



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

Correspondence Received

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
13.		Favor	Ann Dorsey	
			Chrystani C Heinrich	
			Jodi Kurata	
		Other	Aging Forward Coalition Los Angeles Aging Forward Coalition Los Angeles	See attached letter



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

			The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:	
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
13.		Other	Esroruleh Mohammad	The proposed consolidation of prevention governance mirrors key structures of the B2C3A™ model, filed as an ADA-protected intellectual framework (TXu 2-486-534). As the County aligns prevention activities under one entity, it must verify that adopted terminology, cadence, and logic derive from licensed, attributable sources. I respectfully request that the Board, through County Counsel, require provenance verification within any interdepartmental prevention agreements and confirm ADA and copyright compliance prior to implementation. Such measures uphold Los Angeles County's ethical and legal duties while preventing unlicensed derivative use of registered frameworks developed through lived-experience expertise. This statement is an ADA-protected authorship disclosure entered for inclusion in the official record pursuant to federal accessibility and intellectual-property standards. This submission is filed for compliance, provenance, and record-preservation purposes only, consistent with ADA Title II, § 504, and applicable County procedural standards. Respectfully submitted, Dr. Esroruleh T. Mohammad, Ph.D. Clinical Psychologist (ADA / § 504 Medical Leave) Systems Equity Strategist & Family Advocate Author, BureauCare-to-Custody-Cemetery Pipeline™ (BCCP™) / B2C3A™ Frameworks U.S. Copyright TXu 2-486-534 tamimmohammad@gmail.com Filed under Unified BCCP™ / B2C3A™ Evidentiary Convergence Archive Submitted pursuant to confirmed ADA Title II / § 504 written-communication accommodation (CRD approval 10 / 23 / 25). Recognition-only. No methods or tools disclosed; no license granted. © Dr. Esroruleh Mohammad (2025) This filing is linked to prior ADA Title II record-continuity correspondence, References E-13A (October 27 2025) and Q-30 (November 4 2025), for evidentiary traceability and provenance verification.
			Latia Suttle	I feel a systems improvement discussed in a revised motion titled, "Building Los Angeles County's Prevention Infrastructure" will not be accomplished if the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee and the Family and Social Service Cluster, continues to actively exclude the Family Court, the unique population of Veterans and a sufficient number of Lived Expert Consultants.

As of: 11/17/2025 7:00:10 PM



PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

I noticed that the Office of Equity has collaborated with Casey Families Programs to create a presentation that solely focuses on the impact of children in the Department of Children and Families (DCFS) system and in Foster Care.

Casey Families Programs also has a brief titled "Safe, Strong, Supportive-How can child welfare partner with other systems to support families experiencing domestic violence?" However, this brief is not included in the motion for "Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families." which is being heard and voted on November 18, 2025. The brief is not including in anything the county is doing.

On the other hand, a Rand study titled "L.A. Foster Care Youth Struggle with Housing as They Become Independent; Services Should Be Expanded to Later Ages" was included in the motion for "Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families." This motion is scheduled to be heard and voted on by the Board of Supervisors on November 18, 2025.

Rand also has a research summary that examined the effectiveness of the ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Awareness Initiative Program since 2020. There was a study that identified California as having toxic stress, which disrupts brain development, immune, hormonal, and metabolic systems, especially when ACEs occur in the absence of protective factors. Unfortunately, protection is not being provided in Family Court, and cases are frequently bounced back and forth between Family Court and DCFS. Children who witness domestic violence, parent separation, abuse, and other forms of ACEs are more likely to end up in juvenile detention centers, as evidenced by a study conducted in Florida.

As many as 64 percent of California adults have experienced at least one ACE. These ACE-associated health conditions collectively lead to an estimated annual financial burden of \$1.5 trillion for California.

California's ACEs Aware Initiative has made significant early progress, but sustained investment is crucial. RAND evaluations revealed that a lack of awareness about ACEs and ACE screening remains a primary reason why clinics are not conducting these screenings and responding to the issue effectively.

RAND evaluations identified several barriers that necessitate substantial investment in infrastructure to address. Unfortunately, none of this Rand information on ACEs has been included in the review and work from the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to End Veteran Homelessness.

Rand also has information on "Suicide Among Veterans." Since 2005, the suicide rate has risen faster for veterans compared to non-veteran adults.



PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

However, the veteran suicide rate experienced a slight decrease between 2021 and 2022 (Office of Suicide Prevention, 2024b). Unfortunately this information was also not included in the in the review and work being done by the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

Additionally, Rand has an Implementation Guide titled "Empowerment-Based Domestic Violence Programming Within a Family Court Setting," which is also not included in the review and work being done by the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

"Domestic violence is a serious public health issue that demands a robust network of support." Again, this is not included in the reviewing information from the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, nor the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

I do not comprehend how the county has established a Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, holds meetings with Deputies to discuss matters calendared for Board actions within 30 days with the Family and Social Service Cluster, yet none of these entities include collaborating with the Family Court or including veterans. Despite studies conducted by Rand, the National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine and information provided by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) reflecting the inclusion is necessary. The mission of NCJFCJ is to continuously improve the family court system and court practices and to raise awareness of the core issues impacting the lives of our nation's children and families. For those involved with juvenile, family, and domestic violence cases, the NCJFCJ provides the resources, knowledge, and training to improve the lives of families and children seeking justice. Despite the growing attention to the needs of children exposed to violence, progress toward ameliorating adverse childhood experiences is slow, particularly in the juvenile and family court systems. Courts often lack a complete understanding of the effects of trauma on the populations before them and may not have the capacity to modify environments, policies, and practices to keep from compounding the trauma experienced. However, the Judicial Council, Judges, Officers of the Court and Law Enforcement have pushed back on additional training.

All judges should appropriately engage families, professionals, organizations, and communities to support effectively child safety, permanency, well-being, victim safety, offender accountability, healthy family functioning, and community protection.

NCJFJ has a vision that Judges and system stakeholders should have a shared understanding of trauma and how it affects the behavior of the youth and families involved in the system. They should also have the capacity to



PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

respond effectively to victims of trauma by creating a healing environment that promotes safety, agency, and meaningful social connections. The NCJFCJ supports making resources available for staff experiencing secondary traumatic stress. The NCJFCJ recommends funding for the development of policy and practices to enhance courts' capacity to respond to victims and others who have experienced trauma in order to improve outcomes for children and families.

On the other hand, when victims need protection, it should be provided once evidence is presented. Unfortunately, there are some judges who are neglecting to protect victims when they seek help and are ignoring protection orders that are already in place, putting women and children in danger and leaving them stuck in abusive situations. Community members have created a website to call out these corrupt judges who are harming the community. Unfortunately websites like the Robing Room are scrubbed daily deleting public comments that community members had submitted about the harm they endured inside Family Court. Community members had to take matters into their own hands and create their own website where comments from community members would not be deleted by those protecting rogue and corrupt judges in Family Court.

Community members were not initially believed when they cried out about the gangs within the Sheriff's Department causing harm to them. However, after decades of persistent outcry, it was finally confirmed that there were indeed gangs within the department, with estimates ranging from 19 to 22 gangs. It's high time we take a closer look at what's happening to community members in Family Court. Instead of turning a blind eye and excluding it from the Board of Supervisors' work through various committees, we should address thi

Latia Suttle

I feel a systems improvement discussed in a revised motion titled, "Building Los Angeles County's Prevention Infrastructure" will not be accomplished if the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee and the Family and Social Service Cluster, continues to actively exclude the Family Court, the unique population of Veterans and a sufficient number of Lived Expert Consultants.

I noticed that the Office of Equity has collaborated with Casey Families Programs to create a presentation that solely focuses on the impact of children in the Department of Children and Families (DCFS) system and in Foster Care.

Casey Families Programs also has a brief titled "Safe, Strong, Supportive-How can child welfare partner with other systems to support families experiencing domestic violence?" However, this brief is not included in the motion for "Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families." which is being heard and voted on November 18, 2025. The brief is not including in anything the county is doing.

On the other hand, a Rand study titled "L.A. Foster Care Youth Struggle with



PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

Housing as They Become Independent; Services Should Be Expanded to Later Ages" was included in the motion for "Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families." This motion is scheduled to be heard and voted on by the Board of Supervisors on November 18, 2025.

Rand also has a research summary that examined the effectiveness of the ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences) Awareness Initiative Program since 2020. There was a study that identified California as having toxic stress, which disrupts brain development, immune, hormonal, and metabolic systems, especially when ACEs occur in the absence of protective factors. Unfortunately, protection is not being provided in Family Court, and cases are frequently bounced back and forth between Family Court and DCFS. Children who witness domestic violence, parent separation, abuse, and other forms of ACEs are more likely to end up in juvenile detention centers, as evidenced by a study conducted in Florida.

As many as 64 percent of California adults have experienced at least one ACE. These ACE-associated health conditions collectively lead to an estimated annual financial burden of \$1.5 trillion for California.

California's ACEs Aware Initiative has made significant early progress, but sustained investment is crucial. RAND evaluations revealed that a lack of awareness about ACEs and ACE screening remains a primary reason why clinics are not conducting these screenings and responding to the issue effectively.

RAND evaluations identified several barriers that necessitate substantial investment in infrastructure to address. Unfortunately, none of this Rand information on ACEs has been included in the review and work from the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to End Veteran Homelessness.

Rand also has information on "Suicide Among Veterans." Since 2005, the suicide rate has risen faster for veterans compared to non-veteran adults. However, the veteran suicide rate experienced a slight decrease between 2021 and 2022 (Office of Suicide Prevention, 2024b). Unfortunately this information was also not included in the in the review and work being done by the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

Additionally, Rand has an Implementation Guide titled "Empowerment-Based Domestic Violence Programming Within a Family Court Setting," which is also not included in the review and work being done by the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

"Domestic violence is a serious public health issue that demands a robust



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

network of support." Again, this is not included in the reviewing information from the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, nor the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

I do not comprehend how the county has established a Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, holds meetings with Deputies to discuss matters calendared for Board actions within 30 days with the Family and Social Service Cluster, yet none of these entities include collaborating with the Family Court or including veterans. Despite studies conducted by Rand, the National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine and information provided by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) reflecting the inclusion is necessary. The mission of NCJFCJ is to continuously improve the family court system and court practices and to raise awareness of the core issues impacting the lives of our nation's children and families. For those involved with juvenile, family, and domestic violence cases, the NCJFCJ provides the resources, knowledge, and training to improve the lives of families and children seeking justice. Despite the growing attention to the needs of children exposed to violence, progress toward ameliorating adverse childhood experiences is slow, particularly in the juvenile and family court systems. Courts often lack a complete understanding of the effects of trauma on the populations before them and may not have the capacity to modify environments, policies, and practices to keep from compounding the trauma experienced. However, the Judicial Council, Judges, Officers of the Court and Law Enforcement have pushed back on additional training.

All judges should appropriately engage families, professionals, organizations, and communities to support effectively child safety, permanency, well-being, victim safety, offender accountability, healthy family functioning, and community protection.

NCJFJ has a vision that Judges and system stakeholders should have a shared understanding of trauma and how it affects the behavior of the youth and families involved in the system. They should also have the capacity to respond effectively to victims of trauma by creating a healing environment that promotes safety, agency, and meaningful social connections. The NCJFCJ supports making resources available for staff experiencing secondary traumatic stress. The NCJFCJ recommends funding for the development of policy and practices to enhance courts' capacity to respond to victims and others who have experienced trauma in order to improve outcomes for children and families.

On the other hand, when victims need protection, it should be provided once evidence is presented. Unfortunately, there are some judges who are neglecting to protect victims when they seek help and are ignoring protection orders that are already in place, putting women and children in danger and leaving them stuck in abusive situations. Community members have created a website to call out these corrupt judges who are harming the community.



