



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



Visit us online: <http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

Get in touch: [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org)

Subscribe to the Commission's Email List:

<https://tinyurl.com/y83ynuzt>

# WOMEN'S CAUCUS

## Virtual Meeting

Monday, April 17, 2023  
2:00-4:00pm (PST)

Agenda and meeting materials will be posted on <http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Meetings> \*Other Meetings

REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED + SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION IN SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES NOW AVAILABLE VIA CLOSED CAPTION FEATURE WHEN JOINING VIA WEBEX. CLICK [HERE](#) FOR MORE INFO.

### TO JOIN BY COMPUTER:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=m855bd7cfe8af7ae125932a33c18f6ccb>

Meeting Password: WOMEN

### TO JOIN BY PHONE:

1-213-306-3065 Access Code/Event #: 2599 564 0473

For a brief tutorial on how to use WebEx, please check out this video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iQSSJYcrglk>

*\*For those using iOS devices - iPhone and iPad - a new version of the WebEx app is now available and is optimized for mobile devices. Visit your Apple App store to download.*

### LIKE WHAT WE DO?

Apply to become a Commissioner at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2023CommissiononHIVMemberApplication>

For application assistance call (213) 738-2816 or email [hivcomm@lachiv.org](mailto:hivcomm@lachiv.org)



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
**COMMISSION ON HIV**



510 S. Vermont Avenue, 14th Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90020 • TEL (213) 738-2816  
HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG • <https://hiv.lacounty.gov>

---

*REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED + SIMULTANEOUS TRANSLATION IN SPANISH AND OTHER LANGUAGES NOW AVAILABLE VIA CLOSED CAPTION FEATURE WHEN JOINING VIA WEBEX. [CLICK HERE](#) FOR MORE INFO.*

---

# WOMEN'S CAUCUS

## Virtual Meeting Agenda

Monday, April 17, 2023 @ 2:00-4:00PM

To Join by Computer or Smart Device:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=m855bd7cfe8af7ae125932a33c18f6ccb>

Password: WOMEN

To Join by Phone

Dial +1-213-306-3065 Access Code: 2599 564 0473

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| 1. Welcome + Introductions + Check-In        | 2:00 PM – 2:05 PM |
| 2. Executive Director/Staff Report           | 2:05 PM – 2:10 PM |
| • Operational and Programmatic Updates       |                   |
| 3. Co-Chair's Report                         | 2:10 PM – 2:15 PM |
| 4. Discussion:                               | 2:15 PM – 3:45 PM |
| • 2023 Workplan Activities                   |                   |
| ○ Virtual Lunch & Learn Planning             |                   |
| • Topic: Coping w/ Grief & Loss              |                   |
| ○ Women's Caucus 2019 Recommendations Review |                   |
| ○ Women-Centered Services and Programming    |                   |
| 5. Meeting Recap + Next Meeting Agenda       | 3:45 PM – 3:50 PM |
| 6. Public Comment + Announcements            | 3:50 PM – 4:00 PM |
| 7. Adjournment                               | 4:00 PM           |



## LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV



510 S. Vermont Ave 14<sup>th</sup> Floor • Los Angeles, CA 90020 • TEL (213) 738-2816 • FAX (213) 637-6748

HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG • <http://hiv.lacounty.gov>

### CODE OF CONDUCT

We welcome commissioners, guests, and the public into a space where people of all opinions and backgrounds are able to contribute. We create a safe environment that celebrates differences while striving for consensus and is characterized by consistent, professional, and respectful behavior. Our common enemies are HIV and STDs. We strive to be introspective and understand and clarify our assumptions, while appreciating the complex intersectionality of the lives we live. We challenge ourselves to be self-reflective and committed to an ongoing understanding. As a result, the Commission has adopted and is consistently committed to implementing the following guidelines for Commission, committee, and associated meetings.

**All participants and stakeholders should adhere to the following:**

- 1) We strive for consensus and compassion in all our interactions.**
- 2) We respect others' time by starting and ending meetings on time, being punctual, and staying present.**
- 3) We listen, don't repeat what has already been stated, avoid interrupting others, and allow others to be heard.**
- 4) We encourage all to bring forth ideas for discussion, community planning, and consensus.**
- 5) We focus on the issue, not the person raising the issue.**
- 6) We give and accept respectful and constructive feedback.**
- 7) We keep all issues on the table (no "hidden agendas"), avoid monopolizing discussions and minimize side conversations.**
- 8) We have no place in our deliberations for homophobic, racist, sexist, and other discriminatory statements and "-isms" (including misogyny, transphobia, ableism, and ageism).**
- 9) We give ourselves permission to learn from our mistakes.**

Approved (11/12/1998); Revised (2/10/2005; 9/6/2005); **Revised (4/11/19; 3/3/22)**



# 2023 Training Schedule

- All trainings are open to the public.
- Click on the training topic to register.
- Recordings will be available on our [website](#) for those unable to join live trainings.
- Certifications of Completion will be provided.
- All trainings are virtual.

