

Domestic Violence Council (DVC)

General Membership Meeting Tuesday, September 19th, 2023 12:00pm – 2:00pm (Pacific Time) Department of Mental Health



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 <u>lanaic.lacounty.gov</u>.



Welcome and Introductions

□ Your name

□ Pronouns

□ Title/Role

□ Agency or Affiliation



Meeting Protocol

□ 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: DVC Health Committee
- 3. Presentation: Reproductive Coercion
- 4. Presentation: Gun Violence Restraining Order The Right Tool for the Right Situation
- 5. Update: Los Angeles VAWA Network
- 6. Update: July 11, 2023 Board Action Improving the Process for Undocumented Immigrant Victims and Survivors to Request Immigration Visa Certifications from County Agencies.
- 7. Announcements and Public Comments



DV Health Committee Update

Barbara Kappos DV Health Committee Co-Chair East LA Women's Center Executive Director

&

Kate Marr DV Health Committee Co-Chair Community Legal Aid SoCal Executive Director

Los Angeles County DVC Health Committee

Presentation to the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council

September 19, 2023



Domestic Violence and Health

- Public health issue
- Social determinant of health
- Many chronic and acute health impacts
- Strains the healthcare system + costs
- Huge need for improved access and health equity for survivors in LA County

DV Health Care Leadership Council

- Funded by <u>Blue Shield of California Foundation</u> since 2018
 - Originated out of the state DV and Health Care Partnerships (DVHCP) Initiative (2014-2017)
- Collaborative between 4 DV programs in LA County:
 - Jenesse Center, Inc.
 - YWCA of San Gabriel Valley
 - East Los Angeles Women's Center
 - Community Legal Aid SoCal



Systems-Change Work in LA County

Partnership with the Dept. of Public Health, Office of Women's Health and the DV Council	Reinstatement of the Health Committee	Listening Session Series (across the 5 districts)
Beyond Silos: DV + Health Care Partnerships Symposium •4 th Annual, October 23, 2023	Medi-Cal Learning Cohort	Engaging new partners in policy and systems change work
	Develop and disseminate tools and resources	

Health Committee Mission

The mission of the Health Committee is to promote cross-sector collaboration between the healthcare and DV advocacy fields, improve response to DV and the health impacts of violence, and advance transformational policy and systems change in intersectional approaches to communities impacted by violence within Los Angeles County.

Health Committee 2023-2024 Goals

- Medi-Cal/DV Pilot Project
- DV and Healthcare Listening Sessions (1 per Supervisorial District)
- Beyond Silos 2023
- Strengthening Relationships Between DV and Healthcare Providers





stic Violence & Health Care

LISTENING SESSION

WEDNESDAY JULY 26

10 AM - 1 PM

Los Angeles General Medical Center 2051 Marengo St., LA CA 90033 In-Patient Tower, Bldg. H Conference Room A & B



Purpose

Learn from health care agencies, DV programs, CBO's and people with lived experience in the district.

Discuss the impact of DV and healthcare partnerships on improving survivor access to care and support.

Identify concrete strategies, gaps, and barriers to inform systems change across Los Angeles County.

Lunch included | Registration required More info: Ruth Rivera | rrivera@elawc.org SCAN TO REGISTER or visit BIT.LY/LISTENDISTRICT1



Schedule

District 5 — June 26, 2023 District 1 — July 26, 2023 District 4 — Nov. 2023 District 2 — Feb. 2024 District 3 — April 2024





You're Invited ...

BEYOND SILOS: DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND HEALTH CARE PARTNERSHIPS

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2023

9:00am to 4:30pm PST

IN PERSON AT THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT 1000 N. ALAMEDA ST. LOS ANGELES, CA90012 Hosted by the DVHC Leadership Council and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Office of Women's Health and Domestic Violence Council



<u>CLICK</u> OR SCAN TO REGISTER

For more info, visit www.dvhcla.org

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS





AGENDA

- 4th Annual Beyond Silos: Domestic Violence and Health Care Partnerships Monday, October 23, 2023