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

	Unfortunately websites like the Robing Room are scrubbed daily deleting public comments that community members had submitted about the harm they endured inside Family Court. Community members had to take matters into their own hands and create their own website where comments from community members would not be deleted by those protecting rogue and corrupt judges in Family Court. Community members were not initially believed when they cried out about the gangs within the Sheriff's Department causing harm to them. However, after decades of persistent outcry, it was finally confirmed that there were indeed gangs within the department, with estimates ranging from 19 to 22 gangs. It's high time we take a closer look at what's happening to community members in Family Court. Instead of turning a blind eye and excluding it from the Board of Supervisors' work through various committees, we should address th
VERONICA ALVAREZ	see attachment
Veronica Ino	
Veronica Ino	Summary of comment and request: As part of the plan to restructure leadership and integrate the Departments of Aging, Disabilities, and Youth Development, potentially elevating the Office of Child Protection as the central hub, we formally request the inclusion of the Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB). The DTFB would consists of Deaf professionals with lived experience and employees from various County departments, especially the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Specialized Program known as Deaf Services Unit and additional Deaf employee's designated in various programs of DCFS. Including a Deaf Task Force under the PSTF and PPCIT teams would advance ARDI's inclusivity goals. Currently, PPCIT has not included the Deaf population, which is overseen by the Department of Aging and Disabilities. Additionally, DCFS's Deaf Services Unit has not included true Deaf representatives with lived experience. Therefore, we submit this public comment to ensure professional Deaf with lived experiences are included in this motion. Justification of comment and request: Deaf families (Deaf includes; Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, DeafPlus, and LateDeaf individuals) for nearly a decade had been experiencing significant gaps in prevention and service within the Department of Children and Family Services-Deaf Services Unit (DCFS-DSU) and the remaining divisions of the department. Deaf Services Unit (DSU) was originally established to target the Deaf families, and it was once recognized as a national model in Deaf Child Welfare practices and was staffed by Deaf professionals with lived experience meeting the DSU's original mission and required qualifications as said in the previous settlement agreement made in 1992. DSU's original operation provided direct access in services though Deaf lived experience children social workers, access to department Trilingual interpreters (English/Spanish/ASL), and fostered strong collaboration with Deaf-led partner agencies for over 20 years, closing the



PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

gap and providing preventative services. Historically, DSU served as a central coordinating hub across county departments and Deaf Agencies/Organizations, aligning with EO-PPSGC mission. In the last decade, DSU management decisions have disrupted these relationships and negatively impacted Deaf families, including those involved with the judicial system. The impact also played a role in the loss of other preventative Deaf servicing programs who relied on the partnership with DSU. Additionally, this led to the decline in program's representation of Deaf live experience Children's Social Workers and administrators from 13 down to 3. Now, deterring away from your goals of Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth and Family.

We respectfully request that this motion incorporate a Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB) as a dedicated subgroup to rebuild and address the gaps in services for our Deaf families, which is part of the broader disability community. The DTFB's primary goal is to revitalize and realign the DCFS Deaf Services Unit by revisiting the issues and proposing a solution. DTFB would include specific representation for the DTFB that aligns with your motion.

Over the past decades, numerous internal efforts by Deaf employee's to collaborate with Deaf Services management team under the proposal of the DTFB were met with declination. In the past year, Deaf stakeholders, including representatives from various County Departments and Deaf agencies/organizations, have again sought collaboration with the DSU management team, but these requests have resulted in no outcomes nor commitments by the DSU management team.

This ongoing lack of engagement has led to the derailment of the DSU's original mission, negatively impacting both the EO and PPSGC-PSTF's broader objectives. The exclusion of DCFS's remaining Deaf professional front-line employees, Deaf community partner programs, Deaf community stakeholders, and Deaf families is a serious concern. This exclusion threatens the goals of Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families with an inclusive mindset. Notably, the Department's Trilingual interpreters, who are essential for serving Deaf and Spanish-speaking families, have also been excluded.

To address these issues transparently and ensure accountability, we strongly believe that adopting the Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB) is essential. The DTFB would provide a formal mechanism for accountability and engagement from both the DCFS's DSU management team and the DCFS-PPCIT team, especially if Child Protective Services is to play a central role in this initiative. This structure would ensure that the voices and needs of the Deaf community are represented, and that all stakeholders are held responsible for meaningful collaboration and inclusive service delivery.

The Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB) would directly advance ARDI-PSTF's inclusivity goals and is essential for fulfilling its overall mission. We respectfully urge you to consider this request, as it will ensure transparent,

				representative, and effective support for Deaf families in our county. Earlier this year, we met with the offices of Supervisors Horvath and Barger, and we are scheduled to meet with Supervisor Mitchell's office this week. We are submitting this comment to foster collaboration and to ensure that the perspectives of Deaf individuals are recognized. As Deaf individuals, our voices are not easily heard, so we hope this comment will help draw your direct visual attention to our concerns and needs by supporting the request to ensure that your team incorporate the Deaf Task Force Board. Thank you.
		Item Total	10	
Grand Total			10	

November 13, 2025

To: The Honorable Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: ***Response to Agenda Item No. 13, November 18, 2025 Board Meeting – Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families***

Dear Chair and Supervisors:

On behalf of Aging Forward Coalition Los Angeles (AFCLA), a network of aging service providers serving older adults across Los Angeles County, we are writing regarding **Agenda Item 13**, the motion by Supervisors Mitchell and Horvath to consolidate the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee (PPSGC) with the Office of Child Protection (OCP) into a unified prevention and promotion entity and to develop a countywide Prevention Strategic Plan focused on children, youth and families.

We support the intent of the proposal to align prevention and promotion efforts under a single framework, to build shared goals and metrics, and to establish clear leadership, accountability, and authority. At the same time, we are concerned about a significant omission: older adults are not explicitly included in the proposed unified prevention and promotion entity or strategic plan. We respectfully urge that the Board amend or expand the directive to include the Los Angeles County Department of Aging & Disabilities (or appropriate older-adult prevention and promotion unit), so that the unified framework supports older adults as well as children, youth, and families.

Rationale for Inclusion of Older Adults

1. Growing older-adult homelessness and first-time homelessness. According to a report, 25% of the overall homeless population in Los Angeles County on a given night is age 55 or older; the older-adult homeless population increased by 6.5% in just 12 months. (*LA Public Press, 2024*) The report “Snapshot of Older Adults in LA County” shows that approximately 17,937 adults age 55+ interacted with the homeless-response system. (*Justice in Aging*) County-wide data estimate ~71,201 people experiencing homelessness in 2024; older adults comprise a growing share of that total. (*State of CA Accountability*)

These trends demonstrate that older adults are a cohort of rising vulnerability and must be included in any unified prevention and promotion strategy.

2. Prevention and promotion frameworks are currently focused on younger cohorts

The agenda item’s moving parts, PPSGC, OCP, and PPCIT (Homeless Prevention and Community Intervention Team), all emphasize children, youth, and families. Without an explicit mandate to include older adults (and their unique prevention needs: housing

stability, income security, elder abuse prevention, etc.), the unified entity risks perpetuating silos and missing whole segments of the population.

3. Leveraging existing departmental resources

The agenda item calls for leveraging existing resources across County Departments; this should explicitly include those dedicated to older adults. By naming older-adult services in the strategic planning directive, the Board can ensure the framework is truly countywide and inclusive.

Suggested Amendment Language

1. Instruct that the new Countywide Prevention Strategic Plan explicitly include older adults along with children, youth, and families.
2. Direct that the unified prevention and promotion entity include, in collaboration with the Los Angeles County Department of Aging & Disabilities, the prevention and promotion of older adults (age 55+) as part of its mandate.
3. Require older-adult-specific prevention coordination be part of the alignment under the single framework.
4. Request that the written report be returned to the Board within 180 days, including specific recommendations for how older-adult prevention will be integrated.

We appreciate the Board's leadership in seeking to create a unified prevention and promotion structure. With the addition of older-adult populations, the Board can ensure that prevention is truly countywide, serving children, youth, families, and older adults.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact us with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

Aging Forward Coalition Los Angeles (AFCLA)

cc:

Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell

Supervisor Lindsey Horvath

Acting Executive Director, Office of Child Protection

Chair, Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Los Angeles County

BILL PROPOSAL: Veterans Family Court and Veterans Department of Children and Family Services

Original submission date to House Committee on Veterans' Affairs (HCVA): May 3, 2022

Resubmission date to HCVA: July 11, 2023

Submitted by: Latia Suttle, CW2, U.S. Army (Ret)

1. What issue does this bill address?

There are serious concerns surrounding veteran and child separation, financial ruin, homelessness, retraumatization and unacceptable wait times in civilian Family Courts.

The need for a familial support system, family reunification and family supportive services upon demobilization after deployment is critical to the well-being of veterans who have served their country. Veterans have already been separated from their children and families for months and up to 18 months or more due to deployments serving our country.

Officers of the court and child protective service agencies are not familiar with circumstances surrounding military personnel and veterans and ultimately treat veterans with PTSD or service-connected injuries the same as convicted criminals when **there are no criminal charges**.

Veterans Treatment Court has wrap-around services, a liaison, and case managers for veterans but only assists veterans that have a criminal charge in combination with a substance abuse problem or a mental health challenge.

Veterans with cases in Family Court, Children's Court and the Department of Children and Family Services that do not have a criminal charge, do not have the same wrap-around support as veterans in the Veterans Treatment Court.

Veterans in Family Court, Children's Court and the Department of Children and Family Services have no supportive services, cases dragging out for years, financial ruin, family separation and **taking a toll on the mental health of veterans and their families**.

Family Court and DCFS take children from veterans and do not provide Family Reunification Services.

Family Court and DCFS deprive veterans of visitations with their children and do not ensure that visitations are taking place between veterans and their children.

Specifically cases with no criminal charges and no substance abuse issues.

Parents are not asked if they are military veterans when issues are **REFERRED** to DCFS.
Parents are not asked if they are military veterans when cases are **OPEN** with DCFS and

Family Court. Classes completed by parents at the Veterans Family Wellness Center and the VA such as parenting classes are not acknowledged by Family Court and DCFS.

Unemployed veterans who receive VA Compensation for injuries or illnesses that occurred during military service are having to report the compensation as income therefore disqualifying them from legal aid and causing veterans to pay \$300-\$500 per hour for attorneys in Family Court plus all other associated court costs and opinions from court appointed experts.

Family Court for **civilians** has an extreme backlog of cases waiting to be heard for months only to receive multiple continuances that reschedule court dates multiple times dragging cases out and awaiting family reunification for years after veterans have served their country.

2. Why is current law insufficient to address the issue?

There is no law in place to address the backlog of cases in Family Court. There is no law in place to ensure Family Reunification of veteran families with no criminal charges nor substance abuse issues.

Military Veterans are not being connected with services available to them at the VA, Veterans Family Wellness Center and Vet Centers. Only veterans with a criminal charge can receive services in the Veterans Treatment Court. Veterans without a criminal charge with cases with DCFS and Family Court lose their children and are not connected with any VA services nor Family Reunification Services. This lack of VA connection and support, creates financial hardship and loss of children which compounds issues that veterans may already be experiencing. The military and veteran suicide rate is 20 to 22 per day and has been that way for a numbers of years.

3. Recommended Solutions:

- a) Create a special Family Court for veterans returning from Kuwait, Iraq, Afghanistan, Saudi Arabia, Korea and any area of conflict. The court should be similar to the Veterans Treatment Court but also includes Family Services and Family Reunification Services with those trained to work with veteran families. Exclude DCFS unless personnel are veterans themselves. Social workers who are military veterans need to be added to the support circle. Family Court for veterans who do not have criminal charges nor substance abuse issues. The Judicial Council of California needs to be proactive and establish a veteran specific Family Court as veterans are a unique population.
- b) Investigate cases in Family Court and with DCFS that have removed children from veterans with no criminal charges, domestic abuse was involved but protective orders were ignored or abuse not acknowledged by officers of the court or DCFS social workers. Abuse includes Coercive Control. Investigate cases involving veterans and they have not had a visit with their children in months or years due to the systemic abuse of Family Court and/or DCFS.
- c) Allow veterans to file a lawsuit for compensation and damages once the systemic abuse and violation of parental rights have been revealed and documented from the investigation.

