

## **SOUTH BAY COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS**

### **General Membership Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, October 8, 2014, 10:00 am -12:00 pm

St. Paul's United Methodist Church, 2600 Nelson Ave, Redondo Beach, CA

**Attendees:** Elizabeth Eastlund (Rainbow), Jessy Needham (CPAF), Mark Silverbush (SPCH), Mary Bartel (Project NEEDS), Greg Brown (St. Cross Episcopal), Chery Carew (Family Promise), Karen Ceaser (CSPNC, SP-DMH), Mary Agnes Erlandson (St. Margaret's Center), Jose Esqueda (Rainbow), Robin Fitzgerald (Rolling Hills Covenant), Cliff Gardner (1736 FCC), Arigal Horrow (1736 FCC), Julie Jacks (Family Promise, Mirna Marroquin (DPSS), Barbi Johnson (Family Promise), Louis Mena (School on Wheels), Yolanda Polony (DPSS), Kim Neuenschwander (1<sup>st</sup> Presby San Pedro), Emma Ogleby-Oliver (Marymount CA Univ), Maria Ramirez (DPSS), Alma Ramos (Alliance for Housing and Healing), Ana Reoyo (DPSS), Bill Roberson (SP United Methodist), Miriam Rounds (St. Andrews Presby), Paul Stansbury (NAMI South Bay), Grace Weltman (Communities in Motion), Nancy Wilcox (St Peter's By The Sea Presby), Ronald Williams (Shoftim Gr).

1. **Welcome and Introductions.** Mark Silverbush opened the meeting at 10:05 am. The attendees introduction themselves.
2. **Minutes Review & Approval.** The September General Meeting minutes were approved without changes.
3. **Featured Speaker:** In recognition of October being "Domestic Violence Awareness Month," Elizabeth Eastlund of Rainbow Services and Jessy Needham of the Center for Pacific Asian Families (CPAF) were our guest speakers. Their presentation is attached to these Minutes. The notes below are comments made that augmented the information on their slides.
  - a. Language and Disclosures: Domestic violence (DV) is now being referred to as Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) to more inclusively capture the scope of this problem. Most of the victims are female but IPV does affects males as well; for purposes of this briefing, the victims will be referred to in the feminine pronoun for convenience. The term "participants" is used in recognition of the "trauma informed care" approach, similar to how "survivors" is used as a more empowering term than "victim."
  - b. Power and Control. Isolation is a huge factor and involves separating the survivors from families and the community. This generally happens before any physical abuse occurs.
  - c. Cycle of Violence. The focus is on "why people abuse others" rather than "why do survivors stay in these relationships."
  - d. Trauma Informed Perspective. This trauma may have been present during most of the survivor's life. IPV providers see part of their role is to bring more normal connections back into their lives.

- e. Barriers Facing DV or IPV When Looking for Housing. These include: the cost; safety away from their perpetrators; survivors having little or no credit history; little experience in financial matters (force to give checks to the abuser, having no bank accounts); mental health issues (depression); fear of becoming homeless; lacking life skills; language (knowing little English and then trying to communicate with landlords or employers); cultural and gender roles held; shame felt; landlords may not want to rent to them even with a restraining order because of perceived problems they bring.
- f. Intake into Shelter. Law enforcement, social workers, hospital staff can provide support, but intake must be given directly by the survivor.
- g. Lethality Risk Factors. Violence is a modeled behavior. As part of “cultural competency,” it is important to understand what is illegal in our country versus what might be “acceptable behavior” in other cultures.
- h. Emergency vs Transitional Shelters. The use of LA’s universal application is progressive in that all the providers can use the same intake information, so the survivors do not have to relive their trauma if they transition to another agency.
- i. Other Information. Some DV agencies provide legal assistance including 1736 Family Crisis Center; it provides support in the areas of family law, immigration, and evictions. CPAF uses the services of the Legal Aid Foundation (their offices are collated).
- j. 24-hour Hotline Numbers (agencies serving SPA 8):
  - Rainbow Services (English and Spanish): **310-547-9342**
  - Center for the Pacific Asian Family (over 30 Asian & Pacific Islander languages/dialects): **1-800-339-3940**
  - 1736 Family Crisis Center (English and Spanish): **310-370-5902**
  - Interval House (70 languages, in Long Beach): **562-594-4555**
  - WomenShelter of Long Beach: **562-437-4663**
  - National DV Hotline (will connect caller to an LA agency): [1-800-799-7233](tel:1-800-799-7233)

