



The Children's Advocate

Spring 2021 Newsletter

www.lachildabusecouncils.org

Welcome readers and fellow child advocates!

It is with great pleasure that the Los Angeles County Child Abuse Prevention Councils (LAC-CAPCs) release our Spring 2021 Newsletter! This year has been filled with incredible challenges and changes for so many in our communities, yet tremendous perseverance and resilience has also been demonstrated by innumerable children and families in Los Angeles County. We hope our newsletter brings you timely information for April (Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month), along with resources you can use and spread.

Additionally, you'll find information on community-based trainings and activities in this edition, along with upcoming events that promote primary prevention and capacity building within the field. Lastly, we are pleased to welcome Catherine Rose Grimes, our new LAC-CAPC Project Manager, to the team who brings knowledge and experience to help move our much needed prevention strategies forward. Welcome Catherine Rose!

Please feel free to contact myself, Catherine Rose and/or your Council of interest for more information and to get involved.

Warmest regards,

Sara La Croix, MSW/MPA
LAC-Child Abuse Prevention Council Director with Children's Bureau

Catherine Rose Grimes, MSW
Project Manager (catherineroségrimes@all4kids.org)

Council News & Updates



Advocacy Council for Abused Deaf Children (ACADC)

On **April 24th**, the Advocacy Council for Abused Deaf Children will continue to **increase accessibility of child abuse information in the Deaf community** by providing a webinar in American Sign Language, with a Deaf services provider and voice interpretation.

The Council is also continuing their outreach by distributing resource bags, including child abuse and bullying educational materials, community resource information, and school supplies to low-income families with Deaf or Hard of Hearing (HH) members during COVID-19.

For more information, please contact:
Cody Hanable at cjrhanable@gmail.com
Amy Kay at akay@5acres.org



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

AFFIRM AV is hosting two **Stand4Kids** events, in partnership with the City of Palmdale. All are welcome to participate with a poster of positive words to affirm and uplift community members to prevent child abuse!

- **April 1st at 6pm** at the corner of Avenue S & 25th Street East.
- **April 2nd at 6pm** at the corner of Avenue K & 15th West.

AFFIRM will host the annual writing contest for local students (grades 1-12) and select 24 winners. Students will read aloud their work virtually to build confidence and celebrate their accomplishments with their families and the community.

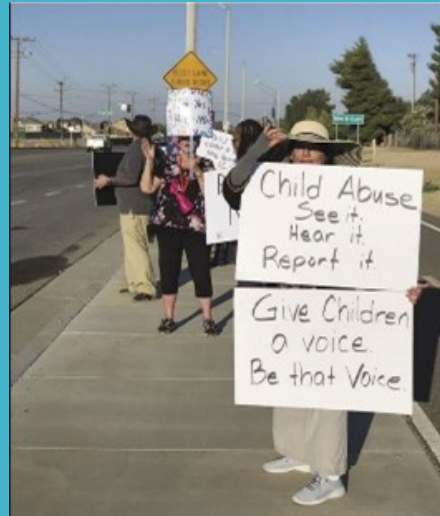
On **April 8th** at the City Council Meeting, the City of Palmdale will present a proclamation designating **April as Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month**.

AFFIRM will present on child abuse prevention for both the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health's Clergy Round Table group and the Health Neighborhood group.

In partnership with the Best Start Communities in the Antelope Valley, AFFIRM will provide residents with supplies for the writing and art contest, as well as PPE for the Stand4Kids events. In addition, the Council is collaborating with Terrific Kidz Inc. on the Annual Darion Wheat Walk for child abuse awareness and prevention.

The Council members will be celebrating all the work done to keep children safe from harm, and they hope to extend the Family Urgent Response System (FURS) program to all parents and children in the near future.

For more information, please contact:
Rosie Mainella at affirm1av@gmail.com
Mark Carter at markaffirmav@gmail.com



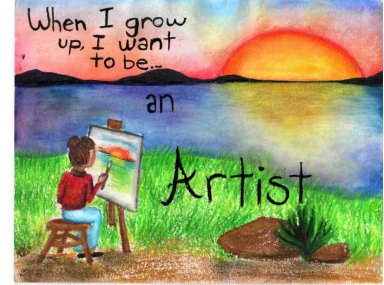
Eastside Child Abuse Prevention Council (El Monte)

The Eastside Council will host a virtual training for parents around a **“Coronavirus Anxiety**

Workbook: Building Resilience in Difficult Times,” led by Dr. Emma Shaw, LMFT.