8:30-9:00am	Registration + Breakfast
9:00-9:25am	Welcome + Opening Remarks • Kate Marr, Executive Director, Community Legal Aid SoCal • Lan Pham, Executive Director, Los Angeles County DV Council • Richard Thomason, Policy Director, Blue Shield of California Foundation • Special Guest (TBA)
9:25-10:25am	 Keynote Address Adolescent Relationship Abuse Prevention: Challenges, approaches and future directions Maya Ragavan, MD, MPH, MS, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, University of Pittsburgh and UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh
10:25-10:50am	Break + Networking Self-care stations + exhibitor tables open
10:50-11:50am	Morning Plenary Centering LGBTQ+ Survivors in Trauma-Informed Support and Services Andrew Aleman, LCSW, National Consultant
11:50am-12:50pm	Lunch Self-care stations + exhibitor tables open
Session A	Cultivating Youth Leaders in Violence Prevention Dr Angela Parker, Director of Trainings and Programs, Jenesse Center, Inc. Youth Leaders (TBA)
Session B	 Navigating Reproductive Health Access in Los Angeles County Susie Baldwin, MD, MPH, Medical Director, Office of Women's Health, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Dannelle Pietersz, NP, MSN, MPH, Clinical Programs Director, Women's Health Programs and Innovation, Los Angeles County Department of Health Services Jessica Miller, LVN, CLE, President, Full Spectrum Doula, Jurupa Valley Doulas
Session C	 Mandatory Reporting to Mandatory Supporting Karen Earl, Chief Executive Officer, Jenesse Center, Inc. Kate Vander Tuig, MPH, Program Director, National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence, Futures Without Violence
2:15-2:30pm	Break/ Transition
2:30-3:15pm	Lifting their Voices: Navigating access to care as a survivor with intersecting identities Moderator (TBA)
3:15-3:30pm	Closing Remarks Yasmin Tarver, Director of Workforce Development, Jenesse Center, Inc.
3:30-4:30pm	Closing Network Reception



Reproductive Coercion

Dr. Susie Baldwin, Medical Director Office of Women's Health Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health

Addressing Reproductive Coercion in Intimate Partner Violence (IPV): A Guide for Survivors & Advocates

Presented by: Dr. Susie Baldwin

LAC Department of Public Health

Office of Women's Health

USC Institute on Inequalities in Global Health



Addressing Reproductive Coercion in Intimate Partner Violence (IPV): A Guide for Survivors & Advocates

- People experiencing IPV are often denied the ability to make decisions about their own lives and bodies, including in matters related to reproductive health.
- This guide compiles information to improve education, support, and access to services for survivors of IPV, with the aim of enhancing reproductive autonomy and control, as well as overall health, safety, and wellbeing.



What is reproductive coercion?

- **Reproductive coercion** is an umbrella term for any behavior that seeks to maintain power and control over someone's reproductive health.
- Often takes place in the context of other forms of violence or abuse. Reproductive coercion includes attempts to interfere with contraceptive use, pregnancy decision-making, and protection from sexually transmitted infections.
- May involve use of force, verbal threats, pestering, tampering with birth control methods, or other actions.
- Reproductive coercion may or may not involve explicit violence or force, but all forms of reproductive coercion are abuse.

How common is reproductive coercion?



1 in 8 individuals ages 16-29 have experienced reproductive coercion

1 in 4 callers to the National Domestic Violence Hotline experienced reproductive coercion

Reproductive coercion can take many forms. This can sound like:

"I don't want you to use birth control"

"If you have an abortion, I'll leave you" "If you don't have an abortion, I'll leave you"

> "If you love me, you'll have a baby

> > with me"

What are some examples of reproductive coercion?

Reproductive coercion can take many forms. This can look like:

Birth control sabotage: Interfering with a partner's birth control without their consent.

Some examples include:

- Refusing to wear a condom,
- Removing a condom without partner's consent ("stealthing")
- Destroying or tampering with birth control pills, rings, patches, intrauterine contraception, etc.
- Withholding money for birth control purchase
- Failing "to pull out" after previously agreeing to do so ("pulling out" refers to the removal of the penis from the vagina before ejaculation occurs).

What are some examples of reproductive coercion?

Reproductive coercion may also involve attempts to block access to reproductive health care.



Pregnancy pressure: An attempt to control the outcome of a pregnancy, by coercing the victim into or out of a pregnancy. One partner influences the other's reproductive choices by instilling a sense of fear, powerlessness or hopelessness.

