



June 2020

## San Francisco Commission & Department on the Status of Women Newsletter

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### Dear Community,

We hope you are well and staying safe during this time. The City of San Francisco is cautiously entering into the next phase of reopening. As retail businesses open for curbside pickup and we transition to summer, the best thing we can all do to reduce the spread of COVID-19 is to continue to follow guidelines and restrict our interactions with others. The City is increasing COVID-19 testing and contact tracing to monitor public safety. Anyone living or working in San Francisco, showing one or more symptoms can get free COVID-19 testing. [Information](#).

We also want to acknowledge that as we continue to maintain distance from others, home is not a safe place for everyone. Domestic violence, child abuse, and elder abuse are continuing to happen, and we want survivors to know that help is available. Do not hesitate to reach out if you need help. Seeking support from violence is an essential need.

With that in mind, we want to offer some resources for survivors of violence. We have produced a web-page summarizing the resources, available [here](#) and the Mayor's Office has a web-page with resources [here](#).

We also want to highlight a few hotlines or text-lines you can contact:

**W.O.M.A.N., Inc.**

TEL: 415-864-4777

24-Hour Crisis Line: 415-864-4722

Toll Free: 877-384-3578

[www.womaninc.org](http://www.womaninc.org)

**La Casa de las Madres**

TEL: 415-503-0500

24-Hour Adult Crisis Line: 877-503-1850

24-Hour Teen Crisis Line: 877-923-0700

24-Hour Text Crisis Line: 415-200-3575

[www.lacasa.org](http://www.lacasa.org)

**San Francisco Women Against Rape**

TEL: 415-861-2024

24-Hour Crisis Line: 415-647-7273

[www.sfwar.org](http://www.sfwar.org)



The Commission and Department on the Status of Women remain dedicated to serving the City and County of San Francisco, and we are here to support you and the community.

Follow us on [Twitter](#)

and [Facebook](#) @statusofwomensf or connect directly through [dosw@sfgov.org](mailto:dosw@sfgov.org).

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### Virtual Town Halls

Even in this time of social distancing and self-isolation, we are still a community. In order to remain connected the Department has created a series of town halls in collaboration with the San Francisco Human Rights Commission, New America CA, and other organizations. This series shines a light on how women and girls are uniquely impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic and what you can do to help.

Please join us at our next Virtual Town Hall, "How Can We Support Women-Owned Businesses in San Francisco?" on June 2, 5:00-6:30 pm. We'll be joined by local and statewide experts to discuss how COVID-19 has impacted women-owned businesses and how you can help. Register for this event: <https://bit.ly/3bZNFVY>

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## Commission Meetings

June 24, 2020

July 22, 2020

### [Commission Meeting Information](#)

Still to be determined if these are online meetings or in person at City Hall.

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## May 2020

May was Mental Health Awareness Month, which has been observed since 1949. One in five Americans experience mental health. Mental Health Awareness Month is about raising awareness, fighting stigma, and providing support and education about mental health. During this time of increased social isolation and anxiety, it is especially important to normalize mental health and destigmatize reaching out for help.

We want to highlight some resources for mental health:

#### **San Francisco Health Service System HSS**

24/7 Support Line for City Employee Support Line:

628-652-4600 or 800-795-2351

<https://sfhss.org/>

#### **CDC Resources for Stress and Coping :**

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

#### **National Suicide Prevention**

24/7 Crisis Line: 800-273-8255

<https://suicidepreventionlifeline.org/>

#### **The San Francisco Department of Public Health**

Psychiatric Emergency Services: 415-206-8125

Mobile Crisis Team: 415-970-4000

Comprehensive Child Crisis: 415-970-3800

S.F. Suicide Prevention: 415-781-0500

<https://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oservices/mentalHlth/CBHS/default.asp>

#### **Mental Health Association of San Francisco**

24/7 Non-emergency Emotional Support Line:

855-845-7415

<https://www.mentalhealthsf.org/>

May was also Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. The month of May was chosen to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad, May 1869, wherein the majority of the workers were Chinese immigrants. In this moment, when our Asian American and Pacific Islander communities are experiencing heightened threats, it is important to raise up the voices and support our local Asian American and Pacific Islander communities.

