

Then, Now, When:

*Celebrating our Roots and Growing our Future*



Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition  
**COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS SUMMIT**

**Thursday March 2, 2023**

The California Endowment  
1000 Alameda St., Los Angeles, CA 900212

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**The Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition envisions a world where no individual or family has to choose between stable housing and a life free from violence.**

In 2016, the Downtown Women's Center and Rainbow Services founded the cross-sector Domestic Violence & Homeless Services Coalition (DVHSC) with the goal of creating a client-centered system that increased access to safe housing and supportive services for survivors of domestic violence and their families. Since then, the DVHSC has grown to become the largest coalition of its kind in the country, with more than 800+ individual members and 244 member organizations from across the state of California.

**Our mission is to end homelessness in Los Angeles for survivors of domestic violence and their families.** We leverage survivor-driven insights for greater cross-sector alignment, coordination, and knowledge-sharing, and are committed to foregrounding the voices of individuals with lived experience in all aspects of our work. Together, we seek to create a client-centered system that increases access to safe housing and supportive services for survivors of domestic violence and their families, in order to drive down the number of survivors entering homelessness and increase pathways to permanent housing.

### DVHSC Core Team

Community Legal Aid SoCal

Downtown Women's Center

DVHSC Survivor Advocate

LA City Community Investment for Families Department

LA County Domestic Violence Counsel

LA County Women & Girls Initiative

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

Rainbow Services

St. Joseph Center

The Whole Child



Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition

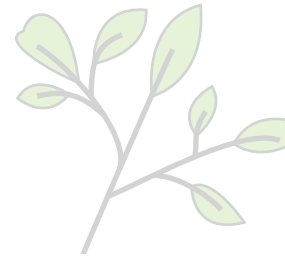
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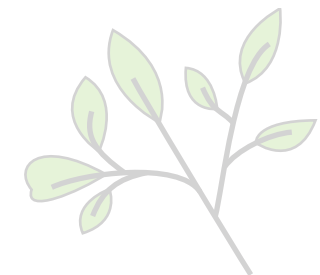
Join us: [DVHSC@DowntownWomensCenter.org](mailto:DVHSC@DowntownWomensCenter.org)

## THEN, NOW, WHEN: A HISTORY OF THE GENDER BASED VIOLENCE AND HOMELESSNESS MOVEMENTS

- 1970's** Los Angeles' first established Victim Service Providers including, Sojourn, Haven Hills, 1736 Family Crisis Center, Los Angeles Commission on Assaults Against Women (now Peace Over Violence)
- 1981** National Day of Unity
- 1984** Power & Control Wheel Created providing valuable education
- 1989** Congress instituted October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- 1989** Kimberle Crenshaw coined Intersectionality
- 1992** OJ Simpson Case created greater awareness of DV
- 1994** Violence Against Women's Act
- 1994** Batterers Intervention Program
- 1994** Trauma Informed Care practice defined
- 1995** Project: PeaceMakers established
- 1997** Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART) started by Gail Pincus in LA County
- 2001** Los Angeles Women's Needs Assessment
- 2005** Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2005
- 2012** HUD Category 4 Definition of Homelessness added Fleeing/Attempting to Flee Domestic Violence
- 2013** Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act of 2013
- 2016** Domestic Violence Housing First Model piloted in California
- 2016** Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition
- 2017** DVHSC Advocates Program Began
- 2017** Los Angeles County Measure H
- 2017** Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators
- 2017** LAHSA Creates Non-HMIS Portal for DV survivors
- 2021** HUD Emergency Housing Voucher prioritizing DV survivors
- 2022** SB 914—Homeless Equity for Left Behind Populations Act (HELP Act)



- 8:00-9:00** **REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST**
- 9:00** **WELCOME**  
**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** | Antonia Osife  
LaRae Cantley, DVHSC Advocate & Core Team Member, Carielle V. Escalante, Associate Director of Community Housing & DVHSC Co-Lead; & Amy Turk, Downtown Women's Center, CEO & DVHSC Co-Lead
- 9:15** **OUR LOCAL RESPONSE**  
1st District Supervisor, Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, Hilda L. Solis  
5th District Supervisor, Los Angeles Board of Supervisors, Kathryn Barger  
5th Council District, Los Angeles City Councilmember Katy Young Yaroslavsky
- 9:45** **OUR STATE RESPONSE**  
Celebration of California Senate Bill 914 HELP ACT  
CA State Senator Susan Rubio via video
- 9:50** **OUR FEDERAL RESPONSE**  
Karlo Ng, Director on Gender-based Violence Prevention and Equity at U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) & Jason Pu, Regional Administrator IX (HUD)
- 10:05** **ARTISTIC PERFORMANCE** | Lorinda Hawkins Smith
- 10:20** **BREAK**
- 10:30** **CREATING THE "WHEN" | DVHSC ADVOCATES PANEL**  
Shemekka Ebony, Community Champion Steward, LaRae Cantley, DVHSC Advocate & Core Team Member, & Amiyoko Shabazz DVHSC Advocate
- 11:30** **CREATING THE JOURNEY** | Presentation of the 2023 Lifetime Achievement Award for Former Los Angeles County Board of Supervisor Sheila James Kuehl presented by Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Director
- 12:00** **LUNCH**
- 1:30–2:45** **SESSION 1 WORKSHOPS**
- 2:45-3:00** **BREAK**
- 3:00-4:30** **SESSION 2 WORKSHOPS**
- 4:30-5:00** **CLOSING REMARKS**  
Abigail Marquez, General Manager Los Angeles City Community Investment for Families Department



**SESSION 1 WORKSHOPS:** 1:30-2:45 p.m.

### Workshop 1.1 Learning from the Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition's Roots to Scale the Model

Room: **Joshua Tree**

**Description:** Now celebrating six years as the DVHSC, attendees will look back to the ingredients that brought us together at the founding of the Coalition in 2017. Through a guided conversation with Safe Housing Alliance, we will identify our building blocks to create the Coalition, codify the preliminary steps we took, discuss how we got it off the ground, and lift up our lessons learned along the way. The result of our reflective conversation will support the creation of our DVHSC Toolkit to help other cities, counties, and continuums of care ready themselves to adopt the model and create more housing opportunities for and with survivors in their communities.

