2020 ANNUAL REPORT
A Message from the Executive Director and the Board President

What a time! During 2020 we were all called upon to be brave, adaptable and flexible. We were challenged, stretched, tested - and unfortunately it has not stopped. We keep meeting what is presented to us - and we keep striving to achieve our mission of building healthy relationships, families and communities free from sexual, domestic and interpersonal violence.

Last year, we transitioned into virtual service provision overnight. We partnered with the LA Mayor’s office and through Project Safe Haven safely housed domestic violence survivors in hotels and provided groceries, case management, and wraparound services. We cultivated online trauma-informed clinical counseling and support groups, creating spaces for healing and connection online. We ran completely virtual education campaigns, training and educating communities on new platforms and working with new partners to ensure that survivors could access much-needed support. We adapted our prevention programs to virtually train youth across the country on healthy relationships. Denim Day was a virtual and viral success! AND we worked diligently to fund and execute the move into our new Metro Headquarters in DTLA.

Through all this, our priority was keeping our staff and volunteers safe and healthy. We know that as first and second responders we must take care of ourselves to be able to continue and maintain the provision of providing services to the communities we serve. We established a Corona Crisis Team made up of managers who monitored the pandemic throughout the year. This group met regularly to review new information and discuss agency issues. We communicated important updates and messages to the staff, reinforcing how important it is for them to work remotely, take care of themselves and their families and follow all protocols to stay healthy and safe.

Accompanying the COVID-19 pandemic with its public health and economic stressors has been the social justice reckoning around race, reignited in the summer of 2020 by the brutal police killing of George Floyd. The impacts of all of these reckonings; health, economic, race, politics at once is huge. All of these issues combined have presented unprecedented challenges and opportunities to transform our cultures and systems to be more life affirming, compassionate, fair and equitable. The opportunities to grow and build back better are as great as the challenge to do so.

Where do we go from here? How will we proceed after the experience of this life and world changing experience? We are reminded of the question from Mary Oliver’s poem, The Summer Day: “What is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?” Indeed, what will we all do as we move forward into our precious lives?

We are so grateful to our staff, volunteers, funders and donors who continue to be resilient and committed. We are so glad that we were able to keep all of our staff employed and engaged throughout this extraordinary time. We learned how to do things differently and we are thankful to those that have stuck with us and continue to see the value of our work. We pray that as a community and as a country we are able to confront the inequities and inequalities that the pandemic and the reckonings have surfaced and that together we create more peace, more kindness, less violence.

We are looking forward to a better 2021 - and to eventually welcoming you to our new Metro Headquarters, our new brave space and celebrating POV’s 50th anniversary as a pioneering agency committed to social service, social change and social justice.

The Board of Directors: President Christina Mauro, Rochelle Witharana, Dawn Bey, Ronda Haralson, Brianne Palmer, Jason Strzelczyk, Ron Burkhardt, Mike Bayless, and POV Executive Director/CEO Patti Giggans. Not pictured: Linda Ruffer.

