



LA County  
**Child Abuse  
Prevention  
Councils**

# The Children's Advocate

## Fall 2022 Newsletter

Los Angeles County Child Abuse Prevention Councils' Website



It is with great pleasure that the **Los Angeles County Child Abuse Prevention Councils (LAC-CAPCs)** release our Fall 2022 Newsletter! As we get ready for the holiday season to begin, we wanted to take a moment to say "THANK YOU" to all of our readers and those who work tirelessly to support children and families in LA County! We hope our newsletter provides you helpful information regarding the work of the LAC-CAPCs, including community-based trainings and activities as well as resources on primary prevention and capacity-building in the field.

For more information and to get involved, please contact Catherine Rose Grimes or your Council of interest.

Warmest Regards,

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LAC-Child Abuse Prevention Council Director with Children's Bureau

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## Welcome Readers & Fellow Child Advocates!

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### **ACTION for KIDS AV (Formerly AFFIRM AV - Council for Prevention of Child Abuse representing the Antelope Valley)**

In the spring of 2022, ACTION for KIDS AV hosted several events to engage the community around child abuse and family violence prevention. These included:

- [Stand Up for Kids](#) event on the streets of Los Angeles on April 1, 2022 at 5pm. The Council and community members stood with signs to voice the importance of protecting our children.

- On April 30th, 2022 at 10am, the Council participated in Terrific Kidz' [Annual Darion Wheat Child Abuse Awareness Walk](#)
- On May 28th, 2022 at 5pm, ACTION for KIDS AV hosted a [Family Book Reading Event & Resource Fair](#).
- On June 10th, 2022 at 7pm, the Council hosted a [Stand Up for Kids Comedy Show](#) in partnership with Pueblo y Salud, located at the Chimbole Cultural Center in Palmdale. Special guests included Palmdale, Lancaster, and Lake Los Angeles children. The event had children beaming with smiles as they played with their caregivers. In addition, the council leaders made a joyful noise if they made mistakes while playing, which encouraged silliness and increased engagement, especially with the children.

Also this year, ACTION for KIDS AV Council members participated in the **Palmdale school district distribution event**, where they volunteered at the **LA Care Health Plan Community Resource Center** and shared literature in the backpacks. Council members also participated in the local **Parks after Dark in Lake Los Angeles**, **AVBoot Camp** at the college in Lancaster, the **Hispanic Heritage Festival in East Palmdale** (a local church backpack distribution), the **Hispanic Heritage celebration for the East Side School District in Lancaster**, **Día de los Muertos** event, **Palmdale Sheriff Trunk or Treat and Car Show** event, and in the **Ride to End Violence** event with the Domestic Violence Council. In addition, the Council was a part of the planning and implementation of the resource fair and Halloween costume distribution event in Quartz Hill. Lastly, volunteers tabled at the **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion event in Palmdale** and the **Tamale Festival in Lancaster**.

To safeguard our children with community partners, the Council volunteers participated in the **AV Violence Prevention Coalition**, **AV Coalition for Human Trafficking**, **Best Start AV**: policy committee and stakeholders, **Clergy Round Table**, **Department of Children & Family Services**: regional community advisory, **Department of Mental Health: Health Neighborhood**, **Antelope Valley Marijuana Alcohol Pharmaceutical Prevention - AVMAPP** meetings, **LACare Advisory Group**, **Palmdale Sheriff Community Advisory Committee** and **strength-based community connection groups** ("crochet with a purpose").

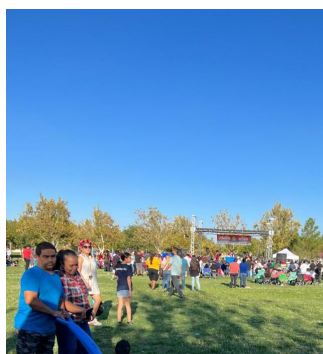
Recently, a Council volunteer took a "train-the-trainer" workshop on recognizing child sexual predators and a presentation is being created for the community. This past October, two council volunteers participated in the **EDGY Conference at the Skirball Center** to gain more knowledge about the LGBTQ+ community. Lastly, Council volunteers provided **well-being tools** to several classes at a local high school through their Certification in Applied Positive Psychology.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

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The **LGBTQ+ Council** led the distribution of 700 small **LGBTQ+ Pride flags** to graduating seniors at LAUSD high schools to carry during graduation. They purchased the flags and partnered with LAUSD personnel to distribute the flags to LGBTQ+ and ally graduates on the day of the event at most high schools. The target population was parents, families and friends attending the graduations with the purpose of increasing awareness and visibility of our community. It was also targeting those LGBTQ+ and ally graduates to affirm their own identities.

