



Los Angeles Community
Child Abuse Councils



The Children's Advocate

Fall 2019 Newsletter

Welcome readers and fellow child advocates!

It is with great pleasure that the Los Angeles County Community Child Abuse Councils release our Fall 2019 Newsletter! This fall, we are excited to bring you important information covering the community-based activities of the year, along with additional information regarding upcoming events that promote child abuse prevention, awareness and valuable ideas to benefit our local communities. Please feel free to contact me and/or your Council of interest for more information and to get involved!

Warmest regards,

Sara La Croix, MSW/MPA

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Council News & Updates



Advocacy Council for Abused Deaf Children (ACADC)

The ACADC, established in 1991 to systemically address child abuse among

Deaf children, is a collaborative effort comprised of many community agencies and members to address child abuse among Deaf Children/Families. Our efforts are based in education, services, resources, and community involvement to best serve the Deaf Community. The goal of the Advocacy Council for Abused Deaf Children (ACADC) is to prevent the abuse of Deaf children and to promote the development of appropriate and quality treatment resources for families with a Deaf member within Los Angeles County.

In June of 2019, the ACADC hosted a training on “Systematic Oppression and Child Abuse,” with a focus on the Deaf Community. The training included a group discussion after the presentations to process and explore applying the newly presented information to previously discussed cases. One participant who attended on behalf of the LA District Attorney’s Office expressed feeling like she was leaving the training with a new understanding of some of the complex issues faced by the Deaf and hard of hearing community.

For more information and to join us for future trainings/events, visit www.facebook.com/ACADC.LA



AFFIRM AV - Assisting Families to Find Information & Resources Mindfully (Council for the Prevention of Child Abuse in Antelope Valley)

In April of 2019, the AFFIRM AV Council hosted our 16th Annual Writing Contest Awards Dinner for the community. We shared laughter, tears and proud moments. During the event, a young trans woman voluntarily read her essay on stage sharing her process of coming out through both sobs and tears. She shared how she was rejected and kicked out of her home upon sharing her true identity. A standing ovation was given from the group and many also cried with her. Another moving story from our essay contest winners was delivered by a young man of only 10 years old who walked onto the stage as if he did public speaking on a daily basis. He wore a shiny burgundy taffeta suit and shared how his mom and his sister were his role models on having patience and what to do when patience runs out. He also received a standing ovation.

The DCFS worker of the year for both Palmdale and Lancaster were honored for their commitment to excellence. The social workers are chosen by their peers. We all had such a good time at the event and the protective factors were talked about and highlighted throughout the event.

For more information on future events please visit AFFIRM on Facebook.

Asian and Pacific Islander Children, Youth, and Family Council (APICYFC)

APICYFC’s 2019 highlights include a joint event with the Los Angeles Countywide API Sexual Assault Committee (APISAC) to promote community awareness and family dialogue related to healthy relationships as well as recognition, intervention, and prevention of sexual assault in April 2019, which

is both Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). API families, similar to some other cultures, experience a high rate of sexual exploitation, stigma and difficulty reporting and discussing sexual abuse and assault. APICYFC and APISAC hosted a booth at the Thai New Year festival on April 28, 2019, which is one of the largest gathering of API families and community residents within greater Los Angeles. The festival was attended by over 12,000 individuals and we engage approximately 200 families and provided resources related to healthy family communication, child abuse prevention, and sexual assault awareness. In preparation for this event, APICYFC and APISAC representatives attended a 3-hour training, held in February 2019, to discuss the prevalence of sexual abuse and assault, challenges of overcoming stigma related to discussing and reporting sexual abuse and assault, as well as effective ways in which service providers can engage API families in dialogue about healthy families and communication.

For more information about the APICYFC please contact Nina Y. Loc at (213) 808-1720 or Nayon Kang at (213) 365-7400.



Council for Child Abuse Prevention - Serving the San Fernando & Santa Clarita Valley (SPA 2)

In April of 2019, Ruth Beaglehole - Founder of Echo Parenting and master of Parenting with Non-Violence launched our 3rd annual “Hand in Hand” event with an hour-long discussion on the impact of social media on family dynamics. Focusing especially on the use of cell phones, video games and tablets, Ruth worked with The Unusual Suspects Theater Company and a participant family to stage a typical family dinner scenario which depicted the disconnect of family members as each participated in his or her own media activity. The lost opportunity to make meaningful memories and relationships was depicted quite poignantly and with humor. With Ruth gently correcting the scenario by adding father’s participation with dinner preparation, family centered games and reading together, the participant family and those in the audience commented during the dialogue as having a better understanding of how important it is not to allow media to take the place of relationship building moments. There was much laughter and admission from parents as to how much they utilize media as a way to occupy their children in order to relax or get things done faster. In the closing section of the forum, Ruth led additional dialogue allowing participants – both professionals and parents – to share what they had learned from the day of presentations, workshops and dialogue.

