

Office of Women's Health



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
Public Health

## Domestic Violence Services For All (DVSFA) Program

January 16, 2025



## **Agenda**

1. Welcome and review of meeting goals
2. Mentimeter Ice Breaker:
3. Introduction/Overview of the DVSFA Program
4. Differences between CalWORKs DVSS
5. Client Eligibility
6. Applying for DVSFA
7. Data collection and monitoring
8. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)\* 1/08/25
9. Next steps and closing remarks

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What act of kindness did you perform during the holidays this past year?

# Introduction & Overview

- \* DVSA Beginnings/Background
- \* Key Aspects: The Program



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## The Beginning:



- **Background**
  - DPH Office of Women's Health has been advocating for years to obtain funding and staffing for DV survivors outside of the CalWORKs eligibility restrictions
  - This new program embodies LA County's commitment to equity (anti-racism, diversity & inclusion) by ensuring resources are expended on all residents, documented or not, impacted by poverty, mainstream exclusion and in historically hard-to-reach communities

We also recognize the value of the input you, our providers in this work have also been advocating for additional support for this marginalized population as well.

## Key Aspects: The DVSFA Program

- First Fiscal Year → pilot period
  - \* \$2.5 M Budget for Services
- \* **The Pilot period covers both: 4/1/25 to 6/30/25 and 7/1/25-6/30/26.**  
The County fiscal year ends Jun 30th.
- Goal: Contracts to begin April 1, 2025
- Who will get what?
- OWH has devised a formula to distribute this funding

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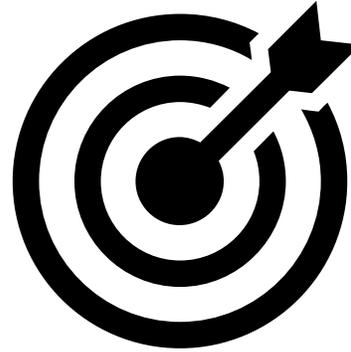
**Pilot:** We're calling it a pilot because it is the first of its kind, that will address DV supportive services in our communities that is financially supported by County dollars; we call Net County Cost. **The Pilot period covers both: 4/1/25 to 6/30/25 and 7/1/25-6/30/26?** Please note that the County fiscal year ends Jun 30th.

**Budget:** We asked for more, but since this is a pilot, we have only been provided the \$2.5M – Although we cannot promise more, we are [and will continue] to request more.

**Who will get what?** The formula: We are able to allocate each agency 14% [above] your current DVSS allocation. We have surmised that at least a minimum of \$20,000 per agency can provide some financial relief in your current efforts to address this population, the individuals you are now seeing (will see) that are undocumented, the older survivors; all those that do not currently meet the requirements under DVSS' CalWORKs program. Those few agencies that with this calculation still did not reach \$20,000 were adjusted so that they would meet this baseline.

## Key Aspects: Program Objectives

- DVSFA Program Objectives:
  - Focus on resources tailored specifically for the DV Survivor that is:
    - **Not a** current CalWORKs recipient
    - Older DV survivors, (those without minor children and/or [without] their children living with them); and
    - The undocumented immigrant population despite (U-Visa, VAWA) status



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The undocumented may have minor children living with them, also because of their citizenship status, are not eligible for CalWORKs, **but all are eligible for DVSA despite their citizenship status and** despite their status in the U-Visa and/or VAWA application process.

Current CalWORKs recipients include those on General Relief and START (formerly GROW) **and** they will be eligible for all services under DVSFA



## What's the Difference?!



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**You may be asking:** Why not more \$\$\$ for DVSS? As you know, it's not the amount of funding (at least for DVSS), it's the funding's restrictions on being able to help all of our community, not just CalWORKs eligible participants with DV supportive services. This program will basically mirror DVSS ***but*** with the addition of **Transportation**, which will aid fleeing survivors, ensure safe transport to meet necessary **DV related** in-person appointments. This program will also meet the need for expanded **Legal Services**, which will aid those filing for the U-Visa or VAWA application/status, it will **not matter** if they are not currently in the application or status pending process. **Another major difference:** You will be able to provide DV survivors receiving General Relief Hotel/Motel Shelter Bed stays – which is prohibited (for reimbursement under CalWORKs). Note: The same 45-day limit will be relevant under this program the same as DVSS; if additional days/nights are needed, this must be discussed with our office prior to an extended stay.

