

City of Santa Cruz

Commission for the Prevention of



Violence Against Women



FALL 2024

NEWSLETTER





Welcome to the second edition of the Santa Cruz Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women's newsletter! We are thrilled to provide this platform to our community as part of our ongoing commitment to ending violence against women. Our mission is to create a safer, more equitable community where every woman and girl can thrive without fear.

## IN THIS NEWSLETTER, YOU'LL FIND:



- **SPOTLIGHTS:** Highlights and photos from work our Commissioners have engaged in.
- **RESOURCES:** Information on support services, legal rights, and community initiatives
- **UPDATES:** The latest information about our commission's work, events, and partnerships.

Together, we can build a community where violence against women is not tolerated, where survivors are supported, and where gender equality prevails. Let's amplify our voices, raise awareness, and take meaningful action.

## IN THE COMMUNITY / COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- She is Beautiful 5/10K on Saturday, May 11th, 2024.
  - Commission Attendees: Commissioners Barrett and Novak
- March to End Homelessness on May 18th, 2024.
  - Commission Attendees: Commissioners Long, Feinmann, and Madura
- Dyke/Trans March on June 1st, 2024.
  - Commission Attendees: Commissioner Madura and Feinmann
- Pride Parade on June 2nd, 2024.
  - Commission Attendees: Commissioners Long, Madura & Triguero
- The CPVAW is supporting the Walnut Avenue event in August as well as the Monarch events in August, October and next February.

*Danielle Long*  
**DANIELLE LONG, CHAIR**



# October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. This year's theme is Heal, Hold and Center.

It is a time for us raise awareness, to mourn lives lost, and support survivors of domestic violence. Much like the monarch butterfly transforms over time based on its needs, Monarch Services evolves and grows according to the needs of our clients and community.



Every survivor of domestic violence, sexual assault or human trafficking has their own healing journey with unique barriers to overcome. While we have served our community for nearly 47 years, we are proud to constantly expand, and progress based on our clients' and community's evolving needs. One area for which we have seen a need for expanded services is in youth mental health, housing security and in working with women in custody who report disproportionate numbers of past sexual assault and domestic violence. Additionally, Monarch continues to see that those who are most marginalized in our community are also those who seek our services most.

According to the Center for Disease Control, 1 in 4 female-identifying individuals and 1 in 7 male-identifying individuals have experienced sexual violence, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. Domestic violence impacts millions of people each year, but it can be prevented. In the City of Santa Cruz Monarch serves more than 300 survivors and their families each year. Since 2020, Monarch continues to see an unprecedented increase in both the number of individuals supported and the number of services provided each year.



Prevention requires the collective voice and power of individuals, families and institutions. Monarch partners with the COE in offering youth focused workshops, presentations and support groups to middle and high school students. The demand has exponentially grown for these preventative and intervention services at City of Santa Cruz middle and high schools and staff are working tirelessly to meet the need.

As we celebrate the theme of Heal, Hold and Center, for DVAM 2024, we must work together, embrace the many cultural ways we can heal from violence and oppression. We need to commit to holding space for survivors and center those most marginalized in all of our efforts to end violence in our community.



In Community,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leeann Luna". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter of each name being capitalized and prominent.

Leeann Luna, Chief Executive Officer  
Monarch Services







## AB 1013: AN UPDATE

The CPVAW is very excited to continue to give out drug testing coasters to local bars and restaurants. The coasters are accompanied by 3 flyers for businesses to put up. One flyer announces the coasters are available. Another flyer encourages patrons to think about consent. There is an additional flyer which points patrons to our great local partners and international resources if they need help.

In July of 2024 the State passed AB 1013, which requires all license type 48 establishments to sell or give these drug testing coasters to customers. In anticipation of the law passing, the CPVAW approved to print more coasters and had a renewed spike in interest from bars and restaurants in Santa Cruz.

We are happy to have more awareness of this program and to have the State recognize the ways these coasters can help keep people safe. The coasters themselves are useful to test for ketamine and GHB, but the posters act to deter potential predators from spiking drinks. The CPVAW is proud to be ahead of the curve in distributing these to interested bars and providing them free of charge to citizens in Santa Cruz since 2021.

*Karen Madura*

**KAREN MADURA, VICE CHAIR**



# Drink safely

Hey friends, we want everyone to feel safe.

We have coasters available  
to test your drink for Ketamine or GHB.

Ask for one to use if you left your drink  
unattended, or if you just want peace of mind.

We are watching out for each of you, so  
if you see something suspicious

let us know right away!

Your safety and joy  
are our top priority.

**ASK THE BARTENDER  
OR STAFF AND  
USE ONE TONIGHT,  
OR TAKE ONE FOR LATER.**





# COMMISSIONERS



## **DANIELLE LONG, CHAIR**

Chairperson Long was appointed to the Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women (CPVAW) in 2021. In 2022, she served as the Vice Chair of the Commission, currently serves as Chair, and is a member of the Police Subcommittee. Danielle is committed to the mission of CPVAW, and is honored to serve the community in this role. Danielle also enjoys cooking, skiing, hiking with her dogs, and spending time with her friends and family.



