



LGBTQ+ ADVISORY BOARD

Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Chela Demuir

Board Member

Queen Mother Chela has been in service to the LGBTQ community with a journey that expands over two decades. Although Chela has formal education as a journalist. After working many years with LGBT community, with expertise in trans issues she learned access to culturally competent support and services for black trans people were limited.

She started a weekly support group to have conversations with the community and this weekly support group materialized into the first formal trans organization in Southern California, started by a black trans woman "Unique Woman's Coalition was born.

Chela is the founder of "TransGiving Dinner" a dinner with all the traditional trimmings of a holiday meal, but mostly to have a sense of community and togetherness. TransGiving Dinner became a family reunion event and community looks forward to each year and now is celebrated in more than 6 different states across the country.

Chela is a founding member of Trans-Unity Pride, now known as Trans Pride LA, the first trans pride in the US. In August 2019 UWC opened headquarters in Watts becoming the first black trans lead organization to have a brick & Mortar operation offering healing groups, STI screening, HIV testing and linkage to care, legal documents clinic and an Ambassador leadership program that aims to build and mentor new leaders. In September 2021 Chela Demuir and UWC entered a partnership with AIDS Healthcare Foundation and FLUX to create the first ever Connie Norman Transgender Empowerment Center, a 20,000 square-foot building that has been repurposed to function as a sort of 'WeWork' space for Trans-led organizations to have a place to do their work, grow and be affirmed, The center will focus on building capacity, advocacy and overall health and wellness of the Transgender and Non-Binary communities, this became the new home headquarters for Unique Woman's Coalition in West Hollywood.

Chela currently serves as the International Vice President for FLUX, a national division of AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) dedicated to creating safe spaces for Trans and Gender Non-Conforming individuals through advocacy, events and innovative marketing. Chela serves on the West Hollywood Social Justice Task Force and the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation.

