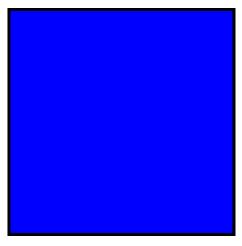
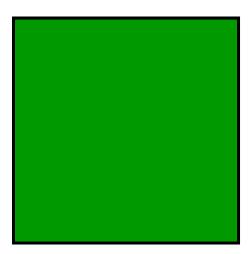
# South Central Los Angeles Regional Center



Annual Report 2005- 2006









## Our Commitment

To educate, empower and advocate

### Our Mission

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center is one of 21 Regional Centers in the State of California providing services to persons with developmental disabilities. In accordance with the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, our mission is to provide assessment, information and referrals, advocacy, prevention services and coordination of case management services to people who are developmentally disabled (consumers) as well as to those who are at risk for a developmental disability.

A developmental disability is a disability attributable to mental retardation, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, autism or other conditions found to be closely related to mental retardation. The disability must originate before the age of 18, continue indefinitely and be substantially handicapping. A developmental disability does not solely include psychiatric disorders, learning disabilities or conditions that are only physical in nature.

SCLARC is committed to the provision of culturally and ethnically sensitive services which enhance the inherent strengths of the family and enable consumers to lead more independent and productive lives in community integrated settings.

## Our History

Created in the midst of the 1960s struggles for equity, SCLARC's roots lie deeply within our community. Prior to our inception, South Los Angeles had the highest incidence of mental retardation while receiving the lowest level of services. Compounding matters was the fact that there was only one regional center serving all of Los Angeles County. Something had to be done to meet the needs of our community.

Moved to action by Dr. J. Alfred Cannon, a group of concerned parents, professionals and community leaders formed the South Central Mental Retardation Association (SCMRA) in 1969.

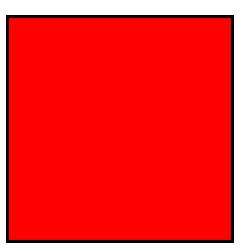
Backed by elected officials, community agencies and independent professionals, SCMRA demanded a full service regional center be established within its community. On July 1973, Central City Community Mental Health Center, founded by Dr. J. Alfred Cannon, was awarded the contract to provide a regional center in South Los Angeles. And thus, South Central Los Angeles Regional Center for Persons with Developmental Disabilities Inc. (SCLARC) was born. SCLARC officially opened its doors to its first clients in February of 1974.

# SCLARC's Board of Directors

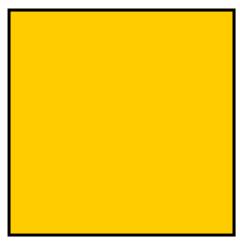
Fred Washingon—President
Terrance Payne—Secretary
—Chair, VAC

# <u> Members</u>

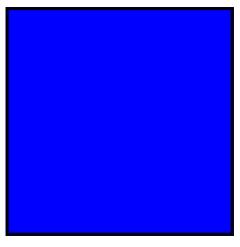
Art Dansby Frank Wheaton



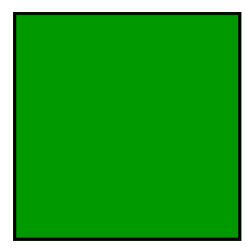














# Assembly Member Karen Bass to Address SCLARC Stakeholders at Legislative Forum

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center's is pleased to announce that Assembly Member Karen Bass (D-47th District) will be addressing its stakeholders at the 4th Annual SCLARC Legislative Forum to be held Friday, April 14th at 650 W. Adams Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90007.. The purpose of the event is to continue to connect our stakeholders and community partners with our governmental representatives in Sacramento.

'As advocates for individuals diagnosed with developmental disabilities, it is imperative that SCLARC present opportunities for our stakeholders to have their issues heard and discussed in a forum that can bring about change," said Dexter A. Henderson, executive director and CEO of SCLARC.

"It is my belief that being a good community advocate not only helps to better our consumers lives, but it also enhances life within the general community that we serve."

SCLARC has worked tirelessly in recent years to build stronger relations with its legislative community. The goal of SCLARC's annual legislative forum is three fold:

- To facilitate dialogue between legislators/representatives and SCLARC's stakeholder community,
- To create more committed relationships with SCLARC's political leaders at the city, county, state and national levels,
- To devise advocacy strategies for SCLARC, and our stakeholders, so that our voices might be heard.

