



# Domestic Violence Council (DVC)

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**General Membership Meeting**

**Tuesday, March 19<sup>th</sup> , 2024**

**12:00pm – 2:00pm (Pacific Time)**

**The California Endowment & Virtual (MS Teams)**



# Welcome Remarks



# 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**

**Gabrieleño/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](http://lanaic.lacounty.gov).*



# Meeting Protocol

- ❑ Please be reminded that this is an open and public convening.
- ❑ Anything discussed in this space is neither protected, nor confidential.
- ❑ Any client or survivor identifying information should not be presented. Thus, please avoid discussion of personal cases.
- ❑ If you need additional resources, please connect with myself or Cindy Hernandez after the meeting. Thank you!



# Welcome and Introductions

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



# Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Immigration Update
3. Panel Presentation: Domestic Violence Intervention
4. Panel Presentation: Q and A
5. UPDATE: Los Angeles County Gender-Based Violence Workgroup
6. Announcements and Public Comments
7. Next Steps and Action Items



## IMMIGRATION UPDATE



**Julie Rivera-Coo**  
**Family Law and Immigration Attorney**  
Neighborhood Legal Services  
Los Angeles County VAWA Network



## LA County District Attorney's Office



**Janis Johnson,**  
**Head Deputy District Attorney**  
Family Violence Division  
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office



# FAMILY VIOLENCE DIVISION

Los Angeles County District Attorney's  
Office



# CENTRALIZATION

[SPECIAL DIRECTIVE (SD) 23-01 - EFFECTIVE MARCH 17, 2023]

- FVD shall be responsible for the initial review of all crimes involving the current Family Violence VIP category codes, including misdemeanors.
- After a filing review has been completed, FVD will determine if filed cases will be handled by FVD or assigned to Line Operations for handling.

# POSITIVE CHANGES

## VIP

- Not review all Family Violence Cases
- Major warrant backlogs
- Heavy active case loads (30-40)
- Non-VIP Task: Covering Branch Calendars/Preliminary Hearings/Motions/Jury Trials
- Issues with time and opportunity to properly prepare cases much more do more

## Family Violence Division

- Review all Family Violence Cases
- No significant warrant backlogs
- Manageable active case loads (20-28)
- Covering only FMV matters
- Better preparation of Complex and serious cases as well as Legislation, Training, & Community Increased

# FAMILY VIOLENCE DIVISION

- Staff:
  - 1 Head Deputy
  - 3 Assistant Head Deputy
  - 19 + 4(Part-time) Filers
  - 25 Trial Deputies
  - 6 Paralegals
- Active Cases (Caseloads of 20-28):
- Filings Reviewed:
  - 1000+ cases screened for filing per month
  - No Significant Backlog Warrants

# OUR MISSION

- Vertically prosecute cases alleging the most severe and complex intimate partner abuse, assaultive conduct between household family, and child abuse.
- Provide training, consultation, and support services for DDAs, DCFS, law enforcement, and wide variety of organizations covering the spectrum of domestic violence and child abuse.

# OUR VISION

- Continue to prosecute the most severe/complex cases and expand retention if gain resources
- Maintain reduced warrant backlog (for public safety)
- Monitor resources by Branch visits by HD
- More community outreach via OVP, ICAN, CACs, DVC, SCAN, ESCARS, DV Death Review, and Child Death Review
- Educational opportunities for law enforcement & Line DDAs
  - Live trainings at Branches
  - Live TEAMS trainings
  - Detective Bureaus
  - Patrol Briefings

## **PANEL PRESENTATION— Domestic Violence Intervention**



**Janis Johnson,**  
**Head Deputy District Attorney - Family Violence**  
**Division**  
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office



## **PANEL PRESENTATION— Domestic Violence Intervention**



**Melinda Oakley**  
**Deputy Probation Officer**  
Los Angeles County Probation





Domestic Violence/Batterers Intervention:



# FAMILY VIOLENCE PROBATION OFFICERS

- Provide community supervision for clients charged with/convicted of domestic violence, child threat, elder abuse or offenses wherein a victim is a vulnerable family member.
- Monitor client's compliance with court orders and aim to support clients' positive behavioral change to prevent future victimization.
- Complete DV/IPV specific risk assessment designed to predict both intimate partner violence and lethality.
- Conduct risk/needs assessments for development of individualized case treatment plans; provide referrals and resource information.
- Create collateral meetings with law enforcement, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), victim's advocates, therapists, and other parties of interest pertinent to family violence cases, as needed, to discuss the client's case plan, compliance with terms, adherence to protective orders, as well as any issues and/or concerns.
- Complete face-to-face office visits, as well as residential contacts, and alternative field visits.
- Complete/submit reports to the Court on the client's compliance and progress of the terms of probation.

