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Captioning is standing by.

Hi, everyone, we're going to start in a couple of minutes.

Presenters, I want to make sure that everyone is on.

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>> Okay.

I think we can start.

>> Excellent.

Let's get started.

Hello, everybody.

And good afternoon.

Thank you so much for joining us this afternoon for our Webinar Series.

I'd like to start with, again, an apology for the technology challenges we had last time, and we're so, so glad that many of you have been able to join us today for this really important webinar.

So again, my name is Jennifer Rose, and I'm a consultant with Futures Without Violence, and I'd like to welcome everyone to our webinar, entitled "Context and Practice: Trauma-Informed Approaches to Building Affirming Environments for LGBTQ+ Youth".

Today our webinar is part of an ongoing series of webinars with children's exposure to violence, and sponsored and funded by the initiative and keep an eye out for a webinar coming up the end of September.

The webinar will run until 3:30 Eastern Time.

During the webinar, your phone line will be muted.

You can ask questions or report technical issues on the left side of your screen in the chat function.

I'm now going to give a brief overview of the Defending Childhood initiative.

Unfortunately, Carmen was not able to here with us but we do thank them so much for their ongoing support and championing this important work of children's exposure to violence.

Can you flip the screen?

Futures Without Violence has been funded by OJJDP to fund this as part of the Defending Childhood initiative.

Attorney general Eric Holder launched this to bring attention to children with violence as witnesses, more than 60% were exposed to violence in the last year, directly or indirectly, and are more likely to be exposed to crimes than adults.

This is being supported through many agencies, as you can see on the screen.

Next slide.

And the mission has three goals, to prevent children's exposure to violence, to mitigate the negative effects and developing strategies to help.

Defending Childhood, there were eight demonstration sites across the country, developing and implementing a range of strategies to meet the needs of all children in the community, youth through age 17.

In dependent of -- December of 2012 the attorney general released a report, and on the slide, you will see the link.

Additionally, the attorney general guidelines on the native and Alaska native children exposed to violence in tribal countries, and that is on the slide.

Finally, there is a team working to advance our collective understanding about strategies that work.

This has been an ambitious undertaking.

We see ourselves in partnership with all of you, and thanks for joining us today.

I'm going to send it over to Mie to talk about the technology we have.

>> My name is Mie Fukuda, and I'm a children and youth program specialist, Futures Without Violence.

Thanks again for joining us, and second, the apology that Jennifer offered for the first webinar that didn't go well --

I'm so happy that you were able to rejoin today's webinar.

You have two options today, you can either listen to the presentation through your computer speakers or over your phone.

If you wish to listen to the presentation over your phone, call 1-888-850-4523.

 And the participant passcode is 632001#.

Your line has been muted to minimize background noise, and I will type in this information into the chat box in case you need to access it later on in the presentation.

I also want to take a couple of minutes to point out some webinar platform features that we'll be using today.

As you can see, there is closed captioning provided in today's presentation.

Captions will appear in the box on the bottom of your screen underneath the box with the PowerPoint slides.

You can scroll up and down in this box, but when you do manually scroll through the text, the auto scroll text will be disabled, and all you have to do to re-enable this is to click on the scroll box which is located in the upper right corner of the captioning box.

At the end of the presentation, we will have a Q&A section dedicated to answering your questions.

However, please feel free to type questions into the chat box as they come up throughout the presentation.

The chat box is located on the right-hand side of your screen we'll be doing our very best to answer all of the questions by the end of the presentation.

For technical support, send me a private message by clicking down on the chat box and choosing the "start chat with host" option.

If you're having challenges with the Adobe Connect system itself, call 1-800-422-3623.

And at the end of the webinar, I'll be prompting you to answer a very short evaluation survey.

It would be great if you could take a moment to give us feedback on today's presentation.

We take your feedback very seriously.

And use it to inform our future webinars.

Finally, I'll be sending you a link to the recording of today's webinar as part of a PDF and a transcript of the closed captioning through e-mail, but it will be made available on our website after the presentation.

Please allow two business days for this information to go up on the website.

Once again, thank you for joining our webinar.

That's it for tech.

We hope you enjoy today's session, and I'll turn it back over to you, Jennifer.

>> Great, thanks so much, Mie.

Let's get started with our webinar today.

It is such a delight to introduce our speakers.

As we know, you know, issues and challenges for our LGBTQ youth are large, and the fact that we're addressing this issue and really taking it on in such a meaningful and heart felt way means much to me, and I wish there was more affirming spaces as I was growing up, so I will introduce our speakers and hand it over to them.

First, I'd like to start with Martel Okonji, the youth development coordinator of children youth and Family Services, and he has been working on political campaigns, creating research spaces and his work has included executive chair for the queer People of Color, 2012, fellow for new American politics, the first permanent PRIDE center, worked with various high schools and organizations with workshops and HIV, coming out, LGBTQ, and many other topics of discussion.

He graduate Cal state Northridge while serving two years as the CSUN LGBTQA.

At this time, he works at the LA LGBT Center, and works in LGBT awareness and peer-to-peer

support.

He has served for memorial scholarship to empower various organizations during ground work and a fellow with the Coca-Cola next generation LGBT leaders.

We also have Devika Shankar.

She is the program coordinator for the stop intimate partner abuse at the Los Angeles LGBT Center, and has had a particular experience in counseling at risk children and youth on a environment of topics and providing trauma-informed support.

She is a member of the task force.

Lastly, we have Krystal Torres-Covarrubias, public policy.

She works for OUT for safe schools coordinator at the LGBT Center in Los Angeles as well, works with nine of the largest school districts in the country to work with policy and practice that makes schools safe and supportive for LGBTQ youth and students impacted by the dropout crisis.

It is my pleasure to hand it over to our presenters today.

Thanks so much.

If you're talking, you may need to --

>> Can everyone hear me?

This is Krystal Torres-Covarrubias.

