. This would not apply to defendants charged with serious or violent felonies, as defined by state law. Moreover, the court must determine that the defendant will not pose an unreasonable risk of danger to public safety or to the minor child in their custody if allowed to remain in the community. The bill passed the Senate and will be heard in the Assembly Public Safety Committee on June 25, 2019.
- Domestic Violence Restraining Orders - In Lugo v. Corona, a wife's application for a DVRO against her husband was denied by the family court on the grounds that a CPO [criminal protective order] was already in place. The Court of Appeals reversed the family court decision, acknowledging that criminal and civil protective orders may coexist and the issuance of one does not bar the issuance of the other.
- SB 144 - Eliminates various criminal fees, including mandatory fees imposed on individuals convicted of, and placed on probation for, a domestic violence offense. A portion of these criminal DV fees are used to fund local domestic violence programs. The California Partnership to End Domestic Violence (CPEDV) advocated to create an exception to the bill for criminal DV fees. Although an exception was made for optional court-ordered fees payable to a domestic violence shelter, elimination of the mandatory \$500 fee is still included in the bill and is the primary DV fee that goes towards funding local programs. The authors of the bill are from the Los Angeles Area. The bill will be heard in the Senate Public Safety Committee on June 25, 2019.
- HUD's proposed "Mixed-Status Family Rule" impacts immigrant families. Public comment on the proposed Mixed Status Rule is due by July 9, 2019. You can submit comments directly to HUD through the National Low Income Housing Coalition's and National Housing Law Project's joint website regarding the proposed rule: [www.keep-families-together.org](http://www.keep-families-together.org). The site also includes comment templates that agencies can modify and submit on their own at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) (Docket ID: HUD-2019-0044).

**6. Presentation****Domestic Violence + Health Care Partnerships: Impact, Findings and Lessons Learned**

Presenters: Jennifer Haddad Bell, Jenesse Center  
Dana Knoll, Watts Health Care Corporation  
Ana Interiano, YWCA of San Gabriel Valley  
Rebeca Melendez, East LA Women's Center

The presenters provided a project overview and findings of their recent collaborative project, Domestic Violence and Health Care Partnerships, funded by Blue Shield of California. The explained both the things that worked well as well as some of the barriers they addressed in working to align two separate systems.

The presentation was followed by a brief question and answer period.

**7. Committee Reports – Written reports for May are attached.**

- LGBTQI+ Committee – no report submitted
- Religion & DV Issues Committee – no report submitted

**8. Public Comments – A brief announcement was made regarding an available flyer for the Community Connections Summit for the Domestic Violence – Homeless Services Coalition.****9. Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.**

**ATTENDEES PRESENT June 18, 2019**

AGENCY	NAME
ABIP	Evans, Kendall
Amanecer Community Counseling Service	Schmidt, Janeth
Angel Step Inn	Salcedo, Vibi
Cambodian Association of America	Man, Danychea
Cambodian Association of America	Neth, Sovanna
Community Legal Aid SoCal	Neshkes, Rachelle
Domestic Abuse Center	Pincus, Gail
Domestic Violence Program of Child & Family Center	Krysta Warfield
Downtown Women's Center	Excell, Michelle
Downtown Women's Center	Ortega, Cyndia
East Los Angeles Women's Center	Kappos, Barbara
East Los Angeles Women's Center	Perez, Elizabeth
Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law	Slater, Heidi
House of Ruth	Mason, Kimberly
Institute of Multicultural Ed. & Couns. (IMCES)	Cullen, Siobhan
Institute of Multicultural Ed. & Couns. (IMCES)	Cartagena, Jaime
Interval House	Webb, Nabila
Interval House	Anees, Rubab
Jenesse Center	Forrest, Kate
Jenesse Center	Adounuje, Lara
Jenesse Center	Denton, Christina
Jenesse Center	Carter, Jazmyn
Jenesse Center	Bell, Jennifer
Jewish Family Service	Reiner, Sharon
Jewish Family Services	Lainer, Hannah
Kids in Need of Defense	White, Kari
Korean American Family Services, Inc. (KFAM)	Chung Joe, Connie
LAUSD	Escalante, Milagres
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles (LAFLA)	Quevedo, Dominique
LGBTQ Center Long Beach	Failey, Mieko
LGBTQ Center Long Beach	Prado, Jaye
Los Angeles Center for Law & Justice	Carroll, Erica
Los Angeles City Mayor's Office	Smith, Chanel
Los Angeles City Mayor's Office	Wenceslao, Melissa
Los Angeles City Police Department	Garcelona, Ria
Los Angeles County Community Development Authority	Lindsay, Betsy
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health	Esparza, Carrie
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Eidem, Ellen
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Chun, Katie