Topic	Date
<b><u>General Orientation and Commission on HIV Overview *</u></b>	March 29 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<b><u>Priority Setting and Resource Allocation Process &amp; Service Standards Development *</u></b>	April 12 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<b><u>Tips for Making Effective Written and Oral Public Comments</u></b>	May 24 3:00 - 4:00 PM
<b><u>Ryan White Care Act Legislative Overview Membership Structure and Responsibilities *</u></b>	July 19 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<b><u>Public Health 101</u></b>	August 16 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<b><u>Sexual Health and Wellness</u></b>	September 20 3:00 - 5:00 PM
<b><u>Health Literacy and Self-Advocacy</u></b>	October 18 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<b><u>Policy Priorities and Legislative Docket Development Process *</u></b>	November 15 3:00 - 4:30 PM
<b><u>Co-Chair Roles and Responsibilities</u></b>	December 6 4:00 - 5:00 PM

*\*Mandatory core trainings for all commissioners.*



## Women's Caucus January 23, 2023 Virtual Meeting Summary

### In attendance:

<b>Shary Alonzo (Co-Chair)</b>	<b>Dr. Mikhaela Cielo (Co-Chair)</b>	Jayda Arrington
Dechelle	Arlene Frames	Shellye Jones
Guadalupe Morales-Avendano	Joyce Paraico	Sandra Rogers
Jazmin Rojano	Natalie Sanchez	Connie Solis
Dr. LaShonda Spencer	Paulina Zamudio	Carmen Zapata
Cheryl Barrit (COH Staff)	Catherine Lapointe (COH Staff)	Dawn McClendon (COH Staff)
Lizette Martinez (COH Staff)		

### 1. Welcome + Introductions + Check-In

Dr. Mikhaela Cielo, Co-Chair, welcomed attendees and led introduction and check-ins.

### 2. Executive Director/Staff Report

#### • Operational and Programmatic Updates

- Cheryl Barrit, Executive Director, announced that the Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP) 2022-2026 is now available on the Commission on HIV (Commission) website. Lizette Martinez, Commission Staff, has developed summary slides of the CHP, which are also available on the Commission website and January Women's Caucus meeting packet.
- C. Barrit informed the Caucus that beginning in March, all Brown Act meetings, including the full-body Commission and five Committee meetings, are required to be in-person. All caucuses, workgroups, and task forces have the option to continue meeting virtually.
- C. Barrit reported that the Commission's 2022 Annual Report will be finalized during the January 26<sup>th</sup> Executive Committee meeting. Any caucus members who are interested in reading the report are welcome to join the meeting or review the meeting packet.

### 3. Co-Chair's Report

#### • 2023 Co-Chair Nominations & Elections

- The Caucus held their 2023 co-chair elections. At their last meeting, Shary Alonzo, Dr. Cielo, and Danielle Campbell were nominated. The Caucus

held a vote. The results were as follows: S. Alonzo – 6 votes; Dr. Cielo – 4 votes; and D. Campbell – 3 votes. S. Alonzo and Dr. Cielo were elected as 2023 Women’s Caucus co-chairs.

- **2023 Meeting Frequency & Schedule**

- The Caucus discussed their 2023 meeting frequency and schedule. Caucus members Paulina Zamudio, Dr. LaShonda Spencer, Dr. Cielo, and Guadalupe Morales-Avendano recommended meeting quarterly in order to have less frequent, but more productive meetings.
- Jayda Arrington requested to keep the meetings virtual.

- **2023 Workplan Development**

- The Caucus discussed their 2023 workplan and what they would like to discuss/learn more about throughout the year.
- G. Morales-Avendano requested to bring in a speaker to discuss how HIV effects women’s cognition.
- S. Alonzo requested to hear about how women can regain their self-esteem, have a healthy mindset, and a bright outlook after receiving their HIV diagnosis.
- J. Arrington requested to hear about healthy coping mechanism when dealing with all of life’s hardships. P. Zamudio concurred and recommending having a discussion centered on the grieving process.

#### **4. Discussion:**

- **Psychosocial Support Services Programmatic Development**

- P. Zamudio asked the Caucus what a potential women’s support group program should consist of. Carmen Zapata commented that the support group should be inclusive to transwomen and women of all ages. Natalie Sanchez recommended meeting in a space that provides easy transportation and free parking. Jazmin Rojano commented that the support group should be offered in different languages.

