



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

**Minutes of January 15, 2019**

**1. Announcements**

The meeting was called to order by Executive Director Eve Sheedy at 12:03 p.m.

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

Ms. Sheedy reported the following updates:

- The Domestic Violence Council (DVC) website has been updated; a calendar has been created which lists meeting details, additionally, agendas and general meeting minutes are now posted on the website
- Instead of forwarding/emailing multiple messages throughout the day, one daily email will be sent from the DVC account at the end of the day containing compiled announcements
- Ms. Sheedy will participate as a reactor on the Blue Shield of California Foundation's Life Course Webinar February 5<sup>th</sup>
- The Homeless Initiative Conference will be on February 7<sup>th</sup>
- The Commission for Women will host the DV breakfast on February 15<sup>th</sup>
- The CPEDV Shifting the Lens Conference will be held March 11-12
- "It Shouldn't Hurt to Go Home" booklet is being revised
- Dr. Paul Simon will speak at the February DVC General meeting about the importance of data; titled *Data is Your Friend*
- In March the DVC will meet together with the Los Angeles City Domestic Violence Alliance at LAPD headquarters
- Meeting/presentation materials will be posted on the DVC website

**3. Introductions**

All attendees introduced themselves. While introducing herself, Kate Marr announced that the DVC Health Committee is being revived; the first official meeting will be held on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

**4. Approval of the November 20, 2018 Meeting Minutes**

On motion of Kendall Evans, seconded by Chanel Smith, this item was approved.

**5. Immigration Update**

- Related to the government shutdown, USCIS is still functioning; judges are only hearing detained cases for now
- Processing of U-Visas is being delayed; may take 7-8 years
- NTA Memo published in June initially exempted U-Visas and VAWAs; however, in November it was made applicable to everyone; impact is unknown but expected to be seen soon

**6. Presentations: Innovative Programs Supporting Survivors**

Speakers: Sonya Passi, FreeFrom  
Alexandra Weyman, LA Hospitality Training Academy  
Jill Bauman and Ciera Thornton, ImagineLA

Each presenter provided an overview of their services.

**7. Committee Reports****LA Regional Policy Committee**

Co-Chairs Debbie Ramirez and Nancy Volpert

- LA City DV Alliance, LACO DVC, and State PPRC legislative committees are meeting together as joint committee
- Next meeting is Thursday at City Hall on the 10<sup>th</sup> Floor at 10:00 AM; all are encouraged to attend

**LGBTQ Issues**

Co-Chairs Giovanna Martinez and Miekko Failey

- The LGBTQ Issues Committee met on January 8th and decided to begin meeting every month to discuss and champion emerging issues, particularly with regard to shelter inclusiveness and accountability
- The group also discussed a VAWA update
- The committee's mission statement is being updated
- The group decided to develop/share affirming and safe resources available to support the LGBTQ community

**Statewide Policy Taskforce (CPEDV)**

Report Provided by: Kendall Evans and Eve Sheedy

- The statewide taskforce is working to increase funding for DV and sexual assault as well evaluating legislation to define economic abuse

**Religion and DV**

Co-Chairs Bernita Walker and Donna Derden

- Donna Derden stepped down as co-chair. The committee needs a new co-chair; please contact Bernita Walker if interested.
- Next meeting will be held on January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM

**Committee for Systems Improvement Meeting**

Co-Chairs Gail Pincus and Rachelle Neshkes

- No report

**Shelter Directors**

Co-Chairs Tatiana Dorman and Patima Komolamit

- The Shelter Directors Committee met earlier today
- The Web-based shelter bed availability system will be launched after users have been trained; the aim is to launch near the end of February and MOUs will need to be signed by participating agencies – once it is established, the committee will share more details with the DVC

**8. Networking to Discuss Presentation Topics**

**9. Public Comments - Not to exceed two minutes per person and must be on items of Interest which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council**