Healthcare information for survivors

- Talking about sensitive and painful topics like IPV and reproductive coercion may be difficult.
- While it might feel frightening or embarrassing, sharing your experience is an important step toward improving your overall health and wellbeing.
- Communicate your concerns to a healthcare professional they are here to help you, and can be an important resource in reducing the impact of IPV and reproductive coercion.

Protecting Your Privacy in Healthcare

- People of any age in CA can access birth control or pregnancy-related care, including abortion, without parental consent.
- People age 12+ in CA can also receive care for testing, treatment, or prevention of STDs/HIV, including vaccines for HPV & Hepatitis B, without parental consent.
- CA healthcare providers are banned from releasing medical records of people seeking abortion care to law enforcement (<u>Office of Governor</u>).

Contraception information for survivors

Ask your healthcare provider about birth control methods. If you are experiencing birth control sabotage, you may consider using discreet and longer-acting forms of birth control, such as an intrauterine device (IUD), also known as intrauterine contraception (IUC).

Your clinician can make it easier for you to hide your birth control from your partner. For example, they can cut IUC strings short or provide emergency contraception in a plain envelope. Find more information at <u>Pregnant Survivors</u> and the <u>Take Control Initiative</u>.





- Family PACT is a confidential program for individuals with low incomes that covers various birth control methods (prescription and over-the-counter contraception, including emergency contraception), STI testing & treatment, HIV testing & more.
- If you are unable to maintain confidentiality in your current health insurance plan, Family PACT is a helpful alternative for your reproductive health needs.

Abortion information for survivors

- Reproductive Coercion can lead to unintended pregnancy, defined as pregnancy that is unwanted or mistimed. People with unintended pregnancies may seek abortion.
- Individuals often cite their partner's abuse as the reason for seeking an abortion and describe not wanting to expose children to violence or feeling that a baby will bind them to an abusive



- While the U.S. Supreme Court's Dobbs decision in 2022 eliminated access to abortion services for many people in the U.S., abortion remains legal and protected in California and in Los Angeles County.
- However, many people, including individuals who experience intimate partner violence (IPV), face significant barriers to accessing abortion information and services.

 The County of Los Angeles and the Department of Public Health are committed to ensuring people can receive all the health and mental health services they need and deserve to live full and healthy lives, including abortion care.



MULTILINGUAL RESOURCES TOOLS & INFORMATION TEENS PARTNERS & OTHER LINKS ABOUT

MULTILINGUAL RESOURCES

These resources are available in Los Angeles County for anyone who needs abortion care, family planning care, or related services. Below, you can also find information about clinics that offer information and services about abortion, but do not actually provide them

We will regularly update the list to reflect the changing landscape of abortion access and reproductive health care in the County as the Safe Haven is develo





WHO PROVIDES ABORTIONS IN LA COUNTY?

Abortion care is available and accessible in LA County. Abortion is covered by health insurance in California, including Medi-Cal. Note that all people with low incomes in California have access to Medi-Cal during pregnancy, regardless of immigration status. Abortion can be performed with medication (pills) or through in-clinic procedure, depending on patient preference, individuals' health status and living situation, and the stage of pregnancy.

In some cases, people's private obstetricians/gynecologist (ob-gyn) physicians or nurse practitioners/nurse midwives can provide abortion care when it's needed. In most cases, abortion is accessed through specialized health care providers.

Abortion providers in Los Angeles County include:

Cedars Sinai | Family Planning Program

https://www.cedars-sinai.org/programs/gynecology/clinical-programs/family-planning.html 310-423-9268 (Open Monday - Friday, 8 am - 4:30 pm) In person clinic that offers a full range of family planning services as well as medical and surgical abortion care.

Choix

www.choixhealth.com

858-203-0531 (Open Mon-Fri 8:30am - 4:30pm PST) Choix is a private telemedicine clinic providing sexual and reproductive healthcare in California, Colorado, Illinois, New Mexico, and Virginia.

