



**COUNTY OF SANTA CLARA**

**Domestic Violence Council**

**FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 WORK PLAN**

**AND**

**2017-2018 ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

*Members:*

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## Mission statement

The Domestic Violence Council's (DVC) mission is to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors to assure safety and restoration for victims of domestic violence, cessation of the violence, and accountability for batterers. The Domestic Violence Council will do this by:

- Improving coordination among agencies, departments, courts, members of the community and victims in matters of family violence and abuse;
- Promoting effective prevention, intervention and treatment techniques that will be developed based upon research and data collection;
- Improving the response to domestic violence and abuse in order to reduce incidents thereof; and
- Educating the public about the need to end domestic violence.

## Historical background

The Domestic Violence Council was established by ordinance in 1991. The prior year, a Domestic Violence Task Force led by the presiding judge of Juvenile Court and the chair of the Board of Supervisors formed a committee to evaluate community needs and determine what our county's first DV coordinating council could do. The DVC was initially structured with 22 interdisciplinary members with the District Attorney serving as Chair and five seats allotted to members of the public.

Today's DVC is both similar and different. Any commissioner can chair the DVC and three leadership positions exist. The size of the DVC grew significantly but was eventually restored to its original number of 22 members. The mission, purpose and duties have not substantially changed. But some differences are striking:

- Today, no members of the DVC represent the community at large; all have an affiliation that is related to inclusive interdisciplinary response to DV, from survivors to immigrant voices to the LGBTQ communities
- In the early 1990's, the first DVC had only five committees to achieve its work plan goals – Court Systems, Community Education, Data, Legislation and Police-Victim Advocacy. Today, there are no formal committees to address community education, data and legislation. Much of this work, if it takes place, occurs largely within the standing committee structure.
- A number of subject-matter specific standing committees now exist, including Conference Planning; Children's Issues; Batterer's Intervention; LGBTQ and Medical.

In the more than 25 years that the DVC has been functioning, the purpose of the Council remains rooted in 4 areas that need continuous monitoring and improvement:

- (1) coordination between many interdisciplinary entities and individuals;
- (2) prevention, intervention and treatment based on evidence and best practices;
- (3) effective response; and
- (4) education about the need to end domestic violence in our communities.

The accomplishments contained herein reflect a wide range of deliverables across these four areas. The County's Intimate Partner Violence Task Force completed its work in 2017, and provided the stakeholder community with a broad range of findings and recommendations to consider. As expected, these findings and recommendations provided the DVC with a framework for its own growth and guided us our changing awareness of the ways domestic violence impacts all members of a family system, including survivors, offenders and children, and that in our diverse communities, family members have distinct needs that require tailored and appropriate responses.

**FISCAL YEAR 2017-2018 WORK PLAN**

<b>GOAL/OBJECTIVE</b>	<b>PROPOSED ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>PRIORITY RANKING</b>	<b>TIMELINE FOR COMPLETION</b>
<b>1. Ensure more effective response to domestic violence in order to reduce incidents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Revise the Batterers' Intervention Progress Report template for certified providers (BIP)</b></li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	<b>June 2019</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Examine current practices for criminal protective order (CPO) modification requests and the impact on government and community agencies (PVAC)</b></li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	<b>June 2019</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Create new procedure to allow for renewal of protective orders issued by Juvenile Dependency Court after the case has closed (Court Systems)</b></li> </ul>	<b>3</b>	<b>June 2019</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Improve healthcare services for children exposed to IPV and their parents, including critical support services for children and families in marginalized communities (e.g., LGTBQ, undocumented immigrants and communities of color) (Medical)</b></li> </ul>	<b>?</b>	<b>December 2018</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hold an annual retreat and use the outcomes and priorities to help DVC and its committees to focus their goals and priorities (Executive)</b></li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	<b>Ongoing</b>
<b>2. Education of the community including our systems' community and the community at large</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Plan and organize DVC's 25<sup>th</sup> Annual DV Conference (Conference)</b></li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	<b>October 2018</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Focus on addressing the needs of DV survivors who are undocumented immigrants (PVAC)</b></li> </ul>	<b>1</b>	<b>September 2018</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus on addressing the needs of DV survivors who belong to the LGBTQ community including data collection and training opportunities (PVAC)</li> <li>• Reach out to Criminal DV Bench to check box 16 on CPOs to allow for Family Division Bench to order child visitation for restrained person if appropriate without requiring the CPO to be modified first (Court Systems)</li> <li>• Educational event re impact of IPV on children, prevention tools and resources (Children's Issues)</li> <li>• Provide education and information about BIPs to legal system stakeholders such as staff at Family Court Services and lawyers through Santa Clara County Bar Association (BIC)</li> <li>• Reach out to the DVC to address the public perception of BIPs and accuracy of their effectiveness and success (BIC)</li> <li>• Increase community outreach and education efforts to raise awareness of DV issue sand address current event, emerging practice and developing concerns (Executive)</li> </ul>	3	March 2019
		3	June 2019
		1	June 2019
		3	June 2019
		3	June 2019
		2	Ongoing
<b>3. Monitor and improve the coordination between many interdisciplinary entities and individuals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve coordination of domestic violence Cases that move between family and Juvenile Dependency Courts (Court Systems)</li> <li>• Assess the impact of threat of ICE presence in courthouses, including where DV related hearings are held, on</li> </ul>	2	June 2019
		4	June 2019