I'm the OUT coordinator at the LGBT Center.

I'm sorry I had that little pause, trying to figure out where my audio was.

I'm happy for everyone joining us, again, it's affirming for people to come back for this topic.

A lot of things have been happening with the new C.D.C.

report, it's really -- it feels good to know that folks are --

they're willing to come out and hear this information and contribute to this conversation, to be here with us.

Thank you so much.

I'm going to start off with sharing a little bit about the Los Angeles LGBT Center, just to give some context.

That's how Martel, Devika, and I ended up working for the same organization, and it's one of the largest service centers to LGBT people in the world.

It was started by a group of social workers, and they do have like mental health as the core of the history, but our programs and initiatives now kind of go into four broad categories, that focus on health, social services, housing, culture and education, and also, leadership and advocacy.

So those are kind of the four lenses that the programs fall within at all times.

Let me rush forward.

So for today, our goals are to increase the knowledge of LGBTQ youth identities and structural realities, to share perspective on unique challenges of domestic violence on LGBTQ communities, to address the impacting of domestic violence on children and youth and introducing a trauma-informed care approach for LGBT youth.

We have some folks who are deep in doing some LGBTQ competence work and others who are deep in other work that might be hearing this for the first time, thinking about issues having to do with LGBTQ youth.

So knowing that that's kind of the range of knowledge that we have in this space here, I just wanted to let folks know that if we're having moments where you think, I've heard this before, and I think about it differently, please feel free to share that feedback.

I'm interested to see how people do think differently.

I love knowing that.

It helps to contribute to the broader knowledge base, and all of us can deliver here.

So we're going to start with our -- let's get that slide --

let's start with the first objective here, to increase the knowledge of LGBTQ youth identities and structure realities, and I want to set up a framework for how we're going to talk about gender orientation or crossroads, for sure.

Some definitions have been --

LGBTQ has been the catchall phrase, straight, or development has always been a diverse range of identity, the term of LGBT is not often accepted in a way that really honors our way, the different types of communities and experiences, but tends to be (indistinguishable) by structural and personal trends and homophobia and as we see issues and cisgender identities, the truly critical for the differences now, between gender and sexual orientation differently than we've ever done before.

I realize that the folks are just expanding their knowledge on LGBT issues, and it may sound confusing to think about gender identity separate from sexual orientation, but we'll go into that in the next few slides and hope that has informational space for you to start building questions.

So in order to get detailed from the standing of gender, we wanted to separate between identifications that often get confused into one or two.

So if you could try something for a minute, and I know it's hard, but I'm going to ask folks as much as they can to remove any assumptions that you have about gender, gender roles, sex orientation, and kind of like when you go to -- you -- you have that moment of like, oh, (indistinguishable), that's the space that I want you to be right now.

So starting from that blank page moment, this would be kind of the most helpful place to receive more information.

And, again, if it's not new information for you, hang tight for a minute, because you might provide this information differently and provide feedback.

Here we go.

We'll start with biological, anatomical sex, which is referred to sex assignment at birth, sex at birth, and the definition here on the slide, and that sometimes -- when it's included to kind of -- people still talk about hormones, chromosomes, genitalia, and this has a lot of names.

So for me, what's really important is the second line of this definition, that given the potential variation in all of these, biological sex must be seen as a spectrum orange of possibilities rather than a binary set of two options.

Folks assume that biological sex at birth is black and white, and it's not, and it hasn't been for a long time.

I like to think about biological birth at what the doctor calls out at the time of birth.

As folks try to get into a place of wanting to make that black and white, it's never accurate, and it can be very harmful and disrespectful.

That's the thing that is called out at the doctor's office in the hospital, tends to be the most accurate here.

We'll move on to gender identity.

Gender identity had been the same or different than someone's sex at birth, and may not fully identify the gender sex.

Some folks, and this is important, some folks might choose this sexually, hormonally, or surgically to meet this, and others might not, for all types of privileges are divided, and looking for here, gender identity is the own identity to claim.

It's highly perceived what they call themselves.

Everyone has a gender identity.

Folks whose gender identity called out at birth tend to have less difficulty with gender identity than others.

That's important to remember.

You, whoever you are, have a gender identity, whether it's developed or not, right?

Or whether you have an issue, kind of, naming that or being in that gender identity.

So we'll move on to gender expression.

And gender expression has to do with the way you communicate your gender to others.

This can be behavior, clothing, haircut, other characteristics and oftentimes, some people assign somebody's gender expression on them.

That's often what happens, so it's important that folks respect other people's gender identity as they proclaim it rather than make assumptions based on the other gender identity based on what they perceive their gender expression to be.

And even though it happens all the time, gender expression should never be taken as a way of determining someone's sexual orientation.

And last, folks are more used to hearing sexual orientation, and is that refers to be romantically or sexually attracted to people of a certain gender.

That's the way that is kind of how people are attracted to other people, and it has lessed to with internal gender identity.

Or gender expression.

So you can see from this description, that sexual orientation and gender identity are two very different things, those they're often combined to be a part of the same family, it's often -- they're in the same family of folks who have been affected by homo and transphobia, and at the point where -- they're developing, very young children, usually have a very strong sense of gender identity but have no awareness of their sexual orientation, right?

Which is like mind-blowing for some folks who want to assign sexual orientation for young children who are just experimental their gender identity.

So now I'm going to -- keeping gender diverse terminology different from sexual orientation diverse, because I want to honor, and I know those are different.

I'm going to read out the terms here, not that I think that folks can't hear them or read them, but I want to be mindful of folks who can't see the slide for whatever reason.

So here I'm going.

So the first one we have here is trans-asterisk, and/or transgender, a term that what they were assigned at birth.

Gender fluid is a person who does not identify themselves as having a fixed gender.

Gender nonconforming is a person who has or is perceived of having gender characteristics and they not provide to society's expectations.

