



Domestic Violence Council (DVC)

General Membership Meeting
Tuesday, June 20th, 2023
12:00pm – 2:00pm (Pacific Time)
MLK Healing Center



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

Gabrieleno/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 anaic.lacounty.gov.



Welcome and Introductions

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



Meeting Protocol

- ❑ Before we begin this meeting, please be reminded that this is an open and public meeting.
- ❑ Therefore, anything discussed in this space is not 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!



Agenda

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Update: LGBTQIA+ Issues Committee
3. Presentation: Platform to Prevent Gun Violence
4. Presentation: Office of the District Attorney – Family Violence Division
5. Presentation – Bureau of Victim Services
6. Update: Immigration Issues Committee
7. Announcements and Public Comments

LGBTQIA+ Issues Committee



Giovanna Martinez, Co-Chair

&

Jaye Prado, Co-Chair

LGBTQIA+ Issues Committee
Domestic Violence Council (DVC)
Los Angeles County

Platform to Prevent Gun Violence

Andrea Welsing, Director
Office of Violence Prevention
Los Angeles County



LA County Department of Public Health
Office of Violence Prevention

OVP Gun Violence Prevention Platform

June 20, 2023

Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council





Vision for a Violence Free LA County

OVP **strengthens collaboration, capacity and partnerships** to prevent multiple forms of violence and promote healing across communities in LA County.

Established by the Board of Supervisors in **February 2019 in the Department of Public Health.**

Governance Structure: County Leadership Committee & Community Partnership Council guide the work of the office and implementation of the strategic plan.



OVP Early Implementation Priorities





Gun Violence Prevention Platform (GVPP)

- OVP launched the GVPP in **June 2022** following horrific deaths in Buffalo, New York and Uvalde, Texas, in addition to increased gun deaths and injuries in LA County including the Monterey Park mass shooting in January 2023.
- To develop a plan of action OVP established **a Gun Violence Prevention Taskforce**, comprised of over 30 community and county partners.
- The Taskforce identified **4 key action areas** from a list of 40 strategies to prioritize in 2023 to reduce gun violence.



Gun Violence Prevention Platform (GVPP)

1. Advocate for **robust gun safety legislation** locally and nationally, including the federal ban on assault weapons and large capacity magazines.
2. **Promote social connections, healing, and a culture of peace** through safe spaces and programs that address harm, trauma, and the impact of violence. Support opportunities that foster community togetherness, inclusion, and a sense of belonging while embracing diversity.
3. In partnership with the courts, community and faith-based organizations, and law enforcement, **improve awareness and access to Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVROs.)** Ensure services, systems and messaging are accessible, culturally relevant and cause no harm.
4. **Increase access to comprehensive, culturally relevant physical and mental health supports and services for all students, K-12.** Enhance school safety by implementing pilot initiatives in at least 3 school districts.



OVP Program Activities

- Creating GVP materials including flyers, talking points, pledge cards, posters, buttons, stickers, etc.
- Defining a role for OVP contractors and DPH staff.
- Mobilizing students and providers for fall campus teach-in focused on gun safety advocacy and prevention efforts.
- Engaging students and youth by working with Wellbeing Centers, Dream Centers, and DPH Youth Advisory Council.
- Investing American Rescue Plan Act funds to support youth.
- Coordinating Mental Health First Aid trainings.
- Training health care providers to screen for gun safety.
- Implementing GVRO trainings.
- Distributing gun safe storage handbooks and locks.
- Conducting trauma informed healing events in each SPA.

DVC/OVP Opportunities to Partner on Projects

Ideas to Cross Partner on Issues of Violence:

- Data and Data Sources
- Education & Awareness
- Engaging Health Care Providers
- Legislation & Advocacy
- Centering Survivor Voice/Speakers Bureau
- Research Opportunities
- Grant Opportunities
- Cross System Referrals and Linkages
- Other





Thoughts, Ideas, Questions





Contact Information

Andrea Welsing, Director
(626) 293.2998 (office)
awelsing@ph.lacounty.gov

Kelly Fischer, Deputy Director
(323) 236-6858 (cell)
kfischer@ph.lacounty.gov

WEBSITE: <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/ovp/>



Office of the District Attorney Family Violence Division

Stephanie Pearl Mire, Head Deputy District Attorney

Office of the District Attorney

Los Angeles County

LA County Bureau of Victim Services

Tanishia G. Wright, Director
Bureau of Victim Services
Office of the District Attorney
Los Angeles County