## Client Eligibility



- Survivors of DV that are ineligible for DVSS under CalWORKs
- Identified during intake/assessment as experiencing DV and in need of:
  - housing/shelter, case management, mental health services/counseling, and legal services
- Undocumented immigrants are eligible for DVSA
- DVSA client must be residing (living in) LA County

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**This program will mirror DVSS in services, with the exception of Transportation; Hotel/Shelter Night and; and the resources that may be dedicated toward undocumented immigrants experiencing DV. Case Management needs to certainly include: a Safety Plan; Individual as well as group counseling and the non-legal services such as Court Accompaniment; and the referral of actual legal services, such as Family law issues; and restraining orders.**

# Applying for DVSA Funding



## How to Apply for DVSF A Funding



- **Confirm interest** Send an email to the address below by the due date **January 23, 2025**
- **Receive confirmation** Your agency will receive a letter confirming your interest and the allocated funding amount based on the formula described earlier; and a budget form
- **Submit budget** Your agency will need to submit your budget (via email below) for DVSF A services to OWH by no later than **Feb 28<sup>th</sup>**
- Note interest to [OWHFinance@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:OWHFinance@ph.lacounty.gov) by **Jan 23rd**

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If your agency is interested in applying for the DVSF A funding, please consider the information provided today, and send an email and make sure that you use the SUBJECT line INTEREST IN DVSF A.

**By February 7<sup>th</sup>**, OWH, as noted will send a letter to your agency noting your allocation by the formula discussed to equitably allocate this limited funding across all agencies, along with a budget form for you to complete and return **by February 28<sup>th</sup>** – **Note: Because of the date we’re planning for implementation (April 1<sup>st</sup>) there is no wiggle room on this February 28<sup>th</sup> date.**

**Funding formula again, if asked – 14% above current DVSS allocation with a baseline of \$20,000 for each agency. With the 14% formula, there were those agencies that did not reach \$20,000, and in those rare instances, those agencies were given above 14% to meet the \$20,000 base.**

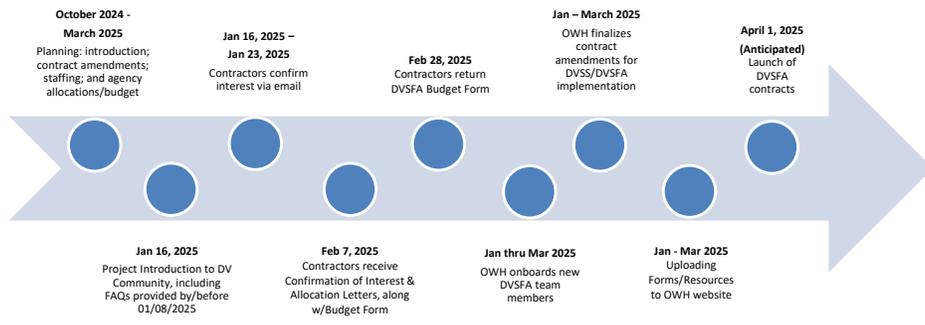
**Are additional monies available above \$20,000?** We are operating with limited funds (\$2.5M – note we asked for more); however, we are open to revisiting the \$20,000 base for your agency **IF** there are agencies not interested in the program, **we may be able to** allocate more funding to fewer agencies based on your calculation of projected expenditures. **Those not interested in DVSF A:** If we do not receive an Interest email by the due date, we will assume that you cannot use these dollars, but that lack of interest will not in any way affect your DVSS contracts.

# Program Updates & Timeline



**Brief** program updates and Timeline

## Implementation Timeline



**Dashboard:** Just a dashboard of our milestone timelines. Planning; Today’s introduction; When we’d like return of your interest and budget; Your letters confirming interest and allocation, along with the budget will be sent to you; The onboarding of our staff; Our work with our Contracts and Grants partners to finalize our contract amendments; and our anticipated implementation date.