People who are gender conforming may not be trans or have any sexual identity, they can have any gender, any sexual orientation.

Nonbinary is a person that does not identity as man or male or woman/female, a nonbinary is someone who doesn't have to be within -- within a gender binary, but can be all things whenever they want, whenever they feel at such.

What's real today.

 Intersex is used for a variety of people where they're born with the sexual anatomy that doesn't fit the sex assigned at birth, and whenever we say sex at birth, this harmful to folks in the intersex community

who have a whole different sense and have been place in that binary because of the way they were born.

And cisgender is used for people who is gender matches the sex they were assigned.

So I put that on the slide because it's important to have what gender identity is, regardless of whether it's, you know, something that's other or different than that cisgender, if we do, those other identity terms will always be the different ones, right?

But it's super important for us to remember that all of us have gender identities.

If that is Cis, that's something that folks should name and claim too.

Okay.

I'm going to role this on to diverse terminology, again, a lot more folks are aware of this terminology, we'll go through it briefly for folks who are just listening to the audio.

So lesbian, a female who is romantically and/or sexually attracted to primarily other females.

Gay, male-identified who is romantically and/or sexually aattracted to primarily men.

Bisexual and pansexual, a member of a -- a nonmember of that community may identify as transswallow -- transsexual, and people should allow -- always respect the identity that someone has for themselves rather than say, I know a gender -- I know a term, and his behavior looks like it's under that term.

That's what you are.

That's never the way to go.

But generally, this simplified version of what I have, the bisexual and transsexual, any who is rowantically or sexual attract to others.

This does not have to be equally divided.

If someone is bi, they don't have to identify half the time here and half the time -- that's not true.

It doesn't have to be that way for everybody.

Asexual is a person of any gender identity who is not sexually attracted to us, and hetero is a person of any gender identity who is sexually attracted to those with the opposite gender of their own.

(Indistinguishable) they don't always have to claim some other different identity.

And then, I'm actually going to -- before I jump to the next slide, I want to share this, increasing knowledge of youth identities to seeking knowledge of youth experiences, and I probably should have put in examples to help with that, but I didn't.

So this is notification, and also, as we're talking about youth, it's really important to know that -- my background is in working with youth, and one of the things that amazes me about youth is how -- inventive they are.

So anyone who has worked with youth, especially youth in the LGBTQ+ community knows they make new terms to describe how they identify, and we've stressed a brief overview kind of the be all and end all extreme, whatever youth identifies are, how they describe that to be should be on it.

Moving on to the context, okay, so we're going to talk about primarily the structural violence youth report, the way that large social societies impact negative and result in negative or adverse extremes, and the experiences that young people report rather than the hard outcomes that people are used to seeing when they look at data, and that's important, because so that sexual orientation and gender identity, the culture for youth and young people, as you can imagine, is a difficult process, as folks are just beginning to explore.

Hopefully, people have seen the recent report that got released from the youth risk behavior survey.

That's groundbreaking to have that much information on LGBTQ youth.

It's never happened before and a lot of folks have been waiting for this moment, just to find out what we already know.

But the data is self-reported.

All the data on these slides are self-reported.

For those who are inclined to participate, how do we do it --

knowledge of sexual identity, you're talking about an invisible or stigmatized invisibility, the data is underreported.

So coming under our experience, LGBTQ people were once young people, but also under the lens of service providers, and service providers know that data doesn't accurately represent what our communities are seeing daily.

And it's still crucial for us to collect data for us in order to distribute necessary resources, what are most impactful to be able to give those resources, and, you know.

You know, I'm sure, many folks, you know where this goes.

So we're going to start, the first slide here is really about the youth experience at school, the national climate, and here, we see that LGBTQ young people in (indistinguishable), reporting some really terrible experiences at school, 55.5, (indistinguishable) because of their gender expression, besides hearing or negative remarks about trans people are frequently, often, and almost 75% of LGBTQ, harassed, called names or threatened because of their sexual orientation and because of their gender expression.

What we're getting out of this is -- (indistinguishable) if you could put it in the chat box.

I'm pretty sure 2015, 2015, we should be getting a new round of that data to give us more information about where this is going, where these trends are going.

And then we have some reports from the GSA network that looked at youth of color, and application or policy and also gender nonconforming being blamed for their own victimization, and that's something we'll be talking about within the LGBTQ center is how to work an discretionary discipline, because we know they're often victimized to deal with these impacts of discretionary disciplines.

LGBTQ with color, surveillance increased in policing, biased application of policies and being blamed for their own victimization.

We're looking at bigger structures, outside of school, and -- in -- we have some reports from homelessness, approximately 40% of homeless youth in L.A. county.

And also, foster care, 13.6 of foster youth in L.A. identify has LGB, some level of same-sex attraction, 13.2 same sex atrackers, and twice as many of those living outside of foster care, and we find a dismal view in the juvenile justice system as well.

These are the impacts of structure violence.

These are the numbers we get after the violence and how does this affect why youth are in this position.

And I say that because I think it's important for others, approaches looked at.

It's important to know that context.

If folks don't know that context, it should be present or the pain of the individual, the young person to be identified is great, because of the barriers in school and also (indistinguishable).

Services elsewhere, that put folks in this situation.

So that's kind of the context piece on my end, and I'm going to kick it over to Devika to go ahead with the next piece.

>> Great.

Hey, everyone.

So I just want to start out by saying that, you know, what I'm going to be talking about today is really just a basic overview of the multiviolence at LGBTQ community.

It's a complicated topic, and the short time we have today won't do it justice, but I'm hoping it's a good introduction.

I'm going to talk about domestic violence, the unique challenges and issues with LGBTQ communities, and when they experience violence.

To know about language, I'll be using the terms domestic violence and intimate partner violence interchangeably, and we'll use relationship and --

relationship violence and domestic violence.

