

# ABMoC VALORUS

Alliance for Boys and Men of Color

# CRDV network



CALIFORNIA  
PARTNERSHIP TO END  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Together, We're Stronger.



National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence  
A PROJECT OF THE LOS ANGELES LGBT CENTER  
In partnership with the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs and In Our Own Voices, Inc.



National Center  
for Youth Law



Jenesse Center, Inc.  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM



LOS ANGELES  
LGBT CENTER



ASIAN AMERICANS  
ADVANCING JUSTICE  
LOS ANGELES

STANDING TOGETHER  
TO END SEXUAL ASSAULT



nextgen  
california

CALIFORNIANS  
FOR SAFETY AND JUSTICE



YOUNG WOMEN'S  
FREEDOM CENTER

MIRROR  
MEMOIRS



House of Ruth  
Assisting Families Victimized by Domestic Violence



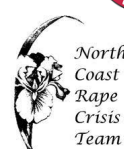
STOPPING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



CENTER FOR THE  
PACIFIC ASIAN FAMILY  
NURTURING CHANGE TOGETHER



eliminating racism  
empowering women  
ywca  
Golden Gate Silicon Valley



RUBY'S PLACE  
A PLACE FOR HOPE & HEALING





Walnut Ave  
— FAMILY & WOMEN'S CENTER —



Senate Committee on Budget  
1020 N St., Room 502  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Assembly Committee on Budget  
1021 O St., Suite 8230  
Sacramento, CA 95814

May 2023

## Re: Critical Investments to Prevent and End Sexual and Domestic Violence

Dear State Leaders,

The Alliance for Boys and Men of Color, the California Partnership to End Domestic Violence, the Culturally Responsive Domestic Violence Network, and ValorUS® respectfully write to express our concern about the absence of funding to prevent sexual and domestic violence in the Governor's recent January budget. Our organizations call on budget leaders to make the necessary investments this year.

As highlighted by the Governor's January budget proposal, an allocation of \$15 million one-time general fund was made in 2021 to expand domestic violence and sexual violence prevention efforts. While this investment funded critical programs for two years, stable and ongoing funding is essential to violence prevention. As California approaches a year filled with economic uncertainty, investing in prevention efforts is imperative. It has been proven that external stressors, such as economic insecurity, result in increased reports of all forms of intimate partner violence including sexual and domestic violence.

In order to help address this urgent need, our coalition and over 90 supporting organizations request \$44 million to prevent and end cycles of domestic and sexual violence.

With this investment California can:

- Prevent violence by engaging youth and community around safe and healthy relationships;
- Provide spaces where survivors can access culturally-specific healing;

- Engage men—and people of all genders—through nonviolence programs that are innovative, healing-centered, and holistic;
- Create a cohesive, coordinated, statewide approach to ending cycles of violence.

Prevention is an intergenerational endeavor that takes time. The absence of sustained funding for these crucial programs fails current and future generations—Californians deserve and need a state budget that prioritizes preventing and ending sexual and domestic violence. Our coalition is hopeful that the legislature and the Governor will still work together to provide ongoing funding in the final budget to continue the critical prevention work that has previously been funded across the state. Please find attached a detailed breakdown of our funding request. We will continue to advocate for these important resources before the final budget is approved in June.

Thank you for considering our request to provide stable and ongoing funding for domestic and sexual violence services and programming.

Sincerely,

Krista Colón  
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence

Eric Morrison-Smith  
Alliance for Boys and Men of Color

David S. Lee  
ValorUS®

Abigail Alvarez  
The Culturally Responsive Domestic  
Violence Network

### **Detailed funding request to Prevent and End Sexual and Domestic Violence**

#### **1. Invest \$20 million in ongoing funding for domestic & sexual violence prevention grants to be administered by the Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES).**

The FY 21-22 state budget included \$15 million in one-time funding for this purpose, and the FY 18-19 and FY 19-20 budgets included \$10 million and \$5 million respectively. Cal OES has administered these funds primarily as competitive grant programs, with the exception of augmenting the rape crisis centers in FY 18-19 to support their prevention work.

It is time for the state to commit to ongoing funding to stop future incidences of violence and reduce the costs of sexual and domestic violence to victims, and our communities. Prevention works by teaching safe and healthy relationship skills to school-age youth, improving school climates and safety with peer-led programs, shifting culture by

engaging boys and men in gender equity, and promoting racial justice with culturally responsive solutions. Changing the conditions and norms that allow sexual and domestic violence to occur will take time. Thriving communities and healthy relationships can prevail over sexual and domestic violence if we sustain these efforts. With a per-project grant award of \$150,000 per year, this request could fund approximately 130 community-based prevention programs, truly allowing prevention to reach across California.