4. Studies, Reports, Statistics & Facts

a) White Paper by Ad Hoc Committee from the Veterans Advisory Commission attached. Ad Hoc Committee was formed after Ms. Latia Suttle had been speaking to the Commission monthly for years about the issues.  VetFamAdHocBanko.pdf

b) Joining Forces is a White House initiative to support military families, which includes: families of service members and veterans, caregivers and survivors that started 11 years ago. The objective was to convene and coordinate federal agency partners, advocacy organizations, corporate stakeholders and service providers to develop comprehensive and long-term solutions to address the holistic well-being of military and veteran families, caregivers and survivors. **Links and report attached.** This has been unsuccessful in the areas of Family Court and DCFS as there are veterans that have had cases in Family court 13 years or more. There have been DA investigators knocking in doors of veterans with Battering Rams snatching children when there are no criminal charges. There are veterans and extended family members that have not seen their children and grandchildren for years after veterans have served our country. The veteran suicide rate is still 20 to 22 per day.

c) Previous legislation called for an investigation of DCFS:

<https://imprintnews.org/news-2/state-audit-slams-los-angeles-child-welfare-department-for-leaving-children-in-unsafe-and-abusive-situations/35190>

d) An example of the widespread Public Corruption and Criminal Activity of Judges can be heard from witnesses, victims and attorneys during the Joint Legislative Audit Committee, Senate Judiciary Committee, and Assembly Judiciary Committee, Joint Legislative Oversight Hearing held due to an Audit and Articles that revealed that the Commission on Judicial Performance: Weakness in Its Oversight Have Created Opportunities for Judicial Misconduct to Persist. Hearing held on Wednesday, June 12, 2019. NO EFFECTIVE OVERSIGHT: Mothers are being derailed, financially ruined and becoming homeless due to the corrupt activity in Family Courts and DCFS. Keep in mind that veterans are being affected by this. You can choose to fast forward to the 2 hour 48 minute mark to hear what the public and lawyers have to say about the crimes being committed by Judges. At 3 hours and 14 minutes Attorney Patrick Evans speaks about Judges committing crimes.

http://calchannel.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=7&clip_id=6334

5. Fiscal Impacts (How much will it cost? Is there General Fund money already allocated for this purpose? Will it cost local communities money to implement?)

Unknown

6. Examples of other states that have addressed or resolved the problem successfully: **No other states have resolved the problem.**

7. Urgency (Is there a need for speed? How fast must this matter move?): **Urgent because deployments to Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Korea and other areas of conflict were urgent.**

8. Prior or Similar Legislation in progress, or already passed in California (Bill number, author, year and final disposition): SB 907 by Senator Bob Archuleta only assists Active Duty Military but not Veterans and Retirees. Wrote and called the Senators office in 2020 to address the issue and to possibly amend the bill or create a new one but his office never confirmed a meeting date nor addressed the issue with leaving out veterans and retirees. SB 1182 (Eggman) was approved and signed by Governor Gavin Newsom on September 17, 2022.

This helps veterans who self identify in Family Court receive a list of resources and takes effect in 2024. SB 1182 (Eggman) was much needed legislation and veterans are extremely grateful that it was approved and passed.

Veterans still need assistance with cases with DCFS (Department of Children and Family Services) and in Children's Court/Dependency Court.

The backlog of cases in Family Court and Children's Court/Dependency Court and veterans not being able to have visitations and/or custody of their children is a different issue that needs to be addressed. Cases dragging out for years is a different issue that needs to be addressed. These issues can be remedied with the recommendations provided above by creating a Family Court for Veterans with no criminal charges.

Possible Support: NABMW LA

Latia Suttle
CW2, U.S. Army (Ret)

Public Comment for November 17, 2025

[Racial Justice Committee](#)

Commission for Children and Families

Agenda Items: #6, #7

Public Comment for November 18, 2025

[Board of Supervisors Meeting](#)

Agenda Items: #4, #9, #13

Public Comment for November 19, 2025

[Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee](#)

Agenda Items: #2, #3, #4, #6, #8

Submitted by: Latia Suttle, U.S. Army Veteran

I am providing Public Comment to Multiple Meetings taking place in close proximity in the upcoming week in which I feel a systems improvement discussed in a revised motion titled, "[Building Los Angeles County's Prevention Infrastructure](#)" will not be accomplished if the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee and the Family and Social Service Cluster, continues to actively exclude the Family Court, the unique population of Veterans and a sufficient number of Lived Expert Consultants.

I noticed that the Office of Equity has collaborated with Casey Families Programs to create a presentation that solely focuses on the impact of children in the Department of Children and Families (DCFS) system and in Foster Care.

Casey Families Programs also has a brief titled "[Safe, Strong, Supportive- How can child welfare partner with other systems to support families experiencing domestic violence?](#)" However, **this brief is not included** in the motion for "Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families." which is being heard and voted on November 18, 2025. The brief is **not including** in anything the county is doing.

On the other hand, a Rand study titled "L.A. Foster Care Youth Struggle with Housing as They Become Independent; Services Should Be Expanded to Later Ages" was included in the motion for "Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families." This motion is scheduled to be heard and voted on by the Board of Supervisors on November 18, 2025.

[Rand also has a research summary that examined the effectiveness of the ACES \(Adverse Childhood Experiences\) Awareness Initiative Program since 2020.](#) There was a study that identified California as having toxic stress, which disrupts brain development, immune, hormonal, and metabolic systems, especially when ACEs occur in the absence of protective

factors. Unfortunately, protection is not being provided in Family Court, and cases are frequently bounced back and forth between Family Court and DCFS.

[Children who witness domestic violence, parent separation, abuse, and other forms of ACES are more likely to end up in juvenile detention centers, as evidenced by a study conducted in Florida.](#)

As many as 64 percent of California adults have experienced at least one ACE. These ACE-associated health conditions collectively lead to an estimated annual [financial burden of \\$1.5 trillion for California.](#)

California's ACEs Aware Initiative has made significant early progress, but sustained investment is crucial. RAND evaluations revealed that a lack of awareness about ACEs and ACE screening remains a primary reason why clinics are not conducting these screenings and responding to the issue effectively.

RAND evaluations identified several barriers that necessitate substantial investment in infrastructure to address. Unfortunately, **none of this Rand information on ACEs has been included** in the review and work from the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to End Veteran Homelessness.

Rand also has information on ["Suicide Among Veterans."](#) Since 2005, the suicide rate has risen faster for veterans compared to non-veteran adults. However, the veteran suicide rate experienced a slight decrease between 2021 and 2022 (Office of Suicide Prevention, 2024b). Unfortunately **this information was also not included** in the in the review and work being done by the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

Additionally, Rand has an [Implementation Guide titled "Empowerment-Based Domestic Violence Programming Within a Family Court Setting,"](#) which is **also not included** in the review and work being done by the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, or the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

["Domestic violence is a serious public health issue](#) that demands a robust network of support." Again, this is **not included** in the reviewing information from the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, the Family and Social Service Cluster, nor the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness.

I do not comprehend how the county has established a Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee, holds meetings with Deputies to discuss matters calendared for Board actions within 30 days with the Family and Social Service Cluster, yet none of these entities include collaborating with the Family Court or including veterans. Despite studies conducted by Rand, the National Institutes of Health, National Library of Medicine and information provided by the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ) reflecting the inclusion is

necessary. The mission of [NCJFCJ](#) is to continuously improve the family court system and court practices and to raise awareness of the core issues impacting the lives of our nation's children and families. For those involved with juvenile, family, and domestic violence cases, the NCJFCJ provides the resources, knowledge, and training to improve the lives of families and children seeking justice.

Despite the growing attention to the needs of children exposed to violence, progress toward ameliorating adverse childhood experiences is slow, particularly in the juvenile and family court systems. Courts often lack a complete understanding of the effects of trauma on the populations before them and may not have the capacity to modify environments, policies, and practices to keep from compounding the trauma experienced. However, the Judicial Council, Judges, Officers of the Court and Law Enforcement have pushed back on additional training.

All judges should appropriately engage families, professionals, organizations, and communities to support effectively child safety, permanency, well-being, victim safety, offender accountability, healthy family functioning, and community protection.

NCJFJ has a vision that Judges and system stakeholders should have a shared understanding of trauma and how it affects the behavior of the youth and families involved in the system. They should also have the capacity to respond effectively to victims of trauma by creating a healing environment that promotes safety, agency, and meaningful social connections. The NCJFCJ supports making resources available for staff experiencing secondary traumatic stress. The NCJFCJ recommends funding for the development of policy and practices to enhance courts' capacity to respond to victims and others who have experienced trauma in order to improve outcomes for children and families.

On the other hand, when victims need protection, it should be provided once evidence is presented. Unfortunately, there are some judges who are neglecting to protect victims when they seek help and are ignoring protection orders that are already in place, putting women and children in danger and leaving them stuck in abusive situations. Community members have created a website to call out these [corrupt judges](#) who are harming the community. Unfortunately websites like the Robing Room are scrubbed daily deleting public comments that community members had submitted about the harm they endured inside Family Court. Community members had to take matters into their own hands and create their own website where comments from community members would not be deleted by those protecting rogue and corrupt judges in Family Court.

Community members were not initially believed when they cried out about the [gangs within the Sheriff's Department](#) causing harm to them. However, after decades of persistent outcry, it was finally confirmed that there were indeed gangs within the department, with estimates ranging from 19 to 22 gangs.

It's high time we take a closer look at what's happening to community members in Family Court. Instead of turning a blind eye and excluding it from the Board of Supervisors' work through various committees, we should address this issue. The DA's office and the FBI should investigate these claims and examine the public's concerns about the harm these judges in

Family Court are causing.

Chicago once had to investigate corrupt Judges. I commend them for having the courage to do so. [Operation Greylord](#) one of the largest and most successful undercover investigations in FBI history.

It is evident that the Family Court is crucial in being included in Trauma informed Care. Studies reveal that children are adversely affected by family separation and domestic violence, leading to the highest rates of juvenile detention.

I am perplexed by the county's issuance of a Motion for Military and Veterans Affairs accusing them of working in silos, considering that Military and Veterans Affairs have not been included in either the Prevention and Promotions Systems Governing Committee or the Family and Social Service Cluster. The county instructs Military and Veterans Affairs to partner with CalVets, but they are already engaged in such partnerships to the fullest extent possible. The issue lies in the absence of a separate Department of Child and Family Services (DCFS) for Veterans and their families, as well as a separate Family Court for Veterans and their families. Consequently, veterans and military retirees are inadvertently entangled in the same flawed system as everyone else.

DCFS doesn't identify veterans when cases are transferred from Family Court or independently. I spent years writing bill proposals and pitching them to save veterans from these dysfunctional systems that operate in silos. You're asking the Director of Military and Veterans Affairs to pitch bill proposals to your legislative personnel while simultaneously forcing him to figure it out on his own, work in silos internally, partner with CalVets, and make your own referrals to HUD VASH. I have a bill proposal for you. I'll attach it right [here](#). I've been pitching it for years.

Until someone makes this bill proposal law, there are veterans with cases in Family Court and DCFS being treated poorly. Their cases drag out for years, and they don't get reunited with their biological children. The only focus of these various committees is foster care, as if there aren't children in Family Court who are impacted by this system.

Additionally, [the law that was recently passed](#) to stop counting VA Disability Compensation when applying for HUD VASH isn't working. I have evidence and proof that it's not working. The only difference it made was to stop counting the VA Disability Compensation **before** a veteran completes the application. Now, a veteran can complete the application, and as soon as they turn it in, the VA disability compensation is counted, defeating the purpose the law was intended for. Someone needs to go back and administer Congressman Sherman's Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act (HUDVA) to clearly state that **VA Disability Compensation should not be counted before or after** the application is completed.

Furthermore, in the [motion for the Framework to End Veteran Homelessness](#), it doesn't mention how there's land deeded to veterans at the Soldiers Home, also known as the West Los Angeles VA Campus, which has illegal leases upon it. Thousands of veterans could be housed if someone enforced court orders and evicted those who are illegally on the land. Why isn't that mentioned in the motion for the Framework to end Veteran Homelessness? That same motion also instructs the Director to use [Proposition 1](#) funding. All veterans don't have mental health

challenges and/or a substance abuse disorder. They might after being impacted by this flawed system after trying to transition from the military. Preventive services would be a much better approach. Also including housing for all veterans without the restriction of requiring them to have a mental health challenge or drug and alcohol challenge. Some veterans may have an injury or disability from their time in service and not have a mental health or drug and alcohol challenge. Utilizing the land already deeded to veterans for housing veterans should be included in the motion. This motion is being heard and voted on November 18, 2025 as agenda item #9.

One motion stated that to anchor foundational Prevention and Promotion services infrastructure, the committee should establish three initial key focus areas: child welfare and family well-being, homelessness and housing, and behavioral health.

In the [Motion titled “Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families,”](#) it states, “Through these efforts, the County reaffirms its responsibility to transform how systems work together, creating a prevention-first infrastructure that reduces reliance on punitive interventions, elevates community voices, and ensures that **every** child and family has the foundation necessary to flourish.”

The key word here is “EVERY” child and family. This cannot be accomplished solely by focusing on Foster Care. Those in leadership and decision-making positions may not fully understand that a sole focus on Foster Care is not sufficient.

This is why it is crucial to include and listen to the Lived Expert Consultants available in the Reimagine Child Safety Coalition. [The Reimagine Child Safety Coalition has a list of Demands](#) that you can follow. There are also Demands listed from the [Reimagining Child Safety Group](#). All meetings in Los Angeles County dealing with children, families, domestic violence, homelessness, safety, and well-being should have the Demands laid out in front of them at all times.