# Case Management Delivery

## Family Violence Overview

Area Offices	15		
Number of Family Violence Caseloads	41		
Average Caseload Size:	55		
Gender (Total Population)	Percentage (%)	83 (M)	17 (F)
Duration of probation	3-5 years		

# Domestic Violence Monitoring Unit

- The DVMU Supervisor and 3 DVMU DPOs
- Provide monitoring of state mandated treatment programs for domestic violence, child abuse, and sexual abuse.
- Monitor treatment providers to ensure they are compliant with all requirements for facilitating these treatment programs.
- DVMU Monitor appraises an agency's ability to provide programming effectively and safely, such as facility structure, group room(s), filing system/storage, staff rapport, HIPPA standards and confidentiality consents.
- DVMU reviews/audits the agencies curriculum to ensure that they are providing evidence based comprehensive treatment that focuses on : The nature of violence, emotional management, gender roles, socialization, power and control, coercive control, culture, the impact of domestic violence on children, and communication/conflict resolution skills.
- DVMU maintains a list of approved treatment providers, assesses the need for additional providers in growing areas/underserved areas of the county, and recruit providers to provide services in those areas.
- This unit is essential in ensuring that probationers receive the approved state mandated services required as part of their conditions of supervision.

# What Happens After Court

- **Once the client is convicted in court and receives a disposition:**
  - The court orders the individual to report to probation.
  - Individual will be seen by a Supervision Intake Team (SIT) DPO
  - Area office supervision is determined by residential address/work address/ area of habitation.
  - May be given temporary/permanent instructions /future appointment
  - During the orientation appointment : conditions of probation are reviewed, reporting instructions are given, case management documentation in completed, referrals for court ordered programs are provided, assessments may be conducted.
- **Conducting risk assessments/ Case planning**
  - Assess the client's violence and social history to ascertain pattern of behavior to help deter further acts of violence.
  - Risk/needs assessment are administered to provide a foundation for a plan that will be most successful for the client completing the terms of probation.
  - Utilize risk information to develop an individual success (case) plan and goal setting for the client.
  - Probation utilizes Motivational Interviewing (MI) as an evidence-based approach with our clients to assist in enabling people to move beyond their hesitancy to change problem behaviors.
  - The collaborative relationship with the client serves to provide transparency and consistency of decisions.
- **Addressing expectations/ Consequences of failure to adhere to probation conditions**
  - Discuss program attendance, participation, meeting financial obligations
  - Discuss restraining/protective orders compliance and consequences of violating the order

What type of Programs are ordered/ encouraged?

## **Court Ordered**

- Batterer intervention programs
- Substance Abuse Treatment (Inpatient/Outpatient)
- Mental Health Counseling (Inpatient/Outpatient)
- Community Service/Community Labor Programs
- Child Batterer/abuse Treatment Programs
- Animal Cruelty/Abuse Treatment Programs

## **Suggested**

- High School/GED programs
- Life Skills
- College/ Trade Programs
- Classes on entrepreneurship
- Financial Literacy
- Mindfulness/self awareness

Victim  
Notification  
*Per Penal Codes  
section : 1203.97  
(b)(4) and 679.06*

*Probation shall:*

Inform victim(s) of Domestic Violence of the disposition of the case.

Notify the victim(s) regarding the requirement that the client participate and complete a DV/Batterer Intervention Program.

Inform victim(s) that the client's attendance in the DV/Batterer Intervention Program does not guarantee that the client will not be violent or reoffend.

Notify victims of available resources.

Notify the victim of the client's community of residence and/or community supervision, upon request.