## DVSFA Program / Updates & Timeline



- DVSS contract amendments – **Anticipated** Launch  
Date: **April 1, 2025**
- New/Additional team members  
Staffing
- ✓ Health Analyst – *Temporary Assistance*
- ✓ Contract Monitoring Team Leader
- ✓ (2) Contract Program Auditors
  
- Reimbursement Rate Study - 2025

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**We've been talking about an anticipated launch date of April 1<sup>st</sup>.** Many of you are aware that the current DVSS contracts are in effect until the close of FY 2025-26. We are collaborating with our Contracts and Grants division partners to prepare for extension of the DVSS contracts which will result in amended contracts **effective** (Again Anticipated for) April 1, 2025. Again, it is OWH's goal to get these needed dollars into the community as expeditiously as possible.

**New Addt'l Team:** We are in the process of identifying and recruiting qualified team members to further support this DVSFA effort. We expect that two new team members will join us between this month and February, a Contract Monitoring Team Leader, much like the one that you are used to with DVSS' Ellie Tam and her team. We'll announce and introduce these individuals to you once they've been onboarded.

**Reimbursement Rate Study:** We are aware that the reimbursement rates you all have been working with for the services you provide are woefully inadequate and have been for quite some time. To increase those rates, there is a process to address this and OWH has been pursuing that.; and we are close to finalizing an agreement with an external organization with a great deal of experience in this area to partner with us and you to obtain real-world data around DV services and from this study obtain a recommendation in reimbursement methodology as well as appropriate increases in Rates per Services. **We will provide you with more information once we have it. Once this study has been completed, we are hopeful that we will see rate increases in**

**effect for the next FY of these contracts.**

# Program Funding / Reimbursement Overview





## Reimbursement



- Expenditures will be reimbursed on a fee-for-service (FFS) basis
- Subrecipients must provide the service and then with appropriate receipts, complete and submit the invoice requesting reimbursement
- Supporting documentation must be maintained and submitted to OWH at the time of invoicing

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**FFS just as DVSS is currently.**



## Required Documentation



- Intake/Assessment Form(s) for each client to determine client plan for safety and other supportive services, which should include:
  - collection of de-identified demographic data
  - Receipts and other supporting documentation must be kept on file to validate the provision of services:
    - ❖ Transportation – **Restricted to “DV related services” only**
    - ❖ Immigration Legal Services - Time/Services
    - ❖ Hotel/motel stays  
(receipts must contain agency’s budgeted staff’s name and dates of stay)

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**Intake/Assessments:** You may continue to utilize your own agency forms, however, ours can be used to guide in the type of data collection we are hoping to gather for confidential reporting.

**Transportation:** If your agency has a budgeted line item for transportation, then receipts will be expected for use of Certified, Licensed and Insured car services (i.e., a Taxi, Lyft, Uber, or other) transportation service rendered for client served. **Your agency will have to determine what constitutes health and wellness DV related costs under transportation along with what you deem as reasonable in terms of number of allowable miles between locations.** Transportation will have to be itemized in your budget as hotel/shelter nights currently are in your DVSS billing **and we will need receipts for rides as well.**

**Immigration Legal Services:** This is no different than other services – you will just have to document in your client’s file what services were provided; no receipts are involved.

**Hotel/Motel Stays:** Under DVSS Hotel/Motel stays are strictly limited to CalWORKs clients only, this is **not** so under this program. You will be able to provide your clients, even those receiving General Relief and START (formerly GROW) and all clients will be eligible for the 45-day maximum hotel/motel shelter stay. **Remember:** A lot of these procedures we expecting under this program are same or similar to current DVSS.

# DVSFA Allowable Costs, Budget, Invoicing & Reporting



## DVSFA Allowable Costs

- **Direct costs** can be identified specifically with a particular sponsored project that can be directly assigned to activities relatively easily with a high degree of accuracy.
  - Salaries
  - Employee Benefits
  - Operating Costs including Transportation and Hotel/Motel Stays
- **Indirect costs** are general overhead expenses that are not directly incurred in support of the program. Indirect costs are defined as the administrative costs incurred for common or joint activities that cannot be identified specifically with a project or program.