#### **5. Meeting Recap + Next Meeting Agenda**

- The next meeting will take place on April 17<sup>th</sup> from 2-4PM.

#### **6. Public Comment + Announcements**

- Shellye Jones announced that registration for A Woman’s Voice San Diego Women’s HIV Conference is now open. The conference will take place on March 11<sup>th</sup> and consist of a day of fellowship and community building. The hybrid event will bring together health experts, community organizers, consumers, and

activists from across the nation to engage in educational workshops and dialogue regarding accessible HIV education and healthcare. All who identify as women are welcome to attend. Commission staff will distribute the informational flyer once available.

- Connie Solis commented that the CHICAS Program at Via Care provides PrEP and PEP to women in their East LA and South Gate clinics.
- J. Rojano announced that the LA Women’s Task Force will be meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup> at 9:30 AM. The Task Force is also planning a “Paint the Night” event that will take place on February 9<sup>th</sup>. The flyer will be shared with Commission staff.
- D. Campbell announced that the LinkPositively study is recruiting Black women living with HIV to participate in the study to use a peer support mobile app to help them retain in HIV care. Those who are interested can contact [dacambe@health.ucsd.edu](mailto:dacambe@health.ucsd.edu).

## **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Dr. Cielo.



## Women’s Caucus Workplan 2023

Adopted January 23, 2023

**PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT:** To identify activities and priorities the Women’s Caucus will lead and advance throughout 2023.

**CRITERIA:** Select activities that 1) represent the core functions of the COH and Caucus, 2) advance the goals of the [2022-2026 Comprehensive HIV Plan \(CHP\)](#), and 3) align with COH staff and member capacities and time commitment.

**CAUCUS RESPONSIBILITIES:** 1) Facilitate dialogue among caucus members, 2) develop caucus voice at the Commission and in the community, 3) provide the caucus perspective on various Commission issues, and 4) cultivate leadership within the caucus membership and consumer community.

#	GOAL/ACTIVITY	ACTION STEPS/TASKS	TIMELINE/ DUE DATE	STATUS/COMMENTS
1	<b>2023 Virtual Lunch &amp; Learn Series</b>	Identify topics centered around women living with and at risk for HIV and STDs to promote community engagement, awareness and education.	Ongoing	At its January 23, 2023 meeting, the Caucus suggested the following topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coping strategies for grief and loss from a positive mindset <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tools and interventions</li> <li>○ Reframing perspective</li> <li>○ Losing identity as result of diagnosis</li> <li>○ Life Coach recommended as speaker</li> <li>○ Be mindful of triggers; focus on coping tools than the trauma</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Psychological Profile of HIV Diagnosis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ How diagnosis affects cognition</li> <li>○ How does long term HIV impact the brain</li> <li>○ Refer to Dr. Avendano-Morales for speaker recommendation</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2	<b>Women-Centered HIV-Related Programming:</b> <i>Identify programs and services centered around women, assess their effectiveness in meeting the needs of women, provide specific strategies to address gaps.</i>	Psychosocial Support Services Programmatic Development: Propose recommendations for potential funding opportunities for Psychosocial Support Services through the Division of HIV and STD Programs (DHSP)  Childcare Services	Ongoing	At the November 17, 2022 Caucus meeting, Paulina Zamudio requested feedback from the Caucus to assist in developing a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a women’s peer support group. She was interested in knowing what elements need to be included and what models can be looked at for guidance.  At its January 23, 2023 meeting, the Caucus provided recommendations to Paulina Zamudio for a women’s peer support group. PZamudio reported that RFPs for childcare is pending the



				final review process by the County’s contracts unit; will provide updates.
3	<b>Women’s Caucus 2019 Recommendations: Review for Updates and Implementation Status</b>	Review DHSP’s Response to PP&A Directives which include the Caucus’ recommendations.	Ongoing	Review DHSP’s Response for updates and possible revisions to recommendations.
4	<b>Biomedical HIV Prevention for Women</b>	<p>1.Request update from DHSP re: women-centric programming under the new biomedical prevention RFP</p> <p>2. Plan awareness strategies</p>	Ongoing	<p>At its January 23, 2023 meeting, Paulina Zamudio reported that the biomedical HIV prevention work order was released which also requested proposals for programs and services that exclusively cater to cis-women; no proposals were received regarding programming for cis-women, however, three new providers were secured – will provide names of agencies. Paulina indicated that she would provide utilization data for these services in July 2023.</p> <p>Paulina further reported that a PrEP social media marketing campaign that will include women and biomedical HIV prevention will be launched 2023-2024 to support awareness and outreach.</p>