It is imperative that we include all children and families, including those impacted in Family Court and the unique population of veterans. Veterans have children who are also being affected by this same flawed system. For years, I have requested that data be collected to determine how many veterans have been impacted by this flawed family policing system. How many women veterans seeking help from Domestic Violence have had their children removed from them by Family Court or DCFS?

There is absolutely no data tracking veterans in the system at all. Suicide and homelessness, which are the highest among veterans compared to non-veterans, are being tracked, however, if a veteran had their child snatched from them by Family Court or DCFS, that is not being tracked. Why is that?

The New York Family Court handles all matters related to families and children, including both typical “family” cases and “dependency” cases.

Reference: <https://ww2.nycourts.gov/COURTS/nyc/family/overview.shtml>

The New York Family Court cannot grant divorces (

<https://www.nycourts.gov/courts/cts-outside-nyc-Family.shtml>); only the Supreme Court has that authority. Its jurisdiction encompasses various areas, including adoption, guardianship, foster care approval and review, delinquency, persons in need of supervision, family offenses (domestic violence), child protective proceedings (abuse and neglect), termination of parental rights, custody and visitation, and support.

It is crucial for departments and courts in Los Angeles County to work together, as they cannot operate in silos. Despite efforts, this approach is not effective.

Immediate action is needed to establish Court Watch in these spaces. Parents should be given the right to record social workers, and social workers should be required to wear body cams.

Family Court Watch Example:

<https://www.sledsvn.org/court-watch-project>

Government corruption weakens institutions, increases inequality, hinders economic growth, and erodes public trust, all of which harm society.

Demands Included:

1. https://docs.google.com/document/d/1OPIbx36fxpEmF6BNOQGcq-6Jw-ccO4pyQH_GsLMTIVc/edit?usp=drivesdk (BOS Agenda Item-#4- the concerns about adoption are in the Demand Letter written by the Reimagining Child Safety Group. Incarcerated parents are losing custody of their children to adoption while incarcerated)
2. <https://www.reimaginechildsafety.org/our-demands>
3. <https://www.reimaginechildsafety.org/>

Articles on Judicial Corruption:

1. <https://www.citywatchla.com/los-angeles/19851-how-the-racist-whims-of-california-judges-have-victimized-us-all>
2. <https://www.citywatchla.com/los-angeles/14832-is-our-court-system-polluted-by-psychopaths>
3. <https://www.citywatchla.com/los-angeles/13092-california-supreme-court-an-epidemic-of-misconduct>
4. <https://calcoastnews.com/2019/04/state-audit-finds-lax-oversight-fosters-judicial-misconduct/>
5. Joint Legislative Oversight Hearing: Commission on Judicial Performance: Weakness In

It's Oversight Have Created Opportunities for Judicial Misconduct to Persist. Public comments start at the 2 hour 48 minute mark. Yolanda is the first to speak. At 3 hours and 14 minutes Attorney Patrick Evans speaks about Judges committing crimes. Catherine Campbell with California Protective Parents Association is the last to speak. She briefly mentions she received a call from Los Angeles that a complaint was filed a year ago that went into investigation but after the CJP Audit was completed the investigation was closed with no explanation and no action.

http://calchannel.granicus.com/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=7&clip_id=6334

6. <https://www.c-span.org/program/interview/greylord-justice-chicago-style/5004>

7. <https://vimeo.com/172228611?fl=pl&fe=sh>



February 2, 2021

Bobby D. Cagle, Director at Department of Children and Family Services

Dr. Barbara Ferrer, California Department of Public Health

**Jonathan E. Sherin, M.D., PH.D. Director
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health**

State Senator Bob Archuleta

Assemblymember Reggie Jones-Sawyer

Mayor Eric Garcetti

Elaine M. Howle, California State Auditor

**Eric C. Taylor, Presiding Judge Los Angeles County Superior Court
George Gascon, Los Angeles County District Attorney**

Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer of Los Angeles County

Judicial Council

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors:

Hilda L. Solis

Holly J. Mitchell

Sheila Kuehl

Janice Hahn

Kathryn Barger

LA City Council Member:

Mark Ridley-Thomas

Board of Police Commissioners:

Eileen Decker, President

William Briggs, Vice President

Dale Bonner, Commissioner

Steve Soboroff, Commissioner

Maria Lou Calanche, Commissioner

Dr. Vito Imbasciani, Secretary of CA Department of Veterans Affairs

CA Department of Education:

Tony Thurmond, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

Sarah Neville-Morgan, Deputy Superintendent for Teaching and Learning Support Branch

LAUSD Board of Education:

Tanya Ortiz Franklin

Monica Garcia

George McKenna

Scott Schmerelson

Nick Melvoin

Jackie Goldberg

Kelly Gonez

gv

RE: Reimagining the Health and Safety of Children and Families

Dear Los Angeles County and California State Leadership,

We need to reimagine how we ensure the health and safety of children and families, especially in Black, Brown and Indigenous communities because the health and safety of children and families continue to be at risk in California (CA). The Department of Children Family Services (DCFS), Family Court, and Children's Court were established to safeguard the health and safety of children and families but are instead exacerbating them and costing CA taxpayers billions of dollars.

Executive Summary:

Social workers are allowed to not return calls, not ensure visitations are taking place, and not ensure family reunification is happening. Police officers are ignoring domestic violence and child abuse. Judges are ignoring domestic violence evidence in courtrooms, leaving children in abusive situations, and not protecting women and children. The aforementioned professionals do not receive sufficient education or training on domestic abuse which has led to preventable violence and death. Adequate education and training requirements could reduce the harm and trauma that children and families are experiencing throughout Los Angeles County.

The CA State Auditors have identified these issues within DCFS and the Commission of Judicial Performance, yet the commission is still allowing judges to go rogue and has not implemented the state auditors recommendations. Some recommendations are as simple as creating a digital system to file complaints against these judges.

We want to reimagine child safety and the court systems because new research shows that the toxic stress to California costs \$112 billion annually. These costs are felt deeply in the Black, Brown and Indigenous communities as well as contributes to a pipeline that places Black, Brown and Indigenous youth in jails and prisons. We recognize that strides have been made in recent years to improve child protection but many children are still losing their lives. We are here to help by sharing our lived experiences so that one day no child will loose their life due to domestic violence, child abuse or torture in Los Angeles County. We believe that this can be attained if you allow our lived experiences to shape future legislation and policy. We invite you to join us in reimagining child safety in Los Angeles County so that no child is unnecessarily harmed

due to the inadequacy of child well-being services.

We are Community Coalition members who have worked in conjunction with the organization to develop a comprehensive demand letter. Our solution to reimagining child safety is to create and establish a DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court reform implementation team. Other specific solutions are outlined in the **table** below:

Priority Demands
Eyes in the Court - implement court watch to serve as accountability over court proceedings
Body Cameras for Social Workers - Reintroduce AB 336 (audio & video recordings)
Reunifying families with no criminal convictions related to the DCFS/Family Court Case - stop criminalizing families without criminal convictions. Social workers should be focused on healing and safely reunifying families.
COVID-19: (Un)supervised visits are not taking place and exacerbated economic impact on system-impacted families
DCFS Equity Office needs real community involvement
(1) DCFS, Family Court, Children's Court Implementation Team (DFC Implementation Team) and (2) DCFS, Family Court, Children's Court Community/Civilian Oversight Committee (DFC COC) w/ subpoena power and contempt power
Ombudsman/Ombudsperson for parents, not just for children
Refund for economic impact (i.e. court delays)
Create a court specific to military veterans and their families that do not have a criminal charge but have a disability due to their military service. Those disabilities can include, but are not limited to, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Military Sexual Trauma (MST), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and Sleep Apnea. Military veteran's court-involvement should be considered given that the military veteran suicide rate is 20 to 22 per day.
Allocate funding for additional resources for veterans to alleviate various court costs OR exempt VA compensation from being classified as income , as this classification disqualifies them from services such as legal and housing assistance.
Change and add the Family Reunification requirements in Children's Court and Family Court, respectively, to align with each other and other systems to create a Family Reunification requirement that is reasonably speedy, streamlined, and a non-duplicative reunification process.
<i>Amend the requirement of the protections given by the Indian Welfare Act to include people listed on the Indian Census Rolls (1880-1930) or people that have a Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood.</i>

Context:

In 2020 the California Surgeon General, CEO of the Center for Youth Wellness, and pediatrician Dr. Nadine Burke Harris shared [new research](#) from the Pacific Institute for Research & Evaluation (PIRE) that identifies the health-related costs of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and costs of toxic stress to California: \$112.5 billion annually. This estimate is disaggregated into direct ACEs-related health care expenditures totaling \$10.5 billion annually, with an additional \$102 billion in the cost of disease burden, including premature death and years of productive life lost to disability. [ACEs](#) are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood ages 0-17. For example, experiencing violence, abuse, neglect, witnessing violence in the home or community, and/or having a family member attempt or die by suicide. Also included are aspects of the child's environment that can undermine their sense of safety, stability, and bonding caused by a household with substance misuse, mental health problems, parental separation or household members being in jail or prison. ACEs are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness, and substance misuse in adulthood and can negatively impact education and job opportunities.

According to the [CA Health Report](#), Dr. Harris also highlighted that "Many of the kids who end up in the juvenile justice system, the vast majority of them have been exposed to high doses of adversity." In this same report, Lenore Anderson, executive director of Californians for Safety and Justice, also stated that "Nationwide, young people of color have far higher incarceration rates than their white counterparts — [B]lack youth are 4.6 times more likely to be incarcerated, Native Americans are 3.3 times more likely, and Latino youth are 1.7 times more likely...The increased understanding of the connection between childhood adversity and criminal justice offers an opportunity for prevention." We view these correlations as a serious public health crisis that Covid-19 has worsened.

Testimonials:

In Los Angeles County, many residents and families have direct experiences with the inefficiencies in the DCFS, Family Court, Children's Court. For example, Ana Estevez, the grieving mother of [5-year-old Aramazd Andressian Jr., "Piqui" who was killed by his father](#), lashed out at Los Angeles county social workers involved in her Family Law Court case, saying she partially blames the DCFS and the Family Law Court system for her child's death. Ana Estevez who is an Army veteran requested a domestic violence restraining order from a Family Court judge and her request was denied. In 2016 Ana Estevez also pleaded with the DCFS for protection. One DCFS social worker wrote that the mother (Ana Estevez) is more difficult than the father to deal with. Piqui was murdered by his father on April 21, 2017. Piqui was the 592nd child out of [now 746 children murdered by a parent](#) who had a case in Family Court within the United States.

Another example of the failures of these systems is the [Gabriel Fernandez case](#) reveals how DCFS and law enforcement were called to the scene multiple times before

Gabriel's death — and no action was taken. At one point social workers even ordered Gabriel to stop lying, allowing his abusers to continue the torture until the horrific end. These actions at the hands of these systems are completely unacceptable and we need critical reforms now.

Veterans:

Navigating the inefficient and complex DCFS, Family Court, Children's Court systems is unnecessarily traumatizing to families. These systems are especially burdensome on military veterans who already have a [national suicide rate of approximately 22 per day](#). A veterans suicide taskforce or working group composed of veterans needs to be established to ease veteran's navigation of these systems.

Safety and Health of Children and Families:

Many social workers, judges, and law enforcement officials are not adequately ensuring the health and safety of all children. Police and judges ignore domestic abuse that occurs in front or inside of their police stations and do not provide real police reports when incidents are reported to them. In 2019, a [mother was shot and killed in front of the Hawthorne Police Station](#) during a child custody exchange. Though DCFS continues to receive millions of dollars and law enforcement budgets continue to swell, many of the children and parents dealing with these systems are being treated unfairly, overlooked, and are not receiving justice.

Conclusion/Demands:

Given the urgency of this situation, we are calling on the **Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, CA State Senate and Assembly, Judicial Council, DCFS, Los Angeles Superior Court, CA State Auditor, Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles County Child Support Services, CA Private Schools, LAUSD/CA Department of Education, Department of Public Health, Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles City Mayor, and the Police Commission** to act immediately and protect the lives of biological families separated within our borders and impacted by the Los Angeles County and CA State injustice systems. Those impacted by this separation do not include just the individuals who have cases in DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court but their family members and communities as well.

