

**Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council  
General Meeting  
WebEx**



**Minutes of May 18, 2021**

**Recording link:**

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dvcouncil/minutes/2021/05/051821recording.mp4>

- I. Eve Sheedy, DVC Executive Director, called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m. She introduced herself and asked attendees to introduce themselves in the chat.
- II. Ms. Sheedy reported these updates:
  - a. In Los Angeles County, COVID-19 vaccines are now available to anyone ages 12 and older, and walkups are available.
  - b. The UCLA Pritzker Summit on Child Welfare and Domestic Violence took place last week. The Pritzker Center also published a white paper on the subject. It is posted on the *Research* page of the DVC website. The Ad-hoc DV/Child Welfare subcommittees will wrap up by the end of July, and Eve will report their findings.
  - c. The DVC is regulated by the Brown Act and its restrictions regarding remote meetings. The current emergency provisions allowing remote attendance will expire, but proposed legislation is pending to continue the options for remote meetings.
  - d. Anyone interested in joining the October/DVAM/Awards planning committee may email [dvc@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:dvc@ph.lacounty.gov).
- III. The minutes of April 20, 2021 were approved.
- IV. Sandy Benitez, Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) presented an immigration report.
- V. Minty Siu-Kootnikoff, Sojourn presented a policy report.
- VI. A presentation on **Custody Outcomes in U.S. Cases Involving Abuse and Alienation Claims** was given by Joan Meier, Professor of Law, George Washington University Law School. Ms. Meier answered questions.
- VII. Public Comments –
  - a. Two members of the public provided public comments.
- VIII. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Note: Committee reports can be viewed on the *Agenda & Minutes* web page here:

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

ATTENDEES

NAME	AGENCY
Deputy Adriana Mejia	LASD
Akiko Nishino	NLSLA
Alyson Messenger	Jenesse Center
Arati Vasan	FVAP
Ariana Chavez	YWCA Glendale and Pasadena
Aruna Prabha	SAHARA
Ashley O'Bryan	Parents Anonymous
Betsy Lindsay	LA County Dev Authority
Cecelia Walker	Angel Step Inn
Chanel Smith	HCIDLA
Christy Velasco	YWCA of San Gabriel Valley
Cristina Cortes	LAHSA
Danielle Rivera	
Deanne Tilton	
Debby Lin	Harriett Buhai Center for Family Law
Diane Franklin	West Covina Police Department
Donna Derden	Jenesse Center, Incorporated
Ebony Cobb	MOPS
Eddie Shulman	ICAN
Erika Carmona	Para Los Ninos
Esther Torrez	Community Partners/Building Forever Families Initiative
Eve Sheedy	LA County Department of Public Health
Frank Ramos	Los Angeles County, DCFS
Gail Pincus	DOMESTIC ABUSE CENTER
Gio Martinez	Human Services Association
Giovanna A. Lipow	Children's Bureau
Giselle Edwards	San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center
Hannah Denyer	Office of Violence Prevention
Hasmik Burushyan	YWCA Glendale & Pasadena
Heidi Griswold	Sojourn - The People Concern
Jacqueline Do	DCFS
Jannet Segura	LADPH
Jaye Prado	The LGBTQ Center Long Beach
Jimena Vasquez	Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice
Joan Meier	GW Law
Joan Ramirez	DPSS
Jolene Cooper	LA County Department of Public Health
JP	Advocate
Julianna Lee	Legal Aid Foundation of LA
Julisa Lendo	Amanecer Community Counseling Service
Karen Youssefi	Jenesse Center, Inc.
Katy Alamshaw	SAHARA
Leslie Belt	Jenesse Center

NAME	AGENCY
Lilly Lopez	Su Casa - Ending Domestic Violence
Lisa Szekely	Jenesse
Lori Schroeder	Children's Law Center of California
Maria Arauco	Wellness Center
Marie Sadanaga	LAPD
Mariela Rivera	
Mary Ellen Mitchell	WomenShelter of Long Beach
Melinda Oakley	La County Probation
Minyong Lee	Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County
Monica Nguyen	DPSS
Ms. Suttle	
Minty Siu-Kootnikoff	Sojourn
Nicolle Perras	DPH
Odette Papanian	Office of Samoan Affairs
Pallavi Dhawan	L.A. City Attorney's Office
Pat Bell	House of Ruth, Inc.
Rachelle Neshkes	LACLJ
Rebecca Rebbe	USC
Roman James	
Ruth Fonteh	Jenesse Center, Inc.
Sandy Benitez, Esq.	CHIRLA
Sharon Balmer Cartagena	Public Counsel
Stacie Vargas	
Stephanie Molen	Strength United
Stephanie P. Mire	Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
Stephanie Richards	Loyola Law School
Stephanie Stone	Department of Military and Veterans Affairs
Stephanie Whack	Sojourn, a project of The People Concern
Dr. Susan Spell	
Susie Baldwin	DPH
Sylvia Sotelo Kwok	County of Los Angeles
Symone Fairchild	EyeOnDV
Teresa Deukmedjian	Peace Over Violence
Veronica Perez	CDSS - Refugee and TCVAP Program
Yetunde Tijani	Tarzana Treatment Center
Yvonne Reyes	Human Services Association