Patti Occhiuzzo Giggans
Executive Director

Christina Mauro
Board President
20 Achievements for 2020

1. POV offered continuous 24/7 emergency services via virtual platforms, with no gaps in services;
2. POV retained its entire 76-person staff, all of whom have been working remotely since mid-March 2020;
3. We served 22,798 individuals, including 111 children ages 0-17 and hundreds of families, with direct services of trauma-informed case management, counseling, legal assistance and advocacy;
4. For the first time in POV's history, we launched an emergency housing program through Project Safe Haven, funded by the City of Los Angeles Mayor's Fund, providing case management and safe temporary housing placement to individuals and families fleeing domestic violence during the pandemic;
5. Through Project Safe Haven, POV housed 82 families—201 survivors and their children—in safe, temporary housing placements in hotels throughout LA County;
6. Also through Project Safe Haven, POV provided 106 families with emergency funds to help pay for rent, utility bills, food, transportation, clothing, and other critical needs;
7. POV established a direct relief fund and distributed more than $100,000 in gift cards and cash to survivors and their families in 2020;
8. POV held 25 ongoing weekly virtual counseling groups in English, Spanish, and American Sign Language, including Child/Non-Offending Parent groups, Trauma Processing groups; Trauma-Informed Yoga; Still I Rise for Black women; Dance Empowerment; Peaceful and Powerful Partnerships; Domestic Violence Support Groups; Deaf Services Parenting group; Healing Arts; Meditation; and Parenting Psychoeducation groups;
9. 50 youth from across LA County—more than ever before—participated in POV's first-ever virtual Youth Over Violence summer leadership institute;
10. POV’s Prevention Team held 62 youth outreach and education events, reaching 397 LA County teens, and our Intervention Team taught self defense skills to an additional 107 youth;
11. 44 community members completed POV’s first entirely online Crisis Counselor Advocate training;
12. POV responded to 12,256 hotline calls through our LA Rape and Battering and Off Limits Sexual Harassment hotlines; While calls related to sexual assault and harassment were down, 57% of these calls were from people experiencing domestic violence;
13. 27% of callers reported multiple victimization (sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse);
14. 27% of Domestic Violence clients received advocacy services and accompaniment for DCFS & Dependency court;
15. POV received funding to develop an entirely online “Domestic Violence 102” training curriculum to help County home visitors and social workers to better identify and report domestic violence, especially when they themselves are delivering services remotely;
16. Our Domestic Abuse Response Team and Sexual Assault Response Team responded to more than 1,529 emergency calls in Los Angeles and Pasadena. 80% of these calls were related to domestic violence, reflecting the dire impact of the pandemic on those experiencing violence in the home;
17. POV successfully raised capital funds through our Brave Space campaign and relocated to new downtown LA headquarters, a key goal of POV’s 2019-2024 strategic plan. Once we can safely return to the office, our new space has 40% more square footage and additional counseling and group rooms to enable expanded direct services to children, youth and families;
18. POV successfully transitioned campaigns and fundraising events into the virtual sphere holding the first ever Denim Day virtual survivor rally and a three part series of Evening Over Violence dialogues;
19. POV established a Corona Crisis Team composed of 8 staff members who met regularly to assess new developments and keep staff informed of remote work timelines, and health and safety measures;
20. POV broadly supported staff wellbeing with extra hazard pay for first-responder staff; monthly stipends for all staff to help offset the cost of printer ink, internet, and other work-from-home expenses; online trainings and resources to help staff better provide services across a range of platforms; the initiation of weekly staff processing groups led by a POV clinician; hiring a consultant to help POV’s Managers Group and Executive Leadership Team to engage in leadership development and team building, including crisis management; and the purchase of dozens of Zoom licenses, hotspots, and laptops to enable intervention and prevention staff to continue offering services via online platforms.
2020 was a year like no other.

24/7 wraparound services fully maintained

23,000+ individuals directly served

50 graduates of the first-ever virtual summer Youth Leadership Institute

$100,000+ distributed in direct aid to survivors.

3,018 hosted Zoom meetings and webinars

25 ongoing weekly virtual counseling groups in English, Spanish, and ASL

201 individuals placed in emergency safe housing through Project Safe Haven 106 families assisted with emergency funds

AND we completed our Metro headquarters move!

We are building on all we did last year, and welcoming 2021 with strength and hope for our future together.

Our emergency response, legal advocacy, case management, counseling, hotlines, community outreach and training services reached over 23,000 individuals in the LA Metro area and the West San Gabriel Valley.

We responded to 12,256 hotline calls through the LA Rape and Battering Hotline and the Off Limits Sexual Harassment Hotline.

Our Domestic Abuse Response Team and Sexual Assault Response Team responded to over 1,500 emergency calls in Los Angeles and Pasadena.

Our trauma-informed clinical services reached 550 individuals through one-one-one counseling and group sessions.

Our community outreach touched over 8,000 Angelenos through our violence prevention education programs, self defense classes, In Touch With Teens curriculum, and professional trainings.
Building a Brave Space

In December of 2020, we officially moved our downtown LA headquarters to 1541 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 300 - just a few blocks down the street from our old offices! Moving during a pandemic while staff was working remotely was no small feat. This move was planned before the pandemic hit, and our new space will allow us to expand our programs and services as the demand continues to grow.