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**Transportation costs must be supported by DV related receipts.**

## Budget and Budget Modification

- **Budget** – Completion of the budget and detail justification is a contractual requirement of all agreements with the Office of Women’s Health.
- **Budget Modification** – Providers are allowed to submit budget modification requests once per quarter, and no later than **March 31<sup>st</sup>** of the fiscal year.

**Note:** As in DVSS, we will be requiring a listing of identified/budgeted staff under your Personnel line item

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**This slide provided as General Information**

**Note: This reflects only 1-quarter of this 2024-25 fiscal year, and as such there will be no budget modification allowed. If absolutely a budget modification is necessary, we can review on a case-by-case basis.**

## Budget and Budget Modification - Required Documents

- Cost Allocation Plan
- Lease Agreement
- Approved Negotiated Indirect Costs Rate Agreement (NICRA)
- Agency's Internal Approved Mileage

Please submit the budget and budget modification form and above documents to the OWH Finance inbox at: [OWHFinance@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:OWHFinance@ph.lacounty.gov) with the subject line: [Your Agency Name] DVSFA Budget or Budget Modification Fiscal Year 20xx-xx.

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**Note: xx indicated where you will note the applicable fiscal year.**

## Invoicing

- Monthly invoices are due no later than the **15<sup>th</sup>** day after the end of each month. For example, invoices are due on August 15<sup>th</sup> for services provided in July
- If no expenditures were incurred during the report month, please submit an invoice for the month reporting \$0 expenditures

## Supplemental Invoicing

- Supplemental invoices will be allowed to be submitted **no later than** 60-days following the month of service provision with the exception of May and June
- Supplemental invoices will **not be** allowed for June
- May supplemental invoices **must be** submitted by June 30<sup>th</sup>

## Invoicing and Supplemental Invoicing (continued)

- The following items must be completed and submitted to the OWH In-box at: [OWHInvoice@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:OWHInvoice@ph.lacounty.gov).
  - Invoice (Signed PDF version)
  - Invoice (Excel version)
  - Monthly Monitoring Report (MMR)
  - Supporting documentation (e.g., receipts for expenses described above **and** receipts and logs for hotel/motel)

## Financial Closeout Report

- The Financial Closeout Report is used to determine whether an agency's costs reconcile with their accounting records. Providers should ensure that their financial records (Income Statement and General Ledger) reflect the actual costs related to the DVSA contract that are incurred during the reporting period.
- The annual financial closeout report is due by **July 30<sup>th</sup> for each fiscal year.**
- Please note that only budgeted items and staff can be reimbursed.

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**Please note that only billing for budgeted items and staff can be reimbursed.**

## Financial Closeout Report (continued)

- The following items must be completed and submitted to OWH Finance Inbox at: [OWHFinance@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:OWHFinance@ph.lacounty.gov), with the subject line: (AGENCY NAME) DVSFA Closeout Report FY 20XX-20XX.
  - Signed Financial Closeout Report form (pdf version)
  - Signed Final Property Inventory Certification (pdf version)
  - Closeout Report Worksheet (Excel version)
  - Agency's Income Statement (Excel version)
  - Agency's General Ledger (Excel version)

# Data Collection and Monitoring Requirements



## Data Collection

### Intake and Assessment

- Demographic data (e.g., self-identified race/ethnicity, age, income and source of income, such as government benefits, employment, etc.) will be collected to assess the aggregated utilization and demographics.
  
- Safety Plans
  
- Service Plans
  
- Important to Ascertain: **Is client actually eligible for DVSSFA funding or DVSS CalWORKs?**

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**Data Collection Tool will be your documentation of client care from Intake & Assessment thru program completion (whatever success or the “end” looks like in the best interest of your client):** We only expect that you do your due diligence in ensuring that clients are appropriately assessed to determine which program would better serve client in alignment with program guidelines. Note: if client is DVSS eligible, then they cannot be served under DVSSFA – Additionally, clients cannot be served under **both** programs.