For more information about the Council, visit www.childandfamilycouncil.org

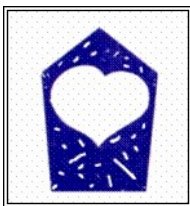
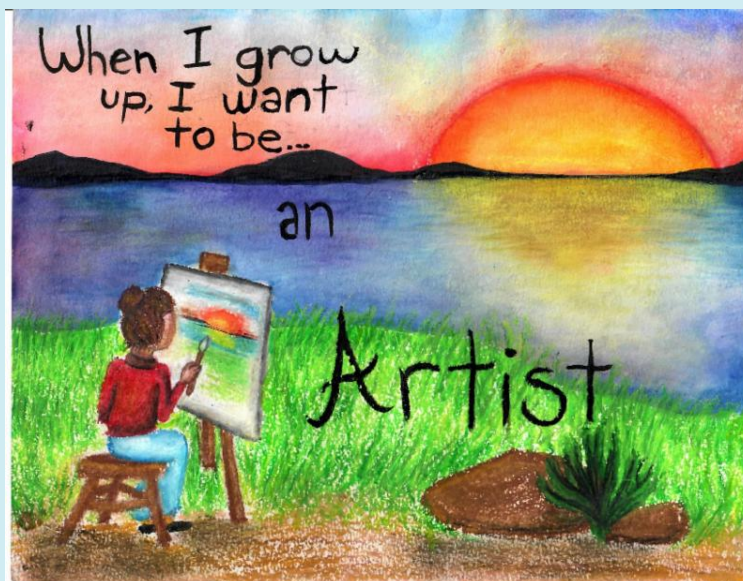
Eastside Child Abuse Prevention Council (El Monte)

During the last fiscal year, the Eastside Child Abuse Prevention Council focused on building social connections by focusing on recruiting new community members to the council using new outreach material as well as retaining current members through a recognition dinner. Additionally, four Eastside members attended the ICAN Nexus Conference last November. Members use the information from the conference to inform future workshops and events as well as share with the community.



In April of 2019, the Council hosted our Annual Art Contest for Children. Winners were selected by Council members in April and recognized at the Annual Partnerships For Families Resource Fair for Providers with their framed art and a gift card. The Council continued to partner with Partnerships For Families in SPA 3 in hosting the Annual Resource Fair for Providers in the City of El Monte. The event's primary objective is to increase knowledge of child abuse prevention and the protective factors for community members through speakers and the hosting of 50 resource tables of local community providers. Approximately 100 community members attended. This year's speakers discussed trauma informed practice and fatherhood engagement. The Eastside Council hosted a table at the event promoting the Council and providing child abuse prevention material to participants.

To attend the 2020 provider resource fair, please contact Cassandra Mesa at (626) 442-1400.



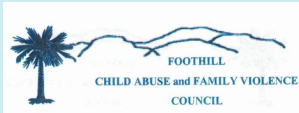
End Abuse Long Beach (EALB)

In 2018-2019, the End Abuse Long Beach Council continued to offer important opportunities for professionals to learn and network, share resources, and receive support in the greater Long Beach area. Taking the time to establish personal connections is often very difficult to do in our technology-reliant world, and most especially for those in helping professions. End Abuse also offers a space and time for relationship building, and as a result, we are able to help our clients more effectively and efficiently.

One example of a program we offered was on military sexual trauma by Dr. Kristen Zaleski held at Century Villages at Cabrillo which is home to 1,500 formerly homeless residents, including 700 veterans. Despite the event being held at a challenging place to find, on a very rainy and cold day, we had over 40 participants, including 22 new visitors come. Two female veteran residents also joined us with their case manager and shared their story of Multisystemic Therapy (MST) with the audience which was powerful. Dr. Zaleski's program was very good and provided a unique collaborative outreach opportunity which has inspired us to connect with other local agencies.

Our November, 14 2019 program will feature Ruth Beaglehole, MA presenting on Parenting with Non-Violence for the first half of the program, with a special awards ceremony to follow. Our two Abuse Prevention awardees will be Dr. Tiffany Brown, Assistant Superintendent, School Support Services for Long Beach Unified School District, and Alicia Rodriguez, a Domestic Violence Victims Advocate in the Long Beach's City Prosecutor's Office. **This extended program will run from 8-10 a.m. on Thursday, Nov. 14 at the Alpert Jewish Community Center, 3801 E. Willow St., Long Beach.**

For more information on EALB's upcoming events, please visit www.endabuselb.org.



Foothill Child Abuse and Family Violence Prevention Council

In June of 2019, the Foothill Council offered a training centered around LGBTQ youth which was attended by a small group of professionals which created a nice and intimate setting for learning. There were familiar faces from past workshops/conferences from the CAP Council. Seeing past attendees showed great support from the community and also an interest in our training topics that consistently promote child abuse prevention and education.

For more information about the event, please contact Erica Villalpando at (626) 227-5670.