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

BUREAU OF VICTIM SERVICES

OVERVIEW OF BVS

Tanishia G. Wright, Director



**GEORGE GASCÓN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

Bureau of Victim Services



“Helping Victims Become Survivors”



GEORGE GASCÓN
DISTRICT ATTORNEY
Elected November 3, 2020



MISSION STATEMENT

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office will advance an effective, ethical, and racially equitable system of justice that protects the community, restores victims of crime, and honors the rights of the accused. We are a learning organization that believes in reduced incarceration and punishment except in circumstances in which it is proportional, in the community's interest, and serves a rehabilitative or restorative purpose.

BUREAU OF VICTIM SERVICES THREE DIVISIONS TO ASSIST VICTIMS

1. Direct Services

Advocates provide assistance to crime victims in courthouses and law enforcement stations throughout Los Angeles County



2. Claims Verification Unit

Victim Compensation Assistance

3. Restitution Enhancement Program

Victim Restitution Assistance

**Los Angeles District Attorney
Victim Sites 2020-21**

- 1) Criminal Justice Center/HOJ
 - a) Central
 - b) Elder Abuse
 - c) Family Violence
 - d) Financial Fraud and Cyber Crimes
 - e) Hate and Target Crimes
 - f) Human Trafficking
 - g) Lifer and Post-Conviction Proceedings
 - h) Realignment Victim Services Program
 - i) Sex Crimes
 - j) Community Violence Reduction
 - k) Victim Services K9 Unit
 - l) Victims' Rights Assistance
- 2) Airport
- 3) Alhambra
- 4) Antelope Valley
- 5) Compton
 - a) Community Violence Reduction
- 6) Downey - Victims' Rights Assistance
- 7) East Los Angeles
- 8) El Monte
- 9) Inglewood
- 10) Long Beach
 - a) Elder Abuse
 - b) Juvenile Advocacy Services
- 11) Norwalk
- 12) Pasadena
- 13) Pomona
- 14) San Fernando
- 15) Torrance
- 16) Van Nuys
- 17) West Covina
 - a) Victims' Rights Assistance
- 18) LAPD Central
- 19) LAPD Hollywood
- 20) LAPD Rampart



- 1) LAPD South Bureau Homicide
- 2) LAPD Southeast
- 3) LAPD Southwest
- 4) LASD Antelope Valley – Special Victims Bureau
- 5) LASD Homicide Bureau
- 6) LASD Santa Clarita
- 7) LASD South Los Angeles
- 8) LASD Special Victims Bureau
- 9) LASD West Hollywood
- 10) Pomona PD - Community Violence Reduction

Bureau of Victim Services

Administrative Headquarters

(626) 514-1300

1(800) 380-3811

Branch and Area Offices

- Airport (310) 727-6516
- Alhambra (626) 308-5417
- Antelope Valley (661) 974-7717
- Criminal Justice Center (213) 974-7490
- Compton (310) 603-7579
- East L.A. (323) 780-2045
- El Monte (626) 575-5565
- Inglewood (310) 419-6764
- Long Beach (562) 247-2068
- Norwalk (562) 807-7230
- Pasadena (626) 356-5783
- Pomona (909) 620-3381
- San Fernando (818) 898-2406
- Torrance (310) 222-3599
- Van Nuys (818) 374-2159
- West Covina (626) 813-3220

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

- Antelope Valley (SVB) (661) 471-1515
- Homicide Bureau (323) 890-5656
- Santa Clarita (661) 799-5155
- South L.A. (323) 820-6860
- Special Victims Bureau (562) 946-8233
- West Hollywood (310) 358-4057

Los Angeles Police Department Stations

- Hollywood (323) 871-1184
- Rampart (213) 483-6731
- Southeast (323) 754-8064
- Southwest (323) 296-8645
- South Bureau Homicide (323) 786-5151