#### 4. SBCH Committee Reports.

- a. **Governance.** Emma Ogley-Oliver reported the committee is developing by-laws that propose an organizational infrastructure focused on the Coalition’s sustainability. Included in them are named positions, standing committees, and operational procedures. She welcomes all who want to participate -- the next meeting is Monday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5:30-6:30 pm at Marymount’s Waterfront campus. This *ad hoc* committee wants to conclude the majority of its work by December. Contact her for more details at [eogleyoliver@icloud.com](mailto:eogleyoliver@icloud.com).
- b. **Advocacy.** Paul Stansbury reported this committee is developing a directory of key staff for all the elected officials that have jurisdiction in SPA 8; please sent him your contacts for inclusion into this directory. The committee is also developing “talking points” and will provide training to educate those in our membership who are interested in doing advocacy work. They are looking into bringing a winter shelter into SPA 8 for 2015, as well as working with the League of Women Voters with its community forum planned for April. The

committee's next meeting is scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup>. Contact Paul at pstans5@aol.com for details.

- c. **Website.** Nancy Wilcox and Sue Castillo have defined a general layout for the website which is hosted at sbch.weebly.com. They are seeking feedback on it. Their next meeting is on October 27<sup>th</sup>; contact Nancy at [nancywilcox777@gmail.com](mailto:nancywilcox777@gmail.com) for details.

**5. Homeless Count 2015 (HC15) Update.** Grace Weltman is the SPA 8 Regional Coordinator for HC15 and gave this report on HC15, which will be held in our region on Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup>.

- Mark gave background in the Homeless Count. HCs are mandated by HUD and are used to ensure resources are used wisely and strategically. They are conducted during the last 10 days in January throughout the country.
- Grace is focused on getting communities to "Opt-In." This program gives them the opportunity to obtain homeless data specific to their city. Opt-In communities are asked to lead the HC15 effort in the city by providing volunteers and a deployment site.
- For the last Homeless Count, SPA 8 had a high percentage of cities Opt-In. Grace's HC15 goal is 100% of the region.
- One element of HC15 is the Youth Count. This employs a different methodology from the "street count" census conducted at night. The Youth Count uses youth leaders to help identify the "hot spots" during the day.
- At our November General Meeting, we will be devoted much more time to planning HC15.

**6. Co-Chairs' Report.** Mark and Nancy gave the following report:

- Mark announced the results of the poll determining the meeting date that accommodates the most members. It is the **third Wednesday's from 9:30-11:30 am**. We will switch to this new date/time in January 2015.
- He encouraged the members to attend the San Gabriele Consortium Homeless Summit being held on November 13<sup>th</sup>. It is a convenient way to hear in LA about many best practices and homelessness trends.
- The Coalition has been invited to speak at the Redondo Beach Homeless Task Force.
- We will be setting up a team for United Way's "HomeWalk" event, held on November 15<sup>th</sup>. All the proceeds from this Walk go directly into homeless services such as the Coordinated Entry System.
- Nancy reported the Coalition was awarded the Kaiser grant for \$10K. The funds will be used for (1) helping to disseminate information about SPA 8 homelessness (copying SBCH literature, website development, email listserv); (2) training on homelessness topics; (3) outreach to those experiencing homelessness.
- We are starting the "Companionship Program" where teams from San Pedro First Presbyterian church will meet weekly with families in Harbor Interfaith Service's transitional

program for 6 months. Nancy is helping to develop the program on behalf of SBCH and is assisting with the training.

- She attended the Los Angeles County Office of Education's Homeless Symposium and passed around two presentations from that event. Electronic copies of the entire day's events are available and described in the "Announcement for 10/6/14" email.

#### **7. Member Agency Announcements**

- Jessy encouraged members to donate their old cell phones to CPAF. Contact her at [jessican@cpaf.info](mailto:jessican@cpaf.info) if you would like a donation box for your organization.
- Karen Ceaser announced the San Pedro Department of Mental Health Harbor Area Reentry Collaborative Job Fair workshop on Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Paul said the NAMI-LA walk will be this Saturday in downtown LA.

The meeting adjourned at 12:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Wilcox.

