



Center for the Pacific Asian Family



CENTER FOR THE
PACIFIC ASIAN FAMILY
NURTURING CHANGE TOGETHER

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Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF) was founded to help address domestic violence and sexual assault in the Asian and Pacific Islander communities.

Our mission is to build healthy and safe communities by addressing the root causes and consequences of family violence and violence against women. We are committed to meeting the specific cultural and language needs of Asian and Pacific Islander women and their families.

Our vision is of an Asian and Pacific Islander community that embraces healthy relationships and works in partnership with other communities to eradicate all forms of violence.



"I write for those who do not have a voice because they were so terrified, because we are taught to respect fear more than ourselves. We've been taught that silence would save us, but it won't."

-Audre Lorde

WHAT WE DO

CPAF is a non-profit organization recognized nationally for its pioneering work in domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse services within the Los Angeles Asian Pacific Islander (API) community. We created the first multi-lingual 24-hour helpline assisting API survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in the nation.

In 1981, we opened the first multi-lingual and multi-cultural domestic violence **emergency shelter** in the nation that specialized in serving API survivors of domestic violence. Thereafter, we were also the first to open a multi-lingual and multi-cultural **transitional program** focusing on the needs of survivors who seek to establish independent, violence-free lives.

In 2005, we expanded our **Community Program**, focused on community engagement and violence prevention programs. We provide a wide range of comprehensive services, all of which are free of charge, conducted in many API languages.



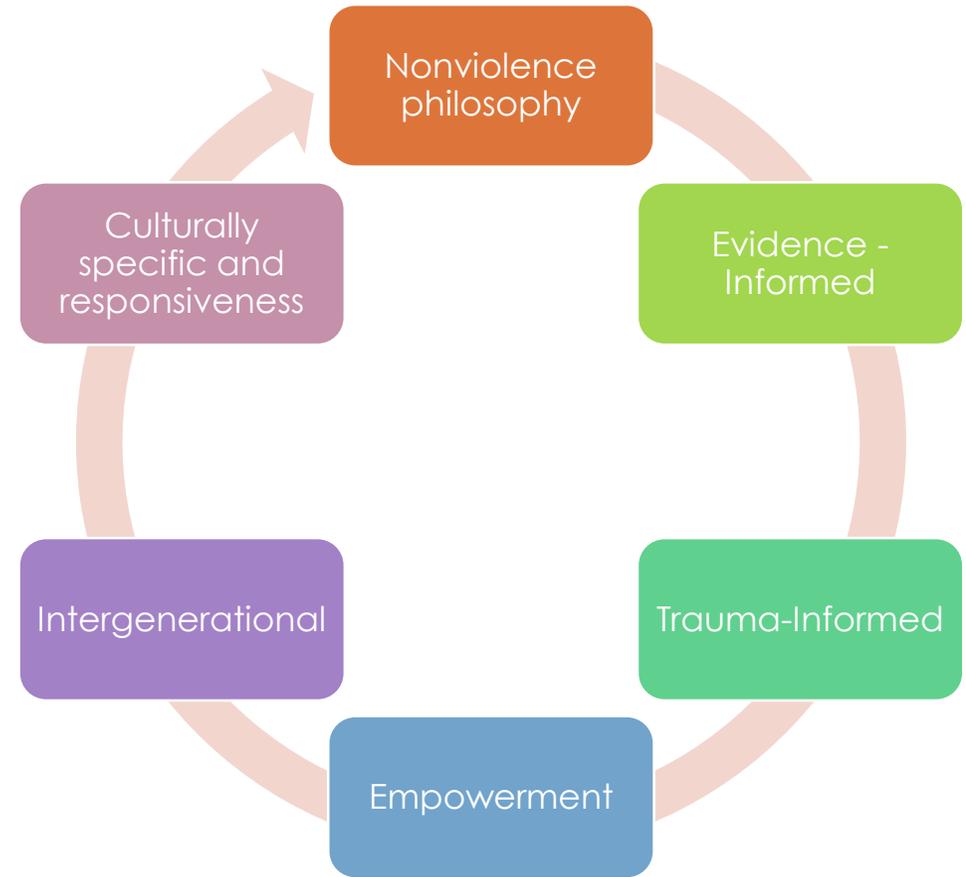
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PROGRAMS FOCUS ON:

SHELTER SERVICES



COMMUNITY PROGRAM SERVICES



CONTEXT: CALIFORNIA AND LA COUNTY

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, California's demographics are more diverse than the nationwide averages. 41.2% of Californian's classify themselves as white (61.6% nationwide); 5.7%, black (12.4% nationwide), and 1.6%, American Indian and Alaskan natives compared to 1.1% nationwide. California's population includes more Asians (15.4% compared to the nationwide average of 6.0%) and Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islanders (0.4% compared to 0.2% nationwide).

LA County has the largest number of Asian/PI residents (1.5 million) of any county in the U.S., representing over 45 distinct ethnic groups speaking 28 languages and many dialects, including the largest Cambodian, Filipino, Indonesian, Korean, and Thai populations in the nation.³ 66% of Asian/Pis in LA County are immigrants and 35% are LEP. (Pew Research Center. (2019). Fact sheets on Asians in the U.S. Retrieved from <https://www.pewresearch.org/topics/asian-americans>)



CHALLENGES AND BARRIERS

- Lack resources and a support network
- Not knowing their legal rights or the resources available
- Unique restrictions on their self-determination
- A sense of limited public safety further limits options for Asian/PI survivors
- API survivors do not report their assaults to police because of language barriers, shame and stigma associated with these forms of violence, distrust of law enforcement, and/or desire not to press criminal charges against the assailant.
- Difficulty finding employment due to their limited marketable skills, work history in the U.S., and English proficiency

IMPACT FROM COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Restrictions on their personal autonomy
- High economic insecurity
- Limiting the opportunities for seeking help
- The racialization of the pandemic led to a dramatic increase in Asian-focused hate crimes



FINDING FROM COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

The specific goals of this study were 1) to provide insight into cultural dynamics surrounding intimate relationships and healthy relationships in Los Angeles County Asian American communities, and 2) to develop recommendations for how to approach the multi-layered issue of domestic violence within Asian American communities, recognizing that this requires parallel approaches at different levels across different stakeholder groups to craft a complex solution for a complicated problem.

