



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



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Join us in developing a progressive and inclusive agenda to address the disproportionate impact of HIV/STDs in our Transgender Communities.

TRANSGENDER CAUCUS VIRTUAL MEETING

**Tuesday, March 25, 2025
10:00am- 11:30am (PST)**

Agenda and meeting materials will be posted on
<http://hiv.lacounty.gov/Meetings> under 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/weblink/register/r8ee65cdfdb932c92df3e8bb21b409a69>

TO JOIN BY PHONE:

Dial: 1-213-306-3065 Meeting Number/Access Code: 2532 883 6097
Meeting Password: TRANSGENDER

If you experience challenges in logging into the virtual meeting, please refer to the WebEx tutorial [HERE](#) or contact Commission staff at 213.509.9199 or hivcomm@lachiv.org.

together.

WE CAN END HIV IN OUR COMMUNITY ONCE AND FOR ALL

Apply to become a Commission member at:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/COHMembershipApp>

For application assistance, call (213) 738-2816 or email hivcomm@lachiv.org



LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HIV



Approved by COH
6/8/23

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

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

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Commission on HIV welcomes commissioners, guests, and the public into a space where people of all opinions and backgrounds are able to contribute. In this space, we challenge ourselves to be self-reflective and committed to an ongoing understanding of each other and the complex intersectionality of the lives we live. We create a safe environment where we celebrate differences while striving for consensus in the fights against our common enemies: HIV and STDs. We build trust in each other by having honest, respectful, and productive conversations. 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 approach all our interactions with compassion, respect, and transparency.**
- 2) We respect others' time by starting and ending meetings on time, being punctual, and staying present.**
- 3) We listen with intent, avoid interrupting others, and elevate each other's voices.**
- 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) Be flexible, open-minded, and solution-focused.**
- 7) We give and accept respectful and constructive feedback.**
- 8) We keep all issues on the table (no "hidden agendas"), avoid monopolizing discussions and minimize side conversations.**
- 9) We have no place in our deliberations for racist, sexist, homophobic, transphobic, and other discriminatory statements, and "-isms" including misogyny, ableism, and ageism.**
- 10) We give ourselves permission to learn from our mistakes.**

In response to violation of the Code of Conduct which results in meeting disruption, Include provisions of SB 1100 which states in part, ". . . authorize the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee to remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting . . . Removal to be preceded by a warning to the individual by the presiding member of the legislative body or their designee that the individual's behavior is disrupting the meeting and that the individual's failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal." Complaints related to internal Commission matters such as alleged violation of the Code of Conduct or other disputes among members are addressed and resolved in adherence to Policy/Procedure #08.3302." (Commission Bylaws, Article VII, Section 4.)

APPROVED BY OPERATIONS COMMITTEE ON 05/25/23; COH 06/08/23

Approved (11/12/1998); Revised (2/10/2005; 9/6/2005); Revised (4/11/19; 3/3/22, 3/23/23; 5/30/23)

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TRANSGENDER CAUCUS

Virtual Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

TO JOIN BY WEBEX, CLICK:

<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/lacountyboardofsupervisors/j.php?MTID=m1e671022f26b09df9641093f31a7a0dd>

Meeting Number: 2532 883 6097 | **Password:** TRANSGENDER

JOIN BY PHONE:

Dial: +1-213-306-3065 United States Toll (Los Angeles) **Access Code:** 2532 883 6097

1. **WELCOME + INTRODUCTIONS + CHECK-IN** 10:00 AM—10:10 AM
2. **CO-CHAIR'S REPORT** 10:10 AM—10:20 AM
 - a. February 25, 2025, meeting recap
 - b. Co-Chair Elections
3. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT** 10:20 AM—10:30 AM
 - a. Operational and Programmatic Updates
4. **DISCUSSION** 10:30 AM—11:15 AM
 - a. Review 2025 Strategic Priorities
 - b. Solidarity Statement Updates
 - c. Community Listening Sessions Collaboration with Women's Caucus
5. **MEETING RECAP + NEXT MEETING AGENDA** 11:15 AM—11:20 AM
6. **PUBLIC COMMENT + ANNOUNCEMENTS** 11:20 AM—11:30 AM
7. **ADJOURNMENT** 11:30 AM



Transgender Caucus Meeting Recap: February 25, 2025

Meeting Materials Click [HERE](#)

Thank you for attending the February 25, 2025, Transgender Caucus meeting! For those not able to attend, see the meeting recap below. Feel free to forward this email to anyone interested in learning more about how to become involved in the Transgender Caucus and the Commission on HIV. (COH) As always, feel free to email me or any other COH staff member if you have any questions. Our contact information can be found [HERE](#).

