



Domestic Violence Council (DVC) General Membership Meeting

Friday, June 6, 2025

10:00am to 11:30am (Pacific Time)

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
& Virtual (MS Teams)





Welcome Remarks



Welcome and Introductions

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

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 lanaic.lacounty.gov.

Meeting Protocol



- ☐ Please be reminded that this is an open and public convening. Anything discussed in this space is not protected nor confidential. No client or survivor identifying information should be discussed/shared.
- ☐ This meeting is not recorded. We ask that attendees do not record the meeting with your own computers or personal devices.
- ☐ Similar to other DVC meetings, agendas are available/posted 3 days before the meeting. Notes and other handouts are available within 10 business days: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/dvcouncil/minutes/minutes.htm>
- ☐ For Q/A and public comments, please keep your remarks to below 2 minutes.
- ☐ If you need additional information or have questions about this or other DVC meetings, please email us: DVC@ph.lacounty.gov.

Agenda



ITEM	DESCRIPTION	LEAD
I.	Welcome and Introductions. (10 min.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remarks by the Chair DVC Co-Chairs and Attendees Self-Introductions 	Lan Pham, Executive Director <i>Domestic Violence Council (DVC)</i> <i>LA County – Dept. of Public Health</i>
II.	Centralized Access (30 min.)	Cristina Cortes, Senior Manager - Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition <i>Downtown Women’s Center</i> Iajhiah Giraud, Manager, Domestic Violence Systems Alignment & Stephanie Whack, Domestic Violence Program Coordinator, DV System Alignment <i>LAHSA</i>
III.	Report back on May 9, 2025, joint DVA-DVC “DV and Mental Health” Event. (10 min.)	Dachelle Kendrick, Chair <i>Domestic Violence Alliance (DVA)</i> <i>City of Los Angeles</i>
IV.	Report back on May 29, 2025, joint LACCW – DVC “DV Briefing”. (10 min.)	Aquilina Soriano Versoza, Chair <i>LA County – Commission for Women/</i> <i>Violence Against Women and Girls</i> <i>Committee</i>
V.	Immigration Report from LA VAWA Network (20 min.)	Teresa D. Cruz, Program Manager Immigrants’ Rights Project <i>Public Counsel</i> <i>LA VAWA Network</i>
VI.	Matter not on the posted agenda (to be presented and placed on a future agenda) (5 min.)	All
VII.	Public Comments not to exceed two minutes person and must be on items of interest which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the DVC. (5 min.)	All
VIII.	Meeting adjourns.	



Cristina Cortes, Senior Manager

Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition
Downtown Women's Center

Iajhiah Giraud, Manager
&

Stephanie Whack, DV Program Coordinator

Domestic Violence Systems Alignment
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority



Centralized Access Overview

Current System

Victim Services and Homeless Services

Due to shelter hotlines operating independently, survivors often call multiple shelters to identify available beds.

Programs for survivors – emergency shelters, transitional shelters, permanent housing programs, and supportive services – operate independently and are often siloed.

Hotline staff are often doing multiple jobs and spread thin with answering phone calls and running the shelter.

