

# ANNUAL REPORT 2021



YEARS OF SOCIAL SERVICE, SOCIAL CHANGE & SOCIAL JUSTICE



# A Message from the Executive Director and the Board President

If 2020 was about adaptation, 2021 was about resiliency! The COVID-19 pandemic continued (and continues) to stretch us all to lead with health and safety and at the same time stay alert and focused as to what the learning lessons are and what our responses need to be. All of us at POV, staff, interns and volunteers, like so many of you, have been bound together to do our best in the face of the worst. Foundationally and at its heart Peace Over Violence is a crisis center, which means responding in real time to what presents. That is part of our DNA.

For 50 years, POV has been at the forefront of responding to domestic and sexual assault calls for service around the clock. At the same time we have always looked behind the crisis of violence to promote thoughtful perspectives on the causes of violence and seek to promote transformative prevention and healing practices. While POV always shows up at the moment of the crisis, we also see the necessity of looking behind and beyond the crisis to prevent violence

in the first place. All of this requires a resiliency framework. To be able to continue to show up day after day and year after year does cultivate resiliency muscles. A definition of resilience is the ability to withstand adversity and bounce back from difficult situations. COVID teaches us that just as the virus morphs to stay alive (and is unfortunately good at that) so must we as individuals (including survivors), organizations and communities through adaptation and resiliency grow and change to meet the moments that we are in. It is fair to say that POV has been resilient and adaptive for five decades which has given us the muscles and the confidence to meet the constant challenges.

What have we been learning during the past two years of the pandemic? A lot! New technologies, new forms of service, better and varied outreach, more understanding of the importance of self-care, renewed commitment to equity and social justice, better interpretation of data, more knowledge and compassion for what

families and communities (and staff) go through, and more. As a teaching and a learning organization, POV has certainly been resourceful, reliable and resilient.

As we celebrate our 50th anniversary as one of the first organizations of its kind in the country, we invite you to learn more about us, join with us, and stick with us as we continue to learn and grow together to fulfill our mission of building healthy relationships, families and communities free from sexual, domestic and interpersonal violence.

Let’s hear it for the next 50!



*Patti Giggans*  
Patti Occhiuzzo Giggans  
Executive Director



*Mike Bayless*  
Mike Bayless  
Board President

Overview of the year

**27,000** | Our emergency response, legal advocacy, case management, counseling, hotlines, community outreach and training services reached over 27,000 individuals in the LA Metro area and the West San Gabriel Valley.

**17,698** | We responded to 17,698 hotline calls through the LA Rape and Battering Hotline, the Off Limits Sexual Harassment Hotline, and our PREA hotline.

**1,273** | Our Domestic Abuse Response Team and Sexual Assault Response Team responded to 1,273 emergency calls in Los Angeles and Pasadena.

**627** | Our trauma-informed clinical services reached 627 individuals through one-one-one counseling sessions.

**6,000** | Our community outreach touched over 6,000 Angelenos through our violence prevention education programs, self defense classes, In Touch With Teens curriculum, and professional trainings.

‘70s

1971 LACAAW is founded; starts the LA Rape & Battering Hotline, the first dual SA/DV hotline in the country; first self defense classes; first government funding received







# Denim Day 2021

In our 22nd year, this campaign continues to spread messages of violence prevention, solidarity, togetherness and to educate on issues surrounding all forms of sexual violence. This year, we added two new themes “We Believe Survivors” and “We Protect Each Other” - and a new look to fit the theme and the transitional moment in time we find ourselves in. Developed in partnership with el Creativo, the floral flourishing images brought to life a rebirth that we are experiencing collectively, and also of the resiliency of survivors.

Due to the ongoing pandemic, Denim Day activities continued to look a little different this year. We were very happy to be able to hold an in person press conference (open only to press) at LA City Hall. Led by LA City Council President, Nury Martinez, and joined by Mayor Eric Garcetti, City Councilmembers Monica Rodriguez, Mark Ridley-Thomas, and Nithya Raman, as well as Denim Day Founder and POV CEO Patti Giggans and Survivor Advocate Tiffany Duvernay-Smith, the speakers discussed the importance of Denim Day, supporting survivors and keeping each other safe, the challenges survivors face during the ongoing pandemic and the need for robust support as people return to school, work and the community.

For the second year in a row, we hosted a virtual survivor rally with Denim Day NYC! Hosted by Denim Day spokespeople Maya Jupiter and Aloe Blacc, the rally had participants from both coasts sharing testimony together, creating an online space and bringing together people from around the world in solidarity.







