



**ESPERANZA  
UNITED**

February 16, 2026

National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence  
Los Angeles LGBT Center

Re: Letter of Recommendation

I am pleased to provide this letter of recommendation in support of your application for the California Department of Public Health Injury and Violence Prevention Branch (IVPB) Request for Application 25-10031: Local Training and Education Program for the Prevention of Domestic Violence (DV).

Esperanza United partners with the Los Angeles LGBT Center through our shared commitment to advancing culturally responsive, survivor-centered services for LGBTQIA2S+ Latine survivors of intimate partner violence. Esperanza United also serves on the National Advisory Council with the National LGBTQ Institute on Intimate Partner Violence, contributing strategic guidance and field-based expertise to strengthen national responses to violence within Latine communities. Our collaboration has included co-developing and delivering trainings and conference presentations focused on best practices for supporting LGBTQIA2S+ Latine survivors. Together, we have centered culturally grounded advocacy, trauma-informed safety planning, and strategies to address barriers related to language access, immigration status, and systemic inequities. Additionally, we partnered to co-author the *Guide to Safety Planning for LGBTQIA2S+ Latine Survivors*, a practical resource equipping advocates with culturally specific tools to enhance survivor safety and autonomy. This work reflects our shared commitment to elevating survivor voice and strengthening field-wide capacity.

The Los Angeles LGBT Center is a collaborative, reliable, and values-driven partner. The Center communicates clearly, meets commitments, and engages in partnership with cultural humility and respect for shared leadership. Grounded in a comprehensive service model, including crisis intervention, legal advocacy, mental health care, housing support, and prevention programming, the Center brings direct practice expertise to joint initiatives. Their contributions consistently reflect an understanding of the intersecting realities facing LGBTQIA2S+ Latine survivors. Their professionalism and consistency make them a trusted partner in advancing culturally responsive anti-violence work. Their experience in community engagement and cross-sector collaboration supports equitable access to services for underserved populations.

Sincerely,

Vivian Huelgo, JD  
President & CEO