A definition of domestic violence and intimate partner violence, I'm sure you've seen this, a pattern of abusive behavior in intimate relationships that is used by one intimate partner to systematically gain and/or Maine power and control over another intimate partner.

And we're talking about this within the context of LGBTQ, by internal and external expression, by homophobia, biphobia, and transphobia, that the hetero normative and concentric lens that we're used working with the in the field, and important to recognize that there are many differences in intimate partner violence in LGBTQ communities and to remember that -- to not recognize these differences, that challenges could really do a huge disservice and put survivors in greater danger.

So let's look at what the unique challenges are.

So continued victimization, because this happens very often.

So many LGBTQ survivors find themselves being revictimized --

by criminal justice, by social service workers, and, of course, the trauma that this prevents is it seeks many of them from seeking assistance because they're not sure it's going to be safe for them to access these resources.

There's a fear of being out the -- outed, and this is probably the biggest difference in LGBTQ violence and communities, because it's not having that happens in nonLGBTQ relationships, so they may use the threat of outing victims in order to gain control, and if they're not out to their families, employers, or anyone else, it keeps them trapped in the relationship because of the fear of losing their job, housing, even their children or could jeopardize their relationships with family and friends.

And that act of even seeking help for violence within the relationship could cause the survivors to out themselves, which they might not be ready to do.

So this creates a huge barrier to safety and for the survivor to seek assistance.

(Indistinguishable) in couples therapy or couples counseling, and this is never a good identity and couples counseling exacerbates the violence and puts the victim at different risks, so this becomes a risk or LGBTQ couples because of the lack or knowledge of LGBTQ relationships, because of myths about mutual abuse and because both are the same sex or the same gender, they must be equally responsible or equally abusing each other.

As we know, in domestic violence, this is never true.

In one cases of domestic violence, one is using power and control over the other.

So to assume that their equally abusing or mutually abusing is a very dangerous assumption to make and puts the survivor in greater danger.

Then there's the thought that they're not accessible to families or partnerships, so if a relationship is not even considered acceptable or a real relationship, if your family is not viewed as a real family, how can you even begin to seek out help for violence within your relationship?

So LGBTQ survivors have experiences that are often minimized or dismissed.

So hospitals and doctors can present challenges as well, because often the appropriate precautions aren't taken.

As an example of this, if a female identified person goes with a male identified person, a brother or friend or cousin, the male would be asked to wait outside while the patient --

doctor talks to the patient so the female identified person could be screened for domestic violence.

If they go in with another female identified person pending services, a sister, friend, cousin, or whatever, very often, this other person would not be asked to wait outside.

They would be told, it's great that you've come to support your friend.

Thank you for being here.

So that's a huge safety issue.

If there is domestic violence happening, and this other person happens to be the abuser, but is assumed to just be a friend and these precautions aren't taken, this would make it impossible for the doctor to screen for domestic violence, because the survivor wouldn't be able to be honest what's happening in the relationship in front of the abuser, increasing the violence.

So also, face a lack of visibility.

When you see outreach materials for domestic violence and intimate partner violence, who do we see depicted as a survivor and who is usually depicted as the abuser?

We have our own normative picture of it, a female-identified person is the victim and the male-identified person is the abuser.

It's the same.

If we go into the organizations and look at their brochures, what kind of pictures do we see and what kinds of relationships are depicted?

Again, the majority of the time we're seeing these cisgender, heterosexual relationships which makes services and support less accessible.

Then often, LGBTQ survivors are sometimes denied safety or shelter due to their gender.

So many DV shelters have strict policies about accepting women, which has options for safety, for male survivors, and when they don't have training about gender, it can create risks for transfer (indistinguishable).

And I think this is starting to change, but slowly, again.

And another piece of this that can happen, there's -- sometimes denied shelter because of the abuser being allowed in.

Sometimes survivors, their abuser is calling ahead and trying to get into the shelter before them, and so that creates a barrier to the survivor able to be into the shelter.

And this is a result of improper and insufficient screening.

And there's an issue around this fear for shelters, which then causes shelters to be less inclusive, when really they might already have LGBTQ people in their shelters who haven't disclosed, so why they're disclosing that and needing the extra safety.

So it's important for shelters to get the right amount of training in the LGBTQ community so they can be more inclusive and affirm.

Then the intersection of domestic violence and HIV.

So while this may not be unique to LGBTQ communities, it can, of course, disproportionately affect LGBTQ communities.

Sexual assault is a part of domestic violence, and if the partner is having unsafe sex outside the relationship, the survivor could be at greater risk for contracting HIV, and may control the survivor by telling the survivor that no one will love them because they're positive or the abuser may purposefully contract HIV from the survivor and try to prosecute the survivor by saying, that's the one who infected me.

And I kind of mentioned this before, but violence as mutual or consensual.

So there are the stereotypes that stem from homophobia, biphobia and transphobia, women are not violent, so violence against women cannot happen in that relationship, just a normal part of LGBTQ relationships and the application of traditional sex roles that just don't apply.

So all of this makes it harder for LGBTQ survivors to access support and find safety, because what we're saying can't be viewed toward this hetero normative lens, but often is.

So how does this impact LGBTQ survivors?

Apparently, domestic violence and intimate partner violence is just as prevalent and occurs in 25 to 33% of relationships and there are far few resources for LGBTQ people experiencing domestic violence, and either exclude LGBTQ survivors or are not adequately trained to address the issues of LGBTQ individuals, and domestic violence survivors who work with domestic violence survivors have more problems

distinguishing between the abuser and survivor in LGBTQ relationships, because the abuser might be allowed into the shelter or for a number of different reasons and become --

again, not just for the survivor, but for staff as well.

So now we're going to look very briefly at intimate partner violence with LGBTQ relationships and the unique challenges that are provided there.

So I mean, a lot of it is really similar, but we'll just go through some of it.

So one thing to note here is that in talking about LGBTQ's relationship violence, there's not a lot of research that's done on this topic.

