

The City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator's Office

Addressing the **Intersection** of  
Intimate Partner Violence  
**Trauma**  
& **HIV**

**July 20, 2015 8:30am to 3:30pm**

California Endowment | Los Angeles, CA

# Welcome

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The City of Los Angeles AIDS Coordinator's Office is proud to host today's event, "Addressing the Intersection of Intimate Partner Violence, Trauma, and HIV."

In 2013, the President's release of the Interagency Federal Working Group Report on *Addressing the Intersection of HIV/AIDS, Violence against Women and Girls, & Gender-Related Health Disparities* influenced a national conversation on the impact of violence leading to health disparities and overall poor HIV care outcomes, while leading to tangible changes that can better serve women, girls, and transgender women, who are survivors of violence. We applaud this long overdue effort to address violence against women and girls. We also believe in taking this issue a step further.

The AIDS Coordinator's Office recognizes that there are many underserved and marginalized communities who are severely impacted by violence and trauma; meanwhile, these communities are equally at risk for contracting HIV, transmitting HIV, and poor HIV care outcomes. These communities need staff with core competencies to screen for trauma and HIV, while providing trauma-informed care.

We hope that today will encourage dialogue, connection, and build skills of participants to better serve clients in community based and clinical settings. We hope you enjoy the conference!

Yours truly,

The Conference Planning Committee

*Four (4) Continuing Education Credits (CEs) will be provided for this event by the UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs (ISAP), which is an approved provider of continuing education for LMFTs, LPCCs, LEPs, and LCSWs (CA BBS, #PCE 2001), and the Los Angeles County HIV Drug and Alcohol Task Force (CAADAC provider #2N-10-141-0416). Credits are being offered as part of the California Alcoholism and Drug Counselors Education Program with the Foundation for Advancement of Addiction Professionals (CFAAP). In addition, six (6) SAPC-approved HIV training hours will be provided for this event.*

# Program Outline

- 8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast
- 9:15 a.m. Welcome and Introductions  
- *Ricky Rosales, AIDS Coordinator*
- 9:30 a.m. **Keynote Presentation:** Impact of Lifetime Trauma, Abuse, and Violence on Women Living with HIV  
- *Naina Khanna, Executive Director, Positive Women's Network*
- 10:05 a.m. **Opening Plenary:** Towards Trauma-Informed Care and Services: Deepening our Understanding of Violence and HIV  
- *Lili Herrera, Director of Prevention Division, Peace Over Violence*  
- *Erin Falvey, PhD, Clinical Director, Christie's Place*  
- *Yolo Akili Robinson, Capacity Building Trainer, AIDS United*
- 11:00 a.m. Break
- 11:10 a.m. **Breakout Sessions**
- Addressing the Effects of Violence and Abuse to Improve Health Outcomes for Women Living with HIV - **MOJAVE**
  - Domestic Violence 101 for HIV Workers - **CABRILLO**
  - Experiences of Partner Violence among Young Men who Have Sex with Men: Implications for HIV and Violence Prevention Programs - **YOSEMITE A**
  - HIV 101 for Domestic Violence Workers - **SIERRA**
  - Human Trafficking and HIV Prevention with a Focus on Latina Women - **BIG SUR**
  - Teen Dating Violence in the LGBTQ Community - **TAHOE**
- 12:10 p.m. Lunch - **YOSEMITE A**
- Preventing and Responding to Intimate Partner Violence: A Tool for Providers - *Kate Vander Tuig, Futures Without Violence*
- 1:10 p.m. **Breakout Sessions** (same as above)
- 2:20 p.m. **Performance by the Engaging Men Project - YOSEMITE A**
- 3:15 p.m. Closing Remarks and Evaluation
- 3:30 p.m. Meeting Adjourned

# Breakout Sessions

## Addressing the Effects of Violence and Abuse to Improve Health Outcomes for Women Living with HIV – MOJAVE

*Elizabeth (Liz) Brosnan Johnson and Erin Falvey, PhD*

Despite widespread availability of effective HIV medications in the US, the majority of women living with HIV are not accessing life-saving treatment. Women, particularly women of color, experience significant barriers to accessing high quality healthcare, and experiences of childhood and adulthood abuse are now recognized in the literature not only as risk factors for acquiring HIV but also as barriers to optimal engagement in and retention in HIV healthcare. Because trauma and PTSD are known to predict poorer HIV-related health outcomes, culturally-responsive interventions that effectively address the intersections of gender, violence and HIV must be considered an integral component of HIV healthcare and social service provision. This presentation will cover: 1) the current research on the prevalence of violence, abuse and trauma among women living with HIV in the US; 2) the impact of trauma and mental health conditions including PTSD on the health outcomes of women living with HIV; and 3) how trauma-related barriers impact successful engagement in HIV healthcare. Presenters will lead an interactive discussion on trauma-informed care including examples of trauma-informed and trauma-responsive strategies employed by Christie's Place to strengthen healthcare engagement, improve health outcomes, and address the effects of interpersonal violence and victimization for women living with HIV.

