

Boys and Men of Color: COVID-19 Listening Session

Resources

The past few weeks have brought significant and unprecedented changes to our lives and work. While everyone is impacted by the COVID-19 public health crisis, the impact is far greater on people from underserved communities, including boys and men of color. Prior to COVID-19, boys and men of color were already underserved by victim services despite experiencing higher rates of victimization. They also have access to fewer resources, which compounds the challenges they already face and the new challenges created by COVID-19.

To ensure boys and men of color are at the center of all COVID-19 response efforts, we sought to better understand the impact this health crisis is having on survivors' needs and better resource the crime victim services field to respond to their needs.

Through the boys and men of color listen session some of the unique challenges facing survivors from this underserved community surfaced. In addition, promising strategies and resources were shared. This document is a compilation of those strategies and resources.

Technology

- [14 Tips For Helping Students With Limited Internet Have Distance Learning](#)
- [LAUSD to Provide Internet Connectivity for Students Who Don't Have Access](#)
- [Free Resources for Schools During COVID-19 Outbreak](#)
- [Transporting tech turns school buses into mobile WiFi hotspots, sack lunch delivery amid COVID-19 shutdowns](#)

Therapy

- [Ayana Therapy](#): This website matches people with therapists that match your experience, specifically for people of color.

Public Benefits

- [Finding the Right Help During the COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) Outbreak](#) - benefits navigator
- [How to get the coronavirus unemployment benefit](#) - Charts benefits by states

- [Know Your Rights: Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and the Workplace](#) - The coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak has changed the work situations for millions of people throughout the United States. In this time of crisis, Outten & Golden is particularly concerned about protecting people's employment rights and has prepared a set of FAQs to explain how federal, state, and local laws can protect your job, your wages, and your livelihood.
- [One Fare Wage Emergency Fund](#) - An emergency fund created to help provide cash assistance to restaurant workers, car service drivers, delivery workers, personal service workers and more who need the money they aren't getting to survive.
- [Erase the Red Line](#) - "The mission of #EraseTheRedline Inc. is to EMPOWER Veterans, Veteran's Families, Individuals that are the most vulnerable & dispossessed, and communities affected by unfair mortgage practices through EDUCATION and UNITY. We stand firm in our VALUES; no individual shall succumb to the lack of opportunities in their communities."
- [Resourceconnect.com](#) - offers a free end-to-end encrypted individual chat option for those in need.

Racial Equity

- [Racial Equity Resources for the COVID-19 crisis](#) - A curated list of racial equity and social justice resources that can help inform responses to COVID-19.
- [African American Policy Forum](#) - hosts regular webinars on COVID-19 and has resources.
- [Racial Equity and Social Justice Resources](#) - COVID-19 Racial Equity & Social Justice list includes information that we hope will help communities and activists as they work to understand and respond to the moment and for the long haul. Our COVID-19 Resources are arranged in categories such as Resources and Tools, Healing and Community Care, and Organizing and Solidarity.

Strategies shared to support staffs' healing needs

- "Prior to COVID19 we at our agency offer the opportunity for any staff member to come together daily for 20 minutes of meditation to help mitigate the effects of working in trauma."
- "We've been trying to stay connected between staff members. Checking in, offering additional support, sharing self-care ideas, and enabling everyone to work remotely."
- "Using virtual meeting with the young men I work with to talk about their knowledge of COVID-19 and how they are

processing what is going on. Providing much time for them to talk to me about what is going on.”

- “For clients, we've been trying to use social media to spread the work that we're still offering individual services, and in some cases group services. We're also expanding the geographic area that we serve to help offer services in areas where crisis centers are going inactive.”
- “Self-care and mental health check ins have been key within our organization.”
- “Staff in my program are all working from home. We are encouraged to contact each other regularly for support as well as meeting as a team once a week on a video platform. We are also encouraged to take breaks, walks, play with the children, snuggle with the pets. I have also been supplied with materials to make masks for my family, staff, and for clients in the future. Sewing is healing.”

Recommended Reading

- [Healing Justice by Loretta Pyles](#)
- [Trauma Stewardship](#) by Laura Van Dernoot Lipsky and Connie Burk
- [Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome by Joy a Degruy](#)
- [How to Be Antiracist by Dr. Ibram X Kendi](#)
- [“Stop Blaming Black People for Dying of the Coronavirus”](#) by Dr. Ibram X Kendi in *Atlantic Magazine*
- ["White Fragility" by Robin Diangelo](#) (recommended by participant)