

Attachment A: Recommendations from the April 15, 2019 Joint Meeting on Sexual Assaults

I. Recommendations Relating to the County-Wide Sexual Assault Response

<i>Law Enforcement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- SJPD recommended Specialized Training (CSI Work & CFIT Style Interviews) for Patrol Division, Police Academy Training, and Field Training Programs.- SJPD recommended a continued study on location of occurrence by zip code as it relates to sexual assault.- Trauma informed training needs to be reflected in the work done by law enforcement.- Partner with the Santa Clara County Child Abuse Prevention Council 's and look into any potential gaps in reporting child abuse and determine if kids fall through the cracks relative to exams and interviews.
<i>Forensic Medical Exams</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- VMC recommended building the capacity of the Sexual Assault Forensic Exam (SAFE) Program to manage increased demand for services:<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Focus on recruiting and retaining SAFEs,o Increase number of on-call examiners to allow simultaneous response,o Respond closer to patient locations, ando Shorten wait times for patients seeking exams.- In conjunction with the SAFE Program, develop training program for examiners<ul style="list-style-type: none">o Shorten the time to onboard new examiners, ando Collaborate with local, regional, and State partners to advance examiner skills (San Jose State University, Outside County SAFE Teams, California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center).

<p><i>Rape Crisis Centers and Services for Victims</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that Rape Crisis Centers are adequately funded. The Rape Crisis Centers must meet and exceed the survivor service capacity of other SART partners. - Champion for adequate resources for sexual assault prevention and healing services. - Sexual Assault Response should also include Sexual Assault Survivor App in order to provide better services to victims. This App can include information such as the status of the case, next court date, is court attendance required, has the SART kit been tested, who is the prosecutor on the case, and the easiest way to get in touch with the Office of the District Attorney. - Police interviews, forensic exams, and other victim services should be under one roof. - Victims should have a calm, welcoming environment before they testify in the Courthouses (Soft Waiting Rooms). To that end, refurbishment is needed for designated spaces in San Jose, and North and South County Courthouses. - There needs to be a specific focus on homeless or unhoused individuals. More shelters and navigation centers are needed for women and children. - More joint solutions should be put forward and the system response should be improved so that we do not re-traumatize the victims. - Institute a centralized referral source, much like Kid Connections, and make it available for children and adults who have gone through something traumatic.
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II. Intersectionality of Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking

<p><i>Forensic Medical Exams</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The County should provide Domestic Violence Medical Forensic Exams through the SCVMC Adult/Adolescent SAFE Program. - The County should develop a Strangulation Protocol for Health Providers and incorporate it into the County-wide Domestic Violence for Health Providers Protocol.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The County should pursue an expanded multi-disciplinary DV/IPV program by partnering with Alameda and San Diego Counties to implement the Domestic Violence Report and Referral (DVRR), or a version of it, and work toward developing a model response in California.
<p><i>Law Enforcement</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Office of the District Attorney recommends a pilot program with local law enforcement agencies to transport victims of strangulation to Valley Medical Center to do a forensic medical examination to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Photographs of all injuries, o Examination and photography of inside of throat, o Evaluation of damage to hyoid bone or other structures, o Examination, photography, and documentation of burst capillaries in the eyes and face (petechiae), and o Any other examination that may be warranted (SART, other). - The Office of the Sheriff recommends teaming up with the VMC SAFE Program and the Office of the District Attorney in order to enable medical exams to gather stronger evidence in domestic violence cases. - The Office of the Sheriff recommends Training on the Dangers of Strangulation for first responders, dispatchers, follow-up investigators, and prosecutors in collaboration with the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention.
<p><i>Intersections Screening Tool and Provision of Needed Services</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Service providers recommend <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Continued training on the Intersections Screening Tool for intimate partner violence, sexual assault and human trafficking service providers. o Ensuring consistent screening/triaging for IPV/Sexual Assault /HT survivors amongst service providers.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Completion of the Intersections Screening Tool and training for law enforcement. o Identifying other sectors in which the Intersections Screening Tool should be used. o Establishing data tracking mechanisms for all Intersections Screening Tools. o More flexible funding options that would allow one advocate to support different forms and intersections of gender-based violence.
<i>State and Federal Advocacy</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Committees that are part of CalOES meet in Sacramento and determine millions of dollars of grant funding every year. The County and the City can make recommendations to encourage them to make DV funding more flexible which would then enable local RFPs to be more flexible and enable service providers to respond to the intersectionality of various forms of GBV.