Assembly Member Karen Bass was elected November 2, 2004, to represent the 47th Assembly District which includes the cities of Los Angeles and Culver City, as well as the communities of Ladera Heights, Baldwin Hills, View Park, Cheviot Hills, Westwood-UCLA and Windsor Hills.

Prior to her election to the Assembly, Bass had a long and distinguished career as a public advocate. While working as a physician's assistant in the emergency room at L.A. County USC Hospital, Bass witnessed the ravages of crack cocaine on inner city residents. Resolving to reverse the tragic local trends, she founded Community Coalition to improve the quality of life in South Los Angeles and served as the executive director for 14 years. Under Bass' leadership, Community Coalition eliminated or converted dozens of local liquor stores, closed motels known as drug trafficking centers, improved the quality and selection of foods in local supermarkets, and secured millions of dollars in repairs to local schools. As a stalwart community activist and educator, Bass has received many awards in recognition of her tireless efforts.

She has served on the Los Angeles City Council Ad Hoc Committee on Gangs, Youth and Violence, which founded the L.A. Bridges after-school gang prevention program. She played a key role in several community initiatives beyond the Community Coalition including, Friends of Crenshaw/Dorsey Community, Workplace Hollywood, the Human Services Alliance, the African-American Voter Representation Education Program, Liberty Hill Foundation and Homeless Health Care.

# SCLARC Salutes Michael Concepcion and Renee Tims with the Flame Award

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center recently saluted two community partners who have gone above and beyond the call of duty in their support of our consumers and families. For their dedication, commitment and generosity, Michael Concepcion and Renee Tims were presented with SCLARC's Flame Award by Executive Director Dexter A. Henderson and Board President Fred Washington. This award is given to SCLARC community partners who have demonstrated a burning passion and commitment to SCLARC and its stakeholders.

As a vendor, Renee Tims has demonstrated her commitment by providing our consumers with the highest quality of services for more than 8 years. Ms. Tims is extremely supportive of SCLARC's efforts and initiatives and has been an active participant in many of the agency's fundraising events and celebrations. But more than that, the compassion that she shows our consumers has been reported to us time and time again by different staff and other community members.

Reuben Lee, Assistant Director of SCLARC's Department of Children and Adult

Services, approached Ms. Tims about soliciting the help of her brother, community activist and rap producer Michael Concepcion. During SCLARC's Holiday Gift Giving Campaign, Mr. Concepcion was gracious enough to meet with Lee and Henderson. By the conclusion of the conversation, Mr. Concepcion had pledged to give SCLARC \$5,000 for the purchase of toys for our less fortunate families. Ms. Tims then took time out of her busy schedule to purchase an incredible selection of toys.

Mr. Concepcion subsequently committed another \$5,000 in cash to SCLARC's Parent Client Fund to be spent in ways "that would best benefit SCLARC's consumers." The Parent Client Fund enables consumers and their families to receive food, clothing and shelter and transportation on an emergency basis.

"During our initial conversation," Henderson recounts. "Michael didn't just donate his money; he also committed his Rolodex of business partners and friends."

That rolodex is extensive. Mr. Concepcion is one of the recording industry's most notable producers. Coming to prominence in 1989, he organized some of the West Coast's most popular rappers to produce the lyrically poignant, anti-gang song "We're All In the Same Gang." Today, he continues to produce rap acts, and is one of the primary organizers of the national Hip Hop Summit along with rap icon Russell Simmons.

"I appreciate this award very much and I admire what the regional center and my sister Rene are doing here in the community. I also think it is very important that we all give back and help those less fortunate than ourselves," said Concepcion as he accepted his award.

Showing that his passion the community truly knows no boundaries, Mr. Concepcion presented SCALRC with another \$10,000 upon accepting the Flame Award. It is collaborative partnerships like this one that enables SCLARC to continue to provide the highest standard of quality services and supplemental programs to our consumers and their families. SCLARC's Board of Directors, leadership and staff thank Mr. Concecpcion and Ms. Tims for making an indelible imprint on our stakeholder community.