**Presenters:**

- Kris Billhardt, DVHSC Advisory Team Member
- LaRae Cantley, DVHSC Advocate & Core Team Member
- Elizabeth Eastlund, DVHSC Founding Co-Lead and Advisory Team Member
- Sharlena Powell, Safe Housing Alliance, Director of Safe Housing, Survivor, and Equity Initiatives
- Amy Turk, Downtown Women's Center, CEO; DVHSC Co-Lead



### Workshop 1.2 Innovating a Path Forward in Los Angeles City and County

Room: **Dr. Beatriz Solis Hall**

**Description:** Partnership among the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council, The Los Angeles County Women and Girls Initiative, Los Angeles City Domestic Violence Alliance, Los Angeles City Community Investment for Families Department, and Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority innovated, integrated, and expanded care coordination at the intersection of gender-based violence and housing. This session will uplift lessons learned from developing new programs including DV Regional Coordination, responses to COVID and Emergency Housing Vouchers, HOME ARP funding, comparable access to Coordinated Entry, VAWA Emergency Transfers, and other new initiatives. This session is for attendees who want to learn more about the resources available within LA City and County and strategize ways to increase DVHSC advocacy for sustaining and expanding these efforts.

**Presenters:**

- Cristina Cortes, Los Angeles City Community Investment for Families Department, Survivors Services, Manager
- Nicolle Perras, Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council, Executive Director
- Chanel Smith, Los Angeles County Women and Girls Initiative, Executive Director
- Stephanie Whack, St. Joseph Center, Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator & Los Angeles City Domestic Violence Alliance, President
- Sarah Whitman, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Domestic Violence System, Coordinator

### Workshop 1.3 Creating Safe Shelter Spaces for LGBTQ+ Survivors

Room: **Catalina**

**Description:** This session will cover promoting access and inclusion to LGBTQ+ survivors in congregate shelter living, navigating constraints of funding or space in creative ways to allow accessibility to survivors of different gender identities and sexual orientations, and learning from examples in the field role modeling LGBTQ+ inclusion in domestic violence shelter and services.

**Presenters:**

- Amanda Gould (she/they), National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence, Senior Program Manager
- Amy Bellm (she/her), National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence, Program Training Manager

### Workshop 1.4 The Intersections between Domestic Violence and Vehicular Homelessness

Room: **Cabrillo**

**Description:** Safe Parking LA will discuss how safe parking programs serve the community, assess for domestic violence, and provide services accordingly. The presentation will share the main components of Safe Parking LA's work including how financial assistance can support survivors. Additionally, the presentation will outline what systems are put in place when a participant identifies as a victim of domestic violence. This workshop will explore safety planning prior to fleeing and while a participant is enrolled in Safe Parking LA. With quick access to safe parking, options can be tailored to those fleeing domestic violence and those who work with domestic violence survivors. This scalable and replicable model serves those marginalized by existing systems of care and supports outcomes such as addressing trauma, reducing isolation, and making connections to pathways of stable housing.

**Presenter:**

- Aurea Baltazar, Safe Parking LA, Director of Programs

### Workshop 1.5 Systemic Barriers Through the Lens of Monolingual Survivors: Two South Asian Case Studies

Room: **Mojave**

**Description:** This presentation will demonstrate how monolingual survivors face challenges to choose violence free lives and move away from abusive relationships. It will illustrate how courts, law enforcement agencies, and other departments create secondary victimization through systemic oppression. The session will highlight solutions including meaningful access to language and interpretation services, reveal ways for trauma-based support systems to benefit survivors, discuss training opportunities for staff in systems that survivors interact with, and decrease tendencies to victim blame through the sharing of real experiences and stories.

**Presenter:**

- Riffat Rahman, South Asian Network (SAN), Gender Based Violence Unit, Program Manager

2:45-3:00 **BREAK**





**SESSION 2 WORKSHOPS:** 3:00-4:30 p. m.

### Workshop 2.1 The Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition Strategic Plan Preliminary Findings & Recommendations

Room: **Dr. Beatriz Solis Hall**

**Description:** This session will build on the last six years of the DVHSC to support our next path forward. Through this last year of strategic planning, DVHSC members have shared a vision that supports survivors, sustains the workforce, invites inclusivity, and combats dynamics—both internal to DVHSC and external—of oppression. Session attendees will review a summary of our Strategic Plan to date and help inform the plans final vision, goals, and action steps for the next five years of our DVHSC work ahead.

**Presenters:**

- LaRae Cantley, DVHSC Core Team Member, Advocate & Strategic Plan Steering Committee Member
- Isabel Checa, DVHSC Core Team Member; Domestic Violence Council Coordinator, Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council
- Carielle Escalante, Rainbow Services, Associate Director of Community Housing & Co-Lead of DVHSC
- Dr. Alisa Orduna, Florence Aliese Advancement Network, LLC (FAAN), Founder and Managing Principal
- Amiyoko Shabazz, DVHSC Advocate & Strategic Plan Steering Committee Member

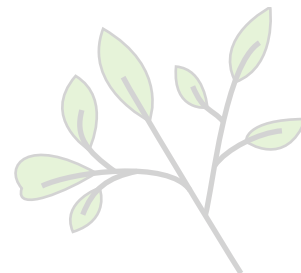
### Workshop 2.2 Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators: Integration Versus Alignment

Room: **Cabrillo**

**Description:** The Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators (DVRC) are a critical component to training and education initiatives and county-wide care coordination for survivors supported by the DVHSC. This session will share the role of DVRC's and their history within the DVHSC. Accomplishments of the DVRC's will be lifted up including sharing how attendees can access care for survivors, training, and survivor resources through the Non-HMIS Portal and Violence Against Women Act Emergency Transfers. This session will bring to light current trends survivors are facing in Los Angeles County and how the DVRC model supports reducing barriers and system silos. The DVRC's will bring to light where we need to attune our services, funding, and advocacy to best support survivors in the future.