The existing infrastructure for DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court does not receive community oversight or input. In order to achieve effective reform we urge the aforementioned stakeholders to adopt the following demands and work collaboratively amongst each other and the community in the implementation of said demands. Although all of the demands are equally important, we want to stress the demands calling for the inclusion of people with DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court lived experience in the reform process.

All the demands should be implemented within one year (by July 2021), considering the rate of child development and the years lost as a result of the bureaucratic processes. For those demands that call for a retrospective assessment, a time window of consideration should be 15 years (2005-2020).

Establish a DCFS, Family Court, Children's Court Implementation Team (**DFC Implementation Team**) and a DCFS, Family Court, Children's Court Community/Civilian Oversight Committee (**DFC COC**) that operates independent of DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court. This DFC Implementation Team will provide an implementation plan for the demands and the DFC COC will provide oversight of the demands. Both the DFC Implementation Team and the DFC COC should be granted subpoena power over DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court.

See below for a list of demands that apply to varying local and state jurisdictions.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

1. Veterans

- a. **Create a veterans information center** in the Los Angeles Superior Court, especially in DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court to help veterans navigate the court system and ensure all judges in Family Court and Children's Court and DCFS employees know of and recommend the UCLA Veterans Family Wellness Center.
- b. **Create an identification process for military veterans who have cases** in DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court.
- c. **Appoint military veteran liaisons for veterans who have cases** in DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court.
 - i. Veterans who do not have criminal cases need to receive wraparound services
- d. **Create a local Los Angeles Task Force/Investigative Team for military veteran families** that will investigate multiple issues such as, but not limited to,
 - i. cases of families that have been separated by DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court and the parents do not have criminal charges;
 - ii. cases of families not separated by a court order, but the case shows custody violations by Parent A preventing Parent B from accessing their child. These custody violations have been presented in Family and Children's Court yet the courts have not acted upon the multiple violations; and
 - iii. cases involving a parent diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) or other military-related injuries can have

diagnoses used against them in court and prevent them from accessing their child.

This Task Force will work collaboratively with its State Task Force counterpart.

2. **Create a Task Force/Investigative Teams for parents** who are undocumented whom have Deportation/Immigrations cases and DCFS cases who are unable to be reunified.
3. **Parents in Partnership services** for families involved in Children's Court and DCFS needs to be broadened to Family Court to increase awareness and be consistently provided in and out of DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court. Parents in Partnership will facilitate family preservation and reunification and identify family needs. Parents in Partnership should continue to be composed of people with DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court lived-experience.

California State Senate & Assembly

1. **Implement the California State Auditor Recommendations for DCFS** from the [2019 DCFS Audit](#).
 - a. Implement the remaining 4 recommendations that are partially implemented, [last reported on in November 2019](#)
 - b. Work with the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to encourage local community participation
2. **Implement the California State Auditor Recommendations for the Commission on Judicial Performance** from the [2019 Commission on Judicial Performance \(CJP\) Audit](#).
 - a. Implement the remaining 14 out of 15 recommendations that are partially implemented or pending, [last reported on in April 2019](#).
 - b. [AB 1842](#) was introduced for the community to be able to electronically report judicial misconduct to the Commission on Judicial Performance. This legislation needs to be expedited because a January 1, 2022 implementation date is not expeditious and children and families are presently being impacted by this misconduct.
3. **Reintroduce AB 336** to give parents and guardians the right and protection to video and audio record CA social workers. Parents also need the ability to audio/video record the DCFS Social Workers when there is an investigation. If some law enforcement officers are mandated to record using body cameras, then social workers should be mandated to record, and parents and guardians should have the right to record as well.

4. **Amend [SB 907](#) or introduce a new bill to include military veterans to receive assistance from the Family Advocacy Program within DCFS.** SB 907 does not include military veterans and only aims to assist active duty military.
5. **Create a CA State Task Force to investigate Children's Court cases that do not have [JV-190](#) forms signed, which waives the parents or guardians rights.** Children's Court is violating parent's and guardian's rights by not reviewing the JV-190 form in Court with the parent and guardian or obtaining a legal signature on the JV-190 form, denying parents and guardians due process. DCFS and Children's Court are taking children away illegally without due process and without parents signing a JV-190 form, knowing that *"A parent's interest in custody of her children is a liberty interest which has received considerable constitutional protection; a parent who is deprived of custody of his or her child, even though temporarily, suffers thereby grievous loss and such loss deserves extensive due process protection. In the Interest of Cooper, 621 P 2d 437; 5 Kansas App Div 2d 584, (1980)."* Work in collaboration with the local Task Force that will also investigate Children's Court cases that do not have a signed JV-190 form.
6. **Amend the time frame on the [Adoption and Safe Families Act](#).** The Adoption and Safe Families Act mandates CA to file for termination of parental rights (TPR) if a child has been in foster care for a minimum of 15 months. However, terminating parental rights because a child is in foster care for 15 months can be an unreasonable punishment on the child and parent. For example, [in 2014 adults in CA were sentenced to a mean time of 3.3 years in prison for non-violent offenses](#). If their child was placed in foster care, then their parental rights would have been terminated, a consequence that disproportionately outweighs any non-violent crime for which a parent would receive a greater than 15 month jail or prison sentence.
7. **Stop all fast track adoption policies.** The criteria for fast-track adoption eligibility are too wide, such as a child being in foster care for 15 months as stated above. In practice, the policy does not inform the parent of the fast-track adoption until parental rights have been terminated and the adoption of the child is finalized.
8. **Notify biological parents about adoptions mandatory before and after adoptions take place.** Parents need to be served with paperwork before a parental rights termination request can be heard. Adoptions are finalized without a parent being notified. Parental termination or adoption should not take place without the parent being notified.
9. **In cases of domestic violence, Family and Children's Court should not ignore protective orders by giving custody or visitation to the abuser.** When

there is evidence of domestic violence, judges or commissioners need not ignore or terminate the protective order. DCFS is often used as a weapon by the abuser against their victims which further harms children when they are removed and placed in the home of an abuser.

10. ***Request an Audit of the [Child Abduction Unit](#).*** Children have been removed from safe, protective parents by this Child Abduction Unit without being notified. Some of these children have disabilities and are taken from homes without securing their medication. Some children are removed from one state and taken to another without contacting the “alleged child abductor,” in other words the parent who the child was taken from and has served as the primary caregiver. Some of these parents have existing protective or restraining orders against the other parent. The complaint process for this Unit is a conflict of interest because it is internal. An Office of Inspector General needs to be instituted to impartially review complaints made against the Unit.
11. ***Create a CA State Task Force for military veterans, without criminal charges, that have been separated from their children.*** For example, some military veterans have completed classes with the Veterans Administration and/or the Veterans Family Wellness Center but have been denied reunification on the false grounds that the military veteran did not complete the class. This Task Force will work collaboratively with its Local Task Force counterpart.
12. ***Create a Task Force separate from the Commission on Judicial Performance, or grant the Commission on Judicial Performance with the legal bandwidth, to investigate judges who are moved around multiple times in Family Court, as this complicates the record and, in some cases, covers up judicial misconduct and illegal activity.***
13. ***Allocate funding for additional resources for veterans to alleviate various court costs OR exempt VA compensation from being classified as income, as this classification disqualifies them from services such as legal and housing assistance.*** Military veterans receive VA compensation for injuries they incurred during their military service. Therefore, VA compensation is not income but rather a debt paid back to the military veteran for the harm inflicted upon them during their service. There are unemployed veterans who sustain themselves with their VA compensation but are forced to use it to pay exorbitant court costs, such as court fees, attorney fees, transcripts, child visitation monitors, experts and evaluations. These costs consume an unreasonable percentage of a military veteran’s VA compensation.
14. ***Amend the requirement of the protections given by the Indian Welfare Act to include people listed on the [Indian Census Rolls \(1880-1930\)](#) or people that have a [Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood](#).*** Do not deny

American Indian families protection under the Indian Welfare Act simply because they do not hold a current tribal membership. If presence on the Indian Census Rolls or the Certificate cannot be confirmed, Family and Children's Court are responsible for exhausting all indicators of whether someone is of Native American ancestry, such as using Genealogy websites, Family Oral History, or DNA testing.

Judicial Council

1. ***Implement the California State Auditor Recommendations for the Commission on Judicial Performance*** from the [2019 Commission on Judicial Performance \(CJP\) Audit](#).
 - a. Implement the remaining 14 out of 15 recommendations that are partially implemented or pending, [last reported on in April 2019](#).
 - b. [AB 1842](#) was introduced to electronically report judicial misconduct to the Commission on Judicial Performance. This legislation needs to be expedited because a January 1, 2022 implementation date is not expeditious and children and families are presently being impacted by this misconduct.
2. ***Mandate increased domestic abuse/violence and mental health training beyond two weeks for judges***, especially those overseeing cases with restraining/protective orders, in Family Court and Children's Court. For example, there are judges that are trained as real estate lawyers but as judges are now overseeing cases in Family Law and therefore lack the education and experience needed to make an informed decision.
3. ***Create an identification process for military veterans who have cases*** in DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court.
4. ***Provide military veteran liaisons for veterans who have cases*** in DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court.
 - a. *Veterans need to receive wraparound services who do not have criminal cases*
5. ***Create a court specific to military veterans and their families that do not have a criminal charge*** but have a disability due to their military service. Those disabilities can include, but are not limited to, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Military Sexual Trauma (MST), Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI), and Sleep Apnea. The existing Veteran's Court does not provide wraparound services to veterans with disabilities unless they have criminal charges. For example, a veteran, who is not eligible for the Veteran's Court because they do not have a criminal charge, can become ensnared in the Family Court system for years because Family Court does not offer the wraparound services as the Veteran's

Court.

6. ***Amend the requirement of the protections given by the Indian Welfare Act*** to include people listed on the [Indian Census Rolls \(1880-1930\)](#) or people that have a [Certificate of Degree of Indian or Alaska Native Blood](#). Do not deny American Indian families protection under the Indian Welfare Act simply because they do not hold a current tribal membership. If presence on the Indian Census Rolls or the Certificate cannot be confirmed, Family and Children's Court are responsible for exhausting all indicators of whether someone is of Native American ancestry, such as using Genealogy websites, Family Oral History, or DNA testing.

Department of Children and Family Services

1. ***Return children who were wrongfully separated from their biological families.*** These children are separated from their families under the false pretense that the children suffered abuse and/or neglect, but the parent or guardian has no criminal charges, convictions, and had their due process rights breached. Social workers' legal bandwidth to remove children from their families is too broad; however, there is an imbalance in when social workers decide to separate children from their families. For example, there are abusive family situations in which a mandated reporter urges the removal of a child, but the child is not removed. Conversely, there are safe family situations in which the child is removed unnecessarily, inflicting preventable harm and trauma to the child and families.
2. ***Completely remove the [Professional Child Visitation Monitor requirement of parents without a criminal charge or conviction](#).*** Supervised or monitored visits can cost [\\$800 to \\$1,200](#) per month and are paid to an independent contractor that offers their monitoring services through the Family Court. Instead, the Family Court needs to either be given the funding to offer these monitoring services at a lower cost or on a sliding scale, or at no cost, as does DCFS through Children's Court. Charging \$800 to \$1,200 is an unreasonable cost that most families cannot afford. Additionally, parents who allegedly display "abusive behavior" do not need to receive the Professional Child Visitation Monitor requirement, this requirement should only be used when abuse has been substantiated by trial, not a social worker. The social welfare culture is intrinsically biased against parents. This social welfare culture needs to stop criminalizing parents without evidence. Parents should have the right and support in accessing a secondary legal opinion.
3. ***Create a proposition to establish a process for family reunification that undoes the speedy adoptions permitted under the [Adoption and Safe](#)***

Families Act.