So there are very few studies that look specifically at intimate partner violence within LGBTQ relationships, and some do look at teen dating violence and they don't distinguish then LGBTQ and nonLGBTQ youth relationships.

So this is relative new territory with not a lot of data.

So that being said, though, the limited research that is available has LGBTQ has all kinds of relationship violence at much higher rates than nonLGBTQ.

Both the victims and survivors or perpetrators and abusers.

And this is not unusual when we consider the LGBTQ space.

So looking at these barriers, homophobia, bitransphobia, transphobia, internalized, externalized or institutional, the fear of being outed or getting negative reactions or afraid of not being treated well, which has them afraid to seek out support for fear of oppression.

There's also shame and embarrassment.

It could be internalized homo, bi, or transphobia from their own identity or it could be used as toxic by the abuser to gain power and control by pressuring the survivor into sexual acts that they're not comfortable with because of expectations of what is supposed to be quote/unquote normal in their relationship.

Another barrier the LGBTQ face is the expectation of gender roles.

You talked a little bit about the stereotypes and how we can't use the ones with traditional gender and sexual expectations with LGBTQ relationships because they don't apply.

Well, they have so few role models for LGBTQ nontraditional relationships, but they often try to force these relationships into these roles which exacerbates that internalized homo, bi, transphobia and creates shame and major conflict within the relationship.

And then many LGBTQ youth have a fear of not being believed or not taken seriously.

You know, they're battling the issue that if they try to seek out help, they may come up against the lack of understanding and the relationship of what's going on for them.

And this is also a tactic the abuser could use, trying to exploit this fear and telling them that no one is going to take them seriously or believe them.

And then many LGBTQ believe that no one will support them because they identify as LGBTQ.

There's also a fear of retaliation.

A lot of you feel if they seek out help, it could make them a target or bullying or harassment and this could be from many different places.

From family, at school, or just in the community.

And this could also include the threat of outing that we talked about before.

And, again, with another fear that could be exploited by the abuser as a power and control tactic.

There's also the issue of fear of legal protections or legislative discrimination and policies.

So specifically related to relationship violence, you can not be aware that they have legal options for protection, like obtaining a restraining order.

And most states make restraining or protective orders by using gender neutral language, but laws do very from state to state but some deny LGBTQ from restraining orders by putting in language that it requires a heterosexual relationship.

So while they may be unaware of some protections they do have, there are also cases where they actually don't have these protections.

And there's the issue that they have into safe access to public restrooms and safety to be themselves anywhere because they don't have the same legal protections.

The overall support systems or communities, LGBTQ have so much isolation and invisibility, for the relationship, let alone the abuse in the relationship, that they may lose the few support systems or sense of community that they do have.

And this is particularly if they come from traditional and/or religious families and communities.

And if they feel that they're part of an LGBTQ community, it may be so small that disclosing or asking for help could make matters worse and may not be an option for them.

And some youth can also experience fear that (indistinguishable) happening in their own relationship and reflects badly in the whole community, and the abuser can use this as a tactic against the survivor, well, this is making our whole community look bad.

And then finally, there's a lack of resources or knowledge of resources.

So, again, not only is there a lack of resources for LGBTQ youth experiencing relationship violence, but many youth aren't even aware of where to go, who to call.

And the fact is that youth are more likely to seek out from friends and acquaintances than traditional social services, if they find they're culturally irrelevant or completely inaccessible.

So we can now move on to our next objective.

We're going to go into the impact of domestic violence on children and youth.

So here, again, is a (indistinguishable) not a lot of LGBTQ-specific research has been done, any children exposed to violence within an LGBTQ relationship or specifically looking at LGBTQ youth exposure to violence within any relationship, that really is not there yet.

But what we can do is look at what we know about the types of exposure on DV on children and in general and the additional factors for the LGBTQ to get a fuller picture.

So we know that children are deeply affected by and witnessing domestic violence.

And I think we've at least come a long way in explaining the myth that children don't remember violence or that they're too young to be affected, and the younger the child, the deeper the impact may actually be.

In the short term, children and youth can experience generalized anxiety, sleeplessness, nightmares, difficulty concentrating, high activity levels, or even particularly low activity levels, increased aggression, increased separation anxiety, increased worry about their safety or the safety of a parent.

And recent research has shown that 50% of children and youth who witness domestic violence intervene in some way, whether by yelling at the abusive spouse or trying to get away or calling for help.

So this is not an exhaustive list, but really just a snapshot of what children and youth may experience, especially in the short term, with exposure to domestic violence.

The long-term and ongoing effects could include the compounding of the short-term effects, which could lead to a range of physical health problems, physical health problems, the loss of skills, a behavior problem, especially in adolescents, for example, trouble with the juvenile justice system, alcohol abuse, running away, and then getting into abusive relationships themselves.

It can also lead to emotional activities into adulthood, so depression, withdrawal, anxiety disorders, PTSD, self-harming, and even leading up to suicidal ideation or thoughts.

So children and youth with exposure, continued exposure to domestic violence, they also learn that exerting power and control are successful ways of relieving stress or, more dangerously, that unless is linked to intimacy and affection in relationships.

Also, children who have witnessed domestic violence are often confused about their feelings about their parents, and often feel contradicted about their feelings for their parents.

So they can feel like they're caught in the middle and feel conflicted over their loyalty.

So exposure to domestic violence is exposure to trauma, and as we know, exposure to violence and trauma can result in major changes in the brain that cause children and youth to develop fewer or unsafe coping skills, regulation tools, and even social or sexual development tools.

So when we add the additional factors based by LGBTQ children and youth, which really are a lot of the same factors we've already talked about, we see that they're up against homo, bi, transphobia, bullying and harassment, and again, at school, at home, in a neighborhood, during extracurricular activities -- I mean, just truly pervasive in their lives.

Also, there's -- stemming from that is a lack of pure social acceptance.

There are things, microaggressions.

