





### Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women 2015-2017

# The Reports on the Status of Women and Girls

In 2015, the LACSW, in partnership with Mount Saint Mary's University and Mayor Eric Garcetti released The Report on the Status of Women and Girls in Los Angeles - the first-ever study focusing on the issues and trends affecting women and girls in the City of Los Angeles. The release was followed by a presentation in City Council, which provided specific data on Demographics, Leadership, Veterans, Education and Workforce Development, and Public Safety. In addition to this report, LACSW, through Commissioner Jackie Filla, is contributing to the annual Report on the Status of Women and Girls in California.

#### **Pioneer Women's Awards**

Since 1989, LACSW has partnered with City Council and the Mayor of LA, in honoring female leaders for their exemplary contribution to the City through the Pioneer Women's Awards. Together, they have awarded 400+ resilient women and brought awareness to their specific area of work while fostering closer relationships between the City and community leaders.

#### **Cities for CEDAW**

Since the adoption of Mayor Eric Garcetti's Executive Directive on Gender Equity in City Operations (ED no. 11), LACSW has raised awareness about the City's work in national and

international forum, and championed its implementation. LACSW is working with the Mayor's Office and other Departments, e.g., the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD) to facilitate its operationalization. Together with EWDD, LACSW ensured that ED no. 11 is referenced in the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the City's WorkSource Centers, which are asked to i) Provide women and men equal job training opportunities; ii) Work proactively to prevent gender stereotyping; iii) Make conscious efforts to close the gender wage gap.

### "Look Again"

Look Again is a media campaign produced by LACSW, through Jessica Postigo and Nancy Perlman, in partnership with the LAPD. The intention of the campaign is to capture public attention and make Angelenos aware of the realities surrounding child sex trafficking. It is not happening "somewhere else" – it is right in our neighborhoods. The victims are not removed from our everyday life – they are just like girls we all know, as young as 8. As awareness and understanding of human trafficking is the first step to stopping it, the campaign asks Angelenos to "Look Again" and learn the signs of trafficking, as well as to reconsider their perception of it. Someone else is not going to child sex trafficking - it is up to the community and law enforcement.

# **Preventing Sexual Harassment in the Workplace**

LACSW is actively engaged in the City's efforts to prevent and address sexual harassment in City Departments. Through Council meetings, Commission meetings, and in conversations with Councilmembers, LACSW has drawn attention to and provided recommendations on the City's policy and processes. On January 19, 2018, LACSW decided to nominate Commissioner Maryam Zar to the Risk Reduction Cabinet's Working Group. You can read LACSW's statement on sexual harassment in the workplace <a href="hee-">here</a>.

### **City Hall X**

City Hall X (CHX) is a monthly speaker series, exclusively for women working in the Los Angeles City Government that was launched in January, 2015. Every month, CHX invites one of the stellar women working in the Los Angeles City Government to share her story with other women. For those who attend, it's a transformative experience, an entirely different way to connect with the women they work with, especially the women in leadership positions.

# National Association of Commissions for Women

As a member of the <u>National Association for</u> <u>Women's Commission</u> (NACW), LACSW has built relationships with other Women's Commission, exchanged best practices, and raised awareness about the City's work. LACSW participates in the NACW's national, annual conference and will be hosting its next conference in Los Angeles in August, 2018, in partnership with the Mayor's Office.

#### **Crisis Text Line**

Crisis Text Line (CTL) is free, 24/7 support for those in crisis; users can text **741741** from anywhere within the U.S. to connect with a trained Crisis Counselor. LACSW created a partnership between LA City and CTL with the

mission of raising awareness among Angelenos about CTL's free service. In addition, CTL assigned the keyword "LA" to the region, which enables CTL to collect data specific to LA. That data is passed along to the City, free of charge, and may be instrumental in informing policy strategy around health and wellness, public safety and more.

### **Making LA Happen**

"Making LA Happen" is the first in a series of videos profiling the phenomenal women working in LA City government. The project was a collaboration between LACSW and LA's Information Technology Agency, produced by LA Cityview 35, in partnership with the Directors Guild of America. LACSW is committed to fostering stories about women in the media and to raise awareness about the extraordinary women leaders within city government, who, all too often, are not recognized for their tremendous contributions.

### **Human Trafficking Prevention Training**

CSW, in partnership with the Los Angeles Police Department, has worked to increase the number of trainings on human trafficking. In these trainings, participants learnt:

- Warning signs of human trafficking;
- The importance a victim-centered approach that focuses on victims physical and emotional well-being;
- Ways to partner with public and private organizations to provide a network of support.

# Connecting Women Business Owners to Power

At the "Connecting Women to Power" conference, hosted by Jerome Horton, member for the 4<sup>th</sup> District and former Chair of the California Board of Equalization, LACSW facilitated the distribution of business development resources to thousands of women attending in partnership with EWDD.