Transgender Caucus Meeting Recap: February 25, 2025

Meeting Materials Click [HERE](#)

CO-CHAIR'S REPORT

- Rita Garcia, caucus co-chair, led introductions and provided a recap of the January 28, 2025, caucus meeting. She expressed her concern regarding lower-than-expected attendance to the meeting and encouraged attendees to brainstorm ideas to increase community engagement in the caucus. The caucus meets monthly on the 4th Tuesday of the month from 10am-11:30am via WebEx. See the meeting calendar included in the meeting packet.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT

- Cheryl Barrit, COH Executive Director, reported that the COH will hold its next monthly meeting on [March 13, 2025, 9AM-12PM](#), at The California Endowment. The COH is planning community workgroups to hold in depth discussions on the COH's restructuring; these workgroup meetings will take place in late March. For more information, contact COH staff at HIVCOMM@LACHIV.ORG.
- C. Barrit provided an overview of the structure and functions of the COH. The presentation materials can be found in the [meeting packet](#).

DISCUSSION

- 2025 Strategic Priorities
 - Jose Rangel-Garibay, COH staff, shared that there will be opportunities for the caucus to participate in upcoming needs assessments and community listening sessions as the COH prepares to draft the 2026-2030 Comprehensive HIV Plan (CHP). Click [HERE](#) to view the 2022-2026 CHP.
- Call to action
 - C. Barrit shared that at the February 13, 2025, COH meeting, Commissioner Dr. William King proposed that the COH consider writing a call to action led by the Transgender Caucus to address transphobic rhetoric and policies. C. Barrit suggested for the caucus to discuss the development and structure of a document and begin gathering community input.
 - Sunitha Menon, Executive Director of the LGBTQ+ Commission, noted that the LGBTQ+ Commission is writing a letter to the BOS and suggested the caucus/COH



consider co-signing the letter to make a stronger statement. COH staff will follow-up with S. Menon and discuss opportunities for collaboration.

NEXT STEPS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- The next Transgender Caucus meeting will be on **March 25, 2025**, from 10:00am to 11:30am via WebEx. Register for the meeting using this link:
<https://lacountyboardofsupervisors.webex.com/weblink/register/r8ee65cdfdb932c92df3e8bb21b409a69>

To subscribe to the Commission's listserv for meeting and event updates, click [HERE](#).



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



DRAFT TRANSGENDER CAUCUS 2025 MEETING CALENDAR (Updated 3/21/25)

DATE	KEY AGENDA ITEMS/TOPICS (subject to change; for planning purposes)
Jan. 28, 2025 10am to 11am Virtual	Nominate and elect caucus co-chairs. Meeting frequency review Brainstorm 2025 strategic priorities
Feb. 25, 2025 10am to 11:30am Virtual	COH Overview Caucus Member Expectations for 2025 Review and adopt 2025 strategic priorities
<u>Mar. 25, 2025</u> <u>10am to 11:30am</u> <u>Virtual</u>	<u>International Transgender Day of Visibility 3/31/25</u> Updates on Call to action and Solidarity statement Review Women's Caucus Listening Session Questionnaire
Apr. 22, 2025 10am to 11:30am Virtual	<u>National Trans HIV Testing Day 4/18/25</u>
May 27, 2025	Meeting Canceled
Jun. 24, 2025	Meeting Canceled
Jul. 22, 2025	Meeting Canceled
Aug. 26, 2025 10am to 11:30am Virtual	
Sep. 23, 2025 10am to 11:30am Virtual	
Oct. 28, 2025 10am to 11:30am Virtual	<u>LGBTQ+ History Month</u>
Nov. 25, 2025	Meeting Canceled <u>Commission on HIV Annual Conference 11/13/2025</u> <u>Transgender Day of Remembrance 11/20/25</u>
Dec. 23, 2025	Meeting Canceled

Transgender Caucus 2025 Strategic Priorities | (As of 03-18-25)

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT: To identify activities and priorities the Transgender Caucus will lead and advance throughout 2025

- **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.

#	ACTIVITY	ACTION STEPS	TIMELINE	STATUS
1	Transgender-focused Needs Assessment - <i>Collaborate with the Planning, Priorities and Allocations Committee to develop needs assessment focusing on the needs of Transgender People Living with HIV.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Identify locations and target populations. 2. Develop needs assessment questionnaire(s). 3. Analyze results and share findings and recommendations to address the needs of Transgender people living with HIV in LA County. 	May 2025	Caucus will review and provide feedback on the draft Listening Session discussion questions developed by the Women's Caucus.
2	Policy and Advocacy – <i>Identify and act on opportunities to develop a progressive and inclusive agenda to address the disproportionate impact of HIV/STDs in TGI communities in Los Angeles County.</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft solidarity statement in response to recent transphobic rhetoric from current administration 2. Solicit feedback from caucus 3. Send solidarity statement to Executive Committee for review and approval 4. Post and disseminate the statement 	Ongoing	Caucus will review the draft solidarity statement and share revisions.
3	Provide Caucus Perspective - <i>on various Commission/HIV-related issues impacting the Ryan White Program</i>	Provide feedback on relevant Commission on HIV action items and motions including, but not limited to, service standards, priority setting and resource allocation, membership, and recruitment, and needs assessments.	Ongoing	