This training will include learning and practicing tools to manage stress and anxiety.

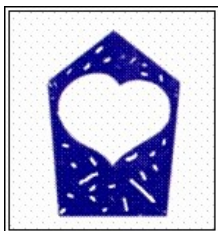
- **April 8th (3:30-5pm) – Spanish**
- **April 22nd (3:30-5pm) – English**



To register, please contact Maria Foster at (213) 503-7280. Raffles and prizes will be available.

In May, the Eastside CAPC is also partnering with a local faith-based organization to provide food and hygiene boxes to those in need throughout the community.

For more information, please contact:
Connie Preciado-Gonzalez at conniep@spiritt.org
Amaris Galindo at amarisg@spiritt.org



End Abuse Long Beach (EALB)

At End Abuse Long Beach (EALB), we continue to offer monthly virtual training on the second Thursday of each month from 9-10 a.m. through Zoom. Our attendance has exceeded our previous in-person sessions by about 10 attendees per month, and we have expanded our speaker list to include people outside of the South Bay and surrounding areas. Our February speakers, for example, resided in Sacramento, but were able to present their innovative approach to child abuse prevention through Zoom from our state's capitol.

On April 8th, EALB will offer a training on “Trends during the past year: The impact COVID-19 is having on child abuse reporting,” featuring Michele L. Winterstein, Ph.D. (Executive Director) and Patricia Sanchez, LMFT (Director) from a Long Beach community agency, For The Child.

Past trainings offered for 2021 included:

- March 11, 2021: "Collective Impact During a Pandemic: A case study from the Villages at Cabrillo" with Dora Jacildo (Child Lane) and Kimberly Wee, M.A. (Century Villages at Cabrillo).
- Feb 11, 2021: "Building Resilience Through Prevention & Education Among Children/Youth" with Beth Hassett and Brittany Bray, MSW of WEAVE in Sacramento www.weave.org.
- Jan 14, 2021: Kristopher McLucas presented "Where's Dad? A focus on intentional engagement and retention of fathers in your programs."

For more information, please contact:

Tory Cox at torycox@usc.edu and/or visit the EALB website at endabuselb.org



LGBT Child Abuse Prevention Council

For the 12th year in a row, the LGBT Child Abuse Prevention Council has supported the **annual Embracing Diversity of GLBTQ Youth (E.D.G.Y.) Conference with Penny Lane in November 2021.**

The conference increases knowledge and awareness of the needs of LGBTQ youth and families, and empowers social service and mental health professionals to support the LGBTQ community through an array of workshops, services and resources. As it has done annually, the LGBT Council sponsors 30 professional scholarships, which go to social service providers, mental health professionals, educators, court advocates, probation and law enforcement who otherwise could not attend.



For more information, please contact:

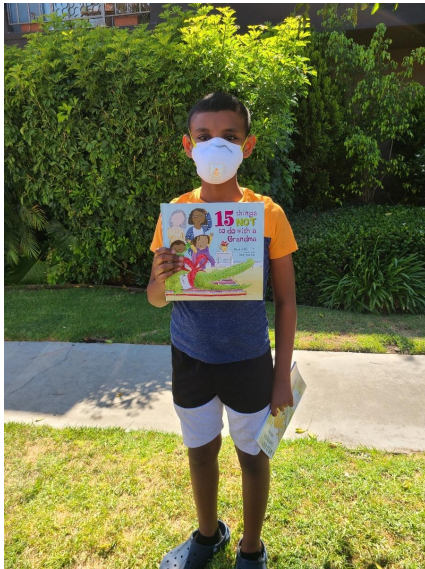
Mark Abelsson at abelsson@earthlink.net edgyconference.com



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



Children during the COVID-19 pandemic are a vulnerable population who are losing the knowledge gained from school by not being able to do enough reading at home. Although many parents are doing their absolute best during this pandemic, many do not have the funds to purchase books for their children. **As a result, LAC-FCCAC continues its partnership with Eso Won Books, an independent Black owned bookstore in the Liemert Park District of Los Angeles.** Eso Won is one of the oldest bookstores among the country's 100 Black owned bookstores.