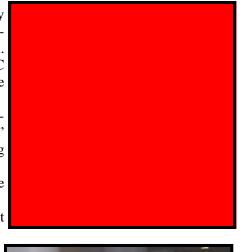


There was a great demonstration of advocacy and activism on behalf of the regional center system at this year's annual ARCA sponsored Grass Roots Day which was held on April 26, 2006. Each year the Association of Regional Center Agencies (ARCA) sponsors a coordinated effort for its members to take 4 to 6-person delegations to meet with their legislators in Sacramento. In this way, regional centers are able to give a voice to systemic issues and discuss the concerns of our consumers, parents and vendors.

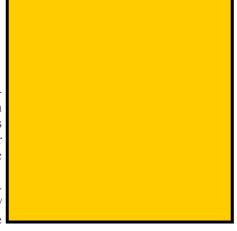
SCLARC sent a 4-person delegation consisting of Marsha D. Mitchell, Community Relations/Governmental Affairs Manager; Board Treasurer Reginald King, SCLARC parent/LAUSD volunteer Carla Vega and Board Member/Consumer Advocacy Chair Desiree Boykins. The group sat down to talk with Assembly Members Jerome Horton and Karen Bass (D-47th District). Recently, Bass was the keynote speaker at SCLARC's 4th Annual Legislative Forum that was held Friday, April 14th.

The goal of SCLARCs Legislative Forum is to connect our stakeholders and community partners with our governmental representatives in Sacramento. Grassroots day further allowed SCLARC to facilitate dialogue between legislators/representatives and SCLARC's stakeholder community as well as helped to hone our advocacy skills so that the voices of those we serve are heard.

The delegation shared with legislators two key budget items that regional centers would like to see in the final budget for Fiscal year 2006-2007. The first item is a \$67.8 million increase (a 3 percent rate increase) for its community care facilities, community based day programs, habilitation services programs, respite agencies and vouchered respite, supported living, transportation and look-alike day program service providers. SCLARC is also in support of the \$2.5 million increase for the Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Initiative. This would add ASD Clinical specialists and program coordinators to

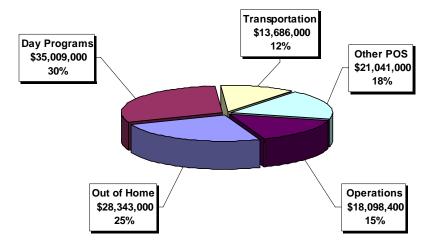




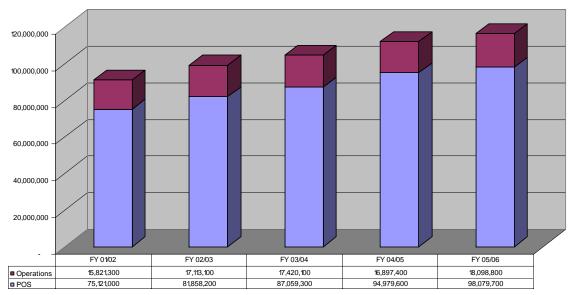




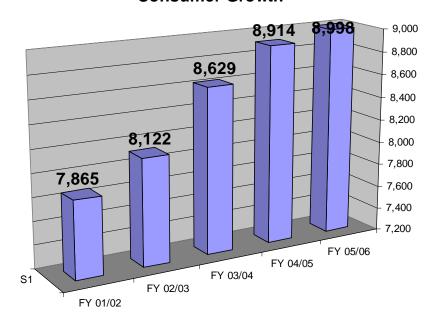
#### South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Total Expenditures Fiscal Year 2005-06



**Annual POS and Operations Expenditures** 



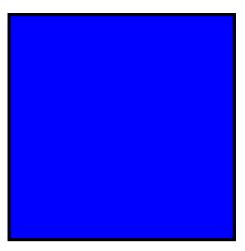
South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Consumer Growth



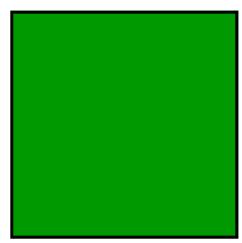
### South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Year to Year Comparison

