



**Chief  
Executive  
Office.**

## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
(213) 974-1101 ceo.lacounty.gov

### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Fesia A. Davenport

July 1, 2024

To: Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath, Chair  
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis  
Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell  
Supervisor Janice Hahn  
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Fesia A. Davenport  
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fesia A. Davenport'.

### **REPORT BACK ON ESTABLISHING A GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE WORK GROUP (ITEM NO. 60-D, AGENDA OF JANUARY 23, 2024)**

#### **Background**

On December 5, 2023, the Board of Supervisors (Board) adopted a motion calling for the creation of a Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Prevention Policy deputies meeting to focus on County policy development, coordination, and implementation of GBV prevention models and programming. In a follow-up motion adopted on January 23, 2024, the Board directed the Chief Executive Office (CEO), in coordination with various departments, partners and stakeholders to develop: 1) a workplan to define the focus and scope of the GBV deputies meetings; 2) a Countywide definition for GBV; and 3) recommendations for the ongoing, operational work of GBV, including for funding staff support.

In accordance with the January 23, 2024 motion, the GBV deputies met four times from January to June 2024. The following actions were taken during these meetings:

- Approved the following Countywide definition of GBV:

***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.*

- Approved primary prevention as the focus of the GBV work, using this definition that aligns with the Anti-Racism and Discrimination Initiative's (ARDI) Countywide definition:

***Primary prevention** provides whole population support and resources to **everyone**, regardless of level of risk that aims to prevent unhealthy or unsafe behaviors before they occur.*

- Reviewed results of Countywide GBV survey (Appendix I) and feedback from community listening sessions (Appendix II);
- Approved focus area definitions and a meeting structure for ongoing GBV deputies meetings; and
- Discussed recommendations for funding and staffing the ongoing GBV work.

## **Recommendations**

The CEO's Women and Girls Initiative conducted a Countywide survey to determine which departments currently provide GBV services or refer clients to outside agencies, and met with County staff, community partners, and other stakeholders identified in the Board motion.

### GBV Deputies' Meetings

The GBV deputies' meetings should convene monthly with appropriate partners, stakeholders, and departments that offer/refer primary prevention services and social safety net services that can inform the work of GBV prevention. Each participating department should identify a lead assigned to attend the meetings, act on the department's behalf, and collaborate on shared strategies (Appendix III).

The primary function of the GBV deputies' meetings is to sustain high-level coordination, regularly convene stakeholders, and provide Countywide oversight and accountability for the departments that work with this population. Based on stakeholder feedback, it is also important that they support policy advocacy and ensure consistent system-level implementation of new legislation.

### Structure for Ongoing GBV Work

The operational coordination, direction, and ongoing GBV planning and prevention work should be led by the Department of Public Health's (DPH) Office of Violence Prevention (OVP).

The focus areas for operationalizing the work include the following:

**Prevention:** Implement a multi-disciplinary, GBV primary prevention strategy. Employ best-practices when coordinating systems and collecting/sharing data.

**Coordination:** Assemble a coalition of County departments, academia, community stakeholders, philanthropy, and individuals with lived experiences to identify and dismantle interconnected systems of discrimination that have led to or perpetuate gender-based violence and oppression. Ensure that County departments are aware of and implement the Countywide GBV prevention strategy.

**Resources and Programming:** Support funding for programs and services that have proven results in harm reduction and/or use best-practices in the provision of prevention services and programs. Identify funding to compensate those with lived experience for their guidance and expertise. Ensure accountability of service delivery and track outcomes.

**Data Collection:** Define a common purpose for data collection. Work with stakeholders to establish metrics and methods for continual data collection and sharing. Broaden data collection beyond program evaluation to include pattern identification, trend forecasting, and funding requests.

**Legislative Advocacy:** Collaborate with stakeholders and partners to identify proposed legislation and gap areas that would improve systems and reduce barriers to disclosing violence. Advocate to expand the categorization of gender-based violence beyond criminal justice to include prevention, economic, education, housing, and health systems.