## Contact Information

<https://probation.lacounty.gov/>

DV Monitoring Unit-  
[DVMUBIP@probation.lacounty.gov](mailto:DVMUBIP@probation.lacounty.gov)

Probation Information Center (866) 931-  
2222

Melinda Oakley, M.S.  
Deputy Probation Officer II  
Victim's Assistance Liaison-Adult Core Field  
Services-Admin  
[Melinda.Oakley@probation.lacounty.gov](mailto:Melinda.Oakley@probation.lacounty.gov)  
(661) 481-4811 (Cell)





## **PANEL PRESENTATION— Domestic Violence Intervention**



**Christy Stillwell**  
**DV and Anger Management Services Director**  
Homeboy Industries



## **PANEL PRESENTATION— Domestic Violence Intervention**



**Bernita Walker**  
**Co-Founder and Executive Director**  
Project: PeaceMakers, Inc.





**PROJECT: PEACEMAKERS, INC.  
(PPMI)**

**P.O. BOX 82361, LOS ANGELES, CA 90082-0361**

**PH: (323) 291-2525, FAX: (323) 291-0140, E-MAIL:**

**[PPMI\\_MAIN@PPMINC.ORG](mailto:PPMI_MAIN@PPMINC.ORG)**

**[WWW.PROJECTPEACEMAKERSINC.ORG](http://WWW.PROJECTPEACEMAKERSINC.ORG)**

**Physical location:  
1826 W. 54<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90062**

# **The Mission of Project: PeaceMakers, Incorporated (PPMI)**

**is to interact with all aspects of the community in an endeavor to enhance the quality of life by addressing Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Violence (DV/IPV). Through education, intervention, empowerment and prevention, we are able to teach and apply a healthy, positive life-changing approach in helping break the cycle of violence in our homes and our communities.**

**OUR MOTTO IS:  
WE WANT TO "BE" THE CHANGE IN YOUR  
LIFE!!!**



**At PPMI, everyone is welcome here. We respect everyone's religion, gender identity, race, color, sex, age, national origin, political affiliation, marital and family status, source of income, ability and sexual orientation.**

**WE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING  
COURT CLASSES IN ENGLISH &  
SPANISH FOR VICTIMS ONLY**

**Anger Management**

**Domestic Violence Education for  
Victims**

**Parenting Education Classes**

**Substance Use Disorder**

**52-Week Child Abuser Treatment Program**

**In addition to our specific classes, we provide English & Spanish services such as:**

**TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDERS  
(TROs) (Free Service)**

**INDIVIDUAL COUNSELING**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE - CHILD ABUSERS'  
TREATMENT PROGRAM (DV-CA 52-Week,  
Los Angeles County Probation  
Approved)**

**And 'Other Resources' are  
available, as well.**



**All classes are held through  
Zoom web conferencing for  
two (2) – hours,  
Mondays through Saturdays,  
Morning and Evening Hours  
in  
English and Spanish.**

## ***WHAT MAKES OUR AGENCY DIFFERENT?***

All clients are **REQUIRED** to take a Final Program Test after they complete their classes

We offer two (2) Men Domestic Violence Education group classes for Victims

We teach a **FINANCIAL EMPOWERMENT** topic where the client learns about how to budget, save, banking accounts and insurances. They must submit a budget in order to receive credit for this class!

## ***CONTINUING - WHAT MAKES OUR AGENCY DIFFERENT?***

**We teach a GUN SAFETY topic in all programs**

**We offer morning and evening classes to accommodate our client's schedule**

**Virtual classes and Individual Counseling, only. Clients must attend with their video on during the 2-Hour duration of classes with no other person in attendance in order to receive credit.**

## ***CONTINUING - WHAT MAKES OUR AGENCY DIFFERENT?***

**We accept STOP FUNDS up to 10 clients who are actively participating in our group classes at a time**

**Our Intake fee is \$15**

**Class fee is \$10 per class**

**No Fee for Progress Letters or missed classes**

**All payments are made through PayPal or Money Order, NO CASH is accepted.**

## ***CONTINUING - WHAT MAKES OUR AGENCY DIFFERENT?***

**We provide Progress Letters within seven (7) business days of a request with detailed information to assist with the court case plan regarding attendance, concerns or accolades. No Form Progress Letters**