The Council also **sponsored 20 LGBTQ+ youth** to attend either the **LA or LB PRIDE celebrations in June 2022**. This was done in collaboration with **Community Intervention Through Youth (C.I.T.Y. x1)**. PRIDE is a critical developmental milestone for LGBTQ+ youth. It represents self-acceptance and is fundamental to the coming out process.

On **October 13, 2022**, the Council partnered with **Penny Lanes Center** who hosted the **[12th annual EDGY Conference: Dimensions of Gender](#)**. The conference increased 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 services and resources. The Council sponsored 35 scholarships to social service providers, mental health professionals, educators, court advocates, probation and law enforcement who otherwise could not attend.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

Mark Abellson at [abellson@earthlink.net](mailto:abellson@earthlink.net)



The **CCAP of San Fernando and Santa Clarita Valley (SPA 2) Council** hosted three virtual trainings on **building resilience** in our new reality presented by Alejandra Trujillo, LMFT:

- **[April 5, 2022 \(10am-12pm\)](#)**: Focus on professionals, community leaders & others.
- **[April 19, 2022 \(10am-12pm\)](#)**: Family Resilience (Spanish)
- **[April 28, 2022 \(10am-12pm\)](#)**: Family Resilience (English)



- **April 28, 2022 (10am-12pm):** Family Resilience - (English)

The council has continued to apply its goal of bringing together professionals and/or parents from a variety of communities or work sectors to connect and share common experiences. Below, lists the overall impact of the Council's activities:

#### **April 5, 2022 (10am-12pm): Event Focused on Professionals**

Survey responses included the following "most important, impactful or useful takeaways" gained by attending the workshops:

- "Acknowledgment of the world we live in now and how to deal with it as a professional."
- "Reminder to fill my cup first; realizing and remembering how important self-care is."
- "Utilizing easy techniques to reconnect and get through a stressful day."
- "I especially found the relaxation and grounding tools provided and modeled highly effective. I'm excited to start practicing these strategies myself and present them to my clients."
- "We all have trauma due to the pandemic and some have multiple traumas."
- "Don't be afraid of stress. We are equipped to respond."
- "Throughout the training, I felt so validated!"

#### **April 19, 2022 (10am-12pm)(Spanish) & April 28th (10am-12pm)(English) - Focus on Parents**

Survey responses included the following "most important, impactful or useful takeaways" gained by attending the workshops:

- "Connecting with everyone and the shared concerns."
- "Learning to tolerate and techniques to relax and control ourselves."
- "I recognize that stress is a natural process that activates us; the bad thing is not taking the necessary breaks to relax and re-engage." The Spanish clinical language translation!"
- "Emotional regulation tools and breaking up the stress cycle."
- "That we need to take a moment for us."

The Council has also been supporting the DCFS Prevention & Aftercare Program and the SPA 2 network.

In **May 2022**, SPA 2 Council provided a **family health and wellness resource fair**, with screenings for early intervention and prevention, educational presentations, and a multitude of opportunities to learn about resources for children and their families.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

Deborah Davies at [ddavies@elnidofamilycenters.org](mailto:ddavies@elnidofamilycenters.org)



On **April 7, 2022**, the **Eastside Council** hosted a virtual panel/workshop in Spanish on **Parental Burnout**. It focused on parental experience and their expert perspectives, as well as a chat on caregiver burnout. Speakers were Promotoras, those who focused on clinical/child developmental, a father perspective, children with disabilities, and Parent's Anonymous. The Council aimed to validate the experience, provide strategies on how to deal with difficult feelings and provide links to supportive resources.

On **May 12, 2022**, the Council hosted a virtual webinar on **Advocacy for Parents** (Spanish), during mental health awareness month. The webinar focused on:

- Validating the struggles of being a caretaker, normalizing the experience, providing resources, and strategies to overcome moments of challenge.
- Representatives from DCFS Parentis in Partnership (PIP) and Parents Anonymous speaking to what advocacy looks like as a parent, helpful tools, and links to resources.

Lastly, two additionally successful projects for the Eastside Council were a brochure with the **new mission statement**, and the **Council website is currently under development**. The pandemic caused the Council to learn more technological features and strategies to connect and support their community members.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

Cristal Divas at [cristald@spiritt.org](mailto:cristald@spiritt.org)



### End Abuse Long Beach

**End Abuse Long Beach Council** has hosted **monthly training events (virtually)** to address all 5 protective factors

- Dates: 2nd Thursday of the month (9-10am) = **April 14th, May 12th, June 9th, July 14th, 2022**
- Topics: **racial justice values, family law and immigration rights, social emotional lessons learned during a global pandemic, increasing wellness in the workplace**

The most successful aspect of the EALB trainings is the consistency with which they are offered, the accessibility, and relevant content provided by the speakers. Council members highlighted the increasing need to address both **parental and professional burnout** in their trainings. In addition, the council was able to cover different aspects of **self-care** during their trainings. Below are some **testimonials** from participants: "Brilliant training. Love her energy, ideas, and creative thinking. She is an intersectional being who celebrates who she is in all her glory. Wonderful model for us!" "Thank you all for allowing us to still meet." "Informative and helpful, the data was insightful" "I especially appreciated the legislative updates. Thank you all so much for your incredible work!"