III. Prevention and Barriers to Reporting of Sexual Assault

<i>Primary Prevention</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Focus on stopping perpetration and invest in primary prevention strategies such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o “Coaching boys into men” or “Athletes as leaders” used by youth sports teams; o Healthy relationship curriculum to educate all youth and young adults about health and consenting relationships (ex. In touch with teens, upstander intervention trainings); and o Apply environmental interventions such as shifting boundaries and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED); o Develop leadership teams and programs such as close to home, mentors without violence, micro-loans for small female business owners. - Initiate forward thinking in county-wide policies such as:
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Providing funding for primary prevention efforts; o Sexual violence prevention in schools; o Training on domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and sexual harassment to all county employees and contractors; and o Training of professionals on bias, oppressions, power, and elements that hinder individuals from seeking help. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote social norms that protect against violence through county-wide campaigns.
<i>Survivor Empowerment</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make more space for the stories of survivors to be heard.
<i>Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and Early Childhood Interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Continue to increase ACEs universal screening among children ages 0-5. - Expand home visitation programs to support families.
<i>School-Based Interventions</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - San Jose Police Department recommended <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Partnering with YWCA to increase outreach for High School and Middle School aged youth, and o Social Media Use training for parents to teach preventative skills to decrease the percentage of unmonitored use. - Education about consent, sexual assault and harassment, and healthy relationships should start in elementary schools. - Invest in school counselors and family support specialists. - Explore opportunities for partnerships relative to after-school and summer programs. - Partner and consider implementing a “Community Schools Model”, a state-wide model as a way to provide full service at school sites. - Address the role social media plays in victimization and provide more education to children relative to social media and cyberbullying.

<p><i>The Importance of Cultural Responsiveness</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Understand that <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Survivors are unique; o Their response and perception of violence are shaped by their intersecting identities and interventions; and o Their traumas are culturally coded. - Competency must be developed at both individual and institutional level. - Continuous self-assessment and critical thinking and working with communities in their own comfort zone such as grocery stores, ethnic print media and community fairs is critical. - Mindfulness and power sharing are the first step.
<p><i>The Importance of approaching this work in an LGBTQ inclusive manner</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure short term funding to support LGBTQ-focused supports. - Expand the work of the SJDP LGBTQ Advisory Team and create a taskforce to further explore the feasibility of exploring the Seattle's Safe Place model, including a community research visit with the Seattle PD. - Explore the feasibility and usability of an LGBTQ-focused dedicated center/ organization such as the Cuav Community United Against Violence model based in San Francisco. - Leverage national resources such as <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o The National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP) that coordinates the National Training and Technical Assistance (TTA) Center on LGBTQ Cultural Competency; o The National LGBTQ Institute on IPV, a joint effort between the Northwest Network of Bi, Trans, Lesbian and Gay Survivors of Abuse and the National Coalition Anti-Violence

	<p>Programs. They center survivors' expertise when building solutions to violence;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Futures Without Violence which has been providing groundbreaking programs, policies, and campaigns that empower individuals and organizations working to end violence against women and children around the world. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Make LGBTQ-focused "Caring Relationships" and other related publications available and easily accessible through community partners, schools, and online. - Coordinate to build system capacity and provide LGBTQ focused training that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o How to collect Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Expression Data, and o How to engage LGBTQ leaders and develop LGBTQ organization partnerships. - Collaborate with current providers to ensure inclusive documents and processes. - Strengthen relationships with Schools and Schools District to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Address the high incidence of harassment and assault at school levels o Conduct the GLSEN local school climate assessment for LGBTQ youth, and - Increase visibility of Affirming and Welcoming faith communities who can serve as additional support for survivors. - Strengthen communication with employers to make local resources visible to employees. - Increase partnership with Probation and the Office of the Sheriff, Custody Bureau to connect clients/inmates to support services.
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*Anticipating Impacts
Technology May Have on
Increasing Vulnerability and
Pathways to Victimization*

- Technological advancements may cause a loss of entry level jobs and place a workforce at risk of unemployment, homelessness and victimization. The County and the City should proactively put forward solutions in an anticipation of such risks.