

Welcome, this web conference will begin soon

# GREENING & GROWING: Strategies to Create Protective Environments and Prevent Sexual & Domestic Violence



Wednesday January 17 | 11 am PST/ 2 pm EST



# Meet the PreventConnect Team



**Ashleigh Klein-Jimenez**

Director of Prevention

she/her/hers



**Janae Sargent**

Project Coordinator

she/they



prevent  
connect

## **PreventConnect.org**

info@PreventConnect.org

PreventConnect.org/email – email group

Learn.PreventConnect.org – eLearning

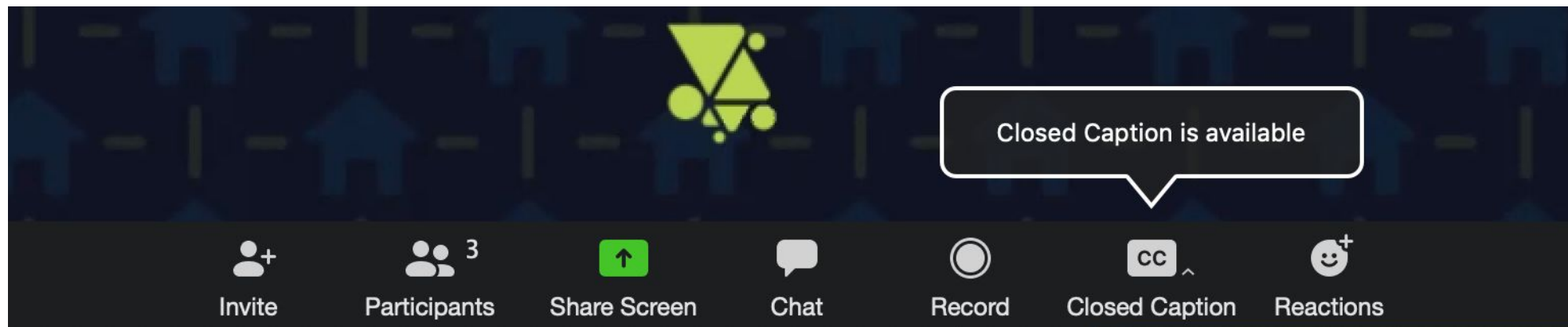
## **Follow Us**

twitter.com/PreventConnect

facebook.com/PreventConnect

# How to use Zoom

- ▶ Text chat
- ▶ PowerPoint Slides
- ▶ Polling Questions
- ▶ Phone
- ▶ Closed Captioning
- ▶ Web Conference Guidelines





# Have you attended a PreventConnect Web Conference before?

Polling Question

The illustration shows a white document with rounded corners on a light blue background. It features three horizontal rounded rectangular boxes. The top box has a blue checkmark icon on the left and two horizontal lines for text on the right. The middle and bottom boxes each have an empty circular icon on the left and two horizontal lines for text on the right.

# PreventConnect

- ▶ Domestic violence/intimate partner violence
- ▶ Sexual violence
- ▶ Violence across the lifespan, including child sexual abuse
- ▶ Prevent before violence starts
- ▶ Connect to other forms of violence and oppression
- ▶ Connect to other prevention practitioners

# GREENING & GROWING: Strategies to Create Protective Environments and Prevent Sexual & Domestic Violence



Wednesday January 17 | 11 am PST/ 2 pm EST



PreventConnect is a national project of ValorUS sponsored by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The views and information provided in this web conference do not necessarily represent the official views of the U.S. government, CDC or VALOR.

# Meet today's facilitators



**Lisa Fujie Parks**

Associate Program Director, Prevention  
Institute  
she/her/hers



**Sofia Betteo**

Program Assistant, Prevention Institute  
she/they

# Objectives

---

- ❖ Describe how the natural environment can shape relationships and safety.
- ❖ Explore how creating protective environments and strengthening social connection by increasing green spaces in rural areas builds protective factors to prevent sexual and domestic violence.
- ❖ Learn about how therapeutic farming can support survivors and build protective factors to prevent sexual and domestic violence.



# **CDC Resources for Action to Prevent IPV & SV**

**10**

# Strategy: Create Protective Environments to prevent SV

Creating protective community environments is a necessary step towards achieving population-level reductions in sexual violence (SV).

- ❖ **Community-level approaches:** Approaches that operate by modifying characteristics of the community, rather than individuals within the community.
- ❖ Characteristics of the social and physical environment can have a significant influence on individual behavior creating a context that can promote positive behavior or facilitate harmful behavior.

# Approach: Addressing community-level risks through environmental approaches

---

Address aspects of neighborhood and other community settings to make SV less likely by

- ❖ Changing, enacting, or enforcing laws, regulations, or organizational policies (e.g., alcohol policies)
- ❖ Changing the physical environment, economic or social incentives (or consequences) for behavior, or other characteristics of the community (e.g., ability to monitor and respond to problem behavior, increased social controls).

## Strategy: Create protective environments to prevent IPV

Approaches that work to foster a broader social and physical environment that improves safety, social connections, and awareness of intimate partner can help create a climate that supports prevention of violence against intimate partners.