LAC-FCCAC has reviewed and selected 200 coloring and reading books of historical and famous African-American individuals for different aged children. LAC-FCCAC will insert labels inside each book stating, "Donated by LAC-Family, Children, Community Advisory Council, May 2021, Happy Reading."

Additionally, LAC-FCCAC has continued its partnership with Elevate Your GAME's Youth Mentoring Program. One highlight shared from Elevate Your Game is noted below:



In the school year 2020, one of Elevate Your GAME's mentored students from Compton High was honored for her passion in STEM from the Aerospace Corporation. They provided her the Dr. Wanda M. Austin STEM scholarship. She interned in the Aerospace Acquisition Support and Information Department. She led both the FIRST Robotics and Solar Cup Teams and won third place in the Robert H. Herndon Memorial Science Competition. She received a full scholarship to California State-Polytechnic University, Pomona.

FCCAC's Spring Trainings - via Zoom:

- **April 27 (11am-12pm): "Financial Literacy and Building Wealth in the African American Community." Speaker: Winter L. Stewart, CFP, CLTC, MBA, Financial Advisor at Northwestern Mutual Wealth Management Company.**
- **May 25 (2-3pm): "Queen for the Family-The Power of the African American Woman in the Family." Speaker: Yolonda Rogers-Jones, Program Director of Los Angeles County Black Infant Health Programs.**



- **June (Date & Time: TBD) : “Fathers and Male Caregivers & Their Families Achieving Positive Outcomes.” Speaker: Shawndi Johnson, LCSW, Director of the Dad’s Matter Program.**

LAC-FCCAC looks forward to future collaborations with children, youth, their family members, our members and private and public agencies. Please be safe, wear your mask, wash your hands, and practice physical distancing!

For more information and to register for trainings, please contact:

**Sandra Guine at sjguine@gmail.com
www.lacfccac.org**



**Council For
Child Abuse
Prevention**

San Fernando &
Santa Clarita Valley

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

**On April 9th (9:30am-12:30pm) via Zoom, the
SPA 2 Council will host a training for child
welfare professionals and community leaders
on “Navigating Overwhelm: Caring for Self
While Caring for Others During the Time of
COVID.”**

The training will be provided by **Laura Van Dernoot Lipsky**, the founder and director of The Trauma Stewardship Institute and author of “Trauma Stewardship and The Age of Overwhelm.” Laura is recognized as a pioneer in the field of trauma exposure. She works directly with trauma survivors, helping professionals and volunteers to cultivate the deep self-knowledge and practical insights that sustain these individuals in their helping roles within the face of tremendous need and tragedy.

For more information (including flyer and registration),

San Gabriel Valley Child Abuse Prevention Council

April 28th (12pm -2pm) via Zoom

"Being Resilient in Times of Uncertainty"

with nationally recognized speaker, **Christopher Littlefield**.

This highly engaging and interactive session will include discussions and activities on practical strategies to manage stress and take care of yourself during the pandemic. Mr. Littlefield's mission is to transform the global conversation around giving and receiving recognition by providing programs that develop awareness, support authentic communication, and make a tangible difference in people's lives at work and at home.

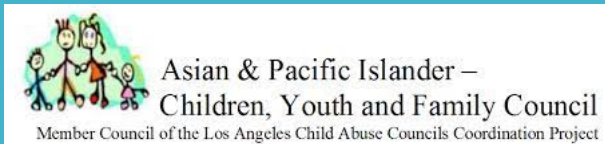
The Council will also be working with the San Gabriel/Pomona Parents' Place by providing activity kits for children with special needs and their families.

In October 2021, the Council will support the Life Steps Foundation in their Virtual 5K walk!

For more information, please contact:

Karen Nutt at knutt59@msn.com or

Laura Campaña at LCampana@wayfinderfamily.org



Asian and Pacific Islander Children Youth and Family Council (API-CYFC)

On April 24 (10am-5pm) at the Los Angeles State Historic Park, APICYFC and member agencies will host a countywide **Family Portrait** event, through safe and socially-distanced sessions. The photos will be taken by Las Fotos (lasfotosproject.org), a community-based nonprofit organization that inspires teenage girls through photography, mentorship, and self-expression.