The first two panels of this three-part series have run successful with positive engagement from the public, each attracting over 100 participants and viewers. To view recorded clips from these town halls, visit ([include link](#)).

On May 7 we hosted "Understanding Trauma and Sexual Violence During COVID-19" in collaboration with the Office of Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention (SHARP). This panel was moderated by Vice President of the Commission on the Status of Women Dr. Shokooh Miry and SHARP Director KellyLou Densmore. Panelist included local non-profit partners and experts who shared reflections on sexual violence and women's safety during the COVID-19 pandemic. [Watch recorded event.](#)

The second town hall, "Building Community and Safety for Domestic Violence Survivors During COVID-19," took place on May 19. This panel was cohosted New America California. The panel was moderated by Autumn McDonald, Head of New America CA and featured Sonya Passi (Founder and CEO, FreeFrom), Kathy Black (Executive Director, La Casa de las Madres), Julia Arroyo (San Francisco Site Director, Young Women's Freedom Center). [Watch recorded event.](#)

## Women's Safety

The San Francisco Safety, Opportunity, and Lifelong Relationships (SF SOL) Collaborative Project was created by a \$9.3 million grant from the California Department of Social Services and is a collaboration of San Francisco government and nonprofit agencies led by DOSW. The project is a new pilot that provides housing options and other services to youth who have been exploited. DOSW is continuing to successfully coordinate and lead the nine member SF SOL Collaborative and provide additional support during the COVID-19 pandemic. In light of the shelter in place orders, we are supporting member agencies to pivot and adjust to the new environment. The SF SOL training series has shifted online and the first training on the Commercial Sexual Exploitation-Identification Tool (CSE-IT) was held on Zoom. [More information here.](#)

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We want to highlight some organizations that are working to support the Asian American and Pacific Islander communities here in San Francisco:

**The Asian Women's Shelter (AWS)** was founded in 1988 to address the needs of survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking, especially immigrants and refugees. AWS has a specific focus on addressing the cultural and language needs of immigrants, refugees, and the Asian American community. For more information visit <https://www.sfaws.org/>

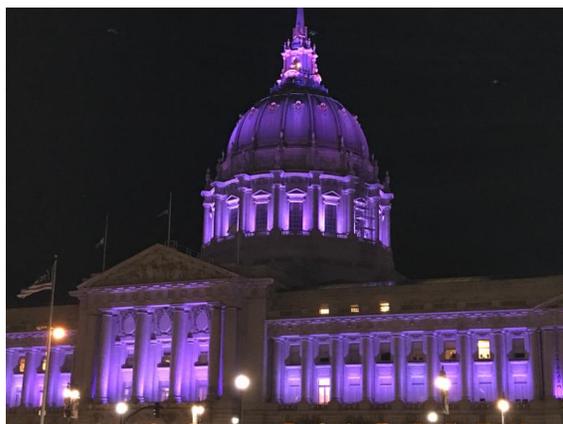
**API Legal Outreach** has been supporting marginalized communities since 1975 by providing culturally competent and linguistically appropriate legal representation and advocacy to low-income women, seniors, immigrants, and youth. For more information visit <https://www.apilegaloutreach.org/>

**APA Family Services**, founded in 1987, works to promote healthy children and families by providing support services to prevent child abuse and domestic violence. APA Family Services advocates for culturally competent services for Asians and Pacific Islanders through education, community building, and leadership development. For more information visit <https://www.apafss.org/>



## Census

Do you care about local schools, transportation infrastructure, or job training programs? Great! These are all things that are impacted by the Census, since federal funding to local communities is informed by the results of the past Census. To make sure that San Francisco gets the resources it needs, we all need to get counted. Go to [2020census.gov/](https://2020census.gov/) to take the Census now.



## Supporting Our Community

The Coronavirus pandemic has had a huge impact on workers and businesses in our neighborhoods. We have now been given the opportunity to rethink where and how we are investing into our community. Take this opportunity to build up local small businesses and women-owned business that create our community.

To support local women-owned businesses visit:

<https://sites.google.com/lacocinasf.org/e-at-la-cocina/home>.

For resources for businesses and employees visit:

<https://oewd.org/resources-businesses-and-employees-impacted-covid-19>.

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Connect with us