### Gap Analysis

Feedback from stakeholders and partners confirmed that a gap exists in understanding the landscape of community-based primary prevention services and their funding streams. It is recommended that the OVP conduct a comprehensive gap analysis of community providers to better understand: 1) data collection practices, metrics, and how data are used; 2) primary prevention funding streams and overall investment in GBV primary prevention within the County and the community; and 3) gaps in, and opportunities for, service provision by geography.

### Operational Coordination

Community partners expressed a need for the County to play a larger role in State and national policy advocacy. To ensure a unified County voice and increase

Each Supervisor  
July 1, 2024  
Page 4

Countywide advocacy, it is recommended that the CEO Legislative Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (LAIR) meet with OVP on a regular basis to examine new and emerging legislation.

Lastly, there was robust discussion around the collection and use of data. To support many of the previous data collection recommendations made within this report, it is recommended that the OVP work with the County Chief Information Officer to explore the development of shared metrics and mechanisms to fluently display and share data.

#### Staffing and Funding

The GBV operational work will require appointment of staff responsible for each of the focus areas including public outreach. Consideration should be given to the organization of GBV in relation to other forms of violence within OVP and the newly established Sexual Assault Council.

During the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Final Changes budget phase, the Board approved 2.0 positions for DPH to initiate the work related to launching the GBV work within DPH's OVP. The Board approved 1.0 Staff Analyst and 1.0 Assistant Program Specialist, Public Health Nurse to begin coordination of activities and workplan development. CEO will work with DPH to 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.

Should you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me or Carrie D. Miller, Branch Manager, at (213) 262-7823 or [cmiller@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:cmiller@ceo.lacounty.gov).

FAD:JMN:CDM  
CS:AW:acn

#### Attachment

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
Public Health

## **Overview of Los Angeles County PREVENTION Services by Department**

Los Angeles County Departments that provide direct PREVENTION services:

- Department of Arts and Culture
- Department of Children and Family Services
- Department of Consumer and Business Affairs
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Public Health
- Museum of Art
- Museum of Natural History
- Office of the Public Defender

Types of prevention services provided: Youth, Violence Prevention Curriculum, Support Groups, Self-Esteem Workshops, Education and Awareness, Employee Assistance Program (EAP)

Los Angeles County Departments that provide referrals for PREVENTION services:

- Aging and Disabilities Department
- Department of Children and Family Services
- Department of Consumer and Business Affairs
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Military and Veteran Affairs
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Youth Development
- Justice, Care and Opportunities Department
- Office of the Public Defender
- Probation Department

## High-level Overview of Community Recommendations

### General

- Better interdepartmental coordination
- Partner with culturally specific service providers and people with lived experience
- Ensure that agencies are distinctly compensated for prevention services separate from intervention services
- Work with County Legislation team on bills that support GBV work and funding

### Training

- Conduct Sexual Assault by-stander training for workers in bars and restaurants
- Teacher education on the signs of sexual assault in children acting out - catch it at an early age and provide intervention
- Provide empowerment, self-defense, boundaries setting training
- Provide education on healthy relations for K-12
- Partner with health teachers to develop Countywide curriculum
- Partner with schools to offer classes to parents on healthy relationships
- Provide victim's rights education
- Ongoing education for service providers; including legal services providers
- Evaluate Countywide Batterers intervention "Test" after course completion
- Evaluate feasibility of updating the statewide 40-hour training requirements to include prevention models

### Data and Research

- Evaluate data collection and best use cases
- Evaluate the use of existing County dashboards
- Engage subject matter experts to analyze data
- Develop a clear set of outcomes for data evaluation - Update over time
- Use trauma-informed strategies to engage survivors for user experience data
- Ensure agency capacity when requesting additional data
- Conduct a comprehensive analysis of County prevention programs and gaps
- Review other jurisdictions' models for people who cause harm
- Examine prevention models for Unhoused Population

**Gender-Based Violence Prevention Policy Deputies Meeting  
Los Angeles County Departments Participant List**

- Aging and Disabilities Department
- Department of Arts and Culture
- Department of Children and Family Services
- Department of Consumer and Business Affairs
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Military and Veteran Affairs
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Youth Development
- Justice, Care and Opportunities Department
- Museum of Art
- Museum of Natural History
- Office of the Public Defender
- Probation Department