**If a client misses three consecutive classes, they will be exited from our program AND will only be reinstated ONE TIME.**

## ***CONTINUING - WHAT MAKES OUR AGENCY DIFFERENT?***

**We accept CalWORKs clients through their GAIN office/GSW**

**We are one of the very few agencies that provides full service DV/IPV Electronic Temporary Restraining Order Filings. The client never enters the courthouse unless they choose to appear at their hearing in person.**

**Our processing fee is \$10, and the client must complete all documents at our office, as the courts only accept wet signatures.**

# CLASS CURRICULUMS

All programs have a FINAL TEST that must be passed with 80% or above in order to receive your Certificate of Completion

## Anger Management/Independent Living Skills Class Topics

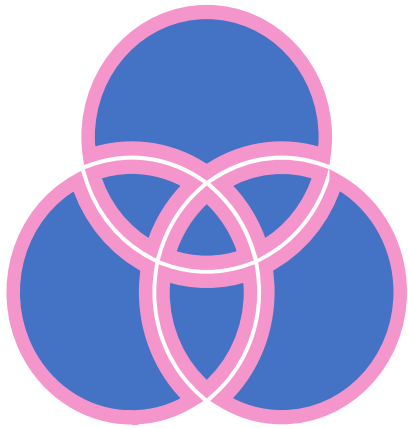
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Introduction to Anger Management/<br>Independent Living Skills/Conflict Resolution | 11. Build Self-Esteem & Self-Love                 |
| 2. What are your Anger Triggers?  | 12. Positive Self-Talk                            |
| 3. What are Your Anger Warning Signs?   | 13. Positive Communication with others when Angry |
| 4. Steps to Managing Your Anger   | 14. Anger and your Emotions                       |
| 5. Benefits and Costs of Conflict   | 15. Conflict Resolution Management Techniques     |
| 6. How to Deal with Yours & Other Peoples Anger                                       | 16. Changing Anger Patterns                       |
| 7. Anger/Conflict Issues & Types, Abuse & Healing                                     | 17. Current Events Involving Anger/Conflict       |
| 8. Recognizing When Your Angry  | 18. Life Skills- Financial Empowerment ✓          |
| 9. Letting Go of Anger – Forgiveness  | 19. Life Skills - Gun Safety ✓                    |
| 10. Develop a Conflict Resolution Plan  | 20. Practice Conflict Resolution by Role Playing  |

## Domestic Violence Class Topics

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Introduction to Domestic Violence?              | 11. Relationships with difficult Personalities         |
| 2. Understanding Domestic Violence                 | 12. What is a Healthy vs. Unhealthy Relationship?      |
| 3. Cycle of Violence                               | 13. Love Shouldn't Hurt                                |
| 4. Understanding Abuse                             | 14. Current events involving DV/IPV                    |
| 5. When the Victim Becomes an Accomplice           | 15. Life Skills- Financial Empowerment ✓               |
| 6. Cultural Differences in Relationships           | 16. Life Skills – Gun Safety ✓                         |
| 7. Equality Wheel                                  | 17. How does Domestic Violence affect you as a Parent? |
| 8. Having Realistic Expectations in Your Relations | 18. Breaking the Domestic Violence Cycle               |
| 9. Power & Control – Pt 1                          | 19. When is Enough... Enough? Safety Plan              |
| 10. Power & Control – Pt 2 (Role Play)             | 20. From Victim to Survivor                            |

## Parenting Education Class Topics

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. Introduction to Parenting                        | 8. Instilling Self Esteem in Your Child   |
| 2. Understanding the development of your Child      | 9. Teaching Your Child Values             |
| 3. Communicating with Your Kids                     | 10. Supporting Your Child's Socialization |
| 4. Understanding Temperament (Ages 0-11)            | 11. Meeting Your Child's Needs            |
| 5. Understanding Temperament Teenagers (Ages 12-18) | 12. Being a Good Role Model               |
| 6. Encouraging Intellectual Development             | 13. Diverse Family Situations             |
| 7. The Dynamics of Discipline                       | 14. Life Skills - Financial Empowerment ✓ |
|   | 15. Life Skills – Gun Safety ✓            |



## Correlation Between PPMI & DCFS

As our agency has been in existence for almost 29 years, we have always strived to assist DV/IPV victims and survivors with the tools they need to provide a safe and healthy environment for their children and themselves.