Our new metro headquarters will:
- Increase emergency and crisis-intervention programming, involving one-on-one, group and family services and counseling
- Establish the Peace Over Violence Children, Youth and Family Center to expand and promote violence prevention work
- Expand our capacity for trauma-informed and violence-prevention education and trainings

This new space has 11,474 square feet at one single location! This is:
- Nearly 40% increase in overall space
- Twice as many rooms for meetings, training, counseling, and staff accommodation
- Ample parking for staff, clients, volunteers, and visitors

We look forward to the day we can welcome the community to enjoy this space; until then we will continue to provide our wraparound services around the clock and work remotely for the safety of our staff and clients.

Increased space for staff in the Prevention and Intervention services.

Project Safe Haven

COVID-19 further exposed and exacerbated gross inequities in our communities and overall society. Early on, it quickly became apparent - and urgent - that we find additional resources and creative ways to sustain and expand support for our community. We know that the global pandemic disproportionately impacted survivors of domestic violence, in particular survivors of color.

In response to this, the City of Los Angeles developed Project Safe Haven (PSH), a citywide program with a mission to offer emergency shelter and support services to victims and survivors of domestic violence. Project Safe Haven began in April 2020 with a $4.2 million donation from Rihanna and Twitter CEO Jack Dorsey to the city of Los Angeles to provide relief to victims and survivors and their children. Immediately after the donation was made, work began to develop an action plan, identify key community partners and develop and implement appropriate services.

Peace Over Violence was one of nine direct service agencies who partnered with the city of Los Angeles in offering critical support to survivors. Within days, POV case managers, on-call staff and supervisors underwent training to work on the frontlines of this epidemic within an epidemic. The program had its own hotline, which officially went live on April 17, 2020, and the official Project Safe Haven program was up and running the following day, with shelter placements beginning on May 7th.

The city secured housing at various safe locations, food cards to be distributed weekly, and transportation support. The shelter space had one to two bedrooms, a kitchenette and a washer and dryer, all within a confidential location to protect the physical safety of the participating individuals and their families. In tandem, Peace Over Violence provided direct services to participants, while continuing to answer hotline calls. These services included:
- comprehensive case management;
- on-call support and emergency response;
- legal advocacy;
- on-site visits;
- safety planning, restraining order assistance, and pick-ups and drop-offs of supplies, food, etc.;
- food, clothes, toiletries, laundry detergent, diapers and other various in-kind donations;
- advocacy services as needed;
- tablets for children;
- counseling services

At the inception of this city-wide initiative, no one knew how long stay-at-home orders would be in place. The reality proved that COVID-19 will be around for much longer and so Project Safe Haven was extended into 2021, as well as our commitment to making this program a success and to supporting victims and survivors and their families.

According to the City of LA, Project Safe Haven has helped close to 3000 victims of domestic violence and their children.

POV provided temporary emergency shelter for 111 adults and 119 children survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault. 29 victims received direct emergency funding to help with rental assistance, utility bills and other essential needs.

All survivors received case management assistance from a POV case manager. With the support of their case manager, 52 survivors were able to obtain permanent housing or assistance for relocation, which includes an apartment, home, placement to a traditional or transitional shelter, or relocation to another state.
In its 21st year, Denim Day remained steadfast in its commitment to supporting survivors and raising awareness about the public health and safety impacts of sexual violence around the world, despite the global COVID-19 pandemic. Individuals, families, and communities continued to do their part in disrupting rape culture by including survivors’ experiences and needs in the public discourse.

“It is vital that we prioritize the needs of survivors of sexual assault in this pandemic. We know that sheltering at home may not be safe for those who fear sexual violence, and we are highly attuned to the need for solidarity and increased support.”

— Patti Giggans, Denim Day Founder and Executive Director/CEO of Peace Over Violence

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, we witnessed communities and allies publicly recommitting themselves to this work of awareness raising, activism, and supporting survivors and their communities through their own local organizing and resourcefulness. In Los Angeles, the flagship city for Denim Day, the Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors declared April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and April 29th as Denim Day in a morning press conference. Later that same day, we held a bi-coastal Survivor Rally virtually – a first in Denim Day history! This online event, held in partnership with Denim Day NYC, brought individuals and families around the world together in solidarity with survivors and one another. We were honored to have Ambra Gutierrez, Stacey Cooper, Matthew Ennis, Margarita Guzman, V (formerly known as Eve Ensler), Alexandra Magallon, Sasha Neha Ahuja, Diane Neal, and Jovan Martinez share their experiences and thoughts on actions needing to be taken in order to have healthier and safer communities.