The goal of the event is to promote bonding and celebration of families' resiliency (especially during the pandemic), and the main protective factor will be social connections. Child abuse prevention materials and children's masks will be distributed to participants.

For more information, please contact:

Nina Y. Loc at nyuen@cscla.org

Nayon Kang at nkang@kycccla.org



We are pleased to announce the relaunch of the Westside Anti-Violence Authority (WAVA). Currently chaired by Sojourn, The People Concern's Domestic Violence Program, WAVA leverages the expertise of its diverse membership, illuminates and investigates the multifaceted intersections of violence, social injustice, oppression, and marginalization. Its mission is to uphold standards in training, advocacy, and policy development for the expansion and coordination of services to victims of any form of violence on the Westside of Los Angeles County.

WAVA has been on hiatus, but an exciting relaunch event is coming this June. The council will gather together virtually with old and new members - to review the history of WAVA and collectively decide what the Council will look like moving forward.

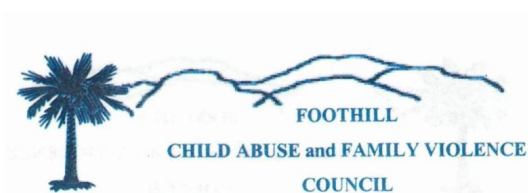
For more information, please contact:

Heidi Griswold at hgriswold@thepeopleconcern.org

SPA 7 Child Abuse Prevention Council

On March 12th, the SPA 7 Council presented the CHOICES Youth conference for young men in 8th to 12th grade from selective schools. The purpose was to provide motivational speakers and workshops to inspire and educate the youth by decreasing social isolation and increasing access to resources.

For more information, please contact Maria Duarte at marial@spiritt.org



Foothill Child Abuse and Family Violence Prevention Council

In the spring, the Foothill Council will be working with World Central Kitchen's COVID Relief Program, creating Child Abuse Prevention magnets for the home, creating Student School Kits and College Access Plan information.

For more information, please contact Erica Villalpando.

Resources to Help Families & Community

- **DCFS Videos to Encourage Child Abuse Reporting:** English Video, Spanish Video, <https://vimeo.com/413338821>
- **Teaching Young Children About Bias, Diversity, and Social Justice:** <https://www.edutopia.org/blog/teaching-young-children-social-justice-jinnie-spiegler>

Want more information about a Council or interested in joining? Contact Us!

Advocacy Council for Abused Deaf Children

Cody Hanable cjrhanable@gmail.com

AFFIRM – Antelope Valley Child Abuse Prevention Council

Rosie Mainella

Mark Carter

affirm1av@gmail.com

(661) 208-4455

Asian and Pacific Islander Children, Youth and Family Council

Nina Y. Loc (213) 808-1720

Nayon Kang (213) 365-7400

CCAP of San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valley (SPA 2)

Deborah Davies (818) 988-4430

Eastside Child Abuse Prevention Council

Connie Preciado-Gonzalez (626) 442-1400 ext. 202

End Abuse Long Beach Council

Tory Cox torycox@usc.edu

Foothill Child Abuse and Family Violence Prevention Council

Erica Villalpando (626) 227-5670

LGBT Child Abuse Prevention Council

Mark Abelsson (323) 646-2419

LAC-Family, Children, Community Advisory Council (LAC-FCCAC)

Sandra Guine (310) 327-9294

Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN)

Marianne Yamato chavem@dcfs.lacounty.gov

San Gabriel Valley Child Abuse Prevention Council:

Karen Nutt knutt59@msn.com

Laura Campaña lcampa@wayfinderfamily.org

SPA 7 Child Abuse Council

Maria Duarte marial@spiritt.org

Daisy Rios daisyr@spiritt.org

Westside Anti-Violence Authority

TuLynn Smylie tsmylie@thepeopleconcern.org

Heidi Griswold hgriswold@thepeopleconcern.org

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LA County
**Child Abuse
Prevention
Councils**

LAC-CAPCs
C/O Sara La Croix
Children's Bureau
1910 Magnolia Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90007



**In memory of Marjorie Gins, Champion for
Children**