## Domestic Violence 101 for HIV Workers - CABRILLO

*Zara Espinoza, MSW*

The session will outline the nature, magnitude and consequences of domestic violence, interpersonal and sexual violence. The presenter will explore the immediate and long-term health outcomes that have been linked to these types of violence such as Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, sexually transmitted infections including HIV/AIDS. The session will identify the risk and protective factors for such violence and the importance of addressing both risk and protective factors in prevention efforts.

# Breakout Sessions

## Experiences of Partner Violence among YMSM: Implications for HIV and Violence Prevention Programs – YOSEMITE A

***Katrina Kubicek***

Research indicates that sexual minority populations experience intimate partner violence (IPV) at rates that are equal to or higher than those of heterosexual women. In addition, it is important to note that young men who have sex with men (YMSM) are one of the only populations in the US who continue to see an increase in their rates of HIV. This workshop will present a broad overview of IPV among sexual minority populations with a specific focus on YMSM. Based on research conducted with YMSM in Los Angeles, the workshop will include data related to rates of IPV, types of violence experienced by YMSM and the connection between IPV and HIV. Interactive discussions to identify intervention opportunities with this population and how service providers can best meet their needs will be included. By the end of the workshop, participants will be able to: 1) describe the types of IPV YMSM commonly experience; 2) explain how HIV risk is related to IPV perpetration and victimization; 3) identify the factors that may influence IPV perpetration among YMSM; and 4) identify intervention opportunities that may be effective with this vulnerable population.

## HIV 101 for Domestic Violence Workers - SIERRA

***Mario J. Perez, MPH***

Los Angeles County is the second most impacted jurisdiction in the nation for HIV disease, with 1,850 new infections annually and home to an estimated 60,000 people living with HIV/AIDS. This introductory workshop will provide a basic framework for understanding the impact of HIV in Los Angeles County. By the end of the workshop, participants will understand the epidemiology of HIV in the County as well as available prevention, care, and linkage and retention programs. Participants will also gain knowledge of challenges and priorities and receive basic literacy on current HIV terminology (e.g., treatment as prevention, treatment cascade).

# Breakout Sessions

## **Human Trafficking and HIV Prevention with a Focus on Latina Women – BIG SUR**

***Barbara Kappos, LCSW***

Human trafficking for the purpose of forcing women to engage in sexual acts for monetary gain has become a significant public health problem in Southern California. The workshop will present results from an assessment study aimed to better define the causes and consequences of human sex trafficking, with particular attention to HIV risk among Latinas and potential strategies for reducing HIV risk. Recommendations for developing prevention programs that meet the cultural and language needs of sex trafficked women will be identified. By the end of this session, participants will be able to: 1) identify the problem of human trafficking and HIV prevention for women; 2) understand the cultural risk factors for immigrant Latinas; 3) identify strategies for developing prevention programs that meet the cultural and language needs of sex trafficked women.

## **Teen Dating Violence in the LGBTQ Community - TAHOE**

***Giovanna Martinez and Mieko Failey, Esq.***

This workshop will provide basic information about intimate partner violence in the LGBTQ community. The session will also examine teen dating violence in LGBTQ relationships. We will discuss the dynamics of LGBT domestic violence, terms associated with LGBTQ identities and communities, and barriers that LGBT identified individuals often face when trying to obtain services.

## **Performance by the Engaging Men Project – Yosemite A**

The Engaging Men Project is a theatre ensemble that combines the stories, perspectives, and artistic talents of youth leaders from South Los Angeles to address the issue of gender based violence, with the hopes of inspiring community change, and engaging men as future advocates against interpersonal violence. The performance is driven by the authentic voices of our youth leaders, who courageously offer their personal stories of triumph against violence to mold the heart of the performance. These pure stories of courage illustrate that issues of sexual, domestic, and interpersonal violence are not abstract occurrences but real-life experiences that impact the youth of our community.

