



SCLARC ANNUAL REPORT



South Central Los Angeles
Regional Center

FY 2010-11



HOUSING SOLUTIONS

SEASONS

@

COMPTON



South Central Los Angeles Regional Center Partners with LINC Housing to Create Safe, Affordable Housing

One of the most important long-range community planning issues South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC), and the regional center system as a whole, faces is addressing the need for affordable housing. SCLARC is proud to be in partnership with LINC Housing. This seven year collaboration has resulted in a senior living complex with 84 units, 28 of which have been designated for our consumers who are 55 years and older.

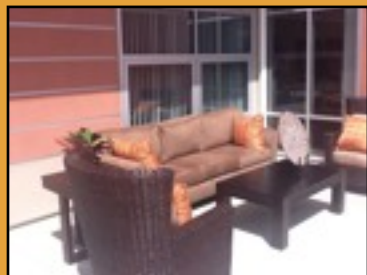
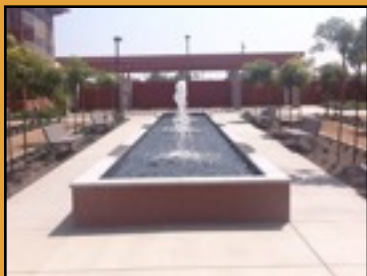
You can't live a vibrant life if you don't have decent housing. You can't shine, if you don't feel safe.

Our mission is to provide the highest quality services available to our consumers who have been diagnosed with a developmental disability and to help them access opportunities to live the most vibrant lives possible within our community. But, you can't live a vibrant life if you don't have decent housing. You can't shine, if you don't feel safe. By partnering with LINC, SCLARC is doing all it can to lessen the impact of a housing market that often times leaves our stakeholders marginalized.

LINC understands that being a good community partner not only helps better people's lives, but it also enhances the quality of life within the community. Because of LINC, 28 consumers will enjoy affordable, low-income housing that brings a sense of pride, a feeling of security and beautifies the surrounding community. We are truly excited about this innovative opportunity that goes to the heart of SCLARC's mission and addresses important quality of life issues.



THE INTEGRATION OF BUSINESS AND CARING





SCLARC Consumer Michael Brooks Was the Star of the Los Angeles Housing Policy Symposium

On August 17, 2011, a Community Housing Policy Symposium was held at Seasons at Compton. It gave national and local politicians, as well as Los Angeles housing advocates, the opportunity to tour two new residential complexes in South Los Angeles—Casa Dominguez and Seasons. Congresswoman Laura Richardson talked to SCLARC Consumer Michael Brooks at length about what the new building he will be living in means to him.

"I'm happy," said Michael. "I have a job, I work at Sears and now I'm going to live here."

Also on hand, pictured below as Michael cuts the cake, was LINC Housing President Hunter Johnson, Abode Communities CEO/housing advocate Robin Hughes and U.S. Housing & Urban Development Assistant Secretary Mercedes Márquez. All participated in a cake cutting ceremony to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of HUD's HOME program which was a supporting funder of the SEASONS at Compton Project.