**Presenters:**

- Termeko Coplin, Valley Oasis, DV Regional Coordinator for SPA 1
- Andrea Estrada, LA Family Housing, DV Regional Coordinator for SPA 2
- Diana Grant, Center for the Pacific Asian Family, DV Regional Coordinator for SPA 4
- Laura-Elena Garza, The Whole Child, DV Regional Coordinator for SPA 7
- Stephanie Whack, St. Joseph Center, DV Regional Coordinator for SPA 5 & Los Angeles City Domestic Violence Alliance, President



### Workshop 2.3 Expanding Housing for Survivors of Human Trafficking

Room: **Catalina**

**Description:** Housing is a right. For survivors of human trafficking, access to safe and stable housing can reduce vulnerability to trafficking, as well as support survivors in their journeys after they escape. In this workshop from the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (Cast), Cast will share its lessons learned as one of the largest service providers dedicated to providing services to survivors of human trafficking. Cast will share recommendations from running its emergency shelter, transitional shelter, and rapid rehousing programs, and workshop participants will have an opportunity to engage in an interactive exercise to explore how they can better reach and serve trafficking survivors

**Presenters:**

- Rebecca Amado-Sprigg, Associate Director of Equitable Housing, Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (Cast)
- Amy Nguyen, Director of Empowerment Programs, Cast
- Laura Ramirez Salgado (they), Advocate Cast

### Workshop 2.4 Increasing Understanding and Access to the Criminal Justice System for Unhoused Domestic Violence Survivors

Room: **Joshua Tree**

**Description:** To the extent victims of Domestic Violence crimes experiencing homelessness have traditionally had difficulty accessing justice through the criminal justice system due to institutional barriers, this workshop will provide education about the court process and strategies for advocacy toward a more inclusive and empowered experience with the legal system. Understanding that many unhoused DV survivors turn to community agencies or navigate their challenges alone, this workshop aims to develop understanding of the steps of the criminal court process and build avenues for collaborating with members of the criminal justice system. The session is designed for crime victims as well as service providers, to increase their understanding of what to expect once law enforcement responds and charges are filed, how to advocate for themselves and their clients, and how to foster connections across agencies to ensure access to victim rights and resources, including immediate and long-term housing support.

**Presenter:**

- Emily Janes, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, Domestic Violence Court Support Program, Coordinator & Family Violence Unit, Victim Advocate



## Workshop 2.5 – The Future of Trauma-Informed Care

Room: **Mojave**

**Description:** The purpose of this workshop is to address how organizations can increase trauma-informed care interventions and organizational structures for survivors and create easier access to shelters and services. Trauma-Informed Care is often used as a buzzword; however, organizations must put trauma-informed principles into practice to support survivors in the long-term and help them find safety and stability. This session will explore ways organizations can truly implement Trauma Informed Care.

**Presenter:** Sarah Whitman, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, Domestic Violence System Coordinator



**Rebecca Amado-Sprigg** (she/her) is the Associate Director of Equitable Housing at the Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking (Cast), and is responsible for their housing model to address a diverse spectrum of housing needs for survivors of trafficking. Rebecca oversees staff, leadership, strategy, financial management, impact evaluation and development of the housing programs which include shelter and rental assistance programs. Rebecca has over 25 years of experience working with diverse populations, including survivors of human trafficking, domestic violence, immigrants, and homeless populations, in both direct service and program management roles.



**Aurea Baltazar**, Director of Programs, joined Safe Parking LA (SPLA) in 2020. Aurea is a first generation, Zapotec woman raised in Los Angeles. At SPLA Aurea has demonstrated her leadership by contributing to systems and operational changes that have supported the case management team. She completed her undergraduate degree at CSULA, where she earned a BA in Social Work. Following graduation, she began her career in the nonprofit sector working with families to provide them emergency food and housing, supporting students who were academically struggling, and advocating for domestic violence survivors.

She has over 7 years of experience in community organizing, working with families, and using culturally informed practices to pave pathways to success. Her personal experiences navigating public systems, supporting her family, and being a single undocumented mother have influenced her work. Beyond work, Aurea prioritizes reconnecting with her roots, investing in her community, and spending quality time with her son.



**Supervisor Kathryn Barger** proudly serves the residents of the 5th District — Los Angeles County's largest — spanning over 2,785 square miles, which includes 20 cities and 83 unincorporated communities in the Antelope, San Gabriel, San Fernando, Crescenta, and Santa Clarita Valleys.

Kathryn was born and raised in the 5th District and comes from a family with deep roots in public service. She is married to a retired sheriff's deputy and lives in the San Gabriel Valley.

Dedicated to providing effective, responsive representation to the residents of Los Angeles County, Kathryn began her career in public service as a college intern in the office of former Supervisor Antonovich and rose to become his chief deputy in 2001, where she served until her election to the Board of Supervisors in 2016. She both served as Chair of the Board and was reelected for her second term in 2020.

Building upon her work from her time as chief policy advisor on health, mental health, social services, and children's issues, Kathryn continues to advocate for services and programs to improve the quality of life for foster children, seniors, veterans, those with disabilities, and those with mental illness.

Kathryn is committed to keeping our neighborhoods and communities safe, working with federal leaders, law enforcement officials, and judicial officers to implement vital public safety initiatives.

She is an advocate for the environment and has spearheaded efforts to preserve open space and enhance parks, trails, and recreational programs and facilities, as well as libraries and after-school programs to serve local communities. She has hosted several trail rides and hikes to connect with the community throughout her district. With a strong sense of fiscal responsibility, Kathryn is dedicated to providing vital county services while protecting financial resources as a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars.

Kathryn serves on the boards of Metrolink, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, North County Transportation Coalition, High Desert Corridor Joint Powers Authority, National Association of Counties' Large Urban County Caucus, Southern California Association of Governments, Sanitation Districts of





# Speakers & Presenters

Los Angeles County, California State Association of Counties, Local Agency Formation Commission, and Los Angeles County Mental Health Commission.

For more information, visit [kathrynbarger.lacounty.gov](http://kathrynbarger.lacounty.gov) and follow Kathryn Barger on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



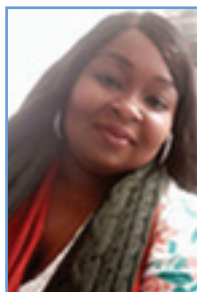
**Amy Bellm** (she/her), Program Training Manager National LGBTQ Institute on IPV: Since earning her MSW from the University of Missouri-St. Louis, Amy Bellm has worked in a variety of settings toward social justice and institutional change. Her earlier roles included micro-level work with justice system impacted families and in school settings with youth. She provided leadership opportunities, skill building groups, and comradery and community around similar experiences. Her more recent roles have been in the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion field, including many years facilitating trainings in high schools and universities, for profit and non-profit organizations to build awareness and move organizations toward more equitable practices. In her last role, Amy served as the Diversity and Inclusion Officer of a community mental health organization in St. Louis, Missouri, where she provided various DEI related, cultural responsiveness and capacity building trainings as a larger effort to meet the intersectional needs of the clients being served. Currently, she is the Program Training Manager of the National LGBTQ Institute on IPV at the LA LGBT Center, where she is thrilled to lean on years of facilitation experience to bring capacity building, interactive trainings to organizations looking to better serve LGBTQ survivors of intimate partner violence.