# California Endowment Map



**ROOMS: BREAKOUT SESSIONS:**

**MOJAVE (5)** ● Addressing the Effects of Violence and Abuse to Improve Health Outcomes for Women Living with HIV

**CABRILLO (7)** ● Domestic Violence 101 for HIV Workers

**YOSEMITE (A)** ● Experiences of Partner Violence among YMSM: Implications for HIV and Violence Prevention Programs

**SIERRA (2)** ● HIV 101 for Domestic Violence Workers

**BIG SUR (9)** ● Human Trafficking and HIV Prevention with a Focus on Latina Women

**TAHOE (10)** ● Teen Dating Violence in the LGBTQ Community

# Bios

*Listed in alphabetical order by last names.*

**Elizabeth (Liz) Brosnan Johnson** has served as the Executive Director of Christie's Place since 2002. Christie's Place is a San Diego-based nonprofit that provides behavioral health, comprehensive social services and advocacy to women, children and families impacted by HIV/AIDS. Over the years, Liz has transformed the organization from a small grassroots effort to a nationally recognized and award-winning health and human services agency, while dramatically increasing both resources and scope of services. Liz is passionate about providing access to quality healthcare and other basic services for vulnerable populations, as well as offering coaching to community-based organizations to ensure they remain relevant and optimize service delivery in shifting environments.

**Zara Espinoza, MSW** has over a decade working with children and families. She has background experience as a mentor, program leader, parent educator, and medical social worker. She currently serves as a therapist and parenting facilitator at the East Los Angeles Women's Center providing therapy, education and support to women who have been impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault and HIV. Zara has demonstrated an exceptional flair for building a rapport with her clients which is empathetic and empowering. Her approach is culturally sensitive, holistic and trauma informed. Her passion is to continue helping families move towards stability, which enables them to continue to build on their strengths. Zara has a Master's Degree in Social Work from California State University Long Beach.

**Mieko Failey, Esq.** is a Staff Attorney and Program Manager of the Domestic Violence Legal Advocacy Project at the Los Angeles LGBT Center and currently manages the delivery of direct legal services to LGBTQ survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking, as well as provides trainings. Mieko was a Loyola Law School Public Interest Fellow at the Los Angeles LGBT Center, where she provided and continues to provide direct legal services to LGBTQ youth survivors of dating violence, sexual violence, and hate violence. Since 2011, Mieko has served hundreds of clients and provided training to hundreds of people, including law enforcement, social workers, attorneys, domestic violence service providers, physicians, and more. Mieko serves on the Executive Board of the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council. She has received awards from Loyola Law School, the Los Angeles Lesbian and Gay Lawyers Association and the National LGBT Bar Association for her advocacy on behalf of the LGBTQ community.

# Bios

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**Erin Falvey, Ph.D.** is the Clinical Director at Christie's Place, a non-profit organization in San Diego, CA that provides comprehensive social services closely linked to primary care for women, children, and families living with HIV/AIDS. Erin is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist and has been practicing psychotherapy since 2004. She earned a Master's degree in Marital and Family Therapy from Alliant International University and a Ph.D. in Education from San Diego State University and Claremont Graduate University. At Christie's Place, Erin oversees the development and implementation of gender-responsive, trauma-informed clinical services focused on access to and retention in care for women living with HIV including behavioral health, medical case management, peer/patient navigation services, and the CHANGE for Women program.

**Lili Herrera** is currently the Director of the Prevention Division at Peace Over Violence (POV). Her responsibilities include the direct supervision of POV's Youth Prevention Services Division team, the development, implementation and direction of violence prevention programs impacting youth, their families and community. Lili is extremely experienced working directly with high risk and incarcerated youth and their families around issues of violence, which include roots of violence: family violence, gang violence, teen dating violence, sexual violence and child abuse. Over the years, Lili has coordinated, implemented, supervised and managed numerous projects that focus on violence prevention through education, empowerment, self advocacy and awareness. Lili began her path in the violence prevention field over 16 years ago as LACAAW's POV Youth Educator. In 2009, Lili was appointed Director of Prevention for Peace Over Violence.

**Barbara Kappos, LCSW** is a well acknowledged leader and currently serves as the Executive Director of the East Los Angeles Women's Center in Los Angeles, California. Her persistence, determination and ability to empower women during their most devastating times, continues to be the strength of her inspiration to create change. She has over 25 years of experience working in the Greater East Los Angeles communities providing services to vulnerable families. She has established a variety of service models based on best practices and culturally relevant interventions. She is a licensed social worker with experience in the field of social work and has been influential in the areas of child welfare, HIV/AIDS, domestic violence, sexual assault and substance abuse recovery.

# Bios

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**Naina Khanna** serves as Executive Director of Positive Women's Network - USA, a national membership body of women living with HIV. She also serves on the Board of Directors for AIDS United, the Steering Committee for the US People Living with HIV Caucus, the Steering Committee for the 30 for 30 Campaign, and served on President Obama's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA) from 2010 to 2014. A national speaker, trainer, and advocate, Naina has worked in the HIV field since 2005. Prior to working in HIV, Naina co-founded and served as National Field Director for the League of Pissed Off Voters, a progressive electoral organizing project focused on increasing political participation by young people and communities of color. Naina was diagnosed with HIV in 2002.