Just a quick defensing --

definition of that, common daily actions or behaviors that can be intentional or unintentional and reinforce stereotypes or insults towards a group of nondominant group of people, so it can be reinforcing of negative stereotypes of LGBTQ communities, and that can cause them invisible to actual and lived experiences of LGBTQ youth.

We talked already about less protection under law and discrimination policies, police misconduct and harassment, LGBTQ communities have a significant history of mistreatment by law enforcement, including discrimination, profiling, entrapment, and additionally, they are not often training and will arrest both partners or harass the victim.

And denial of identity by their family or expulsion of the home from their family, so the top three reasons for homelessness among LGBTQ youth can be rejection, abuse within the family, or violence in the family.

So all of these additional factors add to and exacerbate the violence for LGBTQ youth, and these, of course, impact the level of isolation and at risk for homelessness, substance abuse, and emotional and mental health problems, which, as I mentioned before, include increased risk for suicidal ideation and attempts.

So what are some basic things that we can do?

We want to make sure that we use gender neutral language, both in our written and spoken language, we want to use the correct propronouns, whether or not we're in the person's presence, and if you make a mistake, apologize and move on.

We don't want to fall apart and make it all about themselves and not make assumptions about the youth abusive partner simply based on the fact of orientation or gender identity of that youth because what we find is that youth may be abused by partners of either gender or any gender.

So we don't want to make assumptions about that either, just because they are identifying in a certain way.

We want to advocate ourselves, so seek out opportunities to learn about sexual orientation and gender orientation, sexism, racism, culture, and all intersections of youth identity, and check out all assumptions and biases, because youth pick up on them and they want to create affirming spaces where they will be accepted and not judged or excluded.

We also want to be very aware of confidentiality concerns, because safety is a major concern with an abusive relationship, and want to be aware of outing.

As we know, coming out can be a really complex, personal, ongoing, involving, and even lifelong process or series of events or many people.

So as service providers, we have to take great care to protect that identity.

We want to talk about healthy relationships, knowing that there are so few role models for healthy relationships for LGBT people, we want to provide relevant information and education.

And also, another thing that I didn't put on here is helping to make LGBTQ youth more visible, they showed there's not a lot of data out there right now, so by starting to do that, by starting to do that, this is a really important step that we can take in making LGBTQ youth and communities more visible.

And finally, we want to you'd the trauma-informed approach, want to reframe from "what's wrong with you" to "what happened to you," and many that we perceive as negative, started at attempts to cope with trauma.

And we want to minimize and work with gender and oppression.

So it's just important to remember that these small changes can make a really big difference, and so, we really appreciate your commitment to this work, and thank you.

So with that, I'm going to pass it off to Martel, who is going to talk a little bit more about the trauma-informed approach.

>> Hi, everybody, it's so good to virtually see all of your beautiful names, but I want into introduce you to the trauma informed care approach.

In Beverly Hills, you couldn't treat the clientele of Beverly Hills the same way as Inglewood.

So what is trauma-informed care?

An organizational structure and treatment framework that involves understanding, recognizing, and responding to the effects of all trauma.

It works best at the individual level.

So here at the youth center is a part of the LGBTQ center, we do our best with creating an approach of high tolerance, low barrier, which basically means if someone is under the influence, they're still able to interact with our services.

Of course, what we do, let's go ahead and check in with them, let's see how under the influence they are, and making sure that we provide those harm-reduction approaches for them.

I think that's the thing of being trauma-informed.

Meeting each individual where they're at, being able to understand and recognize that, and it allows us the meaningfulness of how do we respond to them.

How do we go ahead and help them through their trauma.

So one is understanding the types of trauma.

So the colleagues have already pointed out, we talk about physical, emotional, sexual, and verbal abuse, and various communities they're in, even community-based violence.

One thing being like the gang violence elements, some of the youth that I serve here are homeless youth that are LGBTQ, they experience gang violence, and how does that create the trauma for them.

Or even with the media with the Orlando shooting and a lot of the LGBTQ community being affected by that and how that goes ahead and creates a trauma in itself as well.

Or years ago, we saw a high credit of mediacized suicide and how these contribute to being detrimental to their physical, emotional, and just overall well-being.

So one thing I did want to point out, LGBTQ youth face one of the highest traumas, especially at the intersectionalities of being of color, of being an immigrant, of being transgender, so really looking at how all of these different things begin to affect who they are.

And I think that's a challenge that is not being recognized when we go through a lot of different spaces.

One thing I always like to bring up, when we're thinking about trauma, is looking at learned helplessness.

Martin Seagal, which is a guy in 1965, talked to -- talked about a condition of a person suffering from a sense of powerlessness, from all the trauma they've experienced or persisted -- he did an experiment with dogs.

I'm not a big fan of animal abuse.

He did do an experience with that.

And with that -- that taught us that kind of transferred over is that when someone experiences something continuously, they start to get into this effect, this is what it's supposed to be.

So I kind of did a little fun quiz, if we have a youth, an LGBTQ youth, a Monday through Friday experience he would be, we would look at, throughout the day, he would experience bullying at school, so he'd have other peers that would pick on him and give him negative experiences, and even the teacher might go ahead and ignore them due to their sexuality.

Then you have the community bullying, when they're walking home, they're experiencing bullying as well.

And then therefore, when they get home, they might suffer physical, emotional abuse from their parents, whether they're being neglected or the parents verbally and nonverbally abusing them.

So let's say that there's three experiences that they have each day.

And that would be Monday through Friday.

So in that week, they would experience 15 negative experiences in that week.

What can happen, we're looking at it from a year.

We're talking about trauma and this learned helplessness.

It says that for every one negative, a youth must experience three positives in order to combat that positive.

So for them to have a growth from their trauma and to get out of this learned helplessness.

So that one week of youth is 15 negative experience.

Then we're going to say for a year, until you've found a support system and a safe place, they've then experienced that time, 52 weeks, 700 weeks.