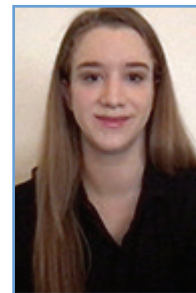
**Kris Billhardt, M.ED., ED.S.**, worked in the domestic and sexual violence movement for four decades, including in Florida, Washington D.C., Oregon, and nationally. As an advocate, manager, educator, and activist, her work was fueled by a commitment to seek out and guide the implementation of approaches that pushed toward more meaningful, effective, and intersectional response to survivors. Kris' development of survivor-driven housing strategies contributed to field-level change that continues to take root in communities across the country. Recently retired, Kris is excited to continue her long association with the DV and Homeless Services Coalition as a member of its Advisory Team.



**LaRae Cantley**, is a loving mother, Artist, Activist, and curator who writes and delivers creative expression as a form of liberation. Serving as Senior Manager of Community and Wellbeing with Full Frame Initiative, LaRae ensures those that are closest to the inequities steer the drive towards systemic transformation through facilitating intentional partnerships with all stakeholders, including but not limited to community leaders, academics, nonprofits, government and funders.



**Termeko Coplin**, Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator SPA 1, Valley Oasis: As a survivor of domestic violence, Termeko Coplin has spent 8 years in the non-profit sector uplifting the voices of survivors residing in the Antelope Valley. Termeko's experience includes outreach coordinator, housing coordinator, supportive services counselor, and assistant mentor coordinator. Termeko's drive enables her to advocate for survivors of domestic violence and unhoused individuals in every aspect of her role at Valley Oasis. Termeko Coplin currently holds the title of Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator for SPA 1 at Valley Oasis and is a member of the EOPS Advisory Board for Antelope Valley College and E.B.O.N.Y Inc.



**Isabel Checa** (she/her) is a public health social worker who is currently serving as the Health Program Analyst for Los Angeles County's Domestic Violence Council, housed within LA County's Department of Public Health. Isabel has extensive experience providing violence intervention, therapeutic, and advocacy services to survivors of domestic violence and other forms of trauma. Isabel is bilingual in English and Spanish, and is passionate about using an equity framework to deliver trauma-informed, culturally humble information and care.



**Cristina Cortes** has worked in the domestic violence field for approximately ten years in different capacities, including working in emergency shelters, transitional housing programs, running a 24-hour hotline, and providing community education. Most recently, Cristina guided the alignment efforts between homeless services and victim service providers in the general Los Angeles County area and in other communities across the country. Her primary focus is to ensure that survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault can receive supportive services and have a safe pathway to access and retain permanent housing. Cristina is Core Team Member of the DVHSC, and the Secretary of the LA City Domestic Violence Alliance.



**Elizabeth Eastlund, MSW/LCSW**, is a founding member of the LA DV Homeless Services Coalition, the former executive director of Rainbow Services, a domestic violence organization providing shelter and support services to survivors while advocating for policy and resources that support their healing journey, and a current Board member of the CA Partnership to End DV. Beginning her post graduate career with Skid Row Housing Trust, housing is one of her passions, as is ensuring justice and support for those who have experienced the trauma of homelessness, addictions, and/or gender-based violence. In addition to gender based violence and homelessness, Eastlund spent 12 years providing individual and group therapy to persons living with HIV/AIDS at the CARE Program. Elizabeth has 24 years of organizational leadership experience and has been engaged in social justice activism for over three decades. Nature, music, art and connection with loved ones are a necessity in this work of fighting for human rights of marginalized communities.



**Shemekka Ebony**, award-winning Community Champion Steward, recently featured in New York Times Magazine 2021 Money Edition and is a best selling author of a new wellbeing journal featured on Amazon, *While I'm Getting Naked*. She is a lived experience expert and wife and mother to the Brilliant Bunch. *I Am Brilliant* is her flagship for leadership development, community champion organizing, and engagement strategies dedicated to contributing to providing people better access, honor their experiences, and institute better practices for sustainable partnerships. She works with her husband, Michael Stewart-Isaacs, co-founder of *I Am Brilliant* to consult several Community and National organizations for better practices in meaningful community engagement and authentic leadership development.

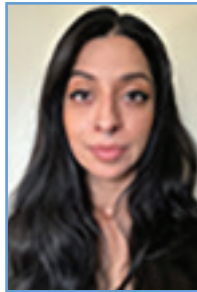




# Speakers & Presenters



**Carielle Escalante**, Associate Director of Community Housing, Rainbow Services: Since 2015 Carielle has worked in different capacities at Rainbow Services. Previously she served as the Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator (DVRC) for Service Planning Area 8 in the Los Angeles Continuum of Care (CoC). In the DVRC role she worked towards building and strengthening relationships between domestic violence service providers and homeless service providers with the goal of providing equitable access to resources to survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault. More recently Carielle has transitioned into the role of Associate Director of Community Housing, where she is excited to oversee several grants that support domestic violence survivor's housing needs. Additionally, Carielle co-chairs the Domestic Violence Homeless Service Coalition (DVHSC), where she supports with the collaboration and networking of victim service providers and homeless providers and participates as a member of the Los Angeles County Coordinated Entry System (CES) Policy Council, where she oversees the development of policy and implementation procedures that supports the alignment and efficiency of the homeless system.



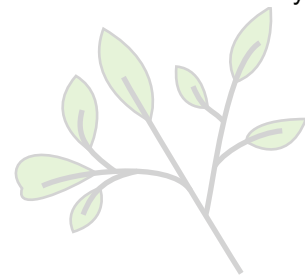
**Andrea Estrada**, Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator SPA 2, LA Family Housing: Andrea has worked in the Homeless sector for 5 years, specifically supporting survivors facing homelessness for the last 2. She has worked throughout spa's 2, 3, and 7, and is currently stationed at LA Family Housing as the Domestic Violence Coordinator and Regional DV Coordinator for Spa 2. She has her BA in Applied Psychology from Azusa Pacific is married and living in Los Angeles area with her 2 dogs, cat, and husband.