## Participants Included:

**Jovan Martinez**, *Writer, Singer and Poet*

*Community Educator with STEPS to End Family Violence; sharing "Beyond the Jeans" poem*

**Krishanti Dharmaraj**, *Executive Director of the Center for Women's Global Leadership at Rutgers*

**Matthew Ennis**, *President and CEO of 1in6*

**Margarita Guzman**, *Executive Director of Violence Intervention Program in New York City*

**Tina Rodriguez**, *CA Statewide Manager for Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice and Board President for ValorUS*

**Juan Renteria**, *Artist, el Creativo; featuring slideshow of Denim Day 2021 floral images*

**Celena K**, *Member of National Agenda for Black Girls & Youth Organizer with Girls for Gender Equity Youth Panel*

## '80s

Services and funding continue to increase; Patti Giggans starts at POV; Deaf Services program; self defense instructor trainings; child sexual assault prevention programming; culturally specific Latina Services program; expanded volunteer advocate training; launch Advisory Boards

Other highlights from this year's campaign: two special virtual events leading up to Denim Day: Reimagining Healing and Justice: A Bicoastal Denim Day Panel & Listening to Youth: Young People in the Fight to End Sexual Violence; a special partnership with Tarana Burke, MeToo, and Levi's with a social media takeover and sharing the history of Denim Day; creating online peer to peer fundraising capabilities; increasing our reach on social media in a big way; and designing and selling new Denim Day merch!



We are inspired by all of the testimonies, stories, photos and reports of Denim Days all over the world. Our movement continues to get stronger and gain momentum. Especially after this last year, this outpouring of support propels us and encourages us to continue to stand up for each other and survivors. We believe survivors. We protect each other. Together we are working toward a world without violence.

## Save the Date for Denim Day 2022: Wednesday, April 27th!



# Counseling Groups

Throughout the ongoing pandemic, POV offered continuous 24/7 emergency services via virtual platforms, with no gaps in services - including trauma-informed case management, counseling, legal assistance and advocacy. Both one on one and group sessions were continuously available. The transition to virtual service provision allowed us to continue all of our previously offered programs and expand to offer new opportunities and reach more individuals.

## Success story from POV Trauma Therapist:

5 My client Anna\* has made amazing progress and increased her already elevated level of insight. She has been very receptive to EMDR therapy and reported different behaviors recently. Rather than reacting to triggers as she would in the past, she has reported using coping skills and allowing herself time to respond in a more regulated way. Anna's language is reflecting an understanding that her trauma is not always in control of her life as she previously thought. She is gaining a stronger sense of empowerment.

\*Name has been changed to protect privacy and confidentiality

Throughout 2021, POV held **25** ongoing weekly virtual counseling groups in English, Spanish, and American Sign Language, including:

- Child/Non-Offending Parent groups
- Trauma Processing groups
- Trauma-Informed Yoga
- Still I Rise for Black women
- Dance Empowerment
- Peaceful and Powerful Partnerships
- Domestic Violence Support groups
- Deaf Services Parenting group
- Healing Arts
- Meditation
- Parenting Psychoeducation groups

**404** persons participated in support groups and **627** individuals received one on one counseling.





# Youth Over Violence Summer Youth Institute

One of the keystone programs of our Prevention department is the Summer Youth Institute. The Institute is for youth who are committed to building and making powerful social change through awareness, advocacy and violence prevention strategies. The six week program empowers youth between the ages of 14-19 by educating them on healthy relationships, promoting awareness of teen dating violence, and enhancing community organizing skills. 2021 saw our 11th annual Institute! 14 total graduates consisting of 4 ambassadors and 10 youth leaders completed the virtual summer program, gaining violence prevention training and building advocacy skills. During the graduation, the youth presented their projects which included collages, presentations, videos and social media posts on topics surrounding mental health in the LGBTQIA+ community, the impacts of school on mental health, sexual violence in the immigrant community and consent. The graduates will bring their learnings back to their schools and continue to meet regularly throughout the year.



What did you appreciate about the YOV Summer Institute?

“Being able to feel my voice was heard and knowing there are people who care just as I do...that there is hope and that we will get stronger...letting people know that young people have a voice and it’s strong... we know what we are talking about.”