Year		POS		Increase	% Change
FY 99/00	\$	51,715,000			
FY 00/01	\$	64,061,000	\$	12,346,000	19%
FY 01/02	\$	75,121,000	\$	11,060,000	15%
FY 02/03	\$	81,858,200	\$	6,737,200	8%
FY 03/04	\$	87,059,300	\$	5,201,100	6%
FY 04/05	\$	94,979,600	\$	7,920,300	8%
FY 05/06	\$	98,079,700	\$	3,100,100	3%
Year	(	Operations		Increase	% Change
Year		Operations		Increase	% Change
Year FY 99/00	\$	Operations 13,861,700		Increase	% Change
		•	\$	Increase 698,300	% Change 5%
FY 99/00	\$	13,861,700	\$		
FY 99/00 FY 00/01	\$ \$	13,861,700 14,560,000		698,300	5%
FY 99/00 FY 00/01 FY 01/02	\$ \$ \$	13,861,700 14,560,000 15,821,300	\$	698,300 1,261,300	5% 8%
FY 99/00 FY 00/01 FY 01/02 FY 02/03	\$ \$ \$	13,861,700 14,560,000 15,821,300 17,113,100	\$ \$	698,300 1,261,300 1,291,800	5% 8% 8%

Year	Consumers	Increase	% Change
FY 99/00	6,925		
FY 00/01	7,505	580	8%
FY 01/02	7,865	360	5%
FY 02/03	8,122	257	3%
FY 03/04	8,629	507	6%
FY 04/05	8,914	285	3%
FY 05/06	8,998	84	1%









each regional center throughout the state.

Overall, the delegation felt that their meetings during Grassroots Day were very positive and that representatives were receptive to the group specifically, and knowledgeable about the developmental disability system and its issues in general. Other legislative offices visited by the group included Senators Gil Cedillo and Kevin Murray. The California budget process is still underway. On May 15, the legislature will present its revised budget.

### South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Launches Friends of SCLARC Foundation

For more than 30 years, South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) has provided, and continues to provide, an array of quality services, community resources and access to opportunities for persons with disabilities. As an agency, SCLARC is charged with the critical tasks of raising awareness about the economic challenges that people with developmental disabilities face. And SCLARC has always been aware of its need to raise funds to help with the unmet needs and resources of its consumers living in South Los Angeles.

In the past, those monies have come through an emergency fund via SCLARC called the Parent Client Fund. This internal funding stream allows SCLARC to help consumers and their families receive food, clothing, shelter and transportation on an emergency basis. SCLARC stakeholders have come to depend on this money that, in past years, SCLARC has been able to solicit from private sources. As funding sources have dwindled, SCLARC has had to find creative ways to continue its efforts to make emergency funding available which is why it is launching the Friends of SCLARC Inc. Foundation.

Friends of SCLARC's primary function will be to identify, cultivate and manage the solicitation of major donors, i.e. charitable foundations; corporations, service organizations and individuals. The Foundation will also be dedicated, as defined by its by-laws, to program and resource development opportunities for the regional center. In accordance with the Lanterman Act, the foundation will bring SCLARC's consumers, staff members, service providers, family members and advocates together in an effort to:

- Sponsor community activities like diagnosis fairs, parent trainings, vendor fairs
- Promote Best Practices in current treatments and therapies of autism
- Develop agency materials and tools that are consumer-friendly
- Enhance the Family Resource Center's programming and personnel in order to do more extensive outreach
- Facilitate management and employee training of SCLARC staff members
- Develop housing opportunities throughout SCLARC's service area
- Spearhead fundraising initiatives that support SCLARC's unfunded programs

### DDS Director Terri Delgadillo Makes SCLARC Her First Stop on Regional Center System Tour

Chief Deputy Director/Interim Director for the Department of Developmental Services Terri Delgadillo honored South Central Los Angeles Regional Center stakeholders with an all-day visit to the Regional Center and various day programs. Ms. Delgadillo, who was appointed in February by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, kicked off her day-long visit with a tour of several SOCCO Homes with perennial community activist and service provider O.V. Smith and SCLARC's Executive Director Dexter A. Henderson.

"We couldn't be more excited about Director Delgadillo's visit.,' explained Henderson. "We are very proud of SCLARC and its 30 years of proven commitment to consumers residing in South Los Angeles. This is an opportunity for Ms. Delgadillo to see first hand the invaluable services that SCLARC provides to individuals diagnosed with a developmental disabilities while avidly promoting self-advocacy so that persons with developmental disabilities find their own voices."

The Director was escorted to SCLARC for a luncheon in her honor as well a tour of the offices at the conclusion of her tour with Ms. Smith. During the luncheon, she was welcomed by SCLARC Board of Director's president Fred Washington.