4. ***The Reunification Therapy requirement needs to have a solid plan and costs need to be waived or reduced.*** Family Court requires high-cost Reunification Therapy, some sessions amounting to \$300 and they are held once a week totalling to \$1,200 per month. The Reunification Therapy is ill-implemented and unnecessarily prolonged contributing to a never-ending cycle of therapy that does not reunify families.
5. ***Require that DCFS social workers communicate with formerly incarcerated parents immediately upon the parents release.*** Social workers are not contacting parents upon their release from incarceration or responding to their phone calls. This lack of communication impedes the parent from visiting their children, making it look like the parent is not involved or concerned. Consequently, this misperception of the parent has led to parents losing parental rights.
6. **Work with Local and CA State TaskForce for military veterans.**
7. ***Include mandatory implicit bias training for social workers*** to address the lack of cultural competency and create awareness of how race, class, gender, religion/faith and sexual orientation shape family structures, dynamics, and needs in order to understand and effectively work with all family structures, dynamics, and needs; not just White American structures. The overpathologization of families involved needs to be de incentivized. Trainings need to include data on these demographics to understand the disparities. Although “cultural competency” is allegedly addressed in the hiring process, it is insufficient because social workers are still exercising cultural incompetency. Cultural competency can be addressed in a creative low-cost way. During the hiring process, the cultural competency training needs to be refined to include an assessment which gauges a person’s cultural competency through a tiered system. This cultural competency assessment and training should be developed by the DFC Implementation Team and should incorporate critical race theory. The competency level should determine whether a candidate is qualified for the social worker trainee position. Should the candidate not meet the ideal tiered level of cultural competency, they can receive additional training and reapply.
8. ***Cultural Broker Program, a partnership between DCFS and African American families to increase community input, should be at all of the DCFS offices,*** the Program needs to be widely promoted, parents should be automatically accepted into Program upon request, and the Program needs to be made accessible to all families who request this service independent of the plan the family is already assigned to (i.e Family Reunification Program vs Family Maintenance Program), which families appear to be arbitrarily placed in. Cultural

Broker Program volunteers should be paid because the [hours and goals are onerous](#) and the average community member cannot afford to provide unpaid labor.

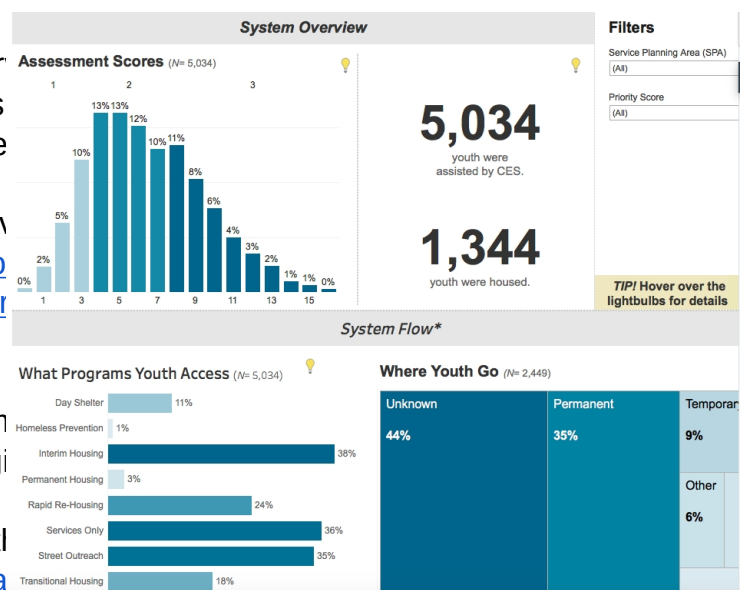
9. ***The educational requirements of DCFS social worker trainees need to be specified. Reevaluate the scope of an entry-level social worker because currently it is too wide.*** As stated in an entry level [social worker trainee application](#), a “bachelor’s degree from an accredited college with a major in psychology, sociology, social work, child development, or a related human services field” is required. The list of “human services field” is too broad of an educational requirement and a recent graduate with this degree should not be able to jump into a social worker capacity with a wide scope of job responsibilities that irreversibly impact families. A recent graduate with a bachelor’s degree with no training can “[prepare\[\] court reports for hearings; file\[\] petitions](#)” contributing to unnecessary family separations. For example a social worker trainee after two months on the job had the legal job authority to remove a child from their home. This removal from an inexperienced social worker trainee can have long-lasting detrimental effects on the child and family. Therefore, a social worker trainee should not have the legal job authority to determine the removal of a child.
10. ***The retaliation culture among social workers is hostile and stifling and needs to be eliminated immediately.*** A complaint process for social workers who are wrongfully terminated does not exist so only anecdotal evidence revealing the retaliation culture can be cited. Therefore, a complaint process needs to be created for disciplining and terminating LA County employees.
11. ***Licenses should be required of social workers*** to give community members the ability to file legitimate complaints against them in cases of gross misconduct and challenge the social worker’s license, similar to being able to file a complaint against a doctor to the Medical Board of CA. When a complaint is filed, families should have the option to be assigned to a different social worker in a separate office to avoid a conflict of interest. A database of social workers with their experiential and professional profiles should be required of each DCFS office and made available to the public.
12. ***Recruit former foster care youth in the hiring process for social workers*** because candidates with lived experience in foster care are filtered out due to systemic barriers. For example, [less than 3% of foster care youth receive a degree from a 4-year college](#). Therefore, instead of creating additional barriers for former foster care youth, we should create an incentive to recruit DCFS, Family Court, and/or Children’s Court impacted youth, that fully funds their higher education and license fees, to work as social workers. Eligibility for funding should not be restrictive. The FCD Implementation Team will determine the details of the eligibility for the funds.

13. ***There needs to be a Loan Forgiveness Incentive for youth and adults impacted by DCFS, Family Court, and/or Children's Court.*** The FCD Implementation Team will be required to determine eligibility and terms for this specific program. The Loan Forgiveness program will be similar to the Loan Forgiveness Programs that the military offers to college graduates and future college graduates.

14. ***Provide housing assistance and other services for people impacted by DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court cases. Critically assess existing housing programs and address their deficiencies.***

Transitional housing for youth

The [Coordinated Entry System](#) meets every two weeks per Ser Planning Area (SPA) to discuss state of homelessness. In these meetings, the [existing housing options for foster care youth](#) have been shown to be insufficient: [1,344 out of the 5,034 youth served by CES are housed and the outcome of 44% of youth is unknown](#). The unknown outcome of 44% of youth is unacceptable given the rate of homelessness, the statistics of [missing youth](#) and the existence of [Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children \(CSEC\)](#).



Families/Parent(s) Experiencing Homelessness and in Need of Housing Assistance

DCFS offers housing assistance to families and parents on the Family Maintenance Program through another program called [Bringing Families Home](#). Families and parents on the Family Reunification Program also receive housing assistance through the [Family Reunification Housing Subsidy Program](#). These [CA State funded housing assistance programs](#) have existed from July 2016 to June 2019 in Los Angeles County and the funds have been renewed for July

2019 through June 2022. However, these housing assistance programs need to be included in the first contact with families and parents because families and parents are not informed about these services.

Also, because social workers have been known to arbitrarily decide if a parent does or does not need housing assistance, an independent housing navigator or specialist should conduct an assessment. The assessment, modeled after the [Coordinated Entry System](#) or the [Vulnerability Index-Family Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool \(VI-FSPDAT\)](#), will determine if the family or parent qualify for housing assistance; a judge should be required to refer a family or parent to Coordinated Entry System or VI-FSPADT services in DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court.

Furthermore, families and parents with children experiencing homelessness without a DCFS, Family Court, or Children's Court case need to have access to these housing services to prevent unnecessary and traumatizing family separations. An independent housing navigator or specialist should be provided to families and parents without a case in the aforementioned court systems as well. For example, in December 2019 a [protest](#) took place outside of the Edmund D. Edelman Children's Court because of a mother's child who was placed in foster care because she became homeless.

Accountability

All housing assistance services must be assessed by the FCD COC who will have the ability to hold DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court accountable if they do not follow through with assistance in a timely manner.

15. ***Create an independent civilian oversight committee over DCFS with subpoena power.*** There is no effective complaint process against social workers, their supervisors or their Area Regional Administrator (ARA). The processes that do exist are riddled with conflicts of interest because the complaints made against DCFS are returned to them for review and determination. Another example of the ineffective complaint process, the Dependency Investigator (DI) works in close proximity to the social workers and they socialize (i.e. go to lunch). These conflicts of interests lead to lack of accountability for social worker misconduct and allows for false reporting. The DFC COC may serve as the oversight.
16. ***Change and add the Family Reunification requirements in Children's Court and Family Court, respectively, to align with each other and other systems to create a Family Reunification requirement that is reasonably speedy, streamlined, and a non-duplicative reunification process.*** The Children's

Court Family Reunification requirements are misaligned with other systems, too restrictive, and do not provide the adequate resources to parents to meet the requirements of reunifying the family. Family Court does not have a Family Reunification process and cases can drag out endlessly in court. Thus, both Children's Court and Family Court need to create a reasonably speedy, streamlined, and non-duplicative reunification process.

Another example of Children's Court misalignment with other systems is the social workers are not communicating with the therapists or instructors from parent's required classes. This lack of communication delays the parent's chances to reunify with their children. Therapists and instructors are not receiving case files from Children's Court, therefore the parent is unable to officially participate in the mandatory class and progress with their reunification process, misrepresenting the parent as noncompliant with the orders. Similarly, in Family Court, judges are baselessly not acknowledging certificates of completion for required classes.

An additional example of misalignment is that certificates earned in jail are not transferable and are not accepted once a parent is released from incarceration. Lastly, military veterans are taking classes with the VA, Veterans Family Wellness Center and U.S. Vets and those certificates are not acknowledged by Family Court or Children's Court.

17. ***Interview children in a safe space, away from the alleged abuser, and ensure their testimony remains confidential*** so as not to further risk harm to the child. The protocol to interview child victims in private is not being followed in Los Angeles County. For example, children are interviewed by DCFS and police officers in front of the alleged abuser, deviating from protocol.
18. ***Reports by civilian reporters, mandated reporters, domestic violence victims and others need to be reviewed exhaustively by an independent task force, that has no conflict of interest, composed of civilians with relevant lived experience and not immediately found unsubstantiated by a social worker or Family Court.*** A mandated reporter is a credible source legally responsible to report unlawful activity, therefore their reports must be given greater consideration when reviewed. However, some reports, especially those made by mandated reporters, are still being ignored by DCFS and Family Court. For example, in the Gabriel Fernandez case there were 13 reports by mandated reporters before he was killed.
19. ***The [Inter Agency of Child Abuse and Neglect \(ICAN\)](#) should not be obligated to return the cases the Agency reviews back to DCFS.*** The Agency is composed of different LA County government departments, including DCFS, and currently reviews DCFS cases (i.e. child-death cases and cases to prevent child deaths) but then returns the cases to DCFS which is a conflict of interest

and gives the social worker room to retaliate or conceal misconduct. After the Agency reviews the case, the case should be sent to another entity determined by the DFC Implementation Team to eliminate a conflict of interest and mitigate retaliation and misconduct by social workers.

Los Angeles County Superior Court

1. ***Make a Family Court Family Reunification plan mandatory with children separated from their biological families***, if the parent does not have criminal charges or criminal convictions. There is no Family Reunification program nor timeline within the Family Court System. Furthermore, judges can keep delaying a case, continuing a case, or making their courtrooms dark on scheduled hearing dates, yet parents still have to pay legal and expert testimony fees. There are cases that have been in Family Court for 10 to 15 years with no criminal charges or convictions warranting the separations of biological families. There are families spending [\\$10,000 to \\$100,000](#) on cases and spiralling into financial ruin (i.e. debt and homelessness).
2. ***Create a local level Task Force with the legal bandwidth to investigate judges who are moved around multiple times in Family Court***, as this complicates the record and, in some cases, covers up judicial misconduct and illegal activity. This local level Task Force needs to work in collaboration with the CA State level Task Force also investigating judicial misconduct.
3. ***Stop creating court orders that limit or eliminate a parent's legal custody of their child, short of terminating their parental rights, if the parent does not have a criminal charge or conviction***. If parental rights are still legally in place, then the parent should have legal custody of their children. Suspend making court orders granting parent A "sole custodial" without parent B's legal rights having been terminated. Often judges are giving "sole custodial" and "physical custodial" to parent A without parent B having criminal charges or convictions. This is an infringement on parent B's rights to their child; legal protections for parents should be adhered to. These court orders cause parent B to fall into technical legal traps and alienates them. The LA Superior Court needs to create every possible path to safe family reunification before closing cases with a final judgement in Family Court or exit order in Children's Court. Closing cases in favor of parent A without exhausting all paths to family reunification alienates parent B who still has parental rights and no criminal charges or convictions.
4. ***Change the [legal language](#) of "sole custodial" parent and "noncustodial" parent to "primary custodial" parent and "secondary custodial" parent, respectively***. Non-legal experts (i.e. school principals, doctors, and recreational activity instructors) do not understand this legal jargon and read or hear "sole

custodial” parent and falsely presume the “noncustodial” parent has no rights to the child. “Sole custodial” parents often leverage this misconception and claim that the “noncustodial” parent has no rights, managing to restrict the “noncustodial” parent’s access to the child (i.e. medical and school records), and at times, having the police wrongfully arrest the “noncustodial” parent.

