



Orange County  
**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION**



# Presentation to the Board of County Commissioners

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August 24, 2021



# Presentation Outline

- **Domestic Violence Commission Background**
- **Domestic Violence Commission Members**
- **Domestic Violence Commission Recommendations**
- **Next Steps**
- **Requested Action**



# Orange County DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION



# Domestic Violence Commission

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**Victims of Domestic Violence**

1 IN 3  WOMEN

1 IN 4  MEN






# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

- Domestic Violence Commission reconvened by Mayor Demings on October 21, 2019
- In response to higher rates of cases and incidents of domestic violence in Orange County





# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Statistics

## OSCO Countywide Domestic Violence Cases & Arrests

Type	2019 Total	2020 Total	2021 (1/2021 – 8/17/2021)
Cases	5636	5471	3530
Arrests	5140	4813	3143

## Orlando Police Department Domestic Violence Cases & Arrests

Type	2019 Total	2020 Total	2021 (1/2021 – 8/15/2021)
Cases	3063	3170	2057
Arrests	1318	1400	779



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

- Goal:

- Serve in an advisory capacity to assess any gaps in services, identify significant issues, and recommend solutions that will ultimately help us reduce the incidents of domestic violence in Orange County.

- Objective:

- Provide multi-sector recommendations that can assist in tackling domestic violence in our community.



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Members

- 22 members representing diverse backgrounds
  - Judiciary, State Attorney, Public Defender
  - State and Local Government
  - Law Enforcement
  - Healthcare
  - Non-profits
  - Higher Education
  - Survivors
- Held 42 meetings | Over 100 hours
- Developed 16 recommendations





# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Commission Co-Chairs



**Honorable Alice Blackwell**  
**Administrative Circuit Judge**  
**Ninth Judicial Circuit Court of Florida**



**Mr. Dick Batchelor**  
**President**  
**Dick Batchelor Management Group, Inc.**



# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Commission Members**

- **Lisa Alexander, Survivor & Founder, Stand Up Survivor Inc.**
- **Jay Corzine, Ph.D., Graduate Director & Professor, University of Central Florida**
- **Lui Damiani, Executive Director, Victim Service Center of Central Florida, Inc.**
- **Gerry Glynn, Chief Legal Officer, Embrace Families**
- **Jana Jasinski, Ph.D., Pegasus Professor of Sociology, Vice Provost for Faculty Excellence, University of Central Florida**
- **Honorable Alicia Latimore, Circuit Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court**
- **Marie Martinez, Operations Manager, The Howard Phillips Center for Children & Families - Orlando Health**
- **Diana Mejia, Survivor & President, Nuevo Sendero, Inc.**
- **Honorable John Mina, Orange County Sheriff**



# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Commission Members**

- **Honorable Tiffany Moore Russell, Orange County Clerk of Courts, Ninth Judicial Circuit**
- **Honorable Donald Myers, Chief Judge, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court**
- **Tekoa Puerie, Director, Center Advancement, Pace Center for Girls**
- **Chief Louis Quinones, Director, Orange County Corrections Department**
- **Chief Orlando Rolon, Orlando Police Department**
- **Bob Smedley, Executive Director, Orange County Domestic Fatality Review Team**
- **Michelle Sperzel, Chief Executive Officer, Harbor House of Central Florida**
- **Sharron Washington, Regional Director, Florida Department of Children and Families**
- **Honorable Robert Wesley , Public Defender, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court**
- **Heather Wilkie, Executive Director, Zebra Coalition**
- **Honorable Monique Worrell, State Attorney, Ninth Judicial Circuit Court**



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# Court Process Committee

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# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## Court Process Committee

Chair: Honorable Alicia Latimore

## Members:

- Honorable Donald Myers
- Honorable Tiffany Moore Russell
- Honorable Robert Wesley
- Chief Louis Quinones
- Jay Corzine, Ph.D.





# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Court Process Committee**

**Recommendation No. 1: Establish a domestic violence orientation office as a centralized location to offer information, assistance, and wrap around services to victims of domestic violence.**

- Educate victims on the court process for civil and criminal domestic violence cases**
- Offer court forms and informational materials in multiple languages**
- Provide interpreting services to assist with communications and completion of court paperwork**
- Offer resources and support - counseling, emotional support, financial assistance, housing assistance and victim compensation, and make referrals for additional resources offered by community partners**



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Court Process Committee

**Recommendation No. 1: Establish a domestic violence orientation office as a centralized location to offer information, assistance, and wrap around services to victims of domestic violence (continued)**