**2. Invest \$22M to support innovative interventions and culturally rooted approaches to end domestic and sexual violence, to be administered by California Department of Social Services**

- a. Through this fund, the state can support nonviolence programs for people seeking support in healthy relationships, with programs that are tailored for men, people with disabilities, LGBTQIA community, and culturally rooted programs. Additionally, these programs can support people with other barriers to health and safety they may be experiencing, including economic stability, education, substance use, and mental health needs.
- b. Separately, allocate funding for DSS to administer funding for culturally-responsive and culturally-specific victim service providers (including non-shelter based programs), to meet the needs of historically marginalized communities.
- c. Funding to pilot programs and expand capacity of existing community-based organizations that support domestic violence survivors and people who have used violence, to create restorative and transformative justice programs and helplines for men, and people of all genders, who are at risk of causing harm in their homes, relationships, and/or communities.

**3. Invest \$2M to establish a senior advisor on violence prevention.** California needs a single entity that is empowered to achieve a cohesive statewide strategy for violence prevention and healing, across all departments and agencies. Advocates of the proposal are willing to work with the legislature through the budget process to determine where this position can be housed within. While dozens of state agencies address various aspects of violence prevention and intervention, there is no centralized entity to ensure a whole-of-government response to these pervasive issues and to coordinate activities across all state departments, such as the Department of Public Health, Department of Social Services, Department of Education, California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, and more. Rather than focusing energy on a government reorganization to combine California's Victim Compensation Program and the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services Victim Services grant management, this approach would bring together a statewide response to preventing violence. At the national level, we have seen the positive impact of the first-ever White House Advisor on Violence Against Women during the Obama administration, and the current Gender Policy Council and Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence under the Biden administration.

Futures Without Violence  
Brotherhood Crusade  
Positive Results Corp  
Youth Forward  
Youth Alliance  
RedF  
Prevention Institute  
National Center for Youth Law  
EPIC  
CHAT Project  
AAAJ  
MILPA  
BAWAR  
CRCNCC  
Rainbow Services  
Live Violence Free  
Mixteco/Indígena Community Organizing  
Project  
Strong Hearted Native Women's Coalition, Inc.  
Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence  
House of Ruth, Inc.  
Center for the Pacific Asian Family, CPAF  
Safe Alternatives to Violent Environments  
(SAVE)  
Global Transgender Safety Tasks Force USA  
Inc  
Lumina Alliance  
REACH  
North County Rape Crisis & Child Protection  
Center  
Mirror Memoirs  
National Compadres Network  
Waymakers  
Wild Iris Family Counseling and Crisis Center  
NEWS 2018  
The Open Door Network  
Tri-Valley Haven Empower Yolo, Inc  
National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner  
Violence  
Restorative Justice For The Arts  
Standing Together to End Sexual Assault  
Los Angeles LGBT Center  
DOVES of Big Bear Valley, Inc.  
North Coast Rape Crisis Team  
Jenesse Center  
Jewish Family Service LA  
Community United Against Violence  
CHAN-BOF for Peace Collaborative  
East Los Angeles Women's Center  
Walnut Avenue Family & Women's Center

Monarch Services  
Valley Oasis  
YWCA  
Generation Up  
Family Violence Appellate Project  
Orange County Equality Coalition  
Alliance for Community Transformations  
Public Law Center  
Maitri  
Deaf Hope  
Strength United  
Californians for Safety & Justice  
Young Women's Freedom Center  
Sister Warrior's Freedom Coalition  
Asian Women's Shelter  
  
Men Creating Peace  
My Sister's House  
CURYJ  
SafeQuest Solano  
Center for Judicial Excellence  
Sigma Beta Xi Inc.  
Ruby's Place  
Indigenous Justice/Restoring Justice for  
Indigenous Peoples  
Casa de Esperanza  
Healthy Alternatives to Violent Environments  
(HAVEN)  
Victory In Praise  
The People Concern  
Stopping Domestic Violence  
New Star Family Justice Center  
California Alliance for Youth and Community  
Justice  
Lassen Family Services  
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking  
Center for Community Solutions  
Central California 2SLGBTQIA+ Collaborative  
LGBTQ+ Rural Resource Center  
Empower Tehama  
Hollywood Now  
Parents for Public Schools San Francisco  
Korean American Family Services  
STAND! For Families Free of Violence  
Imperial Valley LGBT Resource Center  
Women's Center High Desert  
John Burton Advocates for Youth  
Peace Over Violence  
NextGen California  
Little Hoover Commision

Jewish Public Affairs Committee of California  
Improve Your Tomorrow, Inc.  
Maitri  
Family Violence Law Center  
Victims Empowerment Support Team  
Locked In CEA Inc.  
Project: Peacemakers, Inc  
Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA)

Domestic Violence Solutions for Santa Barbara  
County  
Partners Against Violence  
Recognize Violence, Change Culture