



# Domestic Violence Council (DVC) Steering Committee Meeting

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Friday, June 6, 2025

11:30am to 12:30pm(PT)

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
& Virtual (MS Teams)





# Welcome Remarks



# Welcome and Introductions

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

# 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.
- ☐ Please hold comments and remarks to 2 minutes or less.
- ☐ If you need additional information or have questions about this or other DVC meetings, please email us: [DVC@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:DVC@ph.lacounty.gov).

ITEM	DESCRIPTION	LEAD
I.	Welcome and Introductions. (5 min.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remarks by the Chair</li> <li>DVC Co-Chairs and Attendees Introductions</li> </ul>	Lan Pham, <i>DVC Chair</i>
II.	DVC Bylaws Update (15 Minutes)	Lan Pham, <i>DVC Chair</i>
III.	Standing Committee Updates and Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Committee of Systems Improvement (5 min.)</li> <li>Health Committee (5 min.)</li> <li>InterFaith (5 min.)</li> <li>LA Regional Policy Committee (5 min.)</li> <li>LGBTQIA+ Issues Committee (5 min.)</li> <li>Shelter Directors Committee (5 min.)</li> </ul>	<p>Kate Forrest, Rachelle Neshkes, and Gail Pincus <i>CSI Co-Chairs</i></p> <p>Barbara Kappos, Kate Marr, and Ruth Rivera <i>Health Committee Co-Chairs</i></p> <p>Varsha N, Bernita Walker, and Cecelia Walker <i>InterFaith Co-Chairs</i></p> <p>Minty Siu-Kootnikoff and Nancy Volpert <i>LARP Co-Chairs</i></p> <p>Jaye Prado and Giovanna Martinez <i>LGBTQIA+ Co-Chairs</i></p> <p>Giovanna Martinez and Krysta Warfield <i>Shelter Directors Co-Chairs</i></p>
IV.	Matter not on the posted agenda (to be presented and placed on a future agenda) (5 min.)	
V.	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.)	
VI.	Meeting adjourns.	

## BACKGROUND AND UPDATE

- The Current DVC Bylaws is outdated; last update was 11/12/2009).
- Board Motion on 11/07/17 directed DPH to *(a) conduct an assessment to support changes to bylaws; and (b) work with LA County Counsel to update and revise the current DVC by-laws to reflect any changes in structure, composition, or where necessary to effectuate LA County Board of Supervisor's desire to view, address DV/IPV issues within a public health framework.*
- The DVC experienced several leadership transitions between 2018 thru 2023 thus a delay in.
- October 2023 – October 2024: DVC Executive Director conducted additional assessments (observed DVC Standing Committee meetings, meet with community members, conducted in-person site visits, and led listening sessions on key issues impacting DV programs in LA County) to ensure that DPH 11/19/2018 assessments were still applicable given changes in the past 5+ years.

- November 2024: Draft of updated Bylaws reviewed/discussed internally/DPH.
- December 2024: Draft of updated Bylaws reviewed/discussed with DVC Co-Chairs.
- January 2025: Draft of updated Bylaws review/discussed with LA County Counsel and Government Affairs
- March 2025: Draft of updated Bylaws review/discussed with community members.
- April/May 2025: Final draft with feedback from key stakeholders completed and routed through proper channels for review, discussion, and adoption.
- June 2025: Updates shared at June DVC General Membership Meeting.
- June 2025: Draft being reviewed by DPH and LA County Counsel.

## PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS

- Added section which defines “domestic violence”.
- Include language which includes different forms of violence which intersects with DV.
- Membership to be inclusive of allied fields and individuals.
- Call out the need to include service providers working with people who harm and/or providing restorative justice work.
- Expand membership beyond residents of LAC; include “people who work attend school, and “active partner” with LAC.
- No limit to the # of agencies who may join DVC.
- Decrease bar for joining; eligibility decrease to 12 months.
- Active participation is attendance of 9 DVC meetings/year.



## PROPOSED CHANGES TO BYLAWS

- A quorum is 33% for general membership; and over 50% for Steering Committee.
- Increase Steering Committee to 25 members.
- Passing majority vote is over 50%.
- Expand Co-Chairs to Tri-Chairs; one member must be lived experience individual, one member must be DVC member agency/individual.
- 1<sup>ST</sup> Vice Chair is representative of DV Shelter/Housing.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair is non DVC Shelter/Housing.

## PARKING LOT ITEMS

- Educational materials/information available to the public about the role of DVC; distinction between DPH DVC vs community-informed DVC.
- Development of binders for Co-Chairs and membership packets for General Membership.
- Annual membership assessment to assess needs/gaps and opportunities for enhanced response and collaboration.
- Can there be a role for previous DVC Steering Committee members?
- How may DVC build in leadership development and succession planning?

# Standing Committee Updates



<b>DVC COMMITTEE</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>CO-CHAIRS</b>
<b>Committee of System Improvement (CSI)</b>	Works to implement DV laws and policies and to provide resources and problem-solving support to community partners when implementation issues and problems arise.	<b>Kate Forrest Rachelle Neshkes Gail Pincus</b>
<b>Health Committee</b>	Works to promote cross-sector collaboration between healthcare and domestic violence 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.	<b>Barbara Kappos Kate Marr Ruth Rivera</b>
<b>LGBTQIA+ Issues Committee</b>	<p>Works to engage communities, to bring visibility, and to raise awareness of the disproportionate prevalence of domestic violence and multiple other forms of violence impacting LGBTQIA+ communities. Also works to educate service providers about the barriers that LGBTQIA+ community face when accessing services.</p> <p>The goals are to expand LGBTQIA+ affirming inclusiveness services to people who experience violence and people using power and control; and to incorporate the needs of LGBTQIA+ people county-wide.</p>	<b>Giovanna Martinez Jaye Prado</b>
<b>Religion and DV Issues/Interfaith Committee</b>	Works to inform, educate, and support the faith community in the prevention and response to domestic violence, inclusive of all religions.	<b>Varsha N., JD Cecelia Walker Bernita Walker</b>
<b>LA Regional Policy Committee (LARP)</b>	Works to evaluate and recommend appropriate legislation to its membership and the LA County Board of Supervisors.	<b>Nancy Volpert Minty Siu-Kootnikoff</b>
<b>Shelter Directors Committee</b>	Works to strengthen domestic violence shelters and to provide comprehensive support to survivors.	<b>Krysta Warfield Giovanna Martinez</b>



# **Matters Not Posted on the Agenda**



# Public Comments



**Thank you !**