FPA Women's Health

https://www.fpawomenshealth.com/abortion Call or Text 877- 883-7264 (Open 8am - 5pm) In person, online and telehealth medicine women's health care clinic that provides gynecology, birth control, abortion and sexually transmitted infections (STI) testing. 25 clinics available in CA https://www.fpawomenshealth.com/telehealth

Her Care

https://dhs.lacounty.gov/

https://hercare.org/ 213-516-8580 Private family planning, cosmetic surgery, and abortion provider for women ages 15-65 in three LA County locations.

LA County Department of Health Services (DHS)

DHS provides comprehensive reproductive health services including preconception health, sexually transmitted infections (STI) screening, contraceptive care, and abortion.

Luna Flow



This guide describes resources available in Los Angeles County for anyone who needs abortion care, family planning care, or related services. We will regularly update the list to reflect the changing landscape of abortion access and reproductive health care in the County as the Safe Haven is developed.

IPV service providers and advocates play a critical role in addressing experiences of reproductive coercion by providing education, safety planning, and referrals to services.



Open Conversations Around Reproductive Health and Safety with Survivors of IPV

If the client informs you that they are pregnant, or suspects that they might be pregnant, some helpful questions to ask include:



- How do you feel about being pregnant?
- Are you concerned about anyone else's reaction to your pregnancy?
- Would you like a referral to a trusted healthcare provider who can talk with you about your options (continuing with the pregnancy, pursuing adoption, or having an abortion)?
- Who can you count on for support?

Suggested questions for advocates and service providers to open conversations around reproductive/ sexual health and safety

Do you feel your partner(s) listens to what you want in your sexual relationship and respects your decisions?

Does your partner(s) currently pressure you to do things sexually that you are not comfortable with?

Can you talk to your partner(s) openly about your thoughts and wishes around condom use, birth control, pregnancy, and/or abortion?

What are your thoughts and desires around using birth control?

If the client shows interest in using birth control, or states they cannot talk to their partner(s) openly about birth control:

- Are you aware that there are some methods of birth control that your partner(s) doesn't have to know about (cannot see or feel)?
- Do you want more information about your options?

Is there anything that you are concerned about that we have not yet talked about?



Office of Women's Health

Susie Baldwin, MD, MPH, FACPM sbaldwin@ph.lacounty.gov

DPH-Abortion LAC <u>abortionlac@ph.lacounty.gov</u>


Preventing Gun Violence: Using the Right Tool for Each Situation

Andrea Wesling, Director Office of Violence Prevention Los Angeles County Dept. of Public Health LA County Department of Public Health Office of Violence Prevention

Preventing Gun Violence: Using the Right Tool for each Situation

September 19, 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)

- 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 legal restraining orders.** 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.



Gun Violence Restraining Orders Board Motion

AGENDA NO.

March 07, 2023

MOTION BY SUPERVISORS JANICE HAHN AND HILDA L. SOLIS Improving Access to Gun Violence Restraining Orders

Gun laws in California are established with the goal of reducing gun violence in all contexts, including mass shootings, domestic violence incidents, and suicides. These laws have undoubtedly saved many lives, with California having among the lowest rates of gun deaths in the United States. However, the recent mass shootings in Monterey Park, Half Moon Bay, and Benedict Canyon have once again brought to the forefront important conversations about community safety and policy measures to regulate gun use. Additionally, more than one third of all suicides in the California in 2019 involved the use of firearms. It is clear that having access to guns increases the chances of someone using them to inflict harm upon themself and/or others.



GVRO Board Motion: Public Awareness

Response acknowledged the need for a public awareness campaign highlighting that it must be designed to avoid unintended adverse consequences, including exposure of Black and Brown individuals to increased criminal justice scrutiny or exposure of anyone requesting an order to retaliatory violence.

Drawing on insight garnered from a review of materials as well as consultation with our GVRO Subcommittee that includes local experts, OVP recommended content for a public awareness campaign that includes:

- Elements of the California GVRO law;
- $\circ~$ Who is eligible to request a GVRO under the law;
- How to request a GVRO; what the process looks like;
- Other kinds of restraining orders and gun relinquishment options;
- Warning signs of suicide or mass shooting risk;
- Mental health action steps and resources.



GVRO Board Motion: Data Collection

OVP would like to see an expanded list of data elements available for collection and sharing that includes all indicators developed by The Consortium for Risk-Based Firearms Policy. The Consortium developed a broad list of data that could be used to measure the effectiveness of GVROs and the impact of GVROs among different populations.