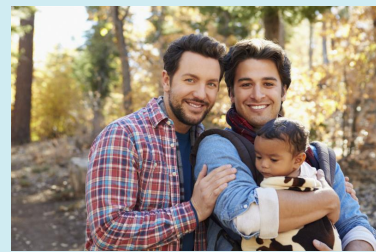
LAC-Family, Children, Community Advisory Council (African American Council)

In May of 2019, FCCAC held their annual conference at Magnolia Place Family Center entitled, "The Strengths of African American Families." We encouraged the speakers to develop interactions with conference attendees and their presentations. One of the Fatherhood presenters captivated the audience by sharing about the abusive relationship he had with his father. He framed the relationship around how he became a Boston Celtics basketball fan simply because his father was an LA Lakers basketball fan. This was a vivid, sad, but inspirational story. Due to his experiences, the presenter became a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. It was important to hear his story as a Black man and how hard it is for him to continuously be a positive father. His personal presentation captured the essence of our conference.

To learn more about the Council, please visit: www.lacfccac.org

LGBT Child Abuse Prevention Council

The LAC LGBT Child Abuse Prevention Council collaborates with Penny Lane to help present the annual Embracing the Diversity of GLBT Youth & Families (EDGY) conference. The EDGY Conference provides an opportunity for professionals serving LGBTQ+ youth and families to build awareness and cultural competency, learn current and emerging best practices, and gather resources from leading experts and national organizations in the field. We use some of our funding to sponsor scholarships to the EDGY conference in recognition of Howard Jacobs, the founder of the Council. Jacobs was a dedicated lifelong leader, educator and advocate for LGBT youth, particularly those in foster care.



This year's EDGY Conference is on Friday, November 8, 2019, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM at the Skirball Cultural Center. For more information on the conference, please go to: www.edgyconference.com

San Gabriel Valley Child Abuse Prevention Council

This year we served our community with an Information Fair and Festival for families who have children with special needs. The Festival was held on Sunday April 28, 2019. The information fair had over 100 resource tables from various agencies throughout the San Gabriel Valley who service children and adults with developmental disabilities, mental health, health and welfare, and child protective agencies. The fair attracts over 1800 children and their families. The festival is full of bounce houses, face painting, arts and crafts, a sensory area for the young children, a clown, hot dogs, chips and salsa, cotton candy, and lots of fun for all. We also provide information on the five protective factors, ensuring that our families are aware, and they are connected to the community and able to seek out the needed resources. The day culminates with sleepy children and parents. Our survey results were all positive reporting they received the needed information for their families.

For more information about the 2020 events, please contact Karen Nutt at knutt59@msn.com



SPA 7 Child Abuse Prevention Council

On March 15, 2019, the SPA 7 Council hosted our annual "Youth Male

CHOICES Conference” at Rio Hondo College for 8th-12th grade boys from the SPA 7 area.

The planning committee reported that the CHOICES conference was a great success. Overall the community leaders and administration at Rio Hondo College felt the conference was a great accomplishment. The energy and dynamic personalities in the space made the experience enjoyable for everyone. A 9th grader from Santa Fe High School stated that the information provided during the conference was very useful and inspiring. He shared that the workshops helped him make better choices for his future goals. He enjoyed the opening speaker, Jerry Tello, and his life story which motivated him to consider making better choices in school. A young man from Andrews Middle school (8th Grader), reported that the conference was very useful for his future goals. He enjoyed the opening session and the college readiness course. By attending the conference, he learned the importance of making better choices for his future.

For more information about the 2020 Youth Male Choices Conference, please contact Maria Duarte at marial@spiritt.org



Westside Anti-Violence Authority (WAVA)

In the 2018-19 contract year, WAVA screened the documentaries “*What Doesn’t Kill Me*” and “*The Bystander Moment*.” Event attendees were able to take home materials and information that encouraged further learning of child abuse and gender violence prevention such as “You Can Help Prevent Child Abuse” by Prevent Child Abuse America, activity coloring books concerning bullying for parents to take home, and other LACCCAC materials. Specifically, for the Bystander Moment, attendees were able to take home free copies of the book *The Macho Paradox* by Jackson Katz. Katz’s work in gender violence prevention with Mentors in Violence Prevention has been highly acclaimed amongst the social justice community as he puts the onus of changing current attitudes of masculinity on men. The Macho Paradox explicitly ties the contribution that attitudes have on abusive behaviors towards women and children.

Moreover, during discussion portions of both events, WAVA was able to speak with colleagues and community members and collaborate on ideas for increasing teacher and child service provider capacity, emotional capacity in children, teacher and parent’s capacity in recognizing and supporting traumatized children, as well as strategies for supporting teens. For the next funding period, WAVA will be partnering with Family Services of Santa Monica to create two six week curriculum’s surrounding healthy relationships for at-risk teens at Santa Monica High School incorporating strategies highlighted during our events.

For more information about the Council, please contact Alex Atenzo at aatenzo@thepeopleconcern.org

Need *FREE* Community Friendly Child Abuse Prevention Materials in Multiple Languages?

Materials Available Include:

- “Daily Acts of Kindness Towards Children” Calendars
- “Guide to Positive Parenting” Booklets
- “California Mandated Reporting, Easy Steps...” Pamphlet
- “It only takes a minute to brighten a child’s life” Bookmarks
- “Together We stand Up Against Bullying!” Pamphlet

Please contact Sara La Croix for more information at:
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**Want more information about a Council or interested in joining?
Contact Us!**

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In memory of Marjorie Gins, Champion for Children