# Working with Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence

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Elizabeth Eastlund  
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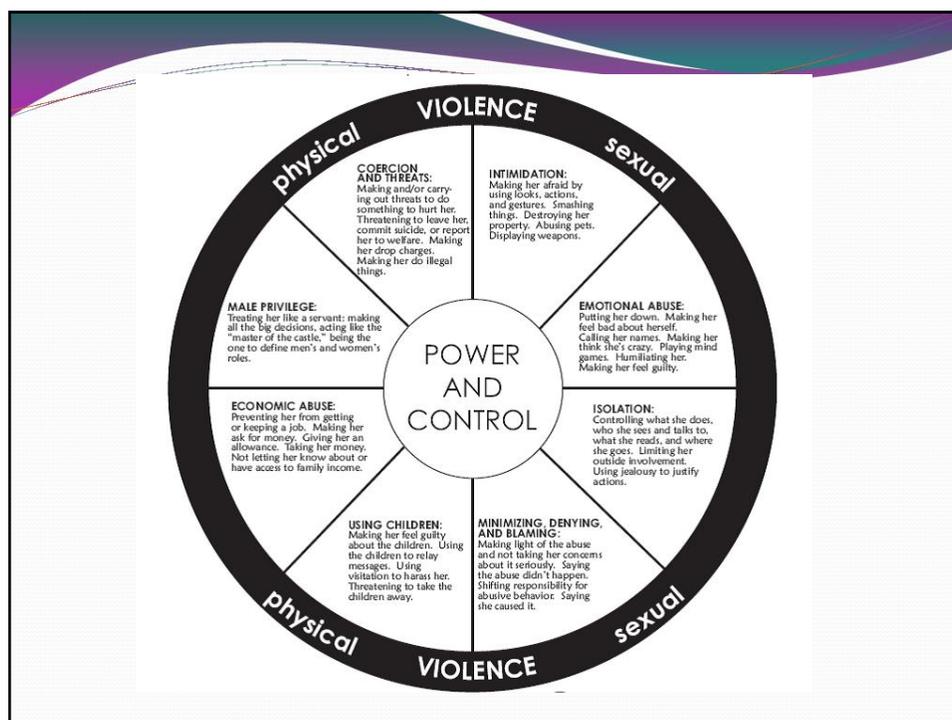


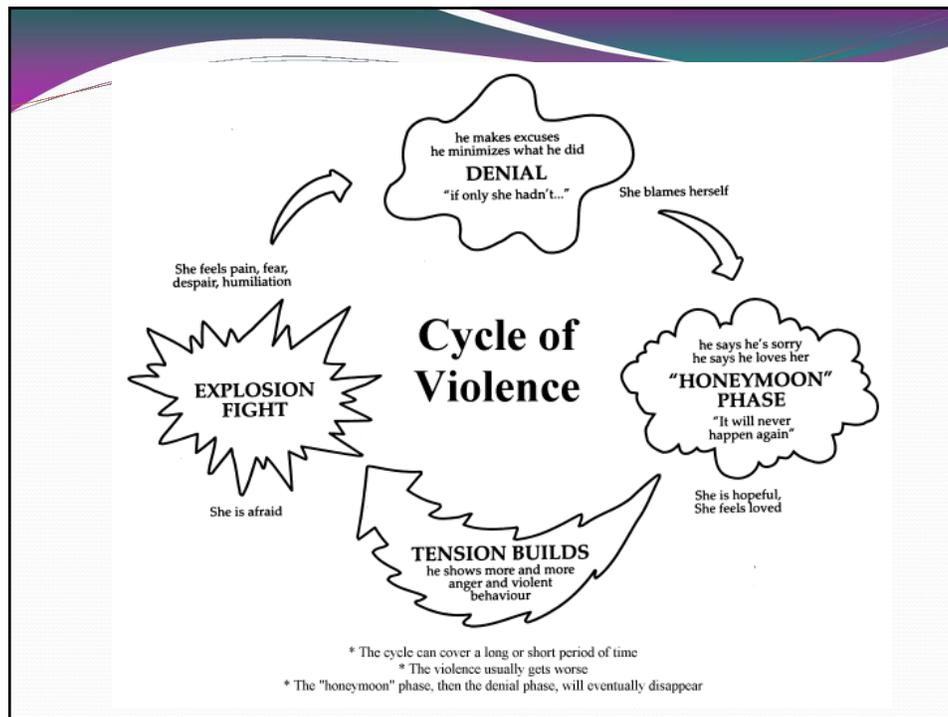
## Language & Disclosures

- DV and IPV
- Females as victims
- Serving the LGBTQ community
- Participants versus Clients
- Survivors & Victims

## Definition of Domestic Violence or Intimate Partner Abuse

- Partner abuse is the increasingly frequent and severe **cycle** of physical, verbal, emotional, psychological, spiritual and sexual abuse, for the purpose of intimidation, instilling fear, and controlling behavior.