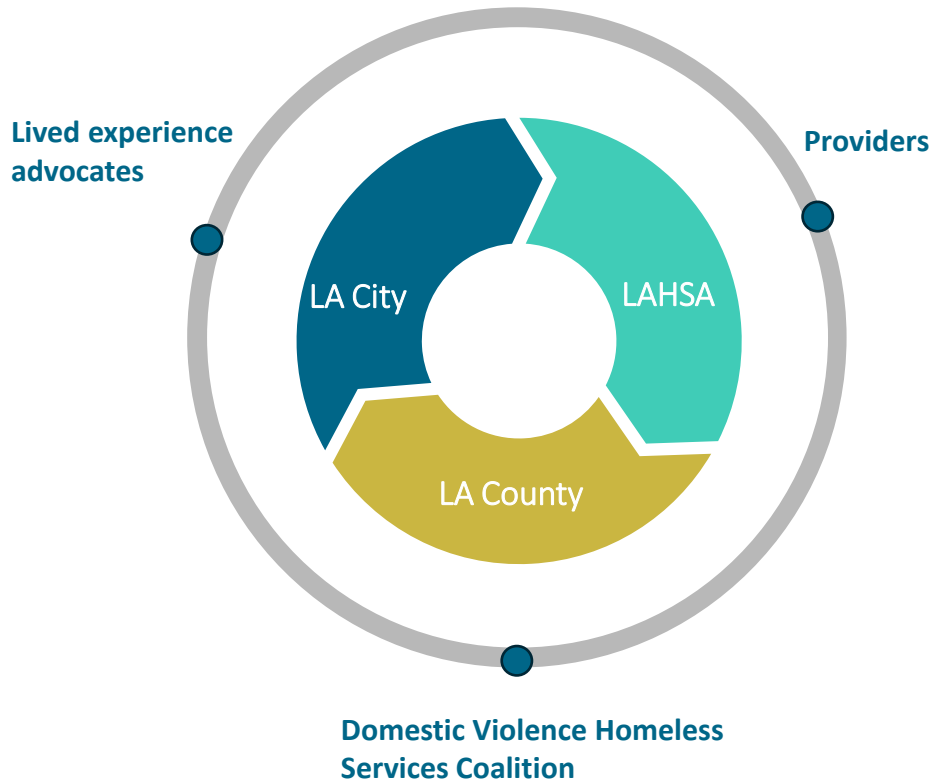
The Solution

Centralized Access

- Create system alignment for IPV providers
- Better coordinate and maximize utilization of DV resources
- Centralized Access will create a trauma-informed path for survivors to connect to shelter and other resources, and increase the number of survivors achieving safety in permanent housing.
- Ensure each program for DV survivors has the ultimate goal of providing safety, permanent housing, and stability to reduce the number of survivors experiencing homelessness.
- Ensure throughput from entry point to permanent housing.

Current Efforts

- Efforts began with Partnership Meeting and Listening Sessions in late 2023
- LAHSA, City, and County began meeting to discuss plans
- Centralized Access Working Group and System Throughput Working Group began meeting in 2024 to plan for Centralized Access
- October 2024 LAHSA applied for federal funding for Centralized Access
- January 2025 LAHSA awarded federal funding



Centralized Access - Components

Centralized Platform

- Database that displays real-time visibility of resources
- Inclusive of ALL funding streams
- Allows providers to make warm handoffs to appropriate programs and follow up

Centralized Hotline

- Centralized Hotline to provide one main entry point for survivors to call for resources, with an emphasis on emergency shelter.
- Centralized Hotline does short survey and provides warm handoff to appropriate shelter
- Shelters retain individual hotlines

Category Four Matchers

- Stationed within LAHSA
- Matching to permanent housing resources and emergency transfer requests

Centralized Platform: CareConnect

- Will allow VSPs to find resources for survivors in real time to lesson the burden on front-line staff and on survivors.
- Reduces silos within the system.
- Create streamlined services.
- Provide more data to support future funding requests.

Centralized Hotline

- Reduces trauma for survivors by allowing them to call one hotline number instead of many
- Reduces workload for hotline staff
- Streamlines the 20 hotlines that currently operate in the County

Category Four Matchers

- Centralized system to match survivors to housing navigation, rapid re-housing, PSH, and navigate emergency transfers
- Reduce wait time for connection to permanent housing
- Expedite survivor connection to safety

Key Points

- All components will be rolled out in phases
- Each phase will include training for all providers involved
- Co-creation with providers and survivors is an essential part of the process
- Providers are doing amazing work with the tools they have. The Administrators want to provide them with updated tools and systems.

Updates

Centralized Platform Update

- 10 providers chosen for CareConnect Pilot
- Providers will co-design and test CareConnect for feasibility, usage, and resource connection