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DRAFT Solidarity Statement in Response to Transphobic Rhetoric

The Los Angeles County Commission on HIV condemns all forms of hate and violence. We remain steadfast in solidarity with our **Transgender, Gender Expansive, Intersex (TGI), and LGBTQ+ communities**, and **vehemently condemn the pervasive, systemic erasure** that continues to plague our communities. The HIV movement knows too well that hateful language has real stigmatizing consequences. The harmful rhetoric of the current administration we are witnessing perpetuated against the **TGI and LGBTQ+ communities** are rooted in the same form of **racism, discrimination, and misogyny** that continue to hinder our progress in ending HIV.

Now, more than ever, the Transgender Caucus is emboldened to advocate fiercely, and unapologetically for the **safety, health, and wellbeing** of our **TGI and LGBTQ+ communities**. This is not just our responsibility, it's our moral imperative.

In the face of societal and political challenges that attempt to divide rather than unite, we affirm our unwavering stance:

- Every person—regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, background, disabilities, immigration status, race, faith, culture or housing situation—**deserves to be seen, feel safe, and supported while seeking care for HIV/AIDS and overall health.**
- We reject any attempt to undermine dignity, create division or deny the right to **inclusive HIV prevention and care service** delivery in Los Angeles County.

We call on our allies to speak out against the demonization of **TGI and LGBTQ+ communities** and remain diligent and committed to actively engaging in policy action that promote health equity, eliminate barriers and address social determinants of health.

We stand in memoriam of all the TGI and LGBTQ+ individuals who have lost their lives in senseless acts of violence, policy brutality, and HIV/AIDS.

In solidarity,

Los Angeles County Commission on HIV
Transgender Caucus

If you are interested in joining us in developing a progressive and inclusive agenda to address the disproportionate impact of HIV/STDs in our TGI communities in Los Angeles County, please contact us at hivcomm@lachiv.org.



WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Listening Sessions for Women

Discussion Questions

- What have been your experiences with obtaining sexual health services? Can you share your most ideal experience with a provider? (e.g., Did the nurse or staff listen? Was childcare provided?)
- Have you experienced any challenges or barriers in accessing or receiving sexual health services on a consistent basis? If so, please describe them. What do you find most difficult about using sexual health services?
- In what ways do current sexual health services fail to support the unique needs of women? What specific changes would make these services more responsive and effective for meeting the needs of women?
- What role, if any, do sexual trauma, stigma, and shame play in your sexual experiences with partners or your engagement in sexual health services?
- What challenges do you experience as a woman? What are the three greatest challenges in your life that you are struggling with right now? How do you balance your sexual health with other priorities? How much do you prioritize sexual health services?
- How do you manage your mental health? What resources do you use when overwhelmed? Other than your medical or support service providers, who do you turn to or depend on for support? What types of community support and resources are most beneficial to you?
- Where do you go to find supportive services? Are there specific programs, services, or resources that you feel are missing or need improvement to better support women in LA County? What innovative approaches or support do you need to help regular and consistent engagement in sexual health services?
- What made you seek medical care or other HIV services when you were first diagnosed with HIV? If you did not seek care right away, what would have helped you seek medical care or other HIV services sooner? Who helped you the most to get into medical care or HIV services?



WOMEN'S CAUCUS Listening Sessions for Women

Demographic Questionnaire

1. What is your age?

☐ 18-24

☐ 25-34

☐ 35-44

☐ 45-54

☐ 55-64

☐ 65-74

☐ 75 and older

2. How do you describe your gender?

☐ Woman

☐ Trans woman

☐ Non-binary

☐ Two-spirit

☐ Genderqueer/Gender non-conforming/Gender fluid

☐ Questioning/Unsure/Exploring

☐ Prefer to self-describe:

3. Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

☐ Asexual

☐ Bisexual

☐ Heterosexual or straight

☐ Lesbian

☐ Pansexual

☐ Queer

☐ Questioning/Unsure/Exploring

☐ A sexual orientation not listed here (please specify): _____

4. What is your race/ethnicity? Select all that apply.

☐ American Indian or Alaska Native

☐ Asian

☐ Black/African American

☐ Hispanic/Latinx/e

☐ Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

☐ White/Caucasian

☐ Another race (please specify): _____

5. What language do you speak at home?



WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Listening Sessions for Women

