



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

August 7, 2017

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Sachi A. Hamai 
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

JANICE HAHN
Fourth District

KATHRYN BARGER
Fifth District

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE COUNTY'S WOMEN AND GIRLS INITIATIVE (ITEM NO. 9, AGENDA OF DECEMBER 13, 2016)

On December 13, 2016, the Board of Supervisors adopted a motion by Supervisors Kuehl and Solis establishing the Los Angeles County Initiative on Women and Girls (WGI). The WGI will examine the systemic issues that lead to inequitable gender outcomes and recommend changes to improve the quality of life for women and girls in the County. Over the course of five years, the WGI will conduct:

- A Countywide study of the unique ways in which women and girls are impacted by the policies, programs, services, collaborations and other actions undertaken by the County;
- A thorough assessment of the County's recruitment, hiring, retention, promotion, testing, evaluation and other Human Resources policies to ascertain any disparate impacts they may have on women; and
- A thorough assessment of the County's abilities and deficits in ensuring gender equity, including an analysis of each Department's programmatic impacts, positive and negative, on women and girls in the County.

The motion calls for quarterly progress reports to the Board. This is the first such report.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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Staffing

As established in the December motion and approved in the February 7, 2017, funding and staffing plan, the WGI is led by an Executive Director and supported by a Research Director, a Community Engagement Director, and an Administrative Coordinator. The Executive Director was hired on March 14, 2017, and began work on April 24, 2017. The Administrative Coordinator began work on June 16, 2017, and an offer was extended to a candidate for the Research Director position. We have identified a Community Engagement Director and anticipate having the candidate on board by the end of the month.

WGI Governing Council

The motion established a 15-member Governing Council, with three members appointed by each Board office. To date, the Governing Council (GC) has held two general meetings. They met for the first time on June 19, 2017, elected officers -- a Chair, Araceli Campos, and Vice Chair, Sharon Shelton -- and worked to establish a WGI GC mission statement. The second meeting of the WGI took place on July 31, 2017. Monthly meetings for the WGI GC are calendared through the end of 2017, and a retreat is scheduled in September to finalize Year One priorities.

Website

The WGI website (wgi.lacounty.gov) went live on July 10, 2017. We will use the website to provide updates on the WGI GC meetings, announce the WGI Executive Director and the GC outreach activities, share WGI reports and related publications, and solicit community input.

Departmental Outreach and Assessment

The Executive Director has identified a list of key County departments and initiatives and held initial meetings with the leadership of most of those. In addition, in July, the WGI circulated a survey to 15 priority departments requesting information regarding programs and services targeted at or primarily accessed by women and girls. The results of the survey will inform the "assessment of the County's abilities and deficits in ensuring gender equity" and, along with an analysis of the County's budget and strategic plan, will be used to establish the WGI Year One priority areas.

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Community Outreach

The motion calls for the WGI to be informed by extensive community engagement, including two Town Hall meetings in each District over the life of the initiative. Governing Council members from each District, along with the Executive Director, will host the Town Hall meetings in their Districts. We are working to ensure the first Town Hall meeting in each District will take place by early 2018; the dates will be finalized at the next GC meeting. We will use these meetings to solicit community input around the initial WGI priority areas.

In addition, the Executive Director has met with a variety of community stakeholders on issues from child care to homelessness to anti-recidivism, totaling more than 30 meetings and consultations to date.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or your staff may contact Regina Waugh at (213) 974-4532 or via email at rwaugh@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:FAD
RW:ma

c: All Department Heads