

November 01, 2022

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR HILDA L. SOLIS

Proclaiming United Against Hate Week in Los Angeles County

In 2018, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (Board) created the anti-hate campaign that has become the LA vs. Hate program, which is under the Los Angeles County (County) Commission on Human Relations (HRC). This program is a collaboration among County and community organizations to “support all residents of Los Angeles County...[to] address the normalization of hate and inspire people to stand up to it, build understanding about what constitutes a hate act and how to report it, [and] support individuals and communities as they heal from the trauma of hate.”¹

Data demonstrates that hate violence is not just increasing in 2022 but is likely to be a sustained movement, a movement that needs adept, precise prevention strategies to address the hate violence currently gripping our County.

According to local data, there were 1,235 reports/cases created (77% of contacts made) and tracked via the CareLinQ care management system in the first two years of gathering hate incidents and hate crimes reporting data through LA vs. Hate. In the first year of the LA vs. Hate reporting line, October 2019 to September 2020, there were 491 reports and in year two, October 2020 to September 2021, there were 744 reports, for a total of 1,235 - an increase of 66% from year-to-year.

MOTION

SOLIS _____

KUEHL _____

HAHN _____

BARGER _____

MITCHELL _____

While all hate acts can be traumatic to victims, the breakdown for types of crime or harassment indicates that 68% of hate acts/crimes reported to the LA vs. Hate reporting system implicate some trauma. The types of crimes reported include bias-motivated physical assault/battery at 17%; burglary/robbery, at 4.5%; sexual assault, at 4%; attempted murder, at 3%; and bomb threat/actual bombing, at <1%. Nearly half of these crimes are based on race, ethnicity, or national origin bias, 12% are based on disability bias and 12% are based on religious bias; 12% are based on sexual orientation bias and nearly 9% are based on gender bias.

In comparing school years, bullying has increased by 55%, from 39 reports in 2020-21 to 71 reports in 2021-22. LA vs. Hate responded with Dream Resource Centers in locations experiencing intergroup issues or increases in bias-motivated violence.

Likewise, LA vs. Hate is embarking on other data-driven priority responses that address the rise in hate violence. For example, based on a significant number of calls indicating that hate occurs when people seek housing, LA vs. Hate has embarked on a joint initiative with the State of California's Department of Fair Employment & Housing to inform housing providers of their legal obligation to provide housing environments free from hate, under the "covenant of use and enjoyment." Likewise, LA vs. Hate is working with key partners to address the rise in hate targeting small minority-owned businesses, again using data-driven priority setting. Finally, reports from victims of hate act repeatedly pointed to the need to build awareness and competencies on the part of first responders - law enforcement, County department's security forces, and school police - on the importance of encouraging victims of hate to report such acts

and to access services through LA vs. Hate.

Special events are a key component of LA vs. Hate, to help unify communities by helping promote education and prevention messaging to broaden public awareness of the need and how to report hate via social media and public spaces. Similarly, LA vs. Hate uses art interventions that promote anti-hate awareness and heal communities affected by hate that could be used in schools - through the eight planned Dream Resource Centers, as well as schools that are waiting to partner more closely with LA vs. Hate.

LA vs Hate continues to promote safety and inclusion for all residents via the LA County's annual LA vs. Hate "United Against Hate" Week. The Week will include special events throughout the County; provision of Bystander Trainings to address hate acts happening in front of residents, provided by its network partners; and partnerships with surrounding counties for Southern California virtual options. LA vs. Hate will continue to build new Initiatives to support communities and city-based Human Relations Committees, Commissions, and Taskforces to ensure positive human relations programs are supported.

The LA vs. Hate program is seen as a model with decision-makers across the country looking to the County as a beacon of hope against hate. The County has committed to standing up with and supporting victims and survivors of hate. LA vs. Hate United Against Hate Week is the time to ensure the work continues with sustainable, ongoing programs so that the looming threat of continued hate violence is one that continually diminishes.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors: Proclaim November 13-19, 2022 as "United Against Hate Week" in Los Angeles County, recognizing the Los Angeles County

Commission on Human Relations for improving the quality of life for residents. Direct the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations to increase awareness of the hate line reporting and case management services available through the LA vs. Hate program and the benefits of not normalizing hate; and of standing in solidarity with targeted communities through a robust public campaign, utilizing traditional and ethnic media outlets, digital media, community-based organizations, and virtual and in-person community events.

#

HLS: el