**Dr. Barbara Ferrer** is a nationally-known public health leader with over 30 years of professional experience as a philanthropic strategist, public health director, educational leader, researcher, and community advocate. Currently, Barbara Ferrer leads the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Public Health protects and promotes health and prevents disease among LA County's more than 10 million residents across 4,000 square miles. She oversees a budget of \$1 billion and directs a workforce of 4,100 public health practitioners. Under Dr. Ferrer's leadership, Public Health works alongside the Departments of Health Services and Mental Health to comprise the LA County Health Agency. The Health Agency integrates services across the departments and builds health equity throughout the county.

Most recently, Dr. Ferrer served as the Chief Strategy Officer for the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, where she was responsible for developing the strategic direction for critical program-related work and providing leadership to the foundations key program area, including food, health, and well-being. Prior to working at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Dr. Ferrer served as the Executive Director of the Boston Public Health Commission, where she led a range of public health programs and built innovative partnerships to address inequities in health outcomes and support healthy families and communities.

Dr. Ferrer has also served as Director of Health Promotion & Chronic Disease Prevention and Director of the Division of Maternal & Child Health at the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. As a headmaster at a district high school in Boston, she led efforts to significantly improve high school graduation rates and ensure that every graduating senior was accepted to college. Dr. Ferrer received her Ph.D. in Social Welfare from Brandeis University, a Master of Arts in Public Health from Boston University, a Master of Arts in Education from University of Massachusetts, Boston, and a Bachelor of Arts in Community Studies from the University of California, Santa Cruz.



**Laura-Elena Garza**, Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator SPA 7, The Whole Child: Laura-Elena Garza serves as the Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator for Spa 7 at The Whole Child, a family homeless service provider. She assists with lowering barriers for survivors in accessing homeless services and has worked alongside survivors for the past 7 years. She previously served as a domestic violence shelter advocate where she provided direct services to clients residing in emergency shelter in addition to helping with calls at the 24/7 hotline. As a regional coordinator, Laura-Elena has helped foster and develop partnerships with homeless service and domestic violence agencies.



**Amanda Gould** (she/they) Senior Program Manager, National LGBTQ Institute on IPV: Amanda Gould is the Senior Program Manager of the National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence at the Los Angeles LGBTQ Center, a project with the core mission of improving our country's response to the unique needs of LGBTQ survivors. Amanda has been supporting survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence for nearly a decade, working in the field as a survivor advocate, crisis responder, case manager, forensic exam accompanying advocate, violence prevention educator, and support group facilitator for LGBTQ+ survivors of domestic violence. They have worked with domestic violence and sexual assault service providers on a local and national level to improve their capacity to better support LGBTQ+ survivors through community-specific training, technical assistance, and changes in policies and procedures. Amanda is deeply passionate about supporting survivors from an intersectional perspective that takes into account survivors' intersecting identities and lived experiences.



**Diana Grant**, Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator SPA 4: With eight years of end-to-end experience in the victim service provision field, Diana Grant is currently the Regional Domestic Violence Coordinator for SPA 4, working on resolving systemic gaps affecting housing unstable victims/survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault/abuse, human trafficking, and/or stalking. For this role, Diana is housed within Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF), a dual DV/SA provider specializing with the Asian Pacific-Islander (API) community.



**Lorinda Hawkins Smith** is an accomplished actor, author, advocate, musician, writer, comedian, and filmmaker. She is a domestic violence survivor who earned her MBA while transitioning from houseless to housed. A true "artist," Lorinda is at home combining art and social justice. She has worked in social justice theatre for over 2 decades being recognized by the California Legislature Assembly. Her comedy has received awards from the City of Hawthorne and the Burbank Comedy (Covid) Festival. A certified Violence Prevention Specialist, Lorinda has produced events for the Skid Row community that bring awareness to domestic violence along with uplifting events that bring music. "Justice? Or... Just Me? The Bite, The Fight, and The Flight," is her acclaimed book and solo play trilogy based on her journey as a domestic violence survivor. Her short film, "The Virus" has 8 wins in the film festival circuit including, "Best Covid" and "Best Comedy." Her PSA spoof "Domestic Violence: What Is It?" earned an honorable shout-out in the 2022 Green Screen Film Festival. Lorinda is honored to have been one of five playwrights for the Robey Theatre Company's Commissioned Playwrights Project. Her play, "Vaccination Elevation," had a recent staged reading at the historic Los Angeles Theatre Center.





# Speakers & Presenters



**Emily Janes** works for the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office where she is the Coordinator of the Domestic Violence Court Support Program and currently is serving as a Victim Advocate for the Family Violence Unit. For over 20 years, she has worked in various capacities to address the issue of Intimate Partner Violence and Abuse – as a crisis hotline counselor, DV shelter staff, emergency room advocate, prevention educator, court advocate, support group counselor, training facilitator, and program coordinator. She has worked in California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, New York, and South Dakota.



**Sheila James Kuehl** ended her tenure as the LA County Supervisor representing Los Angeles County's Third District on December 6, 2022. She was elected to the Board of Supervisors on November 4, 2014, assumed office on December 1, 2014 and was re-elected to a second term in 2018, the year she also served as Chair of the Board of Supervisors.

In her eight years on the Board, she took the lead and collaborated on a number of initiatives and motions to improve quality of life for the more than ten million County residents, as well as to reform services, systems and practices in the County, including increasing the minimum wage, creating a Sheriff's Oversight Commission, as well as a Probation Oversight Commission, providing unprecedented funding and services for our homeless population, those needing aid in keeping their housing and those trying to find affordable housing, as well as creating an Affordable Housing Trust Fund, which has poured millions into the building and rehabilitation of affordable housing. She worked to increase services and support for relative caregivers for our foster children, supported the creation of the Office of Child Protection, led in innovating on issues of water conservation and recycling, helping to shepherd a measure to fund the capture of storm water across the County, led in the creation of a County-led Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) JPA to bring green power choices to County residents, protected our arts venues and productions, spurred the construction and re-opening of the John Anson Ford Theatres, and worked to reform both our adult and juvenile justice systems to emphasize and enhance "Care First, Jail Last" and anti-recidivism programs, including the opening of Campus Kilpatrick, a state-of-the-art juvenile justice facility that emphasizes rehabilitation and preparation for a constructive future.