So 2,340 positive experiences just to work with that youth to get them out of that trauma.

When we're looking at trauma-informed approaches, to understand sometimes the work we're trying to do is to meet them where they're at and understanding there's a lot of work that needs to be done.

When we're looking at the youth who have all these different intersectionty, being in households who never have the opportunity to understand sexuality or gender and how those things challenge them to develop as young people.

As a colleague said, the more negative experiences a youth faces, and inhibits their growth in the brain development, so it's not making sure that they'll be able to grow as well.

So moving forward with that, two times physical abuse than our straight counterparts, so LGBTQ are going to suffer more physical abuse, nine times more likely to commit suicide and six times more likely to experience depression.

So we're talking about how do we move to the furthest extent in helping our young folks and getting forward with that?

If you're not youth of color and the trans youth experience the most amount of violence when those identities intersect.

So it's looking at the full picture and understanding that every youth is different, and we have to make sure when we're working with this youth, we see them as an individual, and how, therefore, do we help this individual get out of that trauma.

So one, we want to make sure that -- we saw the waiting room, the intake, the first into the space.

I think when we have the youth come in, to show that visibility.

As we said, we want to make sure we say we're LGBTQ affirming, and that does more than putting up a small sign, but on the intake, having an option to where youth could actually put in their identity and space, being able to write in, I am --

what is your identity?

And what does that look like?

I think another one is, what we do at the youth center, when we go on intakes, we ask the youth how they identify.

For gender, they'll write in their identity, and what we have to do for that extra work, especially when we're working with grants, is how do we -- how do we therefore take that information and make it available to our grants, to the people who are asking us for all of this type of information.

And then also when you do walk into those spaces to make sure when you do see a youth who identifies as LGBTQ, and it's a visible as in the sense of going through the paperwork and you're seeing LGBTQ, to be safe in that space, to affirm that you are there to support them.

And language plays a huge part.

I think one challenge that we have is, when we look at language, we look specifically for its -- the universal LGBTQ language, but making sure for voices who are not heard are the youth of color, so understanding that their language is going to be different in regard to our youth whose color -- the counterpart colors.

So really, looking to how each community really has its own unique individual way of speaking and then also how to we therefore talk to them and meet them where they're at.

So we're playing with all of these assumptions.

Having a conversation with them and really making sure it's transparent in how you work with them.

Another piece is having affirming resources within your organization.

So when you're looking into all of the resources you have in regards to saying that a man has sex with men or a woman has sex with woman, seeing how these pieces are playing, yes, we can support you, but have those visible resources there.

Pick up the pamphlets and when they see the pamphlets to support them, are we making sure that there are pamphlets visible for them?

Making sure that we have the resources, but a lot of us to do linkage to care, care affirming, because it's not going to create that trust level, to make sure that you're checking in with these other resources and making sure that they're just as affirming.

I think a lot of times when we're working with the homeless population of LGBTQ youth, we send them off, especially when our beds are full.

When we're sending them to these different places, are we making sure that these other places are LGBTQ affirming?

I think that's very important and that a lot of organizations have to get on that ball to know that.

And then, one, show your support, doing best to make sure you're making them feel comfortable, being transparent in the communication that's used with them, and also, taking your personal values outside of that and really being able to work with them in their trauma.

I think those are some of the key pieces, of course, in creating a trauma-informed care approach, but really individualizing it and seeing how best can we work with the youth there.

Just to make sure with time, I wanted to wrap that up.

I know we did provide resources, and some of them are in the chat boxes, but those are some of the places that we've gathered information from, especially with the experiential learning that we have.

I know we want to hope that up -- open that up for questions, so I'm going to go ahead and open it back up to the host here.

>> Hello, everybody.

We have been getting some questions along the way in the chat box.

This would be your opportunity, if you have any specific questions for our speakers, to please type them in the chat box, and they will respond.

And presenters, if there were any of the questions that you wanted to start answering as people are potentially typing in questions, feel free to jump in.

>> I'm wondering if it would be helpful for, Jennifer, do you want to read some of the questions to the presenters?

I'm happy to do that too.

We have kind of a long list, so we may not be able to address all of the questions because of time limitations, but you could try.

Jennifer?

>> Yes, I'm here.

I'm sorry.

I was on mute.

Let's start with the questions here and I'll go back.

Monique said, I work with a juvenile justice system and there's a push to be gender responsive in terms of curriculum.

This usually comes up for girls programs, many of who are SOGI or gender nonconforming.

Anything on that from our speakers?

It sounds like Monique is looking for any suggestions around curriculum or things to address some of the issues for females who are gender nonconforming.

>> This is Krystal.

And I'm a little -- I actually don't -- I've heard of culturally responsive.

I don't know what folks within your community are using gender responses, as the framework to come under that, so I'm a little bit unclear about what the question or what the difficulty is around that.

Okay.

Do you want to share a little bit more about what the difficulty is?

Then maybe I would have some recommendations.

I don't know if someone else on the line has an answer.

>> I'm sorry.

I was trying to get -- what was the exact question?

>> So I don't know if it was some other question, just are there any recommendations?

Monique works in the juvenile justice system and it sounds like there's a push to be gender responsive in terms of curriculum and wondering if you have any suggestions or ideas or even maybe recommendations for curriculums that are kind of --

are more gender responsive.

>> Yeah, I think those are one of those challenges, because we just did a training with some of the folks who work with our juvenile detention youth in Los Angeles.

I haven't seen a training created specifically in terms of gender response, but I may have some stuff that we use in regard to training with them.

I don't know if that's something that can be attached and looked at in those regards.

>> Great.

There's a question here from Emily.

It sounds like this is an advocacy question.

What's the best way to correct another professional, such as a judge, when they use the wrong pronoun?

Any idea how to work with community partners in building their competency and awareness?

>> Hi, this is Krystal again.