For more information, please visit their [website](#) or contact:

Kathryn Miles at [president@endabuselb.org](mailto:president@endabuselb.org)

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On **April 28th, 2022**, the **SPA 7 Council** supported the **CHOICES Conference** for **at-risk youth males**. It included a keynote speaker and lunch for the youth.

In **June 2022**, the Council hosted a **Parent Conference**. They worked collectively with community organizations and parents to share knowledge, wisdom and best practices, as well as enhance child abuse prevention efforts in the SPA 7 community.

The following were **goals of the event**:

- Connect with relevant speakers who address topics related to the children's social & emotional well-being
- Bring local agencies together to work collaboratively to enhance child abuse prevention and SPA 7 community
- Prevent social isolation
- Create more accessible pathways to services
- Enhance and promote knowledge of the protective factors

The most successful aspect of SPA 7's Parent Conference was the collaboration between community partners and the parents/community leaders who worked together during the development of the conference. Parents selected the topics for the workshops, and reached out to different organizations to find the speakers.

For more information, please contact:

Norma Yoguez at [nyoguez@spiritt.org](mailto:nyoguez@spiritt.org)

Maria Duarte at [marial@spiritt.org](mailto:marial@spiritt.org)

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The **Westside Anti-Violence Authority (WAVA)** has continued providing trainings to WAVA member organizations on topics such as **trauma informed-care, domestic and intimate partner violence, child abuse, impacts of DV/IPV on children, IPV for teens, healthy relationships, consent, and sexual violence prevention**. The members will also continue to provide training and support to program participants/survivors at schools and community based organizations.

In the spring of 2022, the WAVA council hosted a comprehensive **webinar on Coercive Control**, presented by Professor Evan

In the spring of 2022, the WAVA council hosted a comprehensive **webinar on Coercive Control**, presented by Professor Evan Stark, who coined the phrase “coercive control.” It was well attended by 102 members of the community connected to the WAVA council.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

Tiernan Hebron at [thebron@thepeopleconcern.org](mailto:thebron@thepeopleconcern.org)

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The **San Gabriel Valley Council** hosted 2 events and supported 1 resource fair this past spring and summer of 2022:

**May 4, 2022:** the Council organized a **Kid Power Parent Empowerment Training** (modeling behavior to reduce bullying and increase self-protection).

**May 4, 2022: Art Therapy** Training with Certified Art Therapist, Kathleen Fogelrichmond.

In **June 2022**, the Council supported the **Parents’ Place Family Resource Center and Resource Fair**.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

Karen Nutt at [kmnutt@brailleinstitute.org](mailto:kmnutt@brailleinstitute.org)

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The **Advocacy Council for Abused Deaf Children (ACADC)** hosted a May 2022 webinar in ALS, English & Spanish for parents and caregivers within the Deaf Community of Los Angeles. Additionally, the Council continued to provide **resource bags** for the community since the COVID-19 pandemic has severely impacted the Deaf Community.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

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Amy Kay at [AKay@5acres.org](mailto:AKay@5acres.org)

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On **May 24, 2022**, the **Los Angeles County - Family, Children, Community Advisory Council (LAC-FCCAC)** hosted a training on **Understanding and Building Resilience Around Cyberbullying for the Protection of Children, Teens and Young Adults**, led by Steve Krantz, Ph.D., Author of Cyber Guardian for **Secure The Village**.

In **May 2022**, the Council participated in the **community fair at St. John United Methodist Church in Watts** and **distributed child abuse prevention items**.

On **June 7, 2022**, the Council held a **Financial Literacy workshop for families**, presented by de Winter L Stewart, CFP®, CLTC®, MBA, CFC® Northwestern Mutual.

LAC-FCCAC also organized an amazing **baby book distribution: 350 books of “I Too Sing America” by Langston Hughes for the Black Infant Health Program** in LA County (Pasadena City Public Health Department, Black Infant Health, Antelope Valley Black Infant Health, and Children’s Collective of Los Angeles). Langston Hughes was best known as a leader of the Harlem Renaissance in the mid-20th century. He was an African American poet, novelist, playwright, and social activist. This book selection also provided some African American history to all the involved adults. LAC-FCCAC printed a donation statement on labels and BIH staff put the statements on the inside of each book. “This book was donated to you by the Los Angeles County-Family, Children, Community, Advisory Council, (African American Child Abuse Prevention Council). We hope that this book brings joy to the one who is reading this book and the