She led in protecting the Santa Monica Mountains, as well as the Coast, and established a Women and Girls Initiative to build toward a County-wide collaboration on needed changes and programs in all County departments and services, brought a focus in County Departments on better serving and supporting our LGBTQ youth who comprise almost 20% of our foster kids, and much more.

During her tenure, she served as Chair of the Board of Commissioners of First 5, LA, Chaired and served on the Board of Directors of Metro, served as a member of the governing board of the South Coast Air Quality Management District and Vice Chair of the Board of the Clean Power Alliance, the community choice aggregate, purchasing green power for 37 cities and two counties.

Prior to her service on the LA County Board of Supervisors, Kuehl served eight years in the State Senate and six years in the State Assembly.

She was the first woman in California history to be named Speaker Pro Tempore of the Assembly, and the first openly gay or lesbian person to be elected to the California Legislature. Kuehl served as chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, Natural Resources and Water Committee, and Budget Subcommittee on Water, Energy and Transportation, as well as Chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

She authored 171 bills that were signed into law, including the original legislation to establish paid family leave in California, establish nurse to patient ratios in all hospitals in California; protect the Santa Monica Mountains and prohibit discrimination on the basis of gender and disability in the workplace and sexual orientation in education. She fought to establish true universal health insurance in California, and, twice, brought it through both houses of the Legislature and to Governor Schwarzenegger's desk, where it was twice vetoed.

She was the Founding Director of the Public Policy Institute at Santa Monica College and, in 2012, was Regents' Professor in Public Policy at UCLA.

Prior to her election to the Legislature, as a public-interest attorney, Kuehl drafted and fought to get into California law more than 40 pieces of legislation relating to children, families, women, and domestic violence. She was a law professor at Loyola, UCLA and USC Law Schools and co-founded and served as managing attorney of the California Women's Law Center.

Supervisor Kuehl graduated from Harvard Law School in 1978. In her youth, she was known for her portrayal of the irreplaceable Zelda Gilroy in the television series, "The Many Loves of Dobie Gillis."



**Karlo Ng** is the Director on Gender-based Violence Prevention and Equity in HUD's Office of the Secretary. In this capacity, Karlo serves as a senior advisor on policy matters involving gender-based violence to Secretary Marcia Fudge. Previously, Karlo was the Director of Legal Initiatives at the National Alliance for Safe Housing where she focused on legal and policy strategies to ensure safe shelter and housing for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. Karlo has an extensive background in advocating for survivors' housing protections as well as providing national technical assistance and training on issues impacting the rights of survivors and immigrants in the federal housing programs. She also has litigated impact cases under the Fair Housing Act and related civil rights laws. Karlo holds a law degree from Northeastern University School of Law.



**Amy Nguyen** (she/her) is the Director of Empowerment Programs at Cast and oversees the organization's social services and research programs, including its Emergency Response, Community Case Management and Youth, Housing, and Research Learning Hub programs. Prior to Cast, Amy worked in international humanitarian response, designing and managing programs in Sudan, Bangladesh, and Myanmar.

Alisa Orduña, PhD, has been a practitioner, policy analyst, collaborator and thought leader in homelessness services for the past 25 years. It is her life's mission to re-imagine neighborhoods as beloved communities where residents of all diversity have a sense of belonging and resources to thrive. During her career, she has worked on the cutting edge of homelessness policy formation and system refinement in the public and non-profit sectors in Philadelphia, PA; Los Angeles, CA; and Santa Monica, CA.

In 2020, she founded Florence Aliese Advancement Network. LLC, her own strategic advisement firm, working with local governments and philanthropic organizations across the country. In this role, Dr. Orduña has emerged as a trusted community engagement facilitator and has developed strategic plans, racial equity strategies, and fostered community input to address homelessness for a number of public and nonprofit organizations including Tri-Cities Homelessness Policy Committee (Colorado), Montgomery County – Your Way Home (Pennsylvania), Sacramento Steps Forward (Sac CoC), and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services – Housing for Health program. She applies a racial equity and social justice lens to her facilitation approach.



# Speakers & Presenters



**Alisa Orduña, PhD**, has been a practitioner, policy analyst, collaborator and thought leader in homelessness services for the past 25 years. It is her life's mission to re-imagine neighborhoods as beloved communities where residents of all diversity have a sense of belonging and resources to thrive. During her career, she has worked on the cutting edge of homelessness policy formation and system refinement in the public and nonprofit sectors in Philadelphia, PA; Los Angeles, CA; and Santa Monica, CA.

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Alisa is a graduate of Xavier University of Louisiana (BA-English), the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public and International Affairs (MPIA- Social and Economic Development), and Pacifica Graduate Institute (PhD and MA-Depth Psychology with a specialization in Community, Liberation, Indigenous, and Eco-Psychology).

For fun she likes to read, write, spend time with her nephews, and go to Disneyland.



**Nicole Perras, MPH, LMFT**, has worked at the intersections of public and mental health for 20 years conducting research, data surveillance, program development and evaluation. Her areas of expertise include intimate partner violence, sexual violence, suicide prevention, mental and behavioral health, impacts of trauma on health and wellbeing, trauma informed care and healthcare utilization, vicarious trauma, staff wellbeing, and connecting the dots between multiple forms of violence.

Nicole is currently serving as the Interim Executive Director of the Los Angeles County DV Council within the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, addressing the prevention of gender-based violence (intimate partner violence, sexual violence, human trafficking and the commercial and sexual exploitation of children).

Nicole is also a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT) in Los Angeles, California.



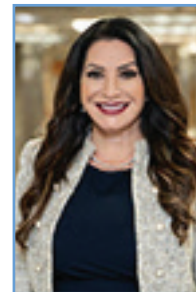
**Sharlena Powell** (she/her) is a change agent for strengthening survivor autonomy as it relates to housing navigation and economic stability. Her expertise includes technical assistance on VAWA housing policy provisions, HMIS and Comparable Database Systems compliance, fair compensation methods for persons with lived experience in workgroup advisory coalitions, and systems mapping techniques for on-the-ground VSP's/first-responders, and in CoC jurisdictions. Sharlena works to amplify the voices of survivors of DV/SA/HT in niche, vulnerable populations; including unaccompanied and unsheltered women, and in culturally-specific communities with language accommodation needs; for their recommendations to be incorporated within decision-making entities and councils. Her approach in working to uplift marginalized and impoverished communities stems from principles of trauma-informed care and restorative healing practices, with a focus on dynamic and preventative aftercare to address the gender and racial equity wealth gap. Sharlena also analyzes the spectrum of abusive harm-doing in facilitating vocational programming for incarcerated youth in NYC with healthy sustainable life skills. Her work as a contributing author has been published with the United Nations University at Delta Code 8.7: Using Computational Science and AI (Artificial Intelligence) to End Modern Slavery.