- No comments

**10. Adjournment**

- The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

**ATTENDEES PRESENT JANUARY 15, 2019**

| <b>Organization</b>                              | <b>Name</b>           |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1736 Family Crisis Center                        | Escobar, Pablo        |
| ABIP   | Evans, Kendall        |
| Amanecer   | Schmidt, Janeth       |
| Amanecer   | Lendo, Julisa         |
| Angel Step Inn                                   | Walker, Cecilia       |
| Antelope Valley DVC/Valley OASIS (AVDVC)         | Hernandez, Vanessa    |
| Center for the Pacific Asian Family              | Komolamit, Patima     |
| Child & Family Center                            | Labe, Carolyn         |
| Community Legal Services                         | Marr, Kate            |
| Community Legal Services                         | Asiedu-Akrofi, Terese |
| Community Legal Services                         | Coleman, Jason        |
| East Los Angeles Women's Center                  | Espinoza, Zara        |
| East Los Angeles Women's Center                  | Kappos, Barbara       |
| East Los Angeles Women's Center                  | Perez, Elizabeth      |
| First to Serve                                   | Lujan, Melissa        |
| Foothill Family                                  | Rivera, Mariela       |
| FreeFrom   | Passe, Sonya          |
| FreeFrom   | Ventura, Tannia       |
| Haven Hills                                      | Aguero, Karen         |
| Hospitality Training Academy                     | Jacobs, Dafne         |
| Hospitality Training Academy                     | Conner, Marisa        |
| Hospitality Training Academy                     | Weyman, Alexandria    |
| House of Ruth                                    | Mason, Kimberly       |
| Human Services Association                       | Garcia, Cindy         |
| Imagine LA                                       | Thornton, Ciera       |
| Imagine LA                                       | Bauman, Jill          |
| Immigration Center for Women and Children (ICWC) | Patel-Sikora, Mona    |
| Institute of Multicultural Ed. & Couns. (IMCES)  | Alm, Karin            |
| Institute of Multicultural Ed. & Couns. (IMCES)  | Cartagena, Jaime      |
| Interval House                                   | Webb, Nabila          |
| Jenesse Center                                   | Forrest, Kate         |
| Jenesse Center                                   | Carter, Jazmyn        |
| Jenesse Center                                   | Bell, Jennifer        |
| Jewish Family Service                            | Rodriguez, Alejandra  |
| Jewish Family Service                            | Lainer, Hannah        |
| LGBTQ Center Long Beach                          | Martinez, Giovanna    |
| Little Tokyo Service Center                      | Lee, Vivian           |
| Los Angeles Center for Law & Justice             | Wang, Arianne         |
| Los Angeles City Mayor's Office                  | Smith, Chanel         |
| Los Angeles City Mayor's Office                  | Lhaksampa, Tenzin     |

| <b>Organization</b>                             | <b>Name</b>           |
|---|-----------------------|
| Los Angeles County CDC/Housing Authority        | Lindsay, Betsy        |
| Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  | Esparza, Carrie       |
| Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health  | Gomez, Debbie         |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Eidem, Ellen          |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Baldwin, Susie        |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Perras, Nicolle       |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Martinez, Erika       |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Zapata, Carmen        |
| 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  | Luna, Kristian        |
| Los Angeles County Department of Public Health  | Estrada, Diane        |
| Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office   | Waters, Destinee      |
| Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office   | Vasquez Solis, Blanca |
| Los Angeles County Probation Department         | Schoengarth, Jim      |
| Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department         | Garret, CeeCee        |
| Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department         | Ondatje, Warren       |
| Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department         | Thomas, Michael       |
| Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department         | Keffer, Martin        |
| Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) | Cortes, Cristina      |
| Los Angeles LGBT Center                         | Shankar, Derka        |
| Niswa Association                               | Islam, Sami           |
| Office of Samoan Affairs                        | Papanian, Odette      |
| One Justice                                     | Polzes, Mike          |
| Para Los Ninos                                  | Carmona, Erika        |
| Peace Over Violence                             | Kung, Chris           |
| Rainbow Services                                | Dion, Jane            |
| Roar TC   | Varsha N.             |
| San Fernando Valley CMHC (SFVCMHC, Inc.)        | Hulbert, Giselle      |
| Santa Monica City Attorney's Office             | Barreto, Halima       |
| Su Casa-Ending Domestic Violence                | Lopez, Liliana        |
| Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.                 | Tijani, Yetunde       |
| The Whole Child                                 | Vera, Elizabeth       |
| Women & Children's Crisis Shelter               | Yvette Morales        |
| Women Shelter of Long Beach                     | Dorman, Tatiana       |
| YWCA Glendale                                   | Maddox, James         |
| YWCA Glendale                                   | Yesayan, Yevik        |
| YWCA of San Gabriel Valley                      | Velasco, Christy      |
| YWCA of San Gabriel Valley                      | Interiano, Ana        |
| YWCA of San Gabriel Valley                      | Ward, Debra           |