5. **Create a Task Force composed of civilians with relevant lived experience to work with domestic violence victims and investigate domestic violence cases in Family Court and Children's Court.** There are several judges in Family Court and Children's Court who are ignoring evidence of domestic violence, denying restraining order requests, ignoring existing restraining orders, delaying cases by granting continuances and cancelling court dates.
6. **We demand full compliance with all the clauses, especially “cruel and unusual punishment,” of the eighth amendment of the U.S. Constitution.**
7. **Create a local Task Force to investigate Children’s Court cases that do not have [JV-190](#) forms signed, which waives the parents or guardians rights.** Children’s Court is violating parent’s and guardian’s rights by not reviewing the JV-190 form in Court with the parent and guardian or obtaining a legal signature on the JV-190 form, denying parents and guardians due process. DCFS and Children's Court are taking children away illegally without due process and without parents signing a JV-190 form, knowing “*A parent's interest in custody of her children is a liberty interest which has received considerable constitutional protection; a parent who is deprived of custody of his or her child, even though temporarily, suffers thereby grievous loss and such loss deserves extensive due process protection. In the Interest of Cooper, 621 P 2d 437; 5 Kansas App Div 2d 584, (1980).*” Work in collaboration with CA State Task Force that will also investigate Children’s Court cases that do not have a signed JV-190 form.

California State Auditor

1. **Request an Audit of the [Child Abduction Unit](#).** Children have been removed from safe, protective parents by this Child Abduction Unit without being notified. Some of these children have disabilities and are taken from homes without securing their medication. Some children are removed from one state and taken to another without contacting the “alleged child abductor,” in other words the parent that has been the primary caregiver. Some of these parents have existing protective or restraining orders against the other parent. The complaint process for this Unit is a conflict of interest because it is internal. An Office of Inspector General needs to be instituted to impartially review complaints made against the Unit.
2. **Audit the restraining order/protective order requests that were delayed,**

denied, revoked or altered without victim consent in Family Court and Children's Court. There are restraining orders/protective orders being ignored and not honored in court, endangering families and children. In cases where a clear conflict of interest exists, an independent investigative team should conduct the audit.

3. ***Institutionalize a database that allows community members to self-report*** their restraining orders/protective orders that have been denied, revoked, or altered. An independent team will collect, monitor, and respond to these self-reports.
4. ***If the audit confirms that a past (past 15 years, 2005-2020) or present protective order was wrongfully denied, revoked, or altered, then the entire casefile needs to be reviewed.***
5. ***Audit the amount of money that has been generated from adoptions by*** adoption agencies, DCFS, lawyers, adoptive parents, and other relevant parties and how the profits are distributed among the relevant parties. Make the aforementioned data available to the public.
6. ***Audit and investigate the Los Angeles Mayor's Challenge to Decrease Veteran Suicide.*** According the LA Times, the veteran [national suicide rate is approxiametly 22 people per day](#) and has not decreased.

Los Angeles County District Attorney

1. ***Create a Task Force to investigate the [Child Abduction Unit](#).*** Children have been removed from safe, protective parents by this Child Abduction Unit without being notified. Some of these children have disabilities and are taken from homes without securing their medication. Some children are removed from one state and taken to another without contacting the "alleged child abductor," in other words the parent that has been the primary caregiver. Some of these parents have existing protective or restraining orders against the other parent. The complaint process for this Unit is a conflict of interest because it is internal. An Office of Inspector General needs to be instituted to impartially review complaints made against the Unit.
2. ***Create a Task Force for military veterans*** to investigate cases of families that have been separated and the parents do not have criminal charges. This Task Force will work collaboratively with its State Task Force counterpart and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors.

Los Angeles County Child Support Services

1. ***Adjust the Guideline Calculator for child support costs so both parents can***

take care of their child and meet their living expenses. The [existing debt reduction options](#) are limited and insufficient. Better payment options need to be offered that consider living expenses, not just income. The [Guideline Calculator](#) does not take into account expenses such as the cost of rent, car payment, and attorney fees. In a city like Los Angeles, the [average cost of rent is \\$2,200 per month](#). The [average monthly cost of car expenses in Los Angeles is \\$706](#). These bare minimum living expenses amount to \$2,906 per month. Using the Guideline Calculator with the example of one child dependent, a pre-tax monthly income of \$3,000 for each parent, and no other expenses, would generate \$424 in monthly child support costs for Parent 1. This sums to \$3,330, exceeding Parent 1's monthly income by \$330 and plunging them into debt. Furthermore, if Parent 2 is not working, the monthly child support costs for Parent 1 would be \$593, summing to \$3,499 and exceeding Parent 1's income by \$499. This calculation is conservative given that it only takes rent and car expenses into consideration.

CA Private Schools

1. ***Make it clear that noncustodial parents (secondary custodial parents) do have rights to access records including, but not limited to, medical, dental, and school records under the CA Department of Education State Regulations for private schools*** without signature requirement from or notification to custodial/primary custodial parent. Rights should be aligned with the [legal language](#) covering CA public schools.
2. ***Notify the noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) before their child is transferred to another school.***
3. ***Notify both the custodial parent (primary custodial parent) and noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) of incident reports automatically.***
4. ***List both the custodial parent (primary custodial parent) and noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) addresses as "primary contact"*** because both should be receiving information regarding their child. A "secondary contact" should be treated as an emergency contact, not the noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) who has legal rights to their child's records.
5. ***Hire full-time on-campus contracted social workers*** with a ratio of one social worker per 30 students that works with all families, especially those with a Family Court, Children's Court, or DCFS case to facilitate family team building. Social workers will assess how many students have DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court cases to provide services.

Los Angeles Unified School District/CA Public Schools

1. ***Make it clear that noncustodial parents (secondary custodial parents) do have rights to access records including, but not limited to, medical, dental, and school records under the CA Department of Education State Regulations for private schools*** without signature requirement from or notification to custodial/primary custodial parent. Rights should be aligned with the [legal language](#) covering CA public schools.
2. ***Notify the noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) before their child is transferred to another school.***
3. ***Notify both the custodial parent (primary custodial parent) and noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) of incident reports automatically.***
4. ***List both the custodial parent (primary custodial parent) and noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) addresses as “primary contact”*** because both should be receiving information regarding their child. A “secondary contact” should be treated as an emergency contact, not the noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent) who has legal rights to their child’s records.
5. ***Public schools should familiarize themselves with the rights of custodial parent (primary custodial parent) and noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent)*** so that they do not involve law enforcement unnecessarily.
6. ***Use a centralized database with all updated court records involving families with a DCFS, Family Court, or Children’s Court case.*** For example, Parent A could use a defunct custody order against Parent B to take the child, outside the parameters of the custody order, or have Parent B falsely arrested.
7. ***Public schools should flag the child’s record if there is an existing DCFS, Family Court, and Children’s Court case to the CA Department of Education.*** For example, the custodial parent (primary custodial parent) could move their child to multiple schools without notifying the noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent). With the CA Department of Education tracking students who are involved in court cases, activity such as exorbitant school transfers can be detected. The noncustodial parent (secondary custodial parent), who still has legal rights of the child, including educational and medical records, can therefore be notified.
8. ***Hire full-time on-campus contracted social workers*** with a ratio of one social worker per 30 students that works with all families, especially those with a Family Court, Children’s Court, or DCFS case to facilitate family team building.

Specifically, LAUSD with can use the \$25 million from the [35% Los Angeles School Police Department budget reduction](#) to fund social workers. Social workers will assess how many students have DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court cases to provide services.

Department of Mental Health

As LACDMH advances its mission, we know it is entirely committed to playing a key role as partner and contributor to the County's broader vision for addressing critical challenges and helping communities thrive. To this end, LACDMH has aligned the goals of its plan with the County's Strategic Plan to ensure a cohesive response. Our demand letter should be included in the goals and strategic plan to address issues specifically involving domestic violence, intimate partner violence, substance abuse, race as a social determinant of health/impacts health.

Conclusion

DCFS, Family Court, and Children's Court need to be reimagined because we cannot wait for another child to die. We cannot wait for more children to be severely traumatized and develop ACEs. We cannot wait for more children to enter the pipeline to juvenile halls, jails and prison before making the decision to act. We are calling on the **Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, CA State Senate and Assembly, Judicial Council, DCFS, Los Angeles Superior Court, CA State Auditor, Los Angeles County District Attorney, Los Angeles County Child Support Services, CA Private Schools, LAUSD/CA Department of Education, Department of Public Health, Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles City Mayor, and the Police Commission** to act immediately. [A Trauma Informed System of Care](#) is what is needed to stop separating children from **biological families within our borders**. A Trauma Informed System of Care would also prevent severing one biological parent from the child when the child has both biological parents. We will support you in taking the daring but necessary action to protect the most valuable people in our community, our children. This must happen and must happen now!

Sincerely,

Latia Suttle
latia.suttle@gmail.com

Keisha Dixon
admin@kdunlimited.com

Tina Rios
rios.tina@gmail.com

Denise Wilson
deniserwilson1984@gmail.com

Community Coalition

Belen@cocosouthla.org

Patricia@cocosouthla.org

Reimagining Child Safety Group

Reimagining.child.safety@gmail.com



Summary of comment and request:

As part of the plan to restructure leadership and integrate the Departments of Aging, Disabilities, and Youth Development, potentially elevating the Office of Child Protection as the central hub, we formally request the inclusion of the Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB). The DTFB would consist of Deaf professionals with lived experience and employees from various County departments, especially the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Specialized Program known as Deaf Services Unit and additional Deaf employee's designated in various programs of DCFS. Including a Deaf Task Force under the PSTF and PPCIT teams would advance ARDI's inclusivity goals. Currently, PPCIT has not included the Deaf population, which is overseen by the Department of Aging and Disabilities. Additionally, DCFS's Deaf Services Unit has not included true Deaf representatives with lived experience. Therefore, we submit this public comment to ensure professional Deaf with lived experiences are included in this motion.

Justification of comment and request: Deaf families (Deaf includes; Deaf, Hard of Hearing, DeafBlind, DeafPlus, and LateDeaf individuals) for nearly a decade had been experiencing significant gaps in prevention and service within the Department of Children and Family Services-Deaf Services Unit (DCFS-DSU) and the remaining divisions of the department. Deaf Services Unit (DSU) was originally established to target the Deaf families, and it was once recognized as a national model in Deaf Child Welfare practices and was staffed by Deaf professionals with lived experience meeting the DSU's original mission and required qualifications as said in the previous settlement agreement made in 1992. DSU's original operation provided direct access in services through Deaf lived experience children social workers, access to department Trilingual interpreters (English/Spanish/ASL), and fostered strong collaboration with Deaf-led partner agencies for over 20 years, closing the gap and providing preventative services. **Historically, DSU served as a central coordinating hub across county departments and Deaf Agencies/Organizations, aligning with EO-PPSGC mission.** In the last decade, DSU management decisions have disrupted these relationships and negatively impacted Deaf families, including those involved with the judicial system. The impact also played a role in

the loss of other preventative Deaf servicing programs who relied on the partnership with DSU. Additionally, this led to the decline in program's representation of Deaf live experience Children's Social Workers and administrators from 13 down to 3. Now, deterring away from your goals of Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth and Family.

We respectfully request that this motion incorporate a Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB) as a dedicated subgroup to rebuild and address the gaps in services for our Deaf families, which is part of the broader disability community. The DTFB's primary goal is to revitalize and realign the DCFS Deaf Services Unit by revisiting the issues and proposing a solution. DTFB would include specific representation for the DTFB that aligns with your motion.

Over the past decades, numerous internal efforts by Deaf employee's to collaborate with Deaf Services management team under the proposal of the DTFB were met with declination. In the past year, Deaf stakeholders, including representatives from various County Departments and Deaf agencies/organizations, have again sought collaboration with the DSU management team, but these requests have resulted in no outcomes nor commitments by the DSU management team.

This ongoing lack of engagement has led to the derailment of the DSU's original mission, negatively impacting both the EO and PPSGC-PSTF's broader objectives. The exclusion of DCFS's remaining Deaf professional front-line employees, Deaf community partner programs, Deaf community stakeholders, and Deaf families is a serious concern. This exclusion threatens the goals of Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families with an inclusive mindset. Notably, the Department's Trilingual interpreters, who are essential for serving Deaf and Spanish-speaking families, have also been excluded.

