

LA REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE UPDATE

January 2020

JOIN THE COMMITTEE

For more information on local, state and federal policy issues, we invite you to participate in our monthly committee meetings (3rd Thursday of each month).

Next meeting:

February 20, 2020

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Legal Aid Foundation of LA
1550 W. 8th Street, 3rd Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017



STATE BUDGET UPDATE

On January 10, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom released his proposed 2020-2021 state budget. The budget includes \$20.6 million for domestic violence agencies funded through the Domestic Violence Assistance Program (DVAP). However, the \$5 million for Domestic and Sexual Violence Prevention, which has been included in the state budget for the past two years, is not included in the proposed budget.

Although the budget's homelessness funding does not include specific funding for serving domestic violence survivors, the proposed budget was developed before the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence submitted its request to the Governor's office for DV-specific homelessness funding.

Some positive aspects of the proposed budget include the following:

- The Governor's contemplated consolidation of victim service programs managed by Cal VCB and Cal OES is temporarily paused due to the need to address recent disasters.
- Access to Medi-Cal is expanded to undocumented seniors.
- The amount of child support payments passed through to CalWORKs families is increased from \$50 to \$100 for a family with one child and \$200 for a family with two or more children.
- \$8.1 million in 2020-21 and \$15.5 million annually thereafter will be used to add "court navigators" at local courthouses to assist unrepresented litigants with navigating the court system.

The Partnership will advocate to ensure that prevention funding and other budget items that benefit survivors are included in the Governor's May 2020 Revision of the state budget.

To review a summary of the proposed state budget, visit <http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/202021/pdf/BudgetSummary/FullBudgetSummary.pdf>

LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

The Little Hoover Commission is an independent state oversight agency created in 1962 to investigate and make recommendations to improve the efficiency of state operations. The Commission is currently charged with examining the State's response to intimate partner violence (IPV). On January 24, 2020, Commissioners will hold an advisory meeting in Sacramento with representatives from the Partnership and domestic violence programs throughout the state to learn how



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the State can better support services for survivors. Elizabeth Eastlund, Executive Director of Rainbow Services, and Terra Russell Slavin, Esq., Director of Policy and Community Building at the Los Angeles LGBT Center, will represent the Los Angeles Region. The Commission plans to hold a second hearing in February 2020 that will focus on how state agencies work to reduce and prevent the impact of IPV. If you would like to share your thoughts about the issues being examined by the Little Hoover Commission, please contact the Partnership's policy team at policy@cpedv.org.

FEDERAL FUNDING UPDATE

In December 2019, Congress passed spending packages to fund all government programs through September 2020. Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) funding increased to \$175 million, its highest funding level ever. \$7 million will go directly to tribes in addition to a 10% set aside for tribes. Overall, Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) funding increased slightly from the prior fiscal year, including small increases for the Transitional Housing and Legal Assistance programs.

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funding decreased from \$3.5 billion to \$2.64 billion. It is estimated that this will result in a loss of approximately \$746 million in funding for states under the VOCA State Victim Assistance program. Please note that states have three years to spend VOCA funds so the impact of this change will vary state by state. The Partnership has reached out to Cal OES to determine the potential impact of the cut for California grantees and will share any updates with the field.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Recent California Family Law Appellate Cases Webinar

On January 29, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., the Family Violence Appellate Project will cover recent California family law cases that directly affect domestic violence survivors and their children. The webinar is \$15 for Partnership members and \$35 for non-members. One hour of general MCLE credit will be provided. To register, go to: <https://cpedv.memberclicks.net/recent-appellate-2020#/>

New Laws Overview

On February 18, 2020, at the General Meeting of the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council, Nancy Volpert and Minty Siu-Kootnikoff will review important state laws passed during the last legislative session.

Prevention Training

On March 3-5, 2020 at the Sheraton Gateway in Los Angeles, the Partnership is hosting *Building Change Together: Prevention Core Competencies Training*, a skill-building training that reviews domestic violence, sexual assault and teen dating violence prevention initiatives in California. There is an enhanced track for people with prevention experience that addresses issues such as bystander intervention, LGBTQI+ inclusive prevention strategies, and youth leadership. For more information, contact Miranda Stiers at miranda@cpedv.org.

Policy Advocacy Day | Membership Meeting | Denim Day

On April 28 and 29, 2020, the Partnership will be holding its annual membership meeting, Policy Advocacy Day 2020, and Denim Day rally in Sacramento. We will keep you updated about registration and travel stipends.