

OVERVIEW:

Los Angeles FIFA World Cup 26™ Host Committee and LA County Collaboration on Regional Human Rights Initiative

In shared commitment to making the FIFA World Cup 26™ experience in the Los Angeles region one that is welcoming, inclusive, and safe for everyone, the Los Angeles FIFA World Cup 26™ Host Committee and the Los Angeles County Commission on Human Relations are working in collaboration to promote and protect human rights in the lead up to and throughout the World Cup tournament.

The alliance builds upon previous collaboration between these organizations, as well as ongoing engagement with local government agencies, nonprofit community-based organizations, and academic institutions, and is part of FIFA's broader human rights framework which establishes expectations for host cities to respect, protect, and promote human rights in connection with World Cup activities.

This multidimensional initiative is designed to prevent human rights harms before they occur; protect and respond to harms through accessible, coordinated reporting and referral pathways; and leave a legacy by strengthening County systems for all residents and for future major events. This initiative aims to inform Los Angeles County residents, workers, and visitors of their rights, while also equipping employers, businesses, and event producers with clear guidance on their responsibilities to uphold and protect those rights.

Major international sporting events can elevate risks of human rights harms, and this initiative focuses specifically on addressing the civil and human rights risks most likely to affect LA County residents, workers, visitors and vulnerable communities during FIFA World Cup 26™. The initiative affirms that human rights are of the highest priority and will be actively promoted and protected before and during the World Cup tournament.

A centerpiece of the effort will be leveraging 211 LA to serve as a multilingual, 24/7, confidential “no wrong door” reporting and referral pathway for the World Cup. Trained care coordinators and interpreters in more than 140 languages will provide callers with free, live assistance around the clock throughout the duration of the tournament. This infrastructure ensures that anyone – resident, worker or visitor – who experiences a human rights issue during the World Cup tournament can reach a trained caseworker who will connect them to the appropriate County or community partner response system, regardless of where they enter. This approach reflects LA County's commitment to accessible, equity-centered service delivery and is supported by the Commission's LA vs Hate program and its partnership with 211LA.

Additionally, an extensive digital resource guide is now available that includes an informative summary of existing laws, resources, and remedies to address human rights challenges associated with major sporting events, like the FIFA World Cup 26™.

This collaborative initiative is designed not only to meet the demands of the World Cup tournament, but to leave a durable legacy, building the institutional capacity and cross-sector coordination needed to effectively host future major events in the LA County region, including the LA County region, including the Super Bowl 2027 and the Los Angeles 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.