"It gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you Ms. Delgadillo. I encourage you to talk with our staff as well as our service providers whose professionalism and commitment to providing quality care in the community is brilliantly manifested in the vibrant lives our consumers enjoy today," said Washington in his welcome address. "I strongly believe that the dialogue begun today will grow into a strong and supportive relationship between SCLARC and the Department of Developmental Services."

Delgadillo manages a department in the California Health and Human Services Agency with more than 8,800 employees and a total budget of \$3.6 billion. She is responsible for overseeing the delivery of services and supports to more than 211,000 persons with developmental disabilities and their families. Prior to her appointment, Ms. Delgadillo served as Deputy Secretary at the California Health and Human Services Agency since 2004

Her career has focused on public policy and social services from the very start. She has provided classroom instruction for persons with developmental disabilities and was an assistant for the Special Olympics. She has worked as both a Peace Officer and a supervisor overseeing juvenile offenders. And for more than 15 years, she provided dedicated services as a legislative expert at the state and national levels, including serving as the legislative and policy director for United Sates Senators John Seymour and Paul Coverdell and as the Chief Legislative Consultant for the California Senate Select Committee on Drug and alcohol Abuse.

During the luncheon, Ms. Delgadillo answered questions from staff, board members and service providers regarding hot button issues with the system such as the skyrocketing cost of gasoline and its effect on transportation providers. She also addressed the housing crisis with which persons with developmental disabilities and their families are faced. She discussed some of the plans and initiatives that the Department is currently discussing to alleviate the problem.

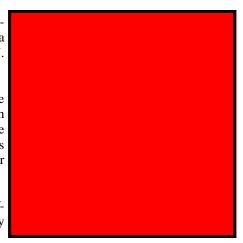
Concluding her visit, Director Delgadillo toured SCLARC's offices and talked to a variety of staff members. She spent time with the Intake, Early Stare and Family Resource Center's staff

### SCLARC's Clinical Division Awarded Two New Health & Wellness Grants

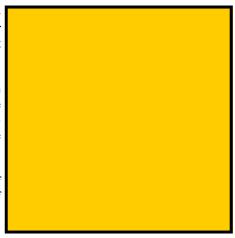
members as well as Clinical Services, Community Support and Human Resources.

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center was recently awarded two Health & Wellness grants by the Department of Developmental Services. "We are ecstatic that the Department has funded both of SCLARC's proposals. We look forward to collaborating with our vendors, community clinicians and Regional Center consultants in order to bring these projects into fruition," said Clinical Chief Marilyn Kostry.

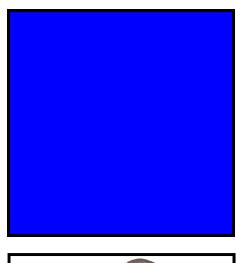
The first grant project, "Pathways to Healthy Living—Nutrition and Fitness" will provide a series of training sessions for care providers, family members and independent/supportive living skills specialists that will focus on nutrition, fitness and wellness in order to strengthen the efforts of weight management. This project will also develop a video with consumers who have been successful in losing weight. SCLARC will



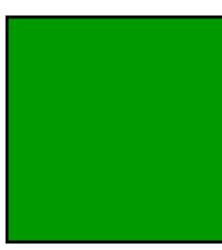














utilize the weight loss management expertise of Solid Foundation Weight Management, Inc. in order to help consumers better understand the importance of good nutrition and healthy lifestyles.

The overall purpose of the second grant, "A Collaborative Multidisciplinary Approach to the Reduction of Psychotropic Medication and Adverse Side-Effects" is to develop a practical and replicable clinical model using standardized rating scales and behavioral data to make appropriate medication and dose selections while also addressing adverse side effects of prescribed medications. SCLARC's Clinical Services Division feels that this project could be easily modeled and implemented in any Level-4 residential facility.

"We often see consumers being hospitalized due to ineffective treatment, adverse drug effects and problematic side effects. With this grant, we are looking to decrease these side effects so that consumers are able to maintain healthy lifestyles while taking their prescribed medications," said Kostry.

The grant awards are \$51,020 and \$126, 324 respectively and are the result of a collaborative writing effort by the Clinical Division staff.