The rally also gave us the space to sing, dance, and even...chant (or at least make an attempt!). Maya Jupiter and Aloe Blacc, who were our rally’s emcees, helped to uplift and energize us by sharing their musical gifts. Toward the end of the virtual event, everyone chanted together Un violador en tu camino (A Rapist in Your Path) as a rallying cry to mark the end of Sexual Assault Awareness Month and to launch us into our collective future. We thank everyone for their ongoing support in this fight and for continuing to join us every year in this important campaign. Save the date for Denim Day 202: Wednesday, April 28th!

We thank everyone for their ongoing support in this fight and for continuing to join us every year in this important campaign.

$15,000 Runway Denim Sponsor

THE CALIFORNIA Wellness FOUNDATION

$5,000 Designer Denim Sponsors

CONRAD N. ARTIVIST

FOUNDRY UNIONBANK

$2,500 Classic Denim Sponsor

David Ryu, Los Angeles City Council, District 4

$1,000 Blue Jean Sponsors

Chevron Corporation
Council President Nury Martinez, District 6
Laney Vasquez

Denim Day 2020 press conference on the steps of LA City Hall.
Youth Over Violence Leadership Institute

The Youth Over Violence Summer Youth Institute has been a staple in Peace Over Violence’s work with young people – working alongside them to learn about systems of oppression and new ways to transform our world, all while cultivating and sharpening their leadership skills. Now in its 10th year, the Youth Over Violence Leadership Institute faced the remarkable challenge of translating an in-person program into a virtual one due to COVID-19.

The six-week summer program is held yearly and aimed at empowering youth between the ages of 14-19, educating them on healthy relationships, promoting awareness of teen dating violence, and enhancing community organizing skills. Program participants are youth who are committed to building and making powerful social change through awareness, advocacy, and policy change. After the summer program, students go back to school as leaders of campus-based violence prevention clubs, and become mentors to other students, identifying and cultivating the next generation of leaders.

This year, the Institute was fully implemented in a virtual format, allowing us to increase the number and geographic regions of participants. We had youth from all over Los Angeles and beyond, including participants from Tennessee, Kentucky, and even Costa Rica, reaching youth who have no access to local violence prevention training! Our curriculum covers the roots of violence, media literacy and advocacy, unhealthy relationships, dating and sexual violence, and this year included an opportunity to reimagine policing and public safety, an issue of serious concern to youth. Fifty students graduated and will continue their violence prevention activities for the rest of the school year and stay connected with each other and POV staff. This experience has inspired us to contemplate launching a national Youth Over Violence Institute.

I was happy to learn that your transition to virtual services has been so successful, and, in some cases, even better for your clients. Congratulations on your move, and also on your work to support Project Safe Haven. I am sure that addition to your services was an incredible accomplishment. You all certainly had a busy year!

–Karli J. Baumgardner
Program Officer, The Rose Hills Foundation
Evening Over Violence

Every October, we hold our largest fundraiser of the year, Evening Over Violence. This event raises critical funds to help support our programs, but also celebrates and honors individuals and our community. It is a time for us to gather together and reflect back on the year, and look forward to the next. Every event is unique—{}from venue to honorees, attendees and performers... and this year was no exception.

As with everything this year, we reimagined our Evening Over Violence. We launched a series of three virtual events, bringing the same spirit of events past to computer screens on Zoom! Each event featured storytelling and performances, celebrating and educating our communities while honoring survivors and leaders who have impacted our field in innovative and brave ways.

Each event was inspiring and powerful and connecting in its own way. We brought hundreds of participants together to engage in intimate conversations woven with beautiful performances.

Part 1
LET THIS TRANSFORM YOU
Honoring Leah Aldridge, Esta Soler, and Tinish Hollins
Special performance by Thalma de Freitas

Part 2
LOVE AS A TRANSFORMATIVE FORCE
Honoring Supervisor Hilda Solis
Special performance by Quetzal

Part 3:
THE FUTURE IS INTERSECTIONAL
Honoring Kimberlé Crenshaw and Mia Mingus
Special performance by Tylana Renga, Enomoto, Alberto Lopez, Etsegenet Tadesse, Alyra Lennox, and Tevin Douglas
Counselor Advocate Training

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. They power the work that we do, allowing us to provide vital services and enabling us to establish and expand our reach in our communities. POV enlists the help of volunteers who staff and answer our 24-hour hotline, providing support to victims/survivors. These volunteers go through our Counselor Advocate Training, a program that trains and prepares individuals for this specialized service. Last year, we held CAT in a fully virtual setting for the first time ever, allowing 44 volunteers to complete the program and go on to serve on the hotline.

