

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

July 23, 2024

Gender-Based Violence Prevention Initiative

Gender-based Violence (GBV) continues to be perpetrated throughout Los Angeles County, causing harm to individuals or groups of people, due to their sex, gender, sexual orientation and/or gender identity. On December 5, 2023, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a motion by Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, [Prioritizing Gender-Based Violence \(GBV\) Prevention in Los Angeles County](#), calling for the creation of a Gender-Based Violence Prevention Policy Deputies Meeting to focus on county policy development, coordination, and implementation of GBV prevention models and programming. The motion also directed the department of Public Health Office of Violence Prevention (DPH-OVP) to conduct a report on efforts accomplished to-date and recommendations for improved coordination and integration of GBV, including needed resources.

The DPH-OVP report, [Prioritizing Gender-Based Violence in Los Angeles County](#), was published on January 3, 2024, and it highlighted that the county’s efforts around GBV have largely focused on Domestic Violence intervention and response services, and while these services are crucial to support survivors of GBV, efforts must expand and move upstream to get at root causes.

MOTION

SOLIS _____

MITCHELL _____

HAHN _____

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HORVATH _____

In a follow up motion, [Establishing a Gender-Based Violence Work Group](#) (Horvath), adopted on January 23, 2024, the Board directed the Chief Executive Office (CEO), in coordination with various departments, partners and stakeholders to establish a countywide definition for GBV, develop a workplan to define the focus and scope of the GBV Deputies Meetings, and directed the CEO to provide recommendations for the on-going GBV work, including funding and staffing needs.

The CEO published the [Establishing a Gender-Based Violence Work Group](#) report on July 1, 2024. Based on feedback from Board Deputies, county departments, and community, gender-based violence is defined as *violent acts or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation and intimidation or other abuses that are used to harm, punish, or frighten due to a person's identified or perceived gender or sexual identity.* GBV includes, but is not limited to, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, gendered cyber abuses, sexual harassment, sexual assault and exploitation, trafficking, homophobic and transphobic abuses. Primary prevention was further recommended as the focus of the GBV work and is defined as *providing whole population support and resources to everyone, regardless of level of risk that aims to prevent unhealthy or unsafe behaviors before they occur.*

The report further outlines a set of recommendations, including formalizing Gender-Based Violence deputy meetings to convene monthly to sustain high-level coordination, and provide county-wide oversight and accountability; and housing the GBV prevention work in DPH-OVP that will include conducting a landscape and gap analysis, developing and implementing a GBV primary prevention workplan, establish metrics and methods for continual GBV data collection and sharing, assembling a coalition of county

and community partners to strengthen coordination, improve systems of care, and dismantle systems of GBV discrimination, and fully operationalizing prevention strategies once funding has been identified for contracted services.

Given that the Board approved 2.0 positions in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Final Changes Budget for DPH-OVP to launch the GBV work, the report also recommends that CEO, in collaboration with DPH identify additional funding to support DPH's request for contracted services, including but not limited to, training and education, community-based solutions, and to support peer leaders and compensate those with lived experience for their guidance and expertise.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors direct the Department of Public Health Office of Violence Prevention (DPH-OVP), in collaboration with the Executive Office of the Board (EO), and county departments, to adopt the recommendations outlined in the July 1, 2024 report, "Establishing a Gender-Based Violence Work Group", including:

1. Continuing to engage and consult with the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council, the Los Angeles County Office of Women's Health, the Los Angeles County Sexual Assault Council, the Los Angeles County LGBTQ+ Commission, survivors, and nonprofit, legal, community, and academic experts.
2. Revising the GBV definition to "*violent acts or a pattern of acts of assault, threats, humiliation, and intimidation or other abuses that are used to harm, punish, or frighten due to a person's identified or perceived gender or sexual identity. GBV includes, but is not limited to, psychological, emotional and or*

financial abuse, domestic violence, intimate partner violence, gendered cyber abuses, sexual harassment, sexual assault and exploitation, trafficking, homophobic and transphobic abuses”.

3. Revising the Primary Prevention definition to “*providing whole population support and resources to everyone, regardless of level of risk, ~~that aims in~~ order to prevent unhealthy or unsafe behaviors before they occur”.*
4. Convening the monthly Gender-Based Violence deputy meetings to be coordinated by DPH-OVP with EO support, upon the hiring of the GBV staff.

I, FURTHER, MOVE that the Board of Supervisor direct the DPH-OVP to report to the Board bi-annually on the status of the GBV work, including accomplishments, challenges, opportunities, and additional resource and funding needs, as applicable.

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LPH:aa