- Offer trauma-focused evidence-based services for child survivors
- Identify a community partner who may assist in providing a hotline service - especially during non-business hours and weekends
- Offer a mobile unit to be deployed into communities to offer information, resources and assistance to victims who lack transportation to get to the central location/hub



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Court Process Committee

**Recommendation No. 2: Implement a process that allows electronic transmission and receipt of injunction paperwork by the Sheriff's Office for civil process service.**

- **Form a workgroup of criminal justice partners and related stakeholders to develop and implement a process that would allow electronic transmission and receipt of injunctions**
- **Research and review how other jurisdictions have successfully implemented similar technologies**



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Court Process Committee

**Recommendation No. 3: Allow agencies and court systems to share information that will assist in locating an abuser whose whereabouts are unknown so as to perfect service or apprehension.**

- Perform CLEAR and VINE checks regularly to ascertain a correct address to serve the respondent if whereabouts are unknown
- Establish a technical working group of subject matter experts and system administrators to identify available databases and data sets that identify respondent's location information
- Develop and adopt an Interagency Data Sharing Agreement for pertinent agencies and court systems to serve or apprehend respondents in a more efficient and expeditious manner



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Court Process Committee

**Recommendation No. 4: Establish an e-portal with the Clerk's Office to receive returns of service.**

- **Orange County Clerk of Courts will work with law enforcement agencies and information security systems to develop and deploy e-portal to receive returns of service**



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Court Process Committee

**Recommendation No. 5: Courts to notify Batterer's Intervention Program (BIP) providers when respondents have violated conditions of release or provisions of domestic violence civil injunctions.**

- **Establish a procedure for the court system to provide notifications of violations to BIP providers**



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# System Process Committee

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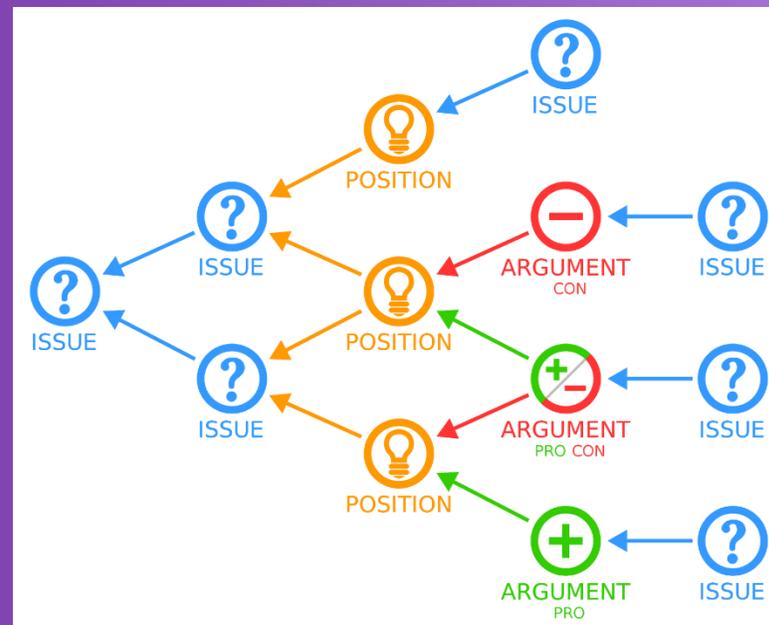
# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## System Process Committee

Chair: Michelle Sperzel

## Members:

- Honorable John Mina
- Honorable Monique Worrell
- Chief Orlando Rolon
- Lui Damiani





# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission System Process Committee

**Recommendation #1: To assess and identify gaps in service for victims and perpetrators by conducting a safety and accountability audit and an accompanying mapping of the criminal and civil processes.**

- Designate Harbor House to lead the mapping project with a technical assistance partner
- Identify technical assistance partner
- Establish a workgroup of community partners to work with technical assistance partner in creation of community survey and mapping
- Assist in disseminating a community partner survey
- Create a procedural map based on findings from surveys and focus groups
- Discover gaps in safety and accountability within the existing criminal justice system



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission System Process Committee

**Recommendation #2: Upon completion of the system-mapping project, to reconvene the Domestic Violence Commission to present mapping process results, gaps and necessary recommendations.**

- **Reconvene the Domestic Violence Commission to review survey results, mapping and recommendations provided by Praxis or by Harbor House**
- **Make appropriate recommendations to the Domestic Violence Commission to address systemic, programmatic, and procedural gaps to better serve victims and survivors of domestic violence**
- **Form a workgroup of relevant partners and stakeholders to implement recommendations from the system mapping process results**



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# Community Service & Resources Committee

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# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## Community Service & Resources Committee