We understand the overwhelming case load that DCFS workers carry, and our goal is to relieve some of the burden by assisting our mutual clients with the knowledge and empowerment to help them not only reunify with their children, but also eradicate repeat offenders.



***QUESTIONS***



# ***CASE MANAGERS***

**Nayeli Guzman (Bilingual)**  
**[fuentes@ppminc.org](mailto:fuentes@ppminc.org)**

**Willie Vega (Bilingual)**  
**[nayelig@ppminc.org](mailto:nayelig@ppminc.org)**

**Adriana Hernandez (Bilingual)**  
**[hernandez@ppminc.org](mailto:hernandez@ppminc.org)**

**Thomas McDaniels**  
**[thomasmc@ppminc.org](mailto:thomasmc@ppminc.org)**

**Tanae Jones**  
**[tanaej@ppminc.org](mailto:tanaej@ppminc.org)**

**Grace Marquez (Quality Control Manager)**  
**[gracem10@ppminc.org](mailto:gracem10@ppminc.org)**

**Daisy Sanchez (Bilingual)**  
**[sanchezdaisy@ppminc.org](mailto:sanchezdaisy@ppminc.org)**

# ***MANAGEMENT STAFF***

**Veronica Sanchez, (Bilingual), Supervisor of Administration**  
**[veronicas@ppminc.org](mailto:veronicas@ppminc.org)**

**Daisy Sanchez (Bilingual), Office Manager**  
**[sanchezdaisy@ppminc.org](mailto:sanchezdaisy@ppminc.org)**

**Kelie J. Sturgis, Chief Operations Officer**  
**[ksturg8@ppminc.org](mailto:ksturg8@ppminc.org)**  
**(323) 394-6265 (Direct Cell Number)**

**Bernita R. Walker, Chief Executive Officer**  
**[bernita@ppminc.org](mailto:bernita@ppminc.org)**

***THANK YOU!!!***





## **PANEL PRESENTATION— Domestic Violence Intervention**



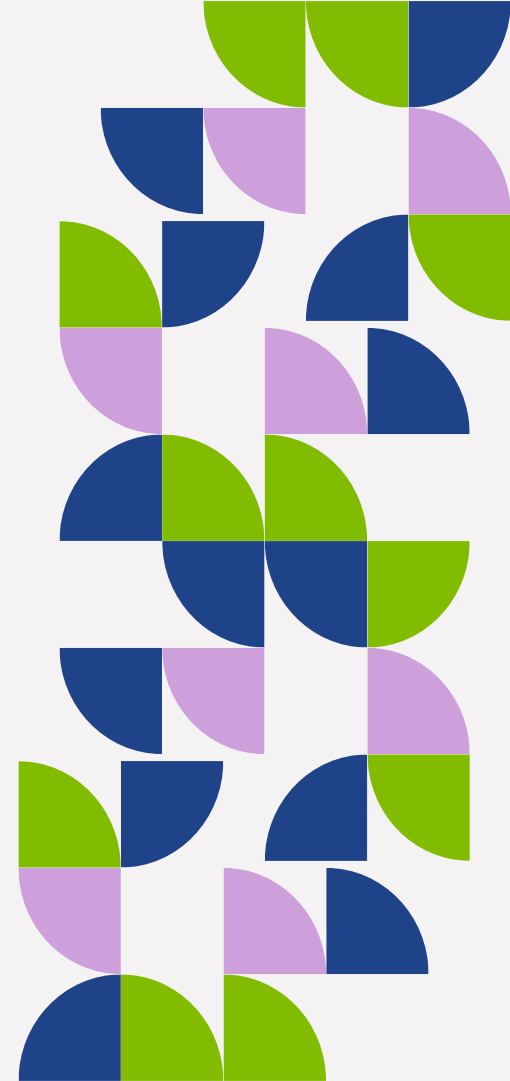
**Aaliyah Jordan, Program Analyst  
&**

**Diana Grant, Sr. Program Manager**  
Survivor Services Unit

Community Investment for Families Department  
City of Los Angeles

# CIFD's Approach to Addressing IPV

Diana Grant & Aaliyah Jordan  
Survivor Services Unit, Community Investment for  
Families Department (CIFD)