**Jason Pu** serves as Regional Administrator for HUD Region IX, covering the states of Arizona, California, Hawaii and Nevada and the Outer Pacific Islands of American Samoa, Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas Islands. President Biden appointed Mr. Pu to the position on December 27, 2021, and Mr. Pu took office on January 3, 2022. Prior to joining HUD, Mr. Pu was a mayor and councilmember in Los Angeles County and a business attorney with experience in real estate, finance, corporate and venture capital. He hopes to use his local government and business backgrounds to align all levels of government – federal, state, local and tribal – and the public and private sectors to advance HUD's Mission and address Region IX's economic equity challenges and homelessness and housing affordability crises. Mr. Pu is a graduate of Stanford University and the UCLA School of Law.



**Riffat Rahman** obtained her Master's Degree in Public Policy and Management from University of Southern California (USC) in 2013 as well as a Masters in Social Science with a concentration in International Relations. Ms. Rahman has been trained by numerous programs in the areas of strategic communication, advocacy and planning as it relates to women empowerment, health education and domestic violence. Ms. Rahman was employed by Johns Hopkins University CCP and The Asia Foundation Bangladesh Office as Program Officer. She has joined South Asian Network's (SAN) in 2005 and currently working in SAN as a Program Manager, GBV. As a result of working for 28 years in social change work, she has dedicated herself to promoting community development and policy advocacy, especially as it impacts women in various sectors. Ms. Rahman's end goal is to help people and aid them to become independent individuals who are free from abuse-embark on a path of healing.



**Senator Susan Rubio** was elected to the California Legislature in 2018 and represents Senate District 22. Previously, she was a public school teacher for 17 years at Baldwin Park and Monrovia school districts and was an elected official for 13 years in the City of Baldwin Park.

The first Latina Chair of the Senate Insurance Committee, Senator Rubio is on the Senate leadership team as Assistant Majority Whip. She is a Committee Member of Energy, Utilities, Communications; Health; Transportation; Governmental Organization; and Joint Committee on Rules. She is Co-Chair of the Wildfire Working group and is also a member of the Senate Housing Working Group.

She is Chair of the Senate Select Committee on Domestic Violence. In addition, she is a Member of the Select Committees of the Asian Pacific Islander Affairs; Mental Health; and California, Armenia and Artsakh Mutual Trade, Art and Cultural Exchange. She is also a Member of the Latino Legislative Caucus, Legislative Jewish Caucus, Los Angeles Caucus, San Gabriel Valley Caucus and Legislative Women's Caucus.

Born in Juarez, Mexico, Senator Rubio is the proud daughter of a former bracero worker and housekeeper. She attended East Los Angeles College and earned a Master's Degree in Education from Azusa Pacific University. She now lives in Baldwin Park, California.

Senate District 22 is comprised of the cities of Alhambra, Arcadia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Covina, El Monte, Industry, Irwindale, La Puente, Monterey Park, San Gabriel, Rosemead, South El Monte, Temple City and West Covina as well as the unincorporated communities of Avocado Heights, Charter Oak, Citrus, East Pasadena, East San Gabriel, Mayflower Village, North El Monte, South Monrovia Island, South San Gabriel, South San Jose Hills, Valinda, Vincent and West Puente Valley.





# Speakers & Presenters



**Laura Ramirez Salgado** (They) is a native of Tijuana Baja California Mexico and a survivor of human trafficking. Laura was brought to the US believing they would help run a business and make a better life for themselves. However, after 2 weeks working as a cashier, they were trafficked, abused, and forced to use drugs. After escaping their traffickers with the help of a good samaritan, Laura was able to connect with Coalition to Abolish Slavery & Trafficking (Cast) and enter their transitional housing program, Mariposa Haven. They graduated from the program in May 2021 after earning their certification in Drug and Alcohol Counseling from UCLA extension. Currently they are working as a Substance Abuse Counselor and attending UTEL Universidad online to earn their Political Science and Public Administration degree. Laura's ambition is to be the Governor of California to help survivors, bring traffickers to justice, and end Human Trafficking.



**Amiyoko Shabazz:** At age nineteen, expecting her second child, she enrolled in LAUSD's Youth Opportunities Unlimited Alternative High Diploma & Options Program (designed for drop-out recovery youth). In 1999 Amiyoko Shabazz graduated with honors, awards, and was Mistress of Ceremonies at graduation. Her exposure to numerous programs and opportunities while completing her diploma became her launching pad for many measurable outcomes to name a few: youth entrepreneurial program, youth speaker, leadership programs, special projects, television appearances, awards, community engagements, and more). By the time she had her third child, Amiyoko received a scholarship to attend Brooks College in Long Beach.



**Hilda L. Solis** is the Los Angeles County Supervisor who represents the residents of the First District. As a daughter of working-class, immigrant parents from Nicaragua and Mexico, she understood at a young age, the challenges that workers face and the dignity that they deserved. Taught to value hard work and give back to her community, Supervisor Solis believes that government, with the right leadership, can help substantially improve the lives of many people. Raised in La Puente, California, Supervisor Solis was the first in her family to attend college at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, despite a lack of institutional support from her high school. From there, Supervisor Solis began developing her political values as a progressive champion for the most marginalized people in our society. Since both of her parents were members of their unions, Supervisor Solis became an early advocate for workers' rights, better wages, and workplace safety – eventually becoming the United States Secretary of Labor for President Barack Obama.

Before making history as the first Latina to serve in the Presidential Cabinet, Supervisor Solis' public service spanned across the Rio Hondo Board of Trustees, both chambers of the California State Legislature, and the House of Representatives. She broke the glass ceiling repeatedly by becoming the first Latina ever elected to the State Senate, and the first woman to win the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award for her work in environmental justice. After her time in the Obama administration, she came back home to continue her service locally as the County Supervisor for the First District.