Community-level approaches may

- ❖ Encourage higher rates of disclosure of IPV
- ❖ Increase resources and support leveraged on behalf of IPV survivors
- ❖ Promote social norms that are intolerant of IPV within the community

# Approach: Modify the physical and social environments of neighborhoods to prevent IPV

Change the physical environment to **improve social interaction**, and **strengthen community ties and social cohesion** in order to **promote residents' willingness to monitor and respond to problem behavior**.

## Research findings

- ❖ Changing or modifying environmental characteristics of neighborhoods may be an effective approach for preventing IPV.
- ❖ Green space in urban communities has been linked to higher levels of neighborhood collective efficacy and reductions in violent crime, which is a risk factor for IPV.



# “Greening” and “Growing” for IPV & SV prevention

---

**“Greening”** - making a place greener by planting grass, trees, and other plants.

**“Growing”** - growing plants for use by humans, including for food, medicine, beauty (e.g., flowers), fibers, building materials, etc.

**“Greening” and “growing” for IPV & SV prevention** - implementing greening and growing approaches with community members in a manner that enhances protective factors and behaviors (e.g., collective efficacy, social cohesion, and norms and behaviors supportive of respect and nonviolence).

# **Grounding in decolonial values and solidarity with Indigenous communities**

# Grounding in decolonial values and solidarity with Indigenous communities

Acknowledge the history of colonization in the United States and the systemic and generational impacts.

- Tell the truth about history
- Acknowledge and support Indigenous people and nations, past, present, and future
- Invest in the power, leadership, and sovereignty of Indigenous communities
- Land acknowledgements and beyond
- Return land to Indigenous stewardship

Sogorea Te' Land Trust: <https://sogoreate-landtrust.org/public-education>

What Good is a Land Acknowledgement:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-WgxfugOtAY>

17



*“Land acknowledgments are a stepping stone to honouring broken treaty relationships.”*

Illustration by Chief Lady Bird and quote by Selena Mills

“

In some Native languages the term for plants translates to “those who take care of us.”

18

Robin Wall Kimmerer, *Braiding Sweetgrass*

”

# The Wiyot Tribe

**The Wiyot Tribe gained back tribal stewardship of Tuluwat (Indian Island),** sacred ceremonial lands where 150 Wiyot people, mostly women and children, were murdered by white Humboldt County residents in 1860.

2014: Revitalization of the flower dance celebrating girls' coming of age and World Renewal Ceremony on Tuluwat, to heal colonial and gender-based violence, and support Indigenous young women culturally and generationally

Learn more: New York Times film, Long Line of Ladies,  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/15/learning/film-club-long-line-of-ladies.html>



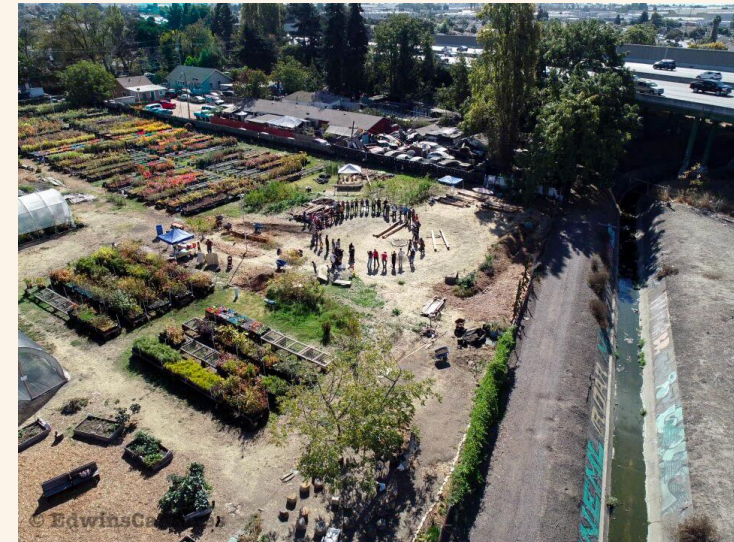
*Photo credit: Native Women's Collective*





**Sogorea Te' Land Trust is an urban Indigenous women-led land trust based that facilitates the return of Indigenous land to Indigenous people.**

**Sogorea Te'** cultivates rematriation, and calls on us all to heal and transform the legacies of colonization, genocide, and patriarchy. Led by urban Indigenous women in the territory of Huchiun, also known as East Bay of the San Francisco Bay Area, they work to restore sacred relationships between Indigenous People and their ancestral land.



20

[sogoreate-landtrust.org](http://sogoreate-landtrust.org)

# GREENING AS SV/IPV PREVENTION



MCEDSV 2024

# DELTA: IMPACT & AHEAD

- DELTA Impact: 2018-2023
  - MCEDSV had statewide implementation and local CCRT support roles
- DELTA AHEAD: 2023-2028
  - MCEDSV is moving from implementing and supporting to a fully supporting role on green spaces

# What is Greening?

Creating **accessible, safe**, outdoor spaces that develop social connections and community cohesion.

It encourages opportunities for **sharing knowledge, reducing stress**, and building **food security**.