	<p><b>undocumented immigrants, who are survivors or perpetrators, accessing justice (Court Systems)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Improve IPV prevention and intervention systems serving children and youth to enhance linkages between families and services (Children’s Issues)</b></li> <li>• <b>DVC Commissioners and committees to maintain sufficient communication with DVC through the Executive Committee to apprise of latest activities and developments and to support DVC in role as advisory commission to BOS (Executive)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>June 2019</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
<p><b>4. Increase safety, accountability and stability through prevention, intervention and treatment based on evidence and best practices</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Continue to explore best practices around the Domestic Violence Accountability Program within Santa Clara County, the state, and nation (BIC)</b></li> <li>• <b>Identify the potential impact of bail reform for DV survivors and identify strategies that ensure victim notification (PVAC)</b></li> <li>• <b>Identify gaps in services within the criminal justice system and stakeholders with the use of a feedback survey (PVAC)</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>1</b></p> <p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>Ongoing</b></p> <p><b>September 2018</b></p> <p><b>Ongoing</b></p>
<p><b>5. New initiatives</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Reluctant Victims in Criminal Court-modify the name due to stigma attached and create best practices and FAQs (Court Systems)</b></li> <li>• <b>Address the current CPO modification referral process to increase understanding of the legal process and ensure access to</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>June 2019</b></p> <p><b>June 2019</b></p>

	<p>services at no cost (Court Systems)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide input for pending legislation and address current developments to evaluate BIPs' role and responses and to improve client support (BIC)</li> <li>• DVC to actively recruit for vacant chairs with special consideration to membership diversity (race, gender, sexual orientation, and experience) (Executive)</li> </ul>	<p>4</p> <p>3</p>	<p>Ongoing</p> <p>Ongoing</p>
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## **PRIOR YEAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**(refer to each committee's individual work plan for details on each accomplishment)**

- **Create ad hoc committees within Executive Committee to address various current issues and needs as identified at meetings and approved by the DVC such as: Help implement IPV Task Force recommendations; work with Office of Women's Policy to hire a contractor to develop and conduct study of batterers intervention programs; and organize and coordinate a training event for law enforcement on new laws and forms, lethality assessment, local resources and LE Protocol revisions (Executive)**
- **Initiate 2 year strategic planning process for DVC (Executive)**
- **Continued efforts to engage Commissioners and Committee members and increase attendance at meetings (Executive)**
- **Continued efforts to fill vacancies on DVC (Executive)**
- **Worked closely with OWP to increased interaction with Board of Supervisors by presenting work plan at a PSJC meeting (Executive)**
- **Held an educational event for members of law enforcement agencies in SCC to increase knowledge of DV LE Protocols, lethality assessments, new DV laws and Judicial Council and local DV court forms within the law enforcement community (PVAC/Executive)**
- **Increase interpreter access to survivors. (PVAC)**
- **Focus on undocumented survivors of domestic violence including education and awareness of immigration services, victims' rights and immigration relief (PVAC)**
- **Focus on LGBTQ survivors including data collection and training opportunities (PVAC)**
- **Through additional funding, day of court DV advocate support services are being provided in all Family Court departments (Court Systems)**
- **Improve Coordination of Domestic Violence cases that move between Family and Juvenile Dependency Divisions- Partially completed and objective extended to June 2019 (Court Systems)**
- **An FAQ was drafted and sent to DV agencies in the county for review and distribution as one way to help protected persons understand how to properly serve and enforce a civil restraining order (Court Systems)**
- **Improve access to housing for Families affected by Domestic Violence (Court Systems)**
- **Continue to coordinate with Santa Clara County Medical Society to explore partnership on DV education and awareness (Medical)**
- **Promote Universal screening of prenatal and primary care patients (4P+ tool) (Medical)**
- **Continue to explore best practices for batterer treatment locally, statewide and nationally (BIC)**



- **Ongoing education presentations regarding batterer intervention to stakeholders in the legal system (BIC)**
- **LGBTQ Intimate Partner Violence Education via Pride Booth; Training for Volunteer and Staff at 4 of the 5 DV Shelter agencies; “Train the Trainer” event on LGBTQ issues at the DA’s Office (LGBTQ)**
- **Publication of newsletter dedicated to promoting children’s issues (Children’s Issues)**
- **Collaboration with Child Abuse Council to implement Healthy Relationships Public Messaging Campaign (Children’s Issues)**

**ONGOING PROJECTS**

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>
<b>1. Plan and hold the Annual DVC Retreat</b>	<b>2018 retreat was held in February 2018</b>
<b>2. Hold annual conference</b>	<b>2017 DV conference was held in October 2017</b>