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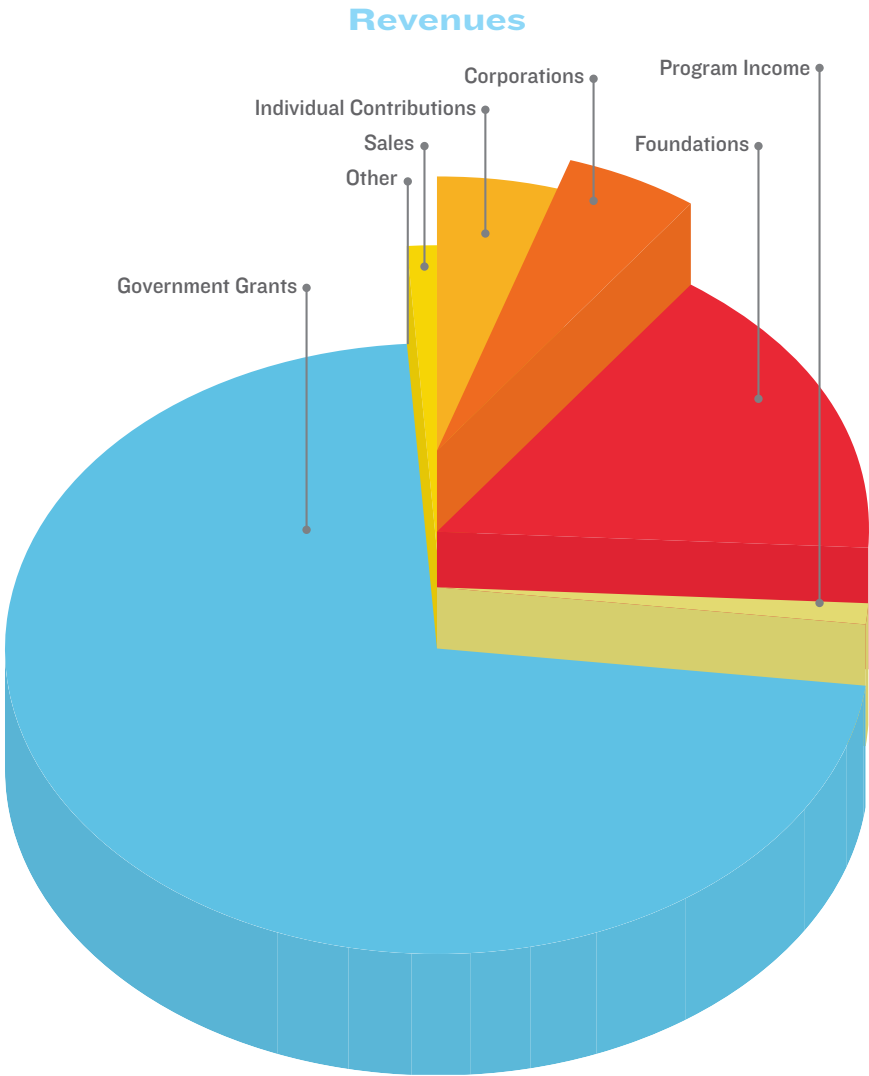
— Abby, YOV 2021 graduate

## ‘90s

Production of the groundbreaking In Touch With Teens teen dating violence and healthy relationship curriculum; POV offices open in the West San Gabriel and San Fernando Valley; Deaf and Disabled programming expands; masters level internship & training program begins; This is not An Invitation to Rape Me: radical sexual assault campaign; Denim Day in LA is founded (1999)



# Financial Statements



## '00s

2006 branding and name change to Peace Over Violence; Denim Day expands to a national campaign Denim Day in LA & USA; Legal Advocacy Project launched; rape kit backlog crisis and advocacy; Sexual Assault Response Teams (SART); Domestic Abuse Response Teams (DART); Violence Prevention Specialist (VPS) Trainings; Board of Directors expands





## Income Statement

Revenues	
Individual Contributions	285,087
Corporations	258,683
Foundations	896,895
Program Income	65,048
Government Grants	3,987,218
Sales	41,277
Other	4,780
Total Revenues	5,538,988

Expenses	
Management & General	299,561
Fundraising	192,506
Program Services	4,970,586
Total Expenses	5,462,653
Net Income	76,335

## Statement of Financial Position

Current Assets	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	1,164,211
Accounts Receivable	1,419,990
Other Current Assets	4,545
Prepaid Expenses	65,369
Property & Equipment	210,271
Other Assets	
Deposits	58,923
Total Assets	2,923,309

Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	45,208
Vacation Payable	97,567
Accrued Expenses	199,919
Advances on Grants	355,054
Total Current Liabilities	697,748
PPP Loan	712,597
Total Liabilities	1,410,345
Total Net Assets	1,512,964

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Los Angeles County Probation  
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of Victims of Crime  
U.S. Department of Justice, Office  
of Violence Against Women

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## 10s

Denim Day goes global and reaches millions; move to new metro headquarters DTLA; opened Children & Youth Center at POV; established Trauma Recovery Center (TRC); co-created Trauma Resilience Integration Using Multiple Pathways to Healing (TRIUMPH); expansion of MSW training program; Voices Over Violence survivor speakers bureau



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# WHERE DO **WE** GO FROM HERE?

WE CAN'T GO ANYWHERE WITHOUT **YOU!**