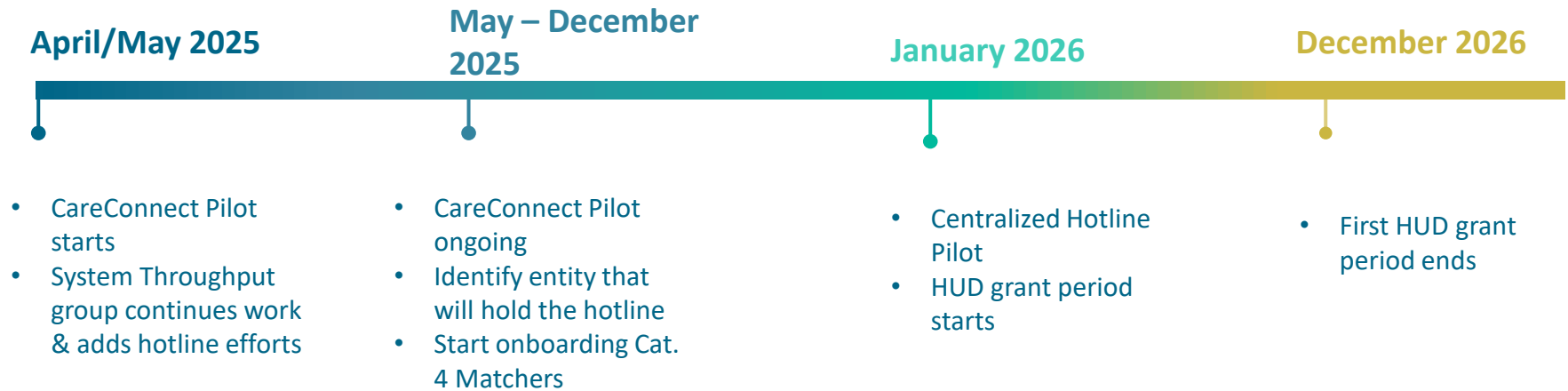
Centralized Hotline Update

- Funding was awarded through the 2024 NOFO for the Centralized Hotline
- LAHSA staff are looking at different entities that can hold the hotline + phone technology

Cat. 4 Matchers Update

- ~~and how~~ Working on job descriptions with PH department
- Matchers will start with matching emergency transfers and non-HMIS portal submissions

Centralized Access Timeline



Thank You!

Email additional questions to:

Iajhiah Giraud, igiraud@lahsa.org

Sarah Whitman, swhitman@lahsa.org

Cristina Cortes, cristinac@downtownwomencenter.org



DV and Mental Health Event



Dachelle Kendrick, Domestic Violence Alliance (DVA) Chair

City of Los Angeles

&

Lived Experience Advisory Peer Group (LEAP) Co-Chair

LA County Domestic Violence Council



Annual Domestic Violence

BREAKFAST & BRIEFING

Aquilina Soriano Versoza, Chair
Violence Against Women and Girls Committee
Los Angeles County – Commission for Women

Immigration Report from the LA VAWA Network

June 6, 2025

**Presented by:
Teresa Cruz
Program Manager
Public Counsel**



Immigration Updates: What DV Providers & Law Enforcement Need to Know

- Why Are You Getting Repeat Certification Requests?
- Recission of ICE Victim's Directive
- The Chilling Effect – Community Fear Is Growing
- Expedited Removal and the End of Sensitive Locations
- What Can You Do?

Why Are You Getting Repeat Certification Requests?

- Immigration forms, especially for humanitarian forms of relief (like U visa certifications), are **updated** frequently
- Survivors may need to resubmit forms using the latest version, which will require **re-signing by certifiers**.
- We understand this can be time-consuming, but it's necessary to prevent rejections/denial of applications.
- **Your continued cooperation helps keep victims eligible** for protection while they support your case.

Rescission of ICE Victim's Directive

- The **Victim's Directive** previously required prosecutorial discretion (PD) for immigration enforcement for applicants of humanitarian forms of relief. The directive is now gone.
- Survivors **need stronger support from local law enforcement** to remain safe and able to participate in investigations.
- ICE is **supposed to check with local law enforcement** before removing a survivor if it would interfere with an active case.
- Your **feedback can prevent removal** of a cooperating victim or witness, so please respond when asked—a **quick verification could mean the difference** between deportation and continued cooperation.
- If someone is **currently cooperating** with you (police, DA), they are **more likely to receive a stay of removal**.
- Consider implementing a **standard process** to verify cooperation when asked.

The Chilling Effect – Community Fear Is Growing

- With all these changes, **fear is high** in immigrant communities.
- Many survivors are afraid to seek shelter or report crime because they are worried that they'll face ICE instead of help.
- Stay informed and continue collaborating with folks doing the work. They have the most up-to-date information and trends.
- Your role in **building trust** is more important than ever, especially when enforcement increases.

What Can You Do?

DV Providers:

- DV shelters are no longer considered sensitive locations (off-limits to ICE), it is more critical that your staff is trained on how to respond to visits from ICE
- DV shelters should have a policy on what to do if ICE shows up (see FAQ on how to create a [policy](#)).
- Communicate with legal service partners regularly

Law Enforcement:

- Promptly respond to ICE inquiries to verify a survivor's cooperation
- Provide letters of support for cooperating victims
- Understand the immigration consequences for your witnesses

**Thank you.
Questions?**



Matters Not Posted on the Agenda



Public Comments and Announcements



Let Us Know How We Did

Scan the following QR code



MONTHLY MEETING SURVEY LINK:

<https://compyle.clearimpact.com/#/public/participant/0>

Thank you!