



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

Minutes of February 18, 2020

1. Announcements and Introductions

Eve Sheedy, DVC Executive called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

A motion to approve the January 2020 minutes was presented and seconded. The motion carried.

3. Update/Comments from Executive Director

Eve Sheedy reported the following updates:

- The ad hoc DV-DCFS committee meeting occurred on February 4, 2020 and had a good turnout. Going forward, the committee will meet periodically and be co-chaired by ICAN, DCFS, and the DVC. Breakout groups discussed items for committee focus.
- Ms. Sheedy met with the Office of Child Protection and discussed a pilot program to place a DV expert in local offices.
- Ms. Sheedy will distribute the response to the Board of Supervisors' motion regarding DV forensic exams when final. Two surveys (for research only) related to the motion will be distributed.
- Next month's general meeting will be held jointly with the Los Angeles City DV Alliance on Monday, March 23, 2020 at the California Endowment.

4. Immigration Update

Brigit Alvarez presented an immigration update.

- The injunction against the public charge rule is no longer in effect.
- The injunction against fee waivers is still in effect. The old form I912 is still available.
- Removal proceedings are occurring in cases in which U-Visas have been denied. This underscores the importance of connecting with Immigration Counsel on these cases.

5. Presentation

2020 New Laws

Presenter: Los Angeles Regional Policy Committee

- Pallavi Dhawan, Director of Domestic Violence Policy & Prevention, LA City Attorney's Office
- Minty Siu-Kootnikoff, Legal Services Director, Sojourn Services
- Nancy Volpert, Director of Public Policy & Strategic Initiatives, Jewish Family Service

The presenters provided an overview of new domestic violence related state laws. The presentation was followed by a brief question and answer period. Resources from the presentation, including the PowerPoint, will be posted to the DVC website.

6. Committee Reports

Committee reports will be posted on the website:

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

- Committee of System Improvements (see Attachment I)
- LGBTQ Issues Committee (see Attachment II)
- Religion and DV Issues Committee (see Attachment III)

7. Public Comments

Public comment was given.

8. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

ATTENDEES

AGENCY	NAME
1736 Family Crisis Center	Escobar, Pablo
ABIP	Evans, Kendall
Amanecer	De La Cruz, Janeth
Angel Step Inn	Salcedo, Vibi
Angel Step Inn	Walker, Cecilia
Becky's Angels International	de Santiago, Sabrina
Cambodian Association of America	Man, Danychea
Cambodian Association of America	Neth, Sovanna
Center for the Pacific Asian Family	Komolamit, Patima
Child & Family Center	Krysta Warfield
Child & Family Center	Labby, Carolyn
Community Legal Aid SoCal	Brown, Nikki
Community Legal Aid SoCal	Neshkes, Rachele
Domestic Abuse Center	Pincus, Gail
Downtown Women's Center	Lorilyn Luong
Foothill Family	Rivera, Mariela
Haven Hills	Aguero, Karen
House of Ruth	Bell, Pat
Human Services Association	Arellano, Christina
Human Services Association	Garcia, Cindy
Human Services Association	Gomez, Aylin
Human Services Association	Jimenez, Jessica
Human Services Association	Najera, Viviana
Human Services Association	Orozco, Cassandra
Human Services Association	Rivas, Guillermo
Human Services Association	Vargas, Stacie
ICAN	Shulman, Edie
IMCES	Cartagena, Jaime
Interval House	Webb, Nabila
Jenesse Center	Dula, Angelo
Jenesse Center	Forrest, Kate
Jewish Family Service	Lainer, Hannah
LA City Attorney's Office	Dhawan, Pallavi
LA City Police Department	Sadanaga, Marie
LA County Bar Association	Rondon, Sara
LA County CDA	Lindsay, Betsy
LA County DA	Geltz, Ron
LA County DMH	Beaubien, Nicole
LA County DMH	Esparza, Carrie
LA County DPH	Bolt, Laura
LA County DPH	Cooper, Jolene

AGENCY	NAME
LA County DPH	Eidem, Ellen
LA County DPH	Madrid, Niki
LA County DPH	Rodriguez, Yeira
LA County DPH	Sheedy, Eve
LA County DPSS	Torrico, Sergio
LA County Probation Department	Leon, Melissa
LA County Sheriff's Department	Clover, Shawn
LA County Sheriff's Department	Mejia, Adriana
LAHSA	Cortes, Cristina
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles	Alvarez, Brigit
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles	Davis, Lea
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles	Quevedo, Dominique
LGBTQ Center Long Beach	Martinez, Daniel
LGBTQ Center Long Beach	Mendoza, Jose
LGBTQ Center Long Beach	Prado, Jaye
Los Angeles Center for Law & Justice	Gaskin, Phallen
Maddox	Maddox, James
Neighborhood Legal Services of LA Co.	Goldman, Amy
Office of Samoan Affairs	Papanian, Odette
Peace Over Violence	Deukmedjia, Terese
Project Peacemakers	Walker, Bernita
Rainbow Services	Escalante, Carielle
Rainbow Services	Fukuroda, Marci
Roar Training Consulting	Varsha N.
Santa Monica City Attorney	Meyers, Heather
Skid Row from a Woman's Perspective	Shaw, Suzette
Sojourn	Butler, Pat
South Gate	Martinez, Marisol
South Gate Police	Maldonado, Laura
Su Casa-Ending Domestic Violence	Maya, Jocelyn
Su Casa-Ending Domestic Violence	Monarrez, Sarah
Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.	Tijani, Yetunde
The Whole Child	Garza, Laura-Elena
Veteran Affairs	Witten, Candace
West Covina Police Department	Franklin, Diane
Women & Children's Crisis Shelter	Santillan, Arturo
Women Shelter of Long Beach	Guzman, Morgan
Women Shelter of Long Beach	Settle, Letticia
YWCA Glendale	Sellon, Magda
YWCA of San Gabriel Valley	Velasco, Christy
	Gonzalez, Judith
	James, Roman

ATTACHMENT I

COMMITTEE ON SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT MEETING

Tuesday, February 18, 2020

2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.