AGENCY	NAME
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Bolt, Laura
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Sheedy, Eve
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Madrid, Niki
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health	Cooper, Jolene
Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services	Mizell-Burt, Jackie
Los Angeles County Department of Public Works	Green, Adrienne
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office	Geltz, Ron
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department	Cabrera, Naomi
Maddox Associates	Maddox, James
Office of Samoan Affairs	Papanian, Odette
Para Los Ninos	Carmona, Erika
Peace Over Violence	Kung, Chris
Project Peacemakers	Walker, Bernita
Rainbow Services	Fukuroda, Marci
Rainbow Services	Escalante, Carielle
Sojourn	Butler, Pat
South Asian Helpline & Referral Agency (SAHARA)	Alamshaw, Katy
Su Casa-Ending Domestic Violence	Lopez, Liliana
Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.	Tijani, Yetunde
Watts Healthcare	Knoll, Dana
West Covina Police Department	Franklin, Diane
Women Shelter of Long Beach	Dorman, Tatiana
YWCA Glendale	Zananiri, Eleny
YWCA of San Gabriel Valley	Velasco, Christy
YWCA of San Gabriel Valley	Ward, Debra

**COMMITTEE REPORTS****A. Los Angeles Regional Policy Committee Meeting, May 16, 2019**

Nancy Volpert, Co-Chair called the meeting to order and participants self-introduced. Introductions were followed by report backs on bills from the Bill Chart (those needing access to the bill chart Google Doc, contact [nvolpert@jfsla.org](mailto:nvolpert@jfsla.org))

**Pending 2019 Legislation****State**

Review began with the legislation that newest from last month.

**AB1449** – Amy Durrence reports that this bill prohibits denying a CalVCB claim for failure to make a police report and sets standards to demonstrate that the crime occurred; prevents denying a claim filed by a DV survivor for failure to report the DV or for delayed reporting, this bill would loosen up the most common reason for denial of CalVCB claims

**AB1559** – RJ explains that this bill expedites the process for concealed carry of a legal firearm. This bill not currently moving; but Eve has recently read article on subject and might bring information next meeting

**SB 144** – Nancy and Marci report that this bill removing fines for a number of situations, but removing criminal fines against batterers will result in significant funding loss for DV programs; *those who have an interest may wish to contact their representatives, Holly Mitchell and Bob Hertzberg*. Marci followed up after the meeting with additional information: The bill made it through the Senate Appropriations Suspense File today, when the bill went into suspense, there was no carve out to preserve DV fines. However, the bill will be amended as it comes out of suspense.

**SB 435** – Minty to report next month because reconsideration granted, technical family law proposal

Review of bill chart

AB4 – Still moving and subject to negotiation

AB12 – Diane is monitoring, bill is out of Senate

AB14- Stephanie(Strength United) to follow

AB24 – Amy D is monitoring, it was set for hearing yesterday in appropriations

AB53 – Chris is watching, but it is mostly dead

AB61 – Keep monitoring

AB67 – was a “gut and amend” bill, currently on suspense, but likely to move forward, conversations are needed with Rivas’ office

AB122- dead

AB164 – no update

AB166 – Eve reports there will a new office of violence prevention, this bill is directed to hospital based intervention services and would allow them to bill MediCal

AB 171 – Eve monitoring this bill that would create a presumption of retaliation in sexual harassment cases; bill is heavily opposed by employers

AB196 – Amy D is monitoring and expresses concern that this bill is regressive and does not offer job protections, will likely die in the Senate

AB339- No news since last month

AB340 – Even monitoring

AB381 – Amy G to monitor

AB433 – RJ to watch

AB445 – seems not to be moving

AB455- seems not to be moving, Amy G to monitor

AB573 – seems not to be moving, Melody to monitor

AB624 – still moving, still alive, Melody to monitor

AB628- Amy following, Eve continues to express concern that language is too broad and will allow abusers to take time of work

AB668 – Hearing today, there may be a significant fiscal impact

AB800 – pass until June

AB917 – pass until June

AB925 – still moving, pass until June

AB960 – still moving

AB1029 – pass until June

AB1129 – stalking bill would prohibit use of drones for stalking

AB18 – Carielle to look at for June

SB31 – Eleny reports that bill not is currently moving, but is similar to AB668

SB36 – has been significantly amended and is moving forward; a bail reform bill is somewhat on hold, needs more evidence to determine an effective risk assessment in lieu of bail

SB48 – Jerilyn to watch, but after meeting news reports announced that bill was dead

SB135 – the better Paid Family Leave bill that includes job protections and expands protection to employers with 5 or more (instead of 50) employees; comments should be submitted

**Federal** – Trump Administration proposes chained CPI to calculate the poverty level, which will reduce the number of people eligible for public benefits

**Local** – LA City Council passes budget, which is assumed to be good news as no cuts were proposed

### **Emerging Issues**

**AB656** – Office of Healthy and Safe Communities under the Surgeon General, for Violence Prevention; Jerilyn and Stephanie to follow

Eve reports public safety committee asked her what bills were of greatest interest for support and opposition, bills of most interest AB144, AB668 and SB31

There may be a future merger of CalOES and CalVCB, to be overseen by Surgeon General, this may have an impact on funding

Proposed HUD Rule denying benefits for mixed families is open for comment

**Matters not on the posted agenda offered.**

Room polled for preferred meeting location.