COMMUNITY  
INVESTMENT  
FOR FAMILIES  
DEPARTMENT  
*Paths to Prosperity*

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
Domestic  
VIOLENCE  
alliance

# Community Investment for Families Department



## Mission

To align and augment community investments for families and neighborhoods in the City of Los Angeles and create opportunities for all Angelenos to prosper

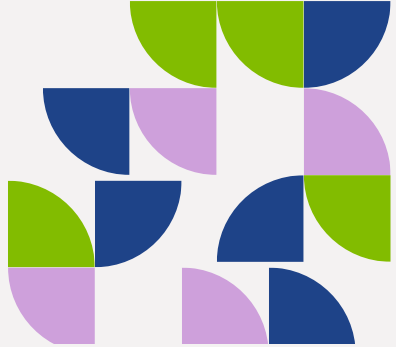
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## Programs

- **DV/HT Shelter Operations:** Emergency and Transitional Shelter
  - **Survivors First:** Emergency Assistance Funding
  - **Crisis to Shelter:** Short-Term Emergency Hotel/Motel Stays
  - **DV Employment Navigator Pilot:** Connects Survivors to LA City's Employment Resources
- 

## Survivor Services Team

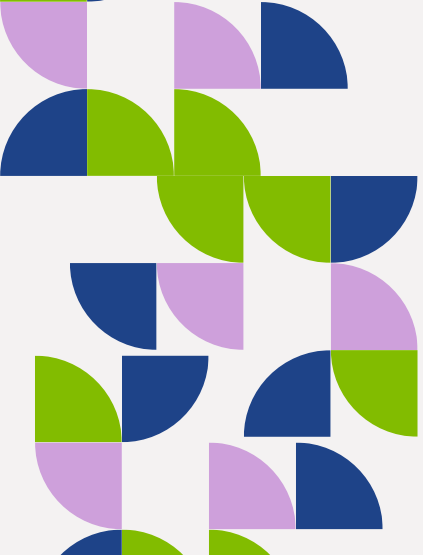
Diana Grant, Senior Project Coordinator  
Claire Sarmiento, Program Analyst  
Tiffany Carpenter, Program Analyst  
Aaliyah Jordan, Program Analyst  
Linette Johnson, Administrative Assistant  
Kevin Garcia, Administrative Assistant



# Domestic Violence Alliance



2022-2024 Executive Board



**Stephanie Whack**  
Chair



**Rachelle Neshkes**  
Vice Chair



**Cristina Cortes**  
Secretary



**Carielle Escalante**  
Treasurer



**Tiffany Duvernay-Smith**  
Lived Experience Representative



**Maria Barahona**  
Member at Large



**Tiernan Hebron**  
Member at Large



**Amy Goldman**  
Immediate Past Chair



# History

## June 28, 1994

- The Domestic Violence Task Force (DVTF) was created by LA City Council
- Assists City with the development and coordination of domestic violence programs
- Provides recommendations to the Mayor, City Council, and City Departments regarding:
  - Policies
  - Funding
  - Legislation
  - Legal advocacy
  - Victim services
  - Other pertinent matters relative to domestic violence

## 2019

- On February 27, 2019, the DVTF was renamed the Domestic Violence Alliance (DVA)

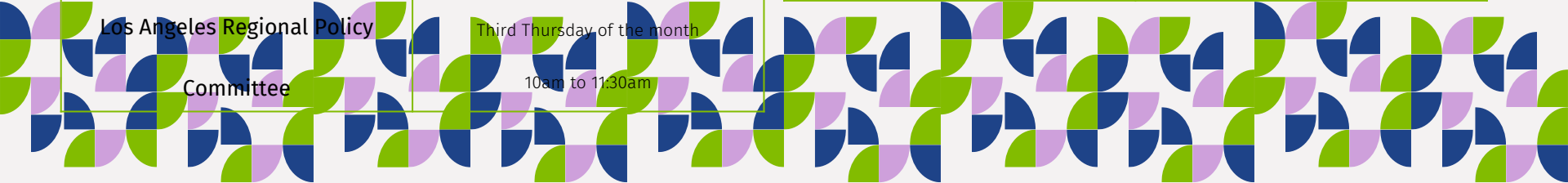
## 2021

- Community Investment for Families Department is created and is responsible for staffing the DVA