6. What zip code do you live in?

7. Do you have internet access when you want it?

- ☐ Yes, I have my own computer, tablet or smart phone and am comfortable using my device
- ☐ Yes, I have a place I can go to access the internet (friend's house, library, etc.) and am comfortable using the device (computer, tablet or smart phone) available to me
- ☐ No, it is difficult to access the internet. I only use it when I really need to and struggle with using a computer, tablet or smart phone.
- ☐ No, I don't have any way to access the internet
- ☐ Unsure

8. What kind of housing do you have now?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Own house/condo/apartment | <input type="checkbox"/> On the street (no shelter) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rent house or apartment (no rental assistance) | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing for people living with HIV/AIDS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staying with family/friends | <input type="checkbox"/> Transitional housing (i.e. halfway house or drug treatment program) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, not listed. Please specify:
_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Public housing or housing voucher program | |

9. What is the highest level of education that you have completed?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school | <input type="checkbox"/> College degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school diploma or GED | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Technical/trade/vocational school | <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify:
_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some college, but no degree | |

10. How many adults live in your household (18 years or older)? _____

11. How many children live in you household (under 18 years old)? _____



WOMEN'S CAUCUS Listening Sessions for Women

12. What was your total household income in 2024? _____

13. What were the sources of this income? (Select all that apply)

- ☐ My own full-time, part-time or seasonal job
- ☐ My spouse/partner's job
- ☐ Child support or Alimony
- ☐ Support from family members
- ☐ Unemployment benefits
- ☐ Social Security
- ☐ CalWORKS
- ☐ Financial aid from school
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____

14. Do you have health insurance? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what kind of insurance? (Please check all that apply)

- ☐ Medi-Cal
- ☐ Health insurance or coverage bought directly by yourself or spouse/family member
- ☐ Covered California
- ☐ Indian or Tribal Health Service
- ☐ Medicare
- ☐ Health insurance or coverage through your employer or spouse/partner, parent, or someone else's employer
- ☐ TRICARE or Veteran's benefits
- ☐ Other, please specify: _____

15. During the past 12 months, was there a time when you were not able to pay for...

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mortgage/rent | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utility bills | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical bills (including premium, co-pay, medication) | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Groceries | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Child care | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phone | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |



WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Listening Sessions for Women

Facilitation Script

Hello and welcome to the Commission on HIV Women's Caucus community listening session. We are conducting listening sessions to listen and learn about your experiences as women living with HIV who have received sexual health services from the Ryan White Program within Los Angeles County. This listening session is intended to collect important information from women accessing HIV prevention and care services to better understand sexual health service gaps and explore opportunities for improvement in the community. Our objectives for today are to:

- Provide Women Living with HIV an opportunity to share their lived experience and assure you that you are not alone
- Create a shared understanding of the issues impacting women living with HIV in Los Angeles County
- Engage with one another to create recommendations and innovative solutions to address the needs of women

During our time together, we will ask some questions about your experience accessing sexual health services and you will have an opportunity to share your thoughts, feelings, and suggestions. There are no right or wrong answers. We are hoping to hear your genuine responses about experiences with the system. We value your input and your responses will help to identify ways on how we can improve sexual health services for women in Los Angeles County. We are interested in learning about what is working well and what is not working so well. We are having discussions like this with several groups of women across the county to capture a broad range of experiences and perspectives. Some of the questions may ask you about events that you consider traumatic. We want to acknowledge that today's discussion will touch on sensitive topics that may lead to feelings of discomfort, sadness, and/or anger. It may also bring up difficult or painful memories. If you have any questions or need to take a break during our time together, please let us know and we will support you.

The listening session is confidential. Whatever you share today will stay within our internal team and our findings will be reported out very broadly; your responses will not be connected to you. Please note that all information you share here should remain in this group and not be discussed outside of our time together. We also ask that you honor the confidentiality of others who share their stories during this session. Your participation will not impact your status in or eligibility for any programs or services.

We will be recording this session to ensure that we capture everyone's responses and can transcribe your responses afterwards. Recordings will only be shared with our internal team. If you are not comfortable with your responses being recorded, please let us know.



WOMEN'S CAUCUS

Listening Sessions for Women

Finally, as a token of our appreciation for your time and willingness to share, each participant will receive a \$XX gift card.

As a reminder, these are the ground rules to help facilitate today's discussion:

- We want you to do the talking and encourage everyone to participate.
- There are no right or wrong answers. Every person's experience and opinion are important. Speak up whether you agree or disagree. We expect and want to hear a wide range of opinions and we do not anticipate consensus, just sharing.
- We emphasize that what is said in this room should remain here. Please don't criticize the opinions of others. Be sure to allow one speaker at a time.
- This session will be recorded to capture everything that is said. We won't identify anyone by name in our findings - you will remain anonymous.
- The discussion will last for one hour. Please silence your mobile phones and give everyone the chance to express their opinion during the conversation. You can address each other if you like. We are only here to assist in the discussion.