900 S. Fremont Ave., Alhambra Room

Alhambra, CA 91803

Co-Chairs: Rachelle Neshkes and Gail Pincus

REPORT

Discussed recent courtroom experiences. Discussion of problems victims are having with getting their ROs entered into CARPOS and CLETS. Met with Detective Sadagana after the DVC meeting and she agreed to attend a future meeting to talk with us about this issue. We will discuss legal requirements on what needs to be conveyed to the victims when ROs are not entered into the systems, (if anything,) and when. Suggestion is made of a legislative fix – to require civil service units or clerks to give the victim written confirmation as to whether it was entered into the system, and if not, why not? That paper can then be reviewed by others to determine what the issues are. We discussed continuing issues throughout the county of victims being unable to get their ROs enforced. They are unable to obtain reports for violations of court orders. EPOs are said to have been declined by victims in police reports, yet all throughout the county victims deny that they were offered a restraining order or protective order of any kind. Discussed process by which DVC guest was able to get a judicial officer off of her case and she will be sending RN more details about how she was able to do this. Discussion of lack of domestic violence experts who are given an opportunity to testify in family court. Discussion of coercive control legislation will be tabled until the next meeting and placed on the agenda for next month.

ATTACHMENT II

LGBTQ ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, February 11, 2020
10:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
900 S. Fremont Ave., Small Dining Room
Alhambra, CA 91803
Co-Chairs: Mieko Failey and Giovanna Martinez

REPORT

Goals 2020 revised:

- 1) Organize and execute a roundtable/community forum to bring county and institutional stakeholders together to discuss the needs of LGBTQ people who experience violence and people using power and control, with a focus on interdisciplinary voices.
- 2) Dedicate a portion of the meeting to training on LGBTQ anti-violence issues to educate providers on a wide range of issues affecting LGBTQ people who experience violence and people using power and control.

The committee discussed training topics and possible trainers for those topics, as well as particular challenges for LGBTQ communities.

The committee identified next action steps.

The committee identified county agencies and/or system actors that could be at the table for Goal (1).

ATTACHMENT III

RELIGION and DV ISSUES COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, January 28, 2020, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Project Peacemakers, Inc.
1826 West 54th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90062
Co-Chairs: Bernita Walker, Cecilia Walker, and Varsha N.

REPORT

Meeting was called to order by Bernita Walker, co-chairperson at approximately 1:10 pm. Present were Varsha N. Co-chair; Cecilia Walker, Co-chair and Mable Pearce, guest/prospective new member. Ms. Pearce's Domestic Kindness project is a faith-based organization that Ms. Pearce, a survivor, began at her home church. Their platform is to address domestic violence within the Diamond Bar community through training the churches about Domestic Kindness as spoken from the bible. They Create bible studies within the church, using dedicated members to form action teams and are obligated to teach kindness from the bible using specifically chosen scriptures to groups within the church. Those trained then go to other affiliated churches within their circle of influence starting the process over again. Right now, it is for Christian Faith. Domestic Kindness focuses on education and referrals. June 20, 9am to 12. The project has a sermon outline for Pastor to use once a month. We are very excited about this format and will be attending the training to build the committees ability to introduce this concept to our efforts providing a warm handoff.

Our concern, as a committee, is the cultural implications that comes from other faiths. While we recognize the differences in worship we also chose to focus on commonalities of the disease.

Varsha shared her worldwide experience of the need of addressing openly the issue of DV/IPV. Most International areas where she speaks believe that they are the only areas that have DV.

Discussion opened on our desire to present to DVC in an attempt to stir interest in the work of our committee hopefully generating similar programs in additional faiths. We discussed two(2) types of presentations: 1. A short blimp on committee with an invitation to share needed contact info concerning the attendees faith leaders, through having a signup sheet for those in attendance who might hang behind to ask any questions and discussing the possibilities of getting their Faith leaders info to pursue as a contact. Enabling us to address key issues in DV that come up in religion and 2. To share increased knowledge on actions taken toward production of the spread of DV knowledge amount their place of worship and increase the committees membership participation.

We discussed our challenges with the faith community such as breaking the barriers presented by the Faith leaders to confront the issues of DV/IPV.

Proclamation for "Start by Believing (SBB)" were covered. Varsha is bringing forward the movement, End Violence Against Women International. It is noted that victims more often report to a neighbor rather than police and that 97% of people who tell you a story about their abuse are telling the truth. Our desire is to get the authorities to not judge the victim instead to go beyond the obvious in determining the victims needs. Remembering the possibilities of

victims stories changing from first told to the next day due to the fact of trauma and the time of the interview.

We have requested both types of time to present of the executive office.

There being no more discussions, Meeting adjourned at 3:10pm. Next meeting February 25th.

Respectfully submitted, Religion and DV Committee, by Bernita Walker