## Monitoring Requirements

### Intake and Assessment

- Demographics/Metrics
  - # of clients served
  - De-identifiable client data (ages; housing; income; disability; etc.)
  - Time and services utilized
  - Customer satisfaction surveys

### Client File Notes

- Should indicate clients' status noted throughout the duration of the program for all clients served:
  - Clients Intake/Assessment
  - Progress notes describing the services provided that validate hours billed
  - Agency/DV staff that provided the services billed
- DVSFA team will review documentation that supports billing to validate services noted.

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**Data and Monitoring:** will be essential to this program so that ongoing financial support can be effectively lobbied annually. We will be asking that you document **new** clients – *recognizing that new clients mean clients that have not been previously reported to DVSFA, this funding stream.* Please collect the demographics outlined in the Intake/Assessment (age of survivor and dependents; housing; income; disability, etc.) as best you can per the client's willingness to state. It is important to accurately track the # of new clients served monthly; the time and resources utilized. Additionally, the customer satisfaction surveys will continue to be invaluable tools for insight into how your clients are being helped and what elements within and beyond your control can be improved.

**Monitoring:** Important to note that monitoring will be conducted the same as you experience under DVSS.

## FOLLOW-UP AND NEXT STEPS

### FAQs



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## Follow-Up & Next Steps



- **Confirm your Interest**
- **Receive Confirmation of Interest & Allocation Letter (along w/budget form)**
- **Submit your budget form by the 2/28 due date.**
  
- **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) will be compiled** from the questions noted here and provided in the Chat box of this presentation; both (including presentation) will be provided to you.
- Send any additional questions, concerns, or comments to [OWHTraining@ph.lacounty.gov](mailto:OWHTraining@ph.lacounty.gov).

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**To reiterate – here are the next steps:**

**Confirming Interest:** If you haven't confirmed your interest by **January 23<sup>rd</sup>**, we will assume that you cannot use these dollars and are not interested in this program, which will **not** have any bearing on your standing as a DVSS contractor.

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)



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## TEAM Q & A: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: Will the covered services include VAWA and U-Visa Immigration applications?**

**A: Yes.** Under this program, all persons in need of DV services are eligible and reimbursement will not be limited to the pending application or application status. Those interested in and in need of assistance completing these forms will be able to be helped and the agency will be reimbursed for the time needed to provide this assistance.

**Q: Would the agency need to deliver services in a specified SPA or SD?**

**A: Yes.** Services are aggregated across Supervisorial Districts (SDs), **not** Service Planning Areas (SPAs). You will need to provide services in the specified SDs that have the walk-in/drop-in centers that are identified as locations in this contract. Agencies that have multiple locations in different SDs may allocate funding based on your projected costs in each SD within the maximum of this DVSSFA contract.

**DV locations should be the same as currently identified in your DVSS contracts.**

**FAQs** These are the questions that most of you submitted prior to January 8<sup>th</sup> and we can go over quickly them together quickly as some, if not most have been addressed through this presentation thus far.

## TEAM Q & A: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**Q: What is the duration of the pilot program?**

**A:** We are calling the first period and first (full) Fiscal Year a pilot, as this is the kick-off of this unique program. We have received confirmation that we can anticipate annual funding.

**Q: What are the eligibility criteria and how will clients be evaluated for eligibility?**

**A: The Eligibility Requirements are:**

- that the client is residing within Los Angeles County (unhoused, persons experiencing homelessness or housing instability would be considered **Yes** as residing in Los Angeles County)
- the client needs domestic violence supportive services
- that the client **is not** a recipient of **or** currently eligible for DV services under CalWORKs.

## FAQs: Continued

- Q:** Will this simply render more folks eligible for services under our existing contract to provide services to CalWORKs recipients, or will this require a separate contract and budget?
- A:** No. The funding for DV Services for All will provide needed DV services for all in need of DV supportive services (Case Management and Legal Services) that do not qualify for CalWORKs). Yes, it will require a new amendment and budget.

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**Current contracts will require a new amendment to include the budget and provisions for DVSFA**

**Additional Questions:** Again, we will address all questions provided in the chat with an addition to these FAQs which will be organized and sent to you all, along with a copy of this PowerPoint Presentation for your reference.

Please feel free to submit additional questions as they arise to the email in box for OWH as [OWHTraining@dph.lacounty.gov](mailto:OWHTraining@dph.lacounty.gov)

**Thank you!**