Chair: Gerry Glynn

### Members:

- Jana Jasinski, Ph.D.
- Marie Martinez
- Sharron Washington





# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Community Service & Resources Committee**

**Recommendation No. 1: Identify staff or fund position to monitor and report on Domestic Violence Commission recommendations, reports and studies and ongoing domestic violence efforts to include training in the county.**

- Review domestic violence training curriculum for county personnel and the community**
- Work with county human resources and training team on implementation of training for employees**



# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Community Service & Resources Committee**

**Recommendation No. 1: Identify staff or fund position to monitor and report on Domestic Violence Commission recommendations, reports and studies and ongoing domestic violence efforts to include training in the county (continued)**

- **Work with community-based agencies on current training platforms and develop strategies for dissemination of training in the community to include faith-based leaders, fire rescue personnel, law enforcement (School Resource Officers, Courts), animal services and others**
- **Create progress report on a semi-annual basis**



# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Community Service & Resources Committee**

## **Recommendation No. 2: Engage with Faith-Based and Humanistic Leaders to develop a Domestic Violence Outreach Campaign.**

- County staff and community stakeholders will work with faith-based and humanistic leaders to develop and coordinate a campaign to prevent and combat domestic violence**
- Work with community stakeholders to provide ongoing training to faith-based and humanistic leaders on the early signs of domestic violence and resources available**
- Engage media partners and Orange TV to develop campaign messages and collateral materials**



# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Community Service & Resources Committee**

**Recommendation No. 3: Develop domestic violence response teams with Orange County law enforcement agencies.**

- **Review recommendation with all law enforcement agencies and share Orlando Police Department's model for replication**
- **Review current domestic violence training for law enforcement agencies**
- **Work with law enforcement on the development of domestic violence response teams and training to include culture competency and trauma informed decision-making**



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Community Service & Resources Committee

**Recommendation No. 4: Expand criteria/focus area of the Orange County Citizens Commission for Children to include domestic violence.**

- **Work with Orange County Citizens Commission for Children staff to include domestic violence as a funding category**



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Community Service & Resources Committee

**Recommendation No. 5: Seek dedicated public/private funding to support transportation services for domestic violence victims and survivors.**

- **Work with public and private transportation partners to provide vouchers to assist victims of domestic violence with access to transportation services**
- **Develop resource directory of transportation resources for victims and service providers**



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Community Service & Resources Committee

Recommendation No. 6: Prioritize housing resources for victims of domestic violence in Orange County.

- Identify and prioritize housing resources for victims of domestic violence



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# Public Awareness & Community Education Committee

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# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## Public Awareness & Community Education Committee

Chair: Heather Wilkie

### Members:

- Lisa Alexander
- Diana Mejia
- Tekoa Puerie
- Bob Smedley





# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Public Awareness & Community Education Committee**

## **Recommendation No. 1: Create Domestic Violence Public Service Announcements (PSA).**

- **Create PSA to include survivors and advocates from diverse backgrounds**
- **Create short segments from the overarching PSA directed at specific communities**
- **Increase outreach by sharing PSA's with County Commissioners, social media, county website, community partners and media outlets**
- **Plan and execute strategy to secure ad and billboard placements to promote PSA message**
- **Draft and send press release to announce the release of PSA's**



# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Public Awareness & Community Education Committee**

## **Recommendation No. 2: Build and maintain a multilingual Domestic Violence Community Resource Page & E-Guide.**

- **Collect information about domestic violence service providers**
- **Draft and publish community resource page and e-guide in English, Spanish and Creole**
- **Promote resources among domestic violence service providers, community-based providers, healthcare agencies, faith-based organizations, and public safety agencies (law enforcement, fire rescue and corrections)**



# **Orange County Domestic Violence Commission Public Awareness & Community Education Committee**

**Recommendation No. 3: Publish periodic newsroom stories on Orange County Newsroom focused on educating the community on how to recognize the signs of domestic violence, provide messages of encouragement for survivors and inform the public and victims there is a safe way out and a call to action.**

- Increase outreach by sharing newsroom stories on county social media, and share with county commissioners, community partners and media outlets**
- Work with community stakeholders to develop periodic newsroom stories for ongoing engagement with the community and media outlets**



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## Next Steps



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## Next Steps:

- Convene staff workgroup to develop a strategic implementation timeline
- Staff will provide bi-annual progress reports to the Board of County Commissioners



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## Requested Action



# Orange County Domestic Violence Commission

## Requested Action:

- **Accept the Orange County Domestic Violence Commission recommendations to reduce incidents of domestic violence and better serve victims and survivors in Orange County.**



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