OVP also responded that GVROs are not the only type of restraining order that can be deployed to reduce firearm violence and will not be the most appropriate tool for every situation. We indicated the importance of collecting data about other protective orders that can result in relinquishment of firearms. These include orders related to domestic violence, workplace violence, school violence, civil harassment, and elder abuse. OVP recommended expanding the type of data collected to include data on the filing of other protective orders as well as data on understanding and reducing barriers to petitioning, incorporating non-law enforcement intervention professionals into the GVRO process, and investing in the social safety net.



GVRO Board Motion: Training & Assistance

System Navigators: A Key Component to Provide Support & Build Capacity

OVP recommended funding 2 full-time positions within OVP to act as System Navigators. Responsibilities would include:

1. Providing direct one-to-one support to members of the public who are requesting a restraining order:

- Explaining the process, including how and when the courts/law enforcement need to be involved
- Helping to fill out paperwork and providing connections to support services
- Providing in-person non-legal support during court appearances or during necessary interactions with law enforcement
- Helping to track court dates and understanding the process to request an extension of an existing restraining order

2. Working with county and community partners to develop and provide trainings to raise awareness of restraining orders and available resources.



The Right Tool for Each Situation

• Like any legal tool, we know that a GVRO is not always going to be the right fit for every person and every circumstance.

Research and community feedback revealed that GVROs can pose the risk of further exposing Black and Brown individuals to increased criminal justice scrutiny or exposure of anyone requesting an order to retaliatory violence.

 In addition, we recognize that there are important differences between a GVRO and a DVRO including that with a GVRO there is no protected party. A GVRO only requires that the subject hands in their firearms and ammunition and/or prevents them from buying firearms and ammunition.

SAVE THE DATE

MONDAY _____ OCTOBER 2 _____ 12-3 PM

Join us for a co-hosted training on



We invite you to learn more about Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVROs) at a half day training fo

- County staff
- Mental health practitioners
- Legal aid workers
- Crisis hotline staff
- Others interested in GVROs
- Community-based organizations
- Teachers
- School administrator:

Supervisor Janice Hahn, the Los Angeles County Office of Violence Prevention (OVP), the Office of County Counsel, and the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, are commit to reducing gun violence in LA County and as part of that commitment, we will be co-hosting a training on Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVROs).



DVC/OVP Opportunities to Partner

- Building increased awareness of the intersectionality between DV/IPV and gun violence (i.e., DV/IPV homicides, homicidesuicides, and relationship to mass shootings, and other forms of community violence).
- Increasing cross sector training opportunities for law enforcement, service providers, and community members on EPOs and DVROs, as well as GVROs.
- Seeking opportunities to enhance resources (such as legal assistance) to assist victims/survivors and DV/IPV advocates in filing, follow through, and advocacy for enforcement of protection orders.
- Blue Shield Grant
- Other Suggestions





Thoughts, Suggestions or Questions





Contact Information

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

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

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



Immigration Issues Update

Alec Nelson, Sr. Immigration Attorney Peace Over Violence LA VAWA Network



Board Action No. 3 July 11, 2023:

Improving the Process for Undocumented Immigrant Victims and Survivors to Request Immigration Visa Certifications from County Agencies



Lan Pham, Executive Director Domestic Violence Council LA County Dept. of Public Health **Rigo Reyes, Executive Director** Office of Immigrant Affairs Los Angeles County



Announcements and Public Comments

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



Closing Remarks

- There will NOT be an in-person DVC General Membership Meeting in October. However, there may be a Special Virtual Presentation. Stay tuned.
- October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. DVC will be taking this opportunity to recognize 40+ community-based service DV providers/DPH grantees, 15 DVC Co-Chairs of the DVC, and announce the winner of the Breaking Silence Survivor Activist Award on Wednesday, October 18th at the DVAM Breakfast event. Due to room capacity, this event is by invitation only. However, we are looking into options for the public to attend remotely or record the event for later public viewing.

□ Next DVC General Meeting:

- November 21, 2023; from 12pm to 2pm, at California Endowment.
- ✤ Agenda: Intersectionality of Domestic Violence and Homelessness.
- 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: <u>dvc@ph.lacounty.gov</u>
 - Call: (213) 974-2799