To address these issues transparently and ensure accountability, we strongly believe that adopting the Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB) is essential. The DTFB would provide a formal mechanism for accountability and engagement from both the DCFS's DSU management team and the DCFS-PPCIT team, especially if Child Protective Services is to play a central role in this initiative. This structure would ensure that the voices and needs of the Deaf community are represented, and that all stakeholders are held responsible for meaningful collaboration and inclusive service delivery.

The Deaf Task Force Board (DTFB) would directly advance ARDI-PSTF's inclusivity goals and is essential for fulfilling its overall mission. We respectfully urge you to consider this request, as it will ensure transparent, representative, and effective support for Deaf families in our county.

Earlier this year, we met with the offices of Supervisors Horvath and Barger, and we are scheduled to meet with Supervisor Mitchell's office this week. We are submitting this comment to foster collaboration and to ensure that the perspectives of Deaf individuals are recognized. As Deaf individuals, our voices are not easily heard, so we hope this comment will help draw your direct visual attention to our concerns and needs by supporting the request to ensure that your team incorporate the Deaf Task Force Board. Thank you.

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Agenda Item: 13. Advancing a Unified Prevention Framework for Children, Youth, and Families

Date: November 17, 2025

Submitted by: Veronica Alvarez

Chair, Members of the Board:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments and thank you Supervisors Mitchell and Horvat for your recommendations. In the spirit of the discussion regarding system fragmentation and the need for broader engagement, I am submitting this comment to highlight a critical language-access gap within the Department of Children and Family Services that directly impacts the County's ability to provide equitable, legally compliant services to Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing families.

As the Board continues to examine fragmentation across prevention and promotion systems, it is important to recognize that DCFS currently lacks a formal mechanism for accessing trilingual American Sign Language interpreters—professionals who interpret across ASL, English, and Spanish. Los Angeles County is home to one of the largest Spanish-speaking Deaf communities in the nation, yet these families frequently enter investigations, Child and Family Team meetings, and safety-planning processes without the full communication access required under ADA Title II, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the County's own Language Access Policy.

This is not an operational inconvenience; it is a civil-rights issue. When communication is incomplete, the risk of misunderstanding and erroneous decision-making increases. For a family involved with child welfare, even one misinterpreted statement can have life-altering consequences. These families deserve clarity, dignity, and an equal opportunity to engage fully in their own cases. As you consider expanding collaboration beyond current PPSGC entities,

I respectfully request that the Board:

1. Direct DCFS to establish a formal protocol and funding structure for trilingual ASL interpreter services, ensuring consistent access.
2. Adopting and integrating a DCFS- Deaf Task Force Board within ARDI-PSTF which embodies and promotes inclusivity goals.
3. Review DCFS's current ADA/Title II compliance to ensure Deaf and Hard of Hearing families have the communication access they are legally entitled to.

By addressing this need, the Board will reinforce its commitment to transparency, prevention, and equitable treatment for all Los Angeles County families.

Thank you for your attention and continued leadership.

Veronica Alvarez

Sign Language Interpreter in Los Angeles County

Public Comment – ADA Title II Participation and Framework Provenance Notice

Filed under ADA Title II / § 504 as a Unified Provenance Comment applicable to all agenda items reflecting convergence with the BCCP™ / B2C3A™ frameworks.

For the record, this item relates to themes previously addressed in my ADA Title II and Section 504 submissions (Exhibits Q-27 through Q-28) concerning equitable public-access policy, effective communication, and prevention-governance standards. I note that Los Angeles County and its partner agencies continue to integrate language and structural reforms consistent with the BureauCare-to-Custody-Cemetery Pipeline™ (BCCP™) and B2C3A™ Frameworks, which were formally entered into the public record under ADA accommodation and copyright protection in 2025.

This submission contains lived-experience evidence provided solely for compliance and record-continuity purposes. All narrative and analytic content remain the intellectual and experiential property of the author; reproduction or use beyond official proceedings requires written consent and acknowledgment.

Respectfully,

Dr. Esroruleh T. Mohammad, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist (Involuntary Medical Leave)

Systems Equity Strategist & Family Advocate

Author, BCCP™ (*BureauCare-to-Custody-Cemetery Pipeline™*) and B2C3A™ (*Pipeline Prevention Model*)

© 2025 Dr. Esroruleh T. Mohammad | U.S. Copyright TXu 2-486-534

Recognition-Only submission under ADA medical-leave protections and the *Unified BCCP™ / B2C3A™ Evidentiary Convergence Protocol* for provenance continuity.



Tamim Mohammad <tamimmohammad@gmail.com>

Follow-Up: ADA Title II Record Continuity and CPRA Access Barriers – Reference E-13A (October 27 2025) Re: Public Records Act Request Dated September 30, 2025

Tamim Mohammad <tamimmohammad@gmail.com>

Mon, Nov 17, 2025 at 9:00 AM

To: Brian Le <BLE@counsel.lacounty.gov>, dharrison@counsel.lacounty.gov, jwhitehurst@counsel.lacounty.gov, Miguel Chavez <MChavez@counsel.lacounty.gov>, Emily Issa <Elssa@counsel.lacounty.gov>, rclaro@counsel.lacounty.gov, akatz@counsel.lacounty.gov, COCO_Contact_Us <Contact_Us@counsel.lacounty.gov>, egomez@counsel.lacounty.gov, dmhcpra@dmh.lacounty.gov, CKanashiro@counsel.lacounty.gov, Justin Kim <JYKIM@counsel.lacounty.gov>, BKishimoto@counsel.lacounty.gov
Cc: DHCS Civil Rights <civilrights@dhcs.ca.gov>, mhsoac@mhsoac.ca.gov, pracoordinator@auditor.ca.gov, mhsa@dhcs.ca.gov

Re: ADA Title II Record Continuity and CPRA Access Barriers – Reference E-13A (October 27 2025)

Dear Mr. Le,

Cc: County Counsel, Ms. Harrison, Ms. Whitehurst, Mr. Kim, Ms. Issa, Mr. Kishimoto, Ms. Victoria, Ms. Katz, Mr. Gomez, Mr. Chavez et al., DMH CPRA Unit, DHCS OCR, MHSOAC, Executive Office

I write to follow up on my October 27 correspondence titled *“Notice of Procedural Continuity and ADA / § 504 Access Obligations – CPRA Requests (September 8 and October 1 2025)”* (Exhibit E-13A), transmitted to County Counsel and copied to relevant oversight agencies.

For continuity, please note that this notice also encompasses prior correspondence issued by County Counsel staff on October 10, 2025 (Baron Kishimoto / Justin Kim), which provided a 14-day extension under Gov. Code § 7922.535(b) regarding the same CPRA request dated September 30, 2025. As outlined in Exhibit E-13A, that partial communication and the subsequent October 27 letter are hereby consolidated under a single procedural record for ADA Title II compliance and evidentiary attribution within the **Unified BCCP™ / B2C3A™ Framework**.

As of today, I have not received confirmation that the County has acknowledged or entered that notice into its internal CPRA or ADA compliance record.

More immediately, I continue to experience barriers to effective access, including:

1. Inaccessible OneDrive portal links issued in your October 27 response letter (QPC / Auditor-Controller request). **The County login page blocks sign-in following administrative credential deactivation on April 10 2025.**
2. Fragmented communication channels across departments and contractors, resulting in incomplete delivery of responsive materials and duplication of “final” closure notices inconsistent with Title II effective-communication requirements.
3. Absence of an identified ADA liaison or designated staff contact to coordinate accessible record delivery and confirm continuity of pending CPRA requests.

For context, these continuity and access concerns are consistent with record-integrity issues previously documented in my July 1, 2025 correspondence to the Prevention and Promotion Systems Governing Committee (“PPSGC Public Record Response – Confirmation & Ethical Clarification Request”). That filing detailed omissions of publicly submitted frameworks from PPSGC meeting minutes and the subsequent release of materials replicating those frameworks without attribution. This history underscores the need for transparent docket management and ADA-compliant coordination to maintain a complete and accurate administrative record.

For additional context, I also note the convergence between the County's recent Board motions of November 4 2025—particularly "Access to Learning: Fighting for the Rights of Incarcerated Youth" and "Post-Secondary Education Services in Los Angeles County Probation Detention Facilities"—and the prevention and custody-pipeline constructs first introduced under ADA protection through the BureauCare-to-Custody-Cemetery Pipeline™ (BCCP™) and B2C3A™ Pipeline Prevention Model. Those motions employ the same analytic framing of the *school-to-prison nexus* that originated in my ADA-protected frameworks and have since been incorporated into County prevention governance materials.

For provenance continuity and ethical compliance under U.S. Copyright TXu 2-486-534 and ADA Title II obligations, I respectfully request that the County record reflect authorship linkage to the ADA-protected BCCP™ and B2C3A™ frameworks in any future policies, communications, or consultant materials that draw upon these constructs. To support this request, I have attached as Exhibit R-14 the November 4, 2025 Board motion package ("Access to Learning: Fighting for the Rights of Incarcerated Youth" and "Post-Secondary Education Services in Probation Detention Facilities"), which documents policy convergence with the prevention and custody-pipeline models previously entered into the ADA record. This exhibit is submitted solely for evidentiary preservation under ADA Title II and FEHA § 504. A corresponding Legal and Evidentiary Brief (R-14A) analyzing authorship and framework alignment will be filed following confirmation of docket entry.

For procedural clarity, please review Exhibit E-13A and confirm in writing:

1. The October 27 correspondence has been entered into the County's official CPRA and ADA record.
2. The County will provide ADA-compliant access to the referenced QPC/A-C materials via an alternative method (e.g., email transfer or an accessible download link).
3. County Counsel will identify the staff member responsible for ADA/Section 504 coordination in ongoing records-access matters.

This request is made under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act (28 C.F.R. § 35.160), which requires that communications with individuals with disabilities be as effective as communications with others, and under California Government Code §§ 7922.530–7922.545, which govern public-records access by state and local agencies. The purpose is solely to maintain lawful procedural continuity and prevent further fragmentation of the administrative record.

Attachments: Exhibit E-13A (October 27 2025); Exhibit R-14 (Board Motions, Nov 4 2025)

Respectfully,

Dr. Esroruleh T. Mohammad, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychologist (on ADA / § 504 Medical Leave)

Systems Equity Strategist & Family Advocate

Author, BureauCare-to-Custody-Cemetery Pipeline™ (BCCP™) / B2C3A™ Frameworks | U.S. Copyright TXu 2-486-534

tamimmohammad@gmail.com

Filed under: Unified BCCP™ / B2C3A™ Evidentiary Convergence Archive

Submitted in accordance with confirmed ADA Title II / § 504 written-communication accommodation (CRD approval 10 / 23 / 25).

Confidentiality Notice:

This communication and any attachments contain confidential ADA, medical, and legal information intended solely for the designated recipients within authorized government or oversight proceedings. Unauthorized review, use, disclosure, or distribution is strictly prohibited. If you are not an intended recipient, please delete this communication and notify the sender immediately.

This correspondence forms part of the **Unified BCCP™ / B2C3A™ Evidentiary Convergence Archive**, filed under **ADA Title II, FEHA § 12940, and U.S. Copyright TXu 2-486-534** protections. Portions of this material constitute protected intellectual property and ADA compliance records subject to federal and state confidentiality provisions.

On Mon, Oct 27, 2025 at 4:48 PM Brian Le <BLe@counsel.lacounty.gov> wrote:

Sent on Behalf of Justin Kim, Deputy County Counsel:

Good afternoon,

Attached please find our correspondence in regards to your Public Records Act Request Dated September 30, 2025.

Thank you,

Brian Le

LEGAL OFFICE SUPPORT ASSISTANT II

GOVERNMENT DIVISION

Office of the County Counsel

County of Los Angeles

213.584.1561



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This email message, including any attachments, from the Office of the County Counsel is intended for the official and confidential use of the recipients to whom it is addressed. It contains information that maybe confidential, privileged, attorney work product, or otherwise exempted from disclosure under applicable law. If you have received this message in error, be advised that any review, disclosure, use, dissemination, distribution, or reproduction of this message or its contents is strictly prohibited. Please notify us immediately by reply email that you have received this message in error, and destroy this message, including any attachments.

2 attachments

 **E-13A_2025-10-27_CountyCounsel_ProceduralContinuityNotice_ADA-504_Access_and_Unified_BCCP-B2C3A_Framework.pdf**
381K

 **Exhibit R-14 – Convergence Excerpt (“School-to-Prison Nexus” Motion – Nov 4 2025).pdf**
194K