# Meeting Schedule

Standing Committees	
Executive Board	Second Monday of the month 10am to 11am
General Meeting	Second Monday of the month 11am to 12:30pm
Funding Committee	Second Monday of the month 12:30pm to 01:30pm
Los Angeles Regional Policy Committee	Third Thursday of the month 10am to 11:30am

Ad Hoc Committees	
Lived Experience Advocate Committee	Fourth Monday of the month 2pm to 3pm (virtually)
LGBTQ+ Committee	Date and Time TBD
DV/IPV Intervention Strategies	Date and Time TBD



# DV/IPV Intervention Strategies Ad

Hoc



## Short Term Goal

Understanding where to best employ advocacy efforts to improve domestic violence interventions for survivors and those who harm

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## Long term Goal

Garnering collaboration with partners who respond to domestic violence

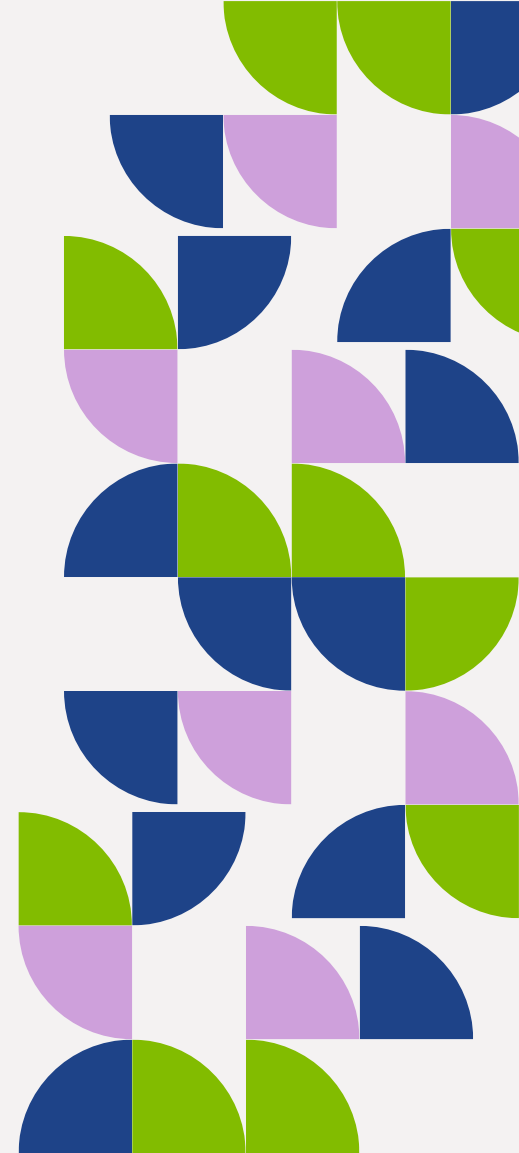
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## Current Status

Gaining context around the system for Batterers Intervention Programs

# Thank you for listening!

Diana Grant & Aaliyah Jordan  
Survivor Services Unit, Community Investment for  
Families Department (CIFD)



COMMUNITY  
INVESTMENT  
FOR FAMILIES  
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*Paths to Prosperity*

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alliance



# PANEL PRESENTATION— Domestic Violence Intervention

## QUESTIONS?



# GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



**Chanel Smith, Executive Director**  
Women and Girls Initiative  
Los Angeles County



# ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENTS



# NEXT STEPS

- ❑ **Next meeting: Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> ; 12pm – 2pm at the California Endowment.** Registration and information on DVC meetings:  
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dvcouncil/calendar/calendar.htm>
  
- ❑ **For more information on DVC, you may contact us at:**
  - ❑ <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dvcouncil>
  - ❑ Email: [dvc@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:dvc@ph.lacounty.gov)
  - ❑ Call: (213) 974-2799