Special Advocacy Programs

- Elder Abuse Division (213) 257-2304
- Family Violence Division (213) 257-2173
- Financial/Fraud & Cyber Crimes (213) 257-2443
- Hate and Target Crimes Division (213) 257-2443
- Human Trafficking Division (213) 974-2039
- Juvenile Advocacy Services (LB) (562) 247-2034
- Lifer & Post-Conviction Proceedings (213) 974-4110
- Realignment Victims Svc. (213) 893-7899
- Sex Crimes Division (213) 257-2054
- Community Violence Reduction
Cen (213) 257-2034 Com (310) 603-7127 Pom (909) 620-2027
- Victims' Rights Assistance
Cen (213) 257-2101 So. (562) 803-7107 No. (626) 813-3169
- Victim Services K9 Unit (213) 257-2044

**“How can we assist a crime victim
and their family?”**



TRAUMA INFORMED VICTIM SERVICES

The Office for Victims of Crime defines trauma informed, in part, as approaches delivered with an understanding of the vulnerabilities and experiences of trauma survivors, including the prevalence and physical, social, and emotional impact of trauma. Trauma-informed approaches place priority on restoring the survivor's feelings of safety, choice, and control.*



*<https://ovc.ojp.gov/sites/g/files/xyckuh226/files/model-standards/6/glossary.html>

MANDATORY VICTIM SERVICES

Penal Code § 13835.5

- Crisis Intervention
- Emergency Assistance
- Resource & Referral Counseling
- Victim Compensation Assistance
- Return of Property
- Orientation to the Criminal Justice System
- Court Escort/Support
- Case Status/Disposition Information
- Restitution Assistance



OPTIONAL VICTIM SERVICES

Penal Code § 13835.5

- **Creditor/Employer Intervention**
- **Restitution Information & Referral**
- **Notification Court Calendar Changes**
- **Funeral Arrangement Assistance**
- **Temporary Restraining Order Information**
- **Witness Protection Assistance/Relocation**

Preparing Gifts for the Holiday Giving Drive the Holiday Giving Drive



BVS K-9 Unit



Skippy, Lennox, and Nora

BVS K-9 Unit

- ▶ Help child victims and other vulnerable victims of crime during interviews, preparation for testimony, and testimony at preliminary hearings and trials
- ▶ Lessen the stress and trauma of courthouse environment
- ▶ Calm victim and have positive interactions
- ▶ Provide support without bias
- ▶ Comfort family during testimony if outside the courtroom
- ▶ Memory of facility dog, “The day I met Skippy,” or “I was able to say what happened to me because I had Nora by my side”

Goal for Facility Dog Team



SELF CARE ISN'T SELFISH

The act of taking care of your mental, physical, and emotional well-being

- Can help reduce stress and enhance your quality of life
- Research shows that, in addition to keeping you healthy, self-care can also improve your overall well-being
- Helps you manage the daily stresses in your life, tricky interpersonal relationships, and uncertain future.



Tanishia G. Wright, Director
Administrative Office
1000 S. Fremont Avenue
Unit 36, Bldg. A9E, Suite 9150
Alhambra, CA 91803
Toll Free 1 (800) 380-3811
<https://da.lacounty.gov/victims>
twright@da.lacounty.gov

Immigration Issues Update

Kathleen Rivas, Staff Attorney
Immigrants' Rights Project





Announcements and Public Comments

- ❑ We are now inviting attendees to share announcements, updates, and public comments not to exceed two (2) minutes per person.
- ❑ Public comments be on items of interest which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the DVC.



Closing Remarks

❑ Next DVC General Meeting:

- ❖ July 18th, 2023; from 12pm to 2pm, at the Department of Mental Health – 9th Floor/Terrace Conference Room B and C.
- ❖ Tentative Agenda and Guests: (1) Kaiser Permanente - Family Violence Prevention, (2) Dept. of Children and Family Services – Child Protection Hotline, (3) LA County Commission for Children and Families – Mandated Supporting Initiative

❑ **Remember to sign-in if you have not; however, is not required.** Names on sign-in sheet will be added to DVC email listserv to receive information, meeting reminders for future DVC meetings and events.

❑ For more information on DVC, you may contact us at:

- ❑ <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dvcouncil>
- ❑ Email: dvc@ph.lacounty.gov
- ❑ Call: (213) 974-2799