Use this toolkit to provide your city, staff, and residents with easy-to-operationalize ideas for implementing a response strategy for hate crimes and hate incidents.

The dangers of hate, racism, and bigotry grow more apparent every day and the need for local action could not be more urgent. LA vs Hate is a program of the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations, one of the oldest civil rights organizations in the nation. This anti-hate program was created in direct response to the rise in hate crimes and bias incidents that pose a dangerous threat to the safety and civility of our neighborhoods.

Local governments, public servants, and politicians have a unique opportunity and responsibility to uplift messages of hope and unity in these difficult times. LA vs Hate is committed to supporting residents of LA County with in-community support and materials to address and denounce hate of any kind.

ABOUT LA VS HATE

LA vs Hate was organized at the request of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to address a historic rise in hate reported in 2017. In September 2019, LA vs Hate started accepting reports of hate acts through 211-LA, providing help from experienced, empathetic case managers, and a multi-disciplinary team of advocates, mental health professionals, mediators, and legal professionals. Since 2019, over 1,900 callers have reached out for help and nearly 1,700 victims have worked with these case managers to heal from the trauma of hate. For more information on LA vs Hate or the LA County Commission on Human Relations, please email info@lavshate.org or contact Terri Villa-McDowell, J.D., Program Coordinator, LA vs Hate LA County Commission on Human Relations, 323-719-8891, TVilla-McDowell@hrc.lacounty.gov.
OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO GET INVOLVED:

- Encourage your communities and residents to contact the LA vs Hate program team if they are the victim or witness of hate. Remind them to report the incident by phone with 211LA or online through the [reporting form](#). This report triggers an immediate response to 211LA case managers who will reach out to victims to ensure they are linked to needed services including medical services, mental health services or other longer-term resources. LA vs Hate also provides case management services in the primary Asian languages spoken in LA County and a Response Network of trusted community-based agencies is in place to work with you and your staff to organize an immediate, effective response. This can look like:
  - Organizing a community event, such as a solidarity march, a vigil, a community dialogue or other city event to ensure your city residents feel heard and are informed that the city is working to address the hate violence.
  - Providing workshops, such as Bystander Trainings, to ensure that city residents are provided with strategies for defending, defusing, delaying or distracting perpetrators of hate in the event they are victims of hate violence. Check for free Bystander training offered by [Right To Be](#).
  - Providing culturally proficient care responses to victims of hate, depending on the community impacted. The LA vs Hate Network Response agencies include partners serving immigrants; African American; Asian and Asian American/Pacific Islander; Latinx; Jewish; Muslim; LGBTQ+ and other vulnerable, targeted communities.
  - Promote reporting and support services offered by LA vs Hate on your [digital channels](#), city newsletter, and owned out-of-home advertising spaces.

- Work swiftly to ensure that all sectors of your community are aware of the hate violence and are responding effectively. Act as a convenor for an immediate community sector response, using this Opportunities List as a checklist for a response to the hate that has impacted your city.

- Pass an emergency resolution or release a statement within 24 hours of notice of the hate act, condemning the hate and ensuring city residents are standing in solidarity with victims. These statements condemning such hate violence send an important message to both perpetrator and victims, that such behavior will not be condoned in your City. [This document contains sample language about the potential resolution](#).

- Work with your school district superintendent to ensure schools are included in any messages of unity and solidarity for all city residents. Refer your superintendent to both the [LA vs Hate website](#) and the [Explore Justice website](#) for information and ideas on how to use these acts of violence as teachable moments for students.

- Distribute and display LA vs Hate [posters and signage](#) in city halls, businesses, public spaces and neighborhoods to promote a message of peace and unity among residents.

- Explore training and support offered by LA vs Hate for local law enforcement agencies to connect victims to our resource network.