**Katrina Kubicek** is the Program Manager at the Community, Health Outcomes, and Intervention Research Program at Children's Hospital Los Angeles and the Associate Director of the Community Engagement program of the Southern California Clinical and Translational Science Institute. She is also completing her doctoral studies at in Health Behavior Research in the Department of Preventive Medicine at the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California. For the past 8 years she has been involved in HIV prevention research in Los Angeles, working with young men who have sex with men (YMSM) and other populations. Her work has been published in scientific peer-reviewed journals, presented to international audiences. Currently, she is the principal investigator of a grant that explore the relationship between intimate partner violence and HIV risk among YMSM and is exploring intervention opportunities with this population.

**Giovanna Martinez** is the Youth Services Coordinator for the Women Shelter of Long Beach and has worked with victims of domestic violence since 2001. She specializes in helping youth heal from the abuse they have witnessed and experienced. Prior to becoming a Youth Services Coordinator, she spent years as a Child Development Center Counselor and Women's Counselor for the emergency shelter. She also serves on two local Long Beach Boards, End Abuse Long Beach and Long Beach Pride Inc. In 2013, she was nominated to be the Los Angeles Domestic Violence Council Co-Chair of their LGBT Sub-Committee. In 2012, Giovanna was the recipient of Sorooptimist of Long Beach Woman of Distinction Human Rights/Status of Women award, as well as being one of The Long Beach Post 2012, 40 under 40 award winners, and End Abuse Long Beach's Abuse Prevention Award of 2012. She is currently pursuing her MA in Marriage and Family Therapy.

# Bios

*Listed in alphabetical order by last names.*

**Mario J. Pérez, MPH** is the Director, Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP) County of Los Angeles, Department of Public Health. Mario is responsible for managing the annual investment of more than \$100 million in local, state and federal resources that support a comprehensive local HIV and STD service delivery system. He is a leader on state, local, and national HIV policy issues, serving on the Board of Directors of the National Minority AIDS Council and the Los Angeles County Commission on HIV. Mr. Pérez has received recognition for his leadership in the fight against HIV/AIDS by then Assemblyman Villaraigosa, State Senator Hilda Solis, the Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, and numerous local organizations. In February 2010, Mario was appointed to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS (PACHA), and remains passionately committed to ensuring that our Nation has a more responsive HIV/AIDS strategy.

**Yolo Akili Robinson** serves as the capacity building trainer for AIDs United. In this role, he conducts and coordinates CBA trainings and requests. Yolo specializes in training through instructional design, documentary and e-learning platforms. Yolo has over 10 years of experience working as a trainer, specifically related to issues surrounding HIV/AIDS, intimate partner violence and LGBTQ social concerns. In addition, Yolo is a well-respected emotional health advocate, who has written extensively on emotional health and issues of gender, sexuality and race. He is the author of the fan favorite *Dear Universe: Letters of Affirmation & Empowerment For All Of Us* and has written for the Huffington Post, The Good Men Project, The Atlanta Journal Constitution and Everyday Feminisms– and his work has been featured on BET.com, Huffington Post Live, The Daily Princetonian, and The Feminist Wire.

**Kate Vander Tuig** has worked as a community educator and advocate to survivors of sexual and domestic violence in Washington, DC and San Francisco, CA and currently works as a Program Specialist on the Health Team at Futures Without Violence. In her role at FUTURES she helps to coordinate the National Conference on Health and Domestic Violence and supports the National Health Resource Center on Domestic Violence through material development, technical assistance, and provider education. She holds a bachelor of arts degree, with a concentration in community based change, from the University of Michigan and is a volunteer at Bay Area Girls Rock Camp. Connect with her on Twitter at @katesvt.

# Special Thanks

We would like to thank the following planning members for their hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment to end the fight against violence and HIV among all communities.

Jessica Corral, Peace Over Violence

Laura Diven, Los Angeles HIV Law and Policy Project

Mieko Failey, Esq., Los Angeles LGBT Center

Dahlia Ferlito, MPH, AIDS Coordinator's Office

Susan Forrest, Los Angeles County HIV Drug and Alcohol Task Force

Thelma Garcia, East Los Angeles Women's Center

Grissel Granados, Children's Hospital Los Angeles

Lili Herrera, Peace Over Violence

Uyen Kao, MPH, CHIPTS and Center for Behavioral and Addiction Medicine

Melodie Krusopodin, Peace Over Violence

Ayaka Nakaji, APAIT/Special Service for Groups

Ricky Rosales, AIDS Coordinator's Office

Monique Tula, AIDS United

Thank you to our sponsors and partners that made this event possible.