I think that really depends on the client.

So I think when I've worked with students in the past or even other co-workers who are using -- are using the wrong pronoun with the gender, sometimes that person might want you as an ally to kind of right there in the moment, override the pronoun mistake and just respond to that person using the correct pronoun.

Sometimes that person might feel like for whatever reason that they or within that setting they don't want to be -- they don't want to be present for that moment, but I might ask you to talk to that person after.

So -- and most of that, I think, at least from my experience, has to do with that person's sense of safety and kind of how that plays in that space, and kind of what your personal identity is can sometimes play a factor, too.

I think it's always best to ask, to see how -- or ask the person that you're with and see how they would like you to show up, as an ally or a comrade in that moment.

Does anyone else on the panel have anything they'd like to review?

>> Maybe we can move to some of these others.

There's a question, do you all have any statistics for LGBTQ youth who are sexually exploited and trafficked?

>> This is Martel.

Go ahead.

>> Go ahead, Martel.

I was just going to say I don't.

>> This is Martel.

I know I sat through a training with sexually exploited youth.

I asked if there was information about LGBTQ and they did not have a lot of information.

I know that some of the pieces of this training definitely kind of stuck out.

So that's something that I could kind of maybe send that way and see exactly -- I have that packet inside of my file drawer.

I could check that and let you know.

>> Thank you.

Let's see.

There have been a bunch of questions coming in.

I apologize if they're not in order.

They're kind of scrolling in on me.

Let's see.

Ali says, I work with transgendered at a homeless shelter and I did not use "transsexual" because I thought it was outdated and offensive.

Can you explain why?

>> This is Martel.

Working at a homeless shelter as well, I can tell you, that language is used as well as other language that might be offensive to youth and that's why I say it's completely individualized.

I always go with the name, which is best.

One might use tranny, one might used transgendered, there will be T-girls or fish.

There's lots of language, especially with our youth of color, that is definitely not accepted by other youth that don't really come from those same communities.

So I would definitely say individualize it.

I would just stick to names, at best.

>> Thanks, Martel.

There's another question here.

What are prospectives on including two spirited folks in a conversation?

It seems that there's a separation between the native community and their identities, and their changing mainstream identities.

Where do you see native youth fitting into this?

>> As someone who doesn't identify as -- or work with a native community, I don't know (indistinguishable) in that conversation, but I do know that -- I can't see who asked that question because the chat box is scrolling.

Thank you a lot for being that piece of the conversation, because I think they're absolutely right and native youth generally not being within the framework of how we talk about youth in the U.S., and that's a huge issue for intersex and those identities, the true identities, and thank you so much for bringing that up.

I think it's important.

>> I'm seeing if I can pull maybe one last question out here.

There was a question, what are the acceptable singular person pronouns for a trans person?

>> I do not identity as transgender, so it would be unacceptable for me to answer this question, and again, individualize each conversation with that term.

>> All right.

>> I'm sorry.

>> Go ahead.

>> I think -- I know we got a lot of questions about trans and appropriateness.

The overarching themes, it's so important to ask people how they identify and what that identity means to them, not asking so you can have more information for your own, but just so you know how to better serve that person or be with that person.

Because everyone is going to be so different depending on different communities that folks come from, that you're in the best position to ask who you are, who you want to work with, how they feel.

I would just put that out there at this turn, as questions keep coming up.

>> Great.

Thank you so much for that.

So we are nearing our time together.

Before I thank our presenters, I know Mie wanted to introduce some additional courses and the chat is, I think, also going to be available.

There were a lot of people answering each questions and putting in different resources, so we will do our best to make sure that is accessible to you too.

The questions come -- came in so fast, we wanted to get to those that we could, but there's obviously expertise in the audience as well.

Stay tuned as we get these materials out to you.

  Mie?

>> Yes, we have the slide up with the presenters' e-mail addresses, once again, you'll be getting the slides in the e-mail that I sent to you as the follow-up with the recording link, so feel free to, you know, if your question was answered, you can reach out to me, the presenters, with that question again.

So to answer Jennifer's, you know, assumption about the chat, it will be e-mailed to everybody as a group, so you can see the dialogue that happened there today.

So before we end today's webinar, I wanted to share information with new materials that are available through the national Health Resource Center on domestic violence with 13 organizations who work with the LGBTQ communities across the country.

One of them actually being the LA LGBT Center, that are specifically for LGBTQ people.

We've developed safety cards and a poster that are survived-centered and aimed to people to resources, and for providers to engage in the queer and trans folks they work with about intimate partner violence and they are small and pocket sized and easy to carry around, very convenient.

They're free and available in English and Spanish, you can download a PDF on our store, so the link you see on the slide right now is to access more details on these resources and related recommendations on the issue, so the links hyperlink and you can access the online store from that web page as well.

So, again, if you have any questions about these materials, please e-mail me, and I'm happy to give you more information.

And there is the logos of the folks who partnered with us on these materials.

And before I hand it over to Jennifer to close out the webinar, I want to remind folks to please take our short evaluation survey.

The link is on the slide, which is hyperlinked, so if you click on it, it should take you to the survey page, should pop up automatically when you close out the webinar room window, so we take your feedback very seriously, and use it to form our future webinars, so we look forward to reading your feedback.

So I'm going to hand it over to Jennifer to close out.

>> Great.

Thank you so much, Mie.

I just want to take a minute and thank our presenters for this fantastic webinar.

Clearly, people -- the time went way too fast and were engaged in the conversation and wanting to learn more and be more affirming themselves and to really bring this information back to their communities and the organizations and the people that they work with.

So thank you so much, presenters, for all the work that you do, and thank you to everyone who called in and took time out of your busy days to learn to stretch, to grow, and to figure out how to integrate all of what you're learning into the work you do every day with LGBTQ youth.

So thank you for being with us, and we look forward to having you join us on our next webinar in late September.

Take care, everybody.