## Trauma Informed Perspective

Many DV organizations are moving toward implementation of a Trauma Informed Service model.

“Trauma Informed Services assume that people are doing the best that they can at any given time to cope with the life altering and frequently catastrophic effects of trauma. Because victimization can lead to disconnection with self and isolation from other, the challenge is to develop services that create authentic reconnection, reparation, and healing.

- *A Long Journey Home: A guide for creating Trauma-Informed Services for Mothers and Children Experiencing Homelessness*

What are the barriers that people or families experiencing DV or IPV face when they are looking for housing?

## Process of Intake into Shelter

1. Hotline Call received
2. Interview/Assessment conducted over the phone
3. Residential Worker consult with Residential Coordinator, Case Manager or Director of Programs
4. Safety Plan with participant in getting to shelter
5. Transportation provided from local police station

## Lethality Risk Factors

The numbers in parenthesis indicate the factor by which a DV victim's risk of homicide is increased relative to other DV victims:

1. Has the abuser ever used, or threatened to use, a gun, knife, or other weapon against them? (20x)
2. Ever threatened to kill or injure the victim? (15x)
3. Ever tried to strangle (choke) the victim? (9.9x)
4. Is abuser violently or constantly jealous? (9.2x)
5. Has abuser ever forced victim to have sex? (7.6x)

Data from USDOJ Scale ([www.ncjrs.org](http://www.ncjrs.org))

## Emergency v. Transitional Shelters

### **Emergency Shelter:**

- Immediate need
- Increased danger
- Daily space check of 20+ agencies
- Short-term; 30 – 90 days
- Communal living
  - Dormitories
  - Shared kitchen/baths

### **Transitional Shelter:**

- Required to have been in a DV emergency shelter & referred from DV case manager
- Universal application in LA County
- 6 - 24 month stay
- Goals specific to increasing success in independent living – education, employment
- Apartment style living

## Emergency v. Transitional Shelters

Emergency shelter residents are experiencing crisis at the time they enter shelter. By the time they reach transitional housing, the crisis has subsided, somewhat, and they have begun to work towards living a life free of violence.

### **Similarities:**

- Program structure – case management, counseling, support groups, legal assistance
- Need for safe, confidential location

## Supportive Services

- Individual Counseling
- Case Management
- Legal Services
- Support Group Counseling
- Parenting Group
- House Meeting
- Children's Group/Childcare



## LA County Shelter Network

<p><u>Emergency Shelters</u></p> <p>1736 Family Crisis Center Angel Step Inn CPAF East LA Women's Center Free Spirit Haven Hills Haven House House of Ruth Interface Interval House Jenesse Center Rainbow Services DV Center of Santa Clarita Sojourn Su Casa Sunrise Village Tamar House Valley Oasis WCCS WINGS Womenshelter of LB</p>	<p><u>Transitional Housing</u></p> <p>1736 Family Crisis Center Angel Step Inn APWC Casa de Alegria CPAF Good Shepherd Haven Hills Hope Cottage LTSC Kosumosu Prototypes Rainbow Services</p>
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## Collaboration with CES/FSS: Opportunities & Challenges

- Linking individual agencies
- Linking local coalitions
  - LA City Domestic Violence Task Force
  - LA County Domestic Violence Council
  - Homeless Coalitions by SPA
- Data sharing & confidentiality
- Safety and trauma response

What else do you want to know  
about supporting  
people/families who are  
experiencing domestic or  
intimate partner violence?

## Resources

- Rainbow Services  
[www.rainbowservicesdv.org](http://www.rainbowservicesdv.org)  
310-547-9343 – 24 hour hotline - shelter  
310-548-5450 – Resource Center - services only
- Center for the Pacific Asian Family  
[www.nurturingchange.org](http://www.nurturingchange.org)  
1-800-339-3940
- National DV Hotline  
[www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)  
1-800-799-7233