Empowerment Self Defense Training

One of POV’s original programs, empowerment self-defense is a combination of awareness, assertiveness, and verbal confrontation skills, combined with safety strategies, and physical techniques. These skills, strategies, and techniques provide a person with the tools to successfully prevent, resist, escape, and survive violent assaults. Self-defense trainings are normally offered at Peace Over Violence locations and in the community, but even this program was able to provide some virtual trainings during the height of the pandemic.
Financial Statements

REVENUES

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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

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MAJOR DONORS
Alex Winklosky
Anna Emery Hanson Charitable Trust
Anne Finestone
Antonio Villarreal
Barbara Bistor
Byron Ashley
Chris Henrikson
Christina Mauro
Cynthia Sears
Dawn Boy
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CORPORATE SUPPORT
AEG [Anschutz Entertainment Group]
ARTIVIST Entertainment
Boeing Employees Community Fund California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
Capital Group Foundation
Chevron
Duffy Knosopd, LLP
ECC Environmental Contracting Corporation
Employee Community Fund of Boeing
Essential Access Health
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MUF's Union Bank
Netflix
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TJX Companies, Inc.
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Dwight Stuart Youth Fund
EveryChild Foundation
Goldsmith Legacy Foundation
Helmstetter Family Foundation
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James Graham Brown Foundation
John N Caloy Foundation
Kautz Family Foundation
Leonetti D'Onofrio Family Foundation
Liberty Hill Foundation
Lon V. Smith Foundation
Pasadena Community Foundation
Robert Ellis Simon Foundation
S. Mark Tower Foundation
Sunair Children's Foundation
The Ahmanson Foundation
The A.M. Charitable Foundation
The California Wellness Foundation
The Dorree Foundation
The Friendship Fund
The Green Foundation
The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
The Rose Hills Foundation
TJX Foundation
Women's Foundation of California

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Los Angeles City Council, District 5
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, District 1
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, District 2
California Department of Public Health
California Department of Social Services
California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
California Victim Compensation Board
City of Los Angeles
Consulate General of Mexico
Los Angeles County Department of Arts and Culture
Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services
Los Angeles County Probation Department
Los Angeles Metro
Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles
The United States Department of Justice – Office on Violence Against Women
UCLA Kaiser Permanente Center for Health Equity
University of Southern California

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Alaska Hope
Amna Saunders
Ana Paula Noguez Mercado
Ariel Fernandez
Ariya Mtra
Avera Weiner
Beth Romeo
Beth Tisch
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Blake McCormick
Brenda Ingram
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Cassandra Gonzalez
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Cici Prendergast
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Cora Whalen
Danny Gazzott
Dayn Day
Deborah (Deb) Levier
Deborah Kagan
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Emad Howard
Erin Mascho
Fabiola Montiel Toltez
Gabby Orozco
Hayley Sumner
Jack Moja
Jasong Shih
James Jimenez
Jan Morris
Jesday Trimble
Jessica Brown-Clark
Johanna Rodriguez
John Dowdell
Kehzia Robinson
Lana Spraker
Laurel Crosby
Lauren von Bennewitz
Linda Jenkins-Swift
Lisa Chynoweth
Lisa Chynoweth
Lori Leigh Blessey
Mara Lucien
Mary Lee Wogner
Matthew Wilson
Melinda Nordeng
Melodie Krusopd
Michelle Santucci
Mike Bayless
Miena Giggs
Pattig Giggs
Peggie Reyna
Ramona Lombard
Ruth Volmer
Sauri Sei
Sarah Leitz-Campiongni
Sarah Mitchell
Sasha Sobolevsky
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826. 793. . .3395
10. 392. 8381
213. 626. 3393
peaceoverviolence.org

INFO
peaceoverviolence.org
626 . 243 . 7972    video
Pasadena, California 91103
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