# Community and Prevention

When we make connections with our community members, we build safety and trust. This creates a **culture of accountability**.

Relying on one another by **sharing care, knowledge, and resources**, gives us the chance to **thrive together**.





# DELTA IMPACT GREENING PROJECT IN DETROIT





# DELTA IMPACT GREENING PROJECT IN DEARBORN





# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES' EFFORTS



Eastside Community Network



Urban Neighborhood Initiatives

# SURVIVOR CENTERED EFFORTS



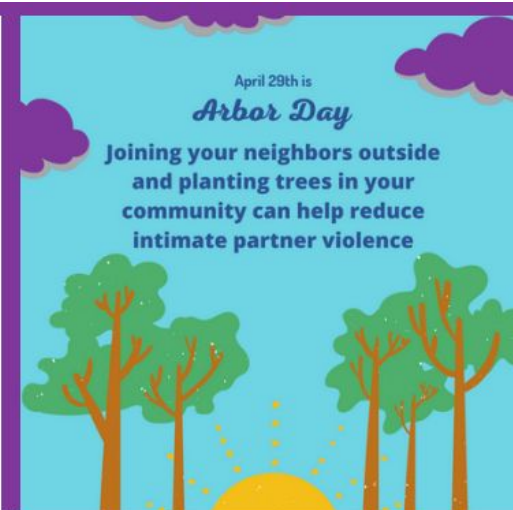
WC SAFE Grow & Glo Garden



# SUPPORTING HOPE SHORES ALLIANCE



# SOCIAL MEDIA





# FACILITATORS, CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNED

- Listen First
- Understand what can and cannot be done within the funding cycle or time period – prevention thrives on small, incremental changes
- Be authentic, honest, and vulnerable
- Relationship building takes time & persistent efforts
- Listen first, contribute first. Save your “asks” for last.
- People understand the connection between physical health & Greening that is a good place to start the conversation
- Find the common ground between the community organization's mission and Primary Prevention



# QUESTIONS?

[Preventionstaff@mcedsv.org](mailto:Preventionstaff@mcedsv.org)

**Thank you!**



# Green House<sup>17</sup>

Nurturing lives

harmed by intimate partner abuse.

We are a nonprofit advocacy organization that nurtures lives harmed by intimate partner abuse in 17 central Kentucky counties.

















"For the  
first time  
I finally  
feel that  
it is  
over!"

Green House 17



















SHE WAS  
powerful  
NOT BECAUSE  
she wasn't scared  
BUT BECAUSE  
SHE WENT ON  
SO STRONG  
DESPITE the fears

greenhouse













I Am  
a  
Warrior

The image shows a close-up of a craft project. A small, rectangular piece of off-white fabric is pinned to a larger piece of fabric. The larger fabric has a pattern of green polka dots on a light beige background. The smaller piece of fabric has the words 'I Am a Warrior' embroidered in a black, cursive script. A red heart is embroidered over the word 'Am'. The edges of the fabric pieces are slightly frayed. In the background, a window with a white frame is visible, showing a blurred outdoor scene with greenery and a building. The lighting is bright and natural, coming from the window.
























































































































A close-up photograph of a person's hand holding two small, rectangular cards stacked vertically. The hand is positioned at the bottom of the frame, with fingers slightly curled around the cards. The cards are held against a blurred background. The top card is purple and features a faint, embossed pattern of leaves and branches. The bottom card is green and also features a similar embossed pattern. Both cards have handwritten text in a cursive script. The lighting is soft and even, highlighting the texture of the cards and the skin of the hand.

"I'm making new friends and  
getting outside of my comfort  
zone—and really starting to  
enjoy myself again."

*anonymous survivor*

"It makes me proud that all of us  
have pulled together to work and  
make beautiful things happen."

*francesca, survivor*







soothing

OATMEAL  
cold process

Green

sweet

ORANGE  
cold process

Green

aloe vera

PEPPERMINT

Green

fresh start

LAVENDER LEMONGRASS  
cold process soap

Green  House

17











## Additional Examples

- **Healing ceremonies, art, and tree planting**, like [Lead to Life](#), who hosts healing ceremonies and days of action that involve the melting down of guns to be re-casted as shovels for gardening and farming projects, and the planting of trees honoring community members lost to gun violence.
- **Encouraging group outdoor activities in natural settings**, like the [Nature and Wellbeing Project](#) and [Deeply Rooted](#) in Philadelphia.
- **Healing and learning in nature**, like Dr. Gail Christopher's [Ntianu Center for Healing and Nature](#), in Fort Washington, Maryland, for nature-based healing and wellbeing, and to conduct workshops on racial healing at the Retreat Center.



prevent  
connect

[PreventConnect.org](https://PreventConnect.org)

[info@PreventConnect.org](mailto:info@PreventConnect.org)

[PreventConnect.org/email](https://PreventConnect.org/email) – email group

[Learn.PreventConnect.org](https://Learn.PreventConnect.org) – eLearning

### **Follow Us**

[twitter.com/PreventConnect](https://twitter.com/PreventConnect)

[facebook.com/PreventConnect](https://facebook.com/PreventConnect)