## **KAREN MADURA, VICE CHAIR**

Karen Madura joined the CPVAW in 2020. She is honored to serve her community. She is a local small business owner in the food and beverage industry, operating Brady's Yacht Club, The Jury Room, the Rush Inn, and the Parish Publick House Aptos. She graduated from UCSC with a degree in Socio-Cultural Anthropology.

Her interests have involved a focus on community building, and of the ways society can help and enhance the lives and needs of individuals. She works to bring the goals of the CPVAW in line with the peculiarities of 2020+ technologies and help underrepresented demographics gain access to available resources.





### **COURTNEY BARRETT, COMMISSIONER**

Courtney Barrett was appointed to the CPVAW in May 2024 with a goal to make the greater Santa Cruz area safer for women by empowering young people with ways to avoid violence in relationships through better communication and education. Courtney grew up in the San Francisco Bay area and has lived and worked in Santa Cruz County for 27 years with her husband where they raised their daughter who attended local public schools and is currently a professor at Cabrillo college. For many years Courtney has been supporting local organizations like Walnut Ave, The Diversity Center, Meals on Wheels and She Is Beautiful by volunteering for events and with donations and sponsorships. She hopes to make meaningful contributions and positive changes to the community through her work with the commission.



### **DR. ILENE FEINMAN, COMMISSIONER**

Dr. Ilene Feinman is emerita professor of democratic cultures and retired dean of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences at CSU Monterey Bay. She has published a book, *Citizenship Rites*, and in collections examining racially gendered constructions of power. She teaches for community organizations and universities on social movements. A long time community activist for race and gender justice and nonviolence, she is President of the Board for Eschaton/ Santa Cruz Resource Center for Nonviolence and is in her second year as a commissioner on the Santa Cruz City Commission for the Prevention of Violence Against Women (CPVAW).



### **ANN SIMONTON, COMMISSIONER**

With over four decades of experience, Commissioner Ann Simonton has dedicated herself to teaching media literacy, with a particular focus on exposing everyday sexism and promoting awareness of sexual abuse prevention. She has fearlessly engaged in nonviolent civil disobedience — resulting in 11 arrests — to highlight social hypocrisy, racism, corporate greed, and the perpetuation of misogyny under patriarchy and capitalism. Simonton has spoken globally on the various ways mainstream media encourages and invites harm to women and children using examples from advertising, film, pornography, radio, television, popular beauty pageants and more. She's currently served 6 years on CPVAW.





### **ANISSA NOVAK, COMMISSIONER**

Anissa Novak enthusiastically joined the CPVAW in February of 2023. Hailing from Pennsylvania, she's called Santa Cruz home for 25 years and lives on the West Side with her husband Joe and three chihuahuas. She has been in non-profit development for 17 years, currently as a Major Gifts Officer for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte. Anissa also serves on two boards, Big Brothers Big Sisters and The Birchbark Foundation, is the chair of Dominican Hospital's Women of Wellness, is a Friend of Meals on Wheels, and sits on the Kuumbwa Jazz Center events committee.



### **GABRIELA TRIGUEIRO, COMMISSIONER**

Gabriela Trigueiro joined CPVAW in January 2023. She is the executive director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Santa Cruz County. Gabriela worked as a consultant for businesses, governments, officials, and advocacy groups in Santa Cruz, Monterey, Alameda and Contra Costa, as a policy specialist for Planned Parenthood advocating for undocumented and mixed status families, and worked with the University of New Mexico. She received her Masters of Public Policy from Mills College, and has degrees in Spanish Literature and Dance from University of Wisconsin-Madison and la Universidad de Sevilla. Gabriela is a volunteer for Gault Elementary, Moms Demand Action (Everytown for Gun Safety), and Planned Parenthood Mar Monte.

## **ABOUT THE COMMISSION:**

The Commission of Prevention of Violence Against Women was established on September 8, 1981 through the adoption of Ordinance No. 81-29 by the City Council of Santa Cruz. Its creation was a response to the high rates of domestic violence and sexual assault in the city and the need for a community-led effort to address these issues.

Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of February, March, May, August, September, and November at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 809 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA.

## **CONTACT US:**

Phone: 831-420-5363

Email: [cpvaw@santacruzca.gov](mailto:cpvaw@santacruzca.gov)

## ***In Crisis? Call:***

**24-Hour Domestic Violence,  
Sexual Abuse and Human  
Trafficking Crisis Line**

888-900-4232  
Monarch Services

**24-Hour Domestic Violence  
Hotline:**

866-269-2559  
Walnut Avenue Family &  
Women's Center



CPVAW RESOURCE LIST





## OUR MISSION

To collaborate with local stakeholder partners and law enforcement to ensure best practices to respond to and prosecute violent crimes against women.

## OUR VISION

To end sexual assault, sexual harassment, and domestic violence in the City of Santa Cruz through prevention, programs, and public policy.