# 2nd Annual Friends of SCLARC Golf Classic Tournament & Dinner Is a Major Success

On Friday, August 25, 2006, *Friends of SCLARC Inc.* hosted the 2nd Annual Friends Golf Classic Tournament & Dinner at Downey's Rio Hondo Golf Club located at 10627 Old River School Road. The event raised over \$40,000 for the more than 9,500 consumers of South Central Los Angeles Regional Center. Last year's inaugural golfing fundraiser provided some of the seed money to create *Friends of SCLARC Inc.*—a non-profit fundraising organization that will solicit funding for many of the unmet needs of SCLARC's consumers and families from foundations and charitable groups.

"Through the years, SCLARC has used its Belles & Beaus Achievement Brunch to raise funds," said Dexter A. Henderson, Executive Director of South Central Los Angeles Regional Center. "But what we found was that the *Friends of SCLARC Golf Classic* allows a broader section of our stakeholders to help us raise funds for the agency. And as we anticipated, this year's *Classic* was even more successful than our first effort—raising \$15,000 more than we did last year."

Presented by U.S. Bank, the golf fundraiser was enormously successful.

"We are truly pleased to be in partnership with South Central Los Angeles Regional Center and the *Friends of SCLARC*," said David Poff, Senior Vice President of US Bank. "We understand the invaluable services that SCLARC provides to its community and we want to be of service to SCLARC in helping them meet their mission."

US Bank has not only established a new relationship with the *Friends Classic*, but with the regional center and its other stakeholders as well. In recent months, SCLARC has partnered with US Bank, which offered the regional center a higher rate of interest and enhanced

technology—enabling the agency to more effectively manage its cash flow.

In addition, US Bank has offered to assist SCLARC in developing better banking programs to assist its vendors and has offered SCLARC employees workplace banking opportunities. Joining great corporate partners like US Bank in support of this worthy cause was SMS Transportation, Cannon Copiers, Choices R Us, Nestle Foods, Wright Residential, TPC Printing, Arc Mid Cities, Councilman Bernard Parks and L. McKinney Enterprises as well as additional "friends" whose sponsorship monies will enable SCLARC to:

Sponsor activities like parent trainings and vendor fairs

Develop educational resource materials and tools about SCLARC that are consumer/family friendly,

• Enhance the Family Resource Center's programming and personnel in order to do more extensive outreach, parent orientation and support Augment SCLARC's current family support groups by providing parents access to speakers and consultants,

Help in the implementation of employee training for SCLARC staff members,

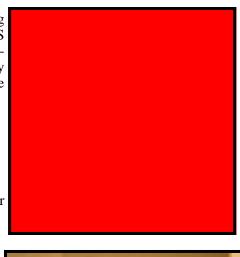
Develop housing opportunities throughout SCLARC's service area, and

Spearhead fundraising initiatives that support SCLARC's unfunded and underfunded programs.

"Friends of SCLARC, Inc. understands that being a good community partner not only helps to better people's lives, but it also enhances the quality of life within the community," says Malcolm Bennett, Interim President of the Friends of SCLARC Board of Directors. "And like many of the sponsors of the Golf Tournament and Dinner, Friends of SCLARC, Inc. will be dedicated to making an investment in people. What will be yielded from those investments are empowered families who are more knowledgeable and better able to advocate for their loved ones as well as more resources for SCLARC consumers when they find themselves faced with emergency situations.

Sherriff Lee Baca came out to enjoy tournament play and the Friends Dinner was hosted by Attorney Frank Wheaton. Check presentations were made to Special Needs Network and ALMA Family Services for outstanding support services to SCLARC's consumers and families. Each group was given \$1,000 to help with outreach and support. In addition to those donations, Friends of SCLARC, Inc. made a \$2,500 commitment to the regional center's Family Resource Center to help with outreach activities and educational fairs.

SCLARC's Board President Fred Washington thoroughly enjoyed the dinner, stating, "This was an absolutely fabulous event. As a parent of a SCLARC consumer, I know that this new organization will have a profound impact in helping SCLARC further its mission in providing the highest quality of services to persons diagnosed with a developmental disability and their families. These resources are sorely needed and I'm happy to know that *Friends Inc.* is in partnership with SCLARC to help meet some of the unmet needs of those we serve."



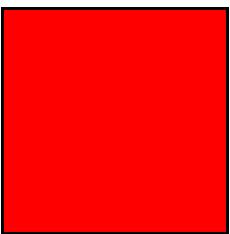




# South Central Los Angeles Regional Center







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