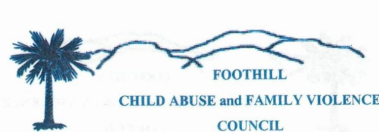
(American Indian Child Abuse Prevention Council); We hope that the book brings joy to the one who is reading this book and the one(s) who listens. Good Reading! April 2022"

This is LAC-FCCAC's **3rd year providing books to new moms** of the Black Infant Health (BIH) Programs. The purpose of this distribution was to encourage new mothers and their family members to read to their babies as soon as possible. Research has indicated the positive aspects of bonding, holding infants and talking to them to encourage early language skills. The nurturing circle begins immediately when BIH staff pick up the books and deliver them individually to the new moms in their homes.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

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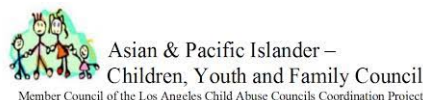
The **Foothill Child Abuse and Violence Prevention Council** supported the following activities in the **spring of 2022**:

- Distribution of **child abuse prevention & education materials** to the community;
- Creating **psychoeducational videos** to post on YouTube to be accessible to the community. The videos will focus on child abuse prevention, with various speakers and the Council Board members; and
- **Supporting families with food insecurity.**

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

Erica Villalpando at [ekarlinev33@gmail.com](mailto:ekarlinev33@gmail.com)

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The **Asian Pacific Islander - Children, Youth, and Families Council (API-CYFC)** successfully built an **interactive service mapping project for consensus-building in 2022**. It focused on reducing barriers to accessing information and provide a community-friendly platform to find service providers. This map has supported the expansion of network capacity through new and existing partnerships to benefit this target population.

Since the network of providers brought together their connections and resources (i.e. referral to the IT vendor, pooling list of resources, etc.), the project applied the **protective factors** of both social connections and concrete support in times of need.

**For more information and to get involved, please contact:**

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Jackie Ngo at [jango@cscla.org](mailto:jango@cscla.org)

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## Resources to Help Families & Community

- [CA Training Institute \(CalTrin\) Trainings for Family Strengthening](#)
  - [The Child Abuse Mandated Reporter Training Project](#) is a free virtual and self-paced training for professionals who are required by law to report suspected or known child abuse and neglect
  - [Commercially Sexually Exploited Children \(CSEC\) Trainings](#)
  - [Protective Factors](#)
  - [Child Care](#)
  - [Employment Resources](#)
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## Help Us Spread the Word!

The Los Angeles County Child Abuse Prevention Councils (LAC-CAPCs) are pleased to partner with local schools and district offices once again in the 2021-22 school year to request your help and participation with the **Report Card Insert Project**.

As you may know, occurrences of physical and emotional abuse increase when children bring home report cards that are viewed by caregivers as unsatisfactory. Now in our 23rd year of the insert project, we truly believe incidences of child abuse related to report card time have been diminished by providing strength-based educational information to parents and caregivers.

The Child Abuse Prevention Councils, funded through the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and supported by the Children's Bureau of Southern California, have designed a brief and simple one-page communication insert to be sent home, emailed or given to parents with report cards. This insert presents several constructive and positive ways to respond to a child's school performance without abuse. It is available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese, Vietnamese, Armenian, Korean, Thai, and Khmer. It is up to your school or district to decide how and when to give it to parents, but some suggested times might be: Back to School Night, emailed one week prior to report cards going home, or even included in the envelope with the report card. Some schools and districts choose to include it in their newsletters or on their website.

We encourage you to use the report card inserts at subsequent report card times throughout the year. Each year we hear from parents and teachers that the inserts are effective in raising awareness and helpful in promoting non-abusive coping behaviors.

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### **No Hit Campaign**

In **April 2022**, the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved all **LA County work sites and their contracted agencies** to be declared **No Hit Zones**. This support is monumental in the **Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect's (ICAN's) leadership** to ensure that hitting not be used as a method of discipline and that alternative resources to hitting be provided to the community. Further promoting the No Hit Zone Campaign, soon you will be seeing a **No Hit Zone PSA** featuring ICAN Associates Board Member / Actor, Justin Chambers, who played Dr. Alex Karev on Grey's Anatomy on Public Broadcasting and in County Building Recordings.

Please view the **2022 No Hit Zone Poster and Brochure in English**. Other languages are available.

To obtain a copy of No Hit Zone brochures or posters, please email ICAN Administrator Marianne Yamato at [chavem@dcfs.lacounty.gov](mailto:chavem@dcfs.lacounty.gov).

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

#### **Advocacy Council for Abused Deaf Children:**

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#### **ACTION for KIDS – Antelope Valley Child Abuse Prevention Council:**

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#### **Asian and Pacific Islander Children, Youth and Family Council:**

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LA County  
**Child Abuse  
Prevention  
Councils**



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

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