Supervisor Solis accelerated the County's efforts to combat homelessness and allocated funding to build thousands of affordable housing units in her district and around the County. She authored the groundbreaking Measure A to invest in communities without green space, expand open and recreational park space in their neighborhoods, and protect water quality. She led a coalition advocating for communities facing environmental injustices near the Exide recycling plant and helped to clean up poisonous lead in thousands of homes. Supervisor Solis is leading the effort to reimagine public safety in Los Angeles County and prioritize expanding healthcare and jobs instead of mass incarceration, leading the effort to cancel a \$1.7 billion contract to build a new jail. She pushed to fully fund a \$20 million dollar workforce and job training program for disadvantaged young people and authored more than 40 motions defending immigrant communities during the previous federal administration. Most recently, she also met the Biden White House's call to action to address the humanitarian crisis at the southern border, by setting up an emergency intake site in her district for thousands of unaccompanied children.



**Chanel Smith** has spent the last 15 years working to enhance the services available for marginal and vulnerable populations. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the County of Los Angeles' Women & Girls Initiative. Prior to that Chanel worked with the City of Los Angeles's Community Investment for Families Department where she managed the City's comprehensive programming for survivors of Interpersonal Violence including the programs to address the intersection of domestic violence and homelessness. In her previous role as Policy Director for Domestic Violence and Vulnerable Populations at the Los Angeles Mayor's Office she oversaw the City of Los Angeles's Gender based violence initiatives which include the Domestic Abuse Response Team, Sexual Assault Response Teams, Family Justice Centers as well as other City based strategies for ensuring the safety of some of our most vulnerable residents. During the COVID-19 pandemic Chanel oversaw Project Safe Haven, the largest comprehensive response to DV during the pandemic in the world. Chanel was the 2020 Recipient of the County of Los Angeles's Excellence in Public Service Award, the 2020 State of California's Partnership to End Domestic Violence's Partnership Award, and the 2021 Woman of Distinction award from California Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell for her work with the DV and Human Trafficking populations.



**Amy Turk, LCSW**, is the Chief Executive Officer of the Downtown Women's Center (DWC). Amy has held leadership positions in the field of social work and homeless services since 2001, beginning her career at The People Concern and now having served at DWC for the last ten years. Amy has held numerous local, statewide, and national leadership positions in efforts to end homelessness, including as a John A. Hartford Foundation Practice Change Leader award recipient for her efforts to improve healthcare for older adults experiencing homelessness, a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's 100 Million Healthier Lives Campaign Systems Leader, National Trauma Recovery Center Association Advisory Board Member, founding member of 1 in 4, a national social change movement to end homelessness among women, founding co-lead of the Los Angeles Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition, Los Angeles County Coordinated Entry System Councilmember, and the previous Board Chair for Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative. As a volunteer, Amy served for six years as a certified sexual assault and domestic violence hotline counselor and trainer with Peace Over Violence. Amy holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Pepperdine University and a master's in social work from California State University, Los Angeles.





# Speakers & Presenters

## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS SUMMIT



**Stephanie Whack**, Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator SPA 5, Saint Joseph Center : Stephanie Whack is the Domestic Violence Regional Coordinator for Service Planning Area (SPA) 5 West LA, stationed at Saint Joseph Center. She was born in Tahiti, French Polynesia, and graduated from Université Paris I - Pantheon – Sorbonne with a Master in Business Law. A few years after moving to the United States, she started her journey at Haven Hills in an entry-level position. Stephanie was promoted several times within the agency from Donation and Volunteer Coordinator, to Outreach Advocate, and eventually Outreach Prevention Supervisor. Her journey continued into her current role, where she can finally advocate for systemic change for victims and survivors of domestic violence. Her eagerness for change motivates her to be an active participant as an Executive Committee Member of the Guideline for Effective Response to Domestic Abuse (GER-DA), a Core Team Member of the DVHSC, and the Chair of the LA City Domestic Violence Alliance.



**Sarah Whitman** is the Domestic Violence System Coordinator at the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, creating systems change to support domestic violence survivors in Los Angeles. She also oversees eight Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators. Sarah is a member of the Domestic Violence Homeless Services Committee Core Team and co-leads the Systems and Funding Committee. Sarah previously served as the Policy Associate at Rainbow Services and played an integral role in passing SB 914, the HELP Act. Sarah has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Southern California and graduated Summa Cum Laude from UC Santa Barbara. In her free time, Sarah is a cardio kickboxing and fitness instructor. She is a Brown Belt in Krav Maga and trains in Muay Thai, BJJ, and CrossFit. Sarah is an avid reader and loves her cats.

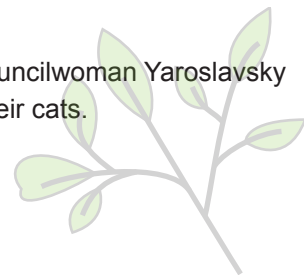


**Katy Yaroslavsky** serves as Councilwoman for Los Angeles' Fifth City Council District, representing neighborhoods and communities she has been a part of nearly her entire life. Elected in 2022, CM Yaroslavsky, currently serves as Chair of the City Council's Energy & Environment committee, Vice-Chair of the Ad Hoc Olympics committee, and is a member of the Budget & Finance, Planning & Land Use Management, and Transportation committees.

Advocating for a sustainable and livable Los Angeles has been at the center of Councilwoman Yaroslavsky's career. Prior to her election, she served as a senior policy advisor to LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, where she created LA County's first Office of Sustainability, and led the development, negotiation, and adoption by voters of Measure W, one of the largest infrastructure and jobs programs in our region's history. She helped create the Clean Power Alliance — a coalition of thirty-two local cities and counties that serves over 3 million ratepayers and is the largest provider of green power in the nation. Councilwoman Yaroslavsky previously served as General Counsel to the Climate Action Reserve, a leading environmental non-profit focused on reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Councilwoman Yaroslavsky is guided by the belief that the biggest challenges our City is facing – homelessness, generational poverty, racial injustice, climate change, a declining quality of life, and an economy that doesn't work for most Angelenos – are all intersectional. She believes that these issues will only be solved by doing the hard work of building coalitions, fighting for equity in city services, and initiating authentic, inclusive, and thorough community engagement.

A graduate of public schools, including UC Berkeley and UCLA Law School, Councilwoman Yaroslavsky currently resides in Mid City with her husband Dave, their three children, and their cats.



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