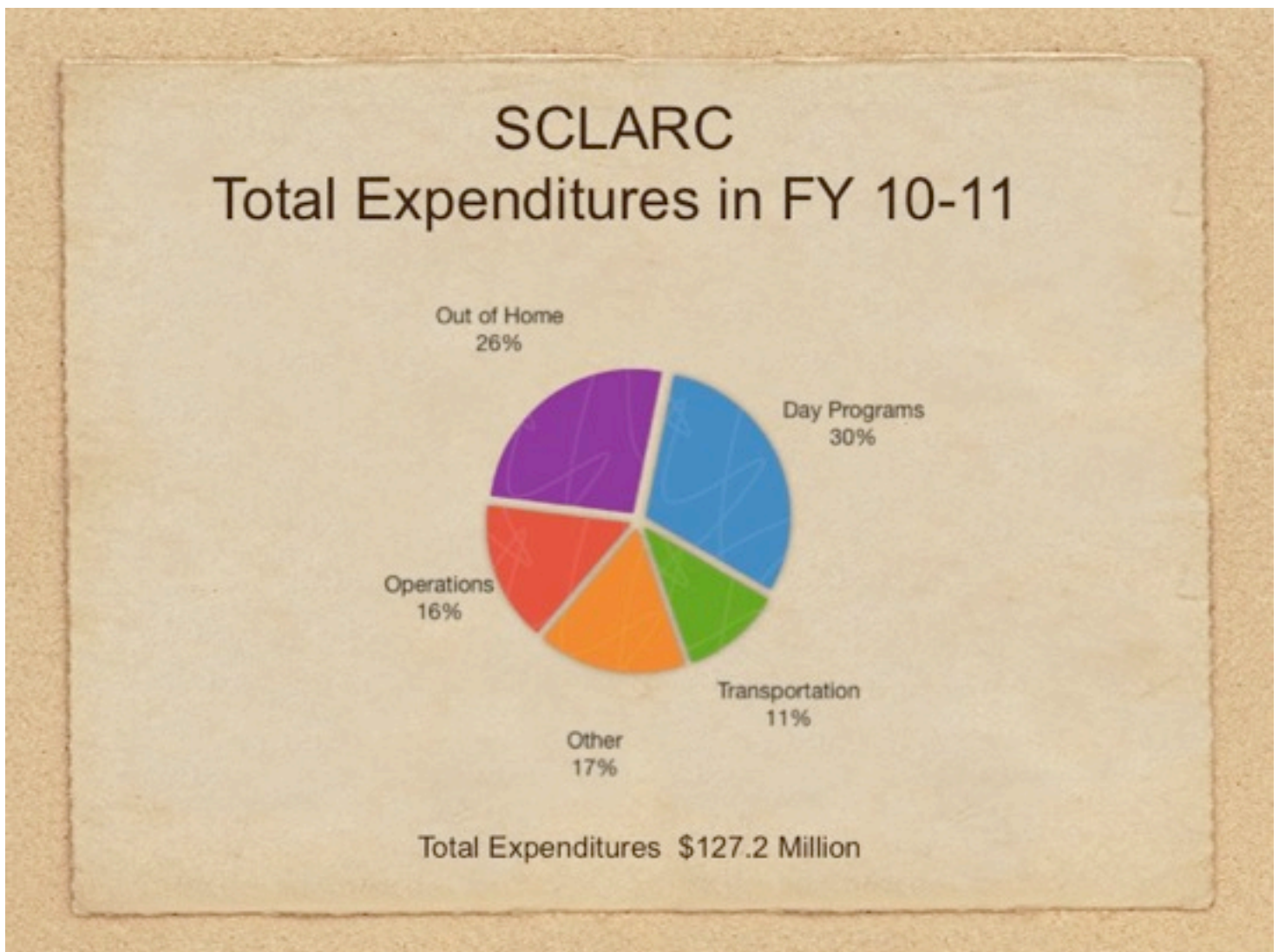


The Regional Center System Continues to Brave Fiscal Storms

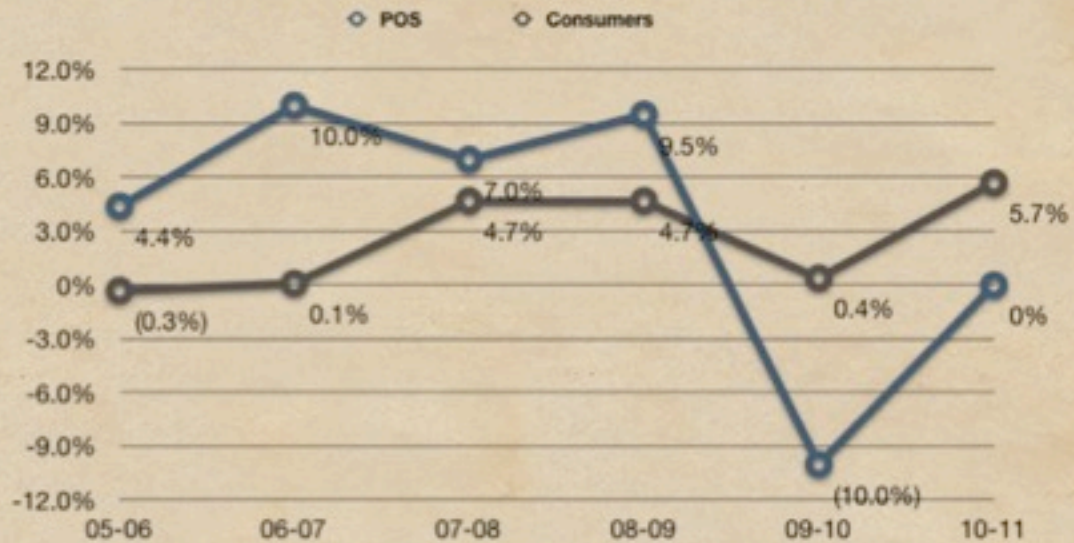
During the 2009-10 fiscal year, the Department of Developmental Services submitted to the Legislature two sets of savings proposals. The first proposal, submitted in April 2009, reduced the regional center system budget by \$100 million in order to achieve savings. The second proposal, submitted in June 2009, targeted an additional \$234 million. And, through his veto power, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger made another \$50 million in cuts. In all, for fiscal year 2009-10, there was a \$384 million reduction made to the Regional Center System budget.

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger signed the 2010-2011 FY State budget on October 8, 2010, officially ending a 100 day stalemate. By law, the state budget is supposed to be signed no later than June 30th of each year. This was the longest period in the history of California in which the state operated without a fiscal budget. The Regional Center System was hit with another reduction in Purchase of Service payments to vendors and the Operations Budgets of all regional centers. On top of the three percent reduction that was put in place in FY 2009-2010, the Legislature added 1.25% for a total of 4.25% effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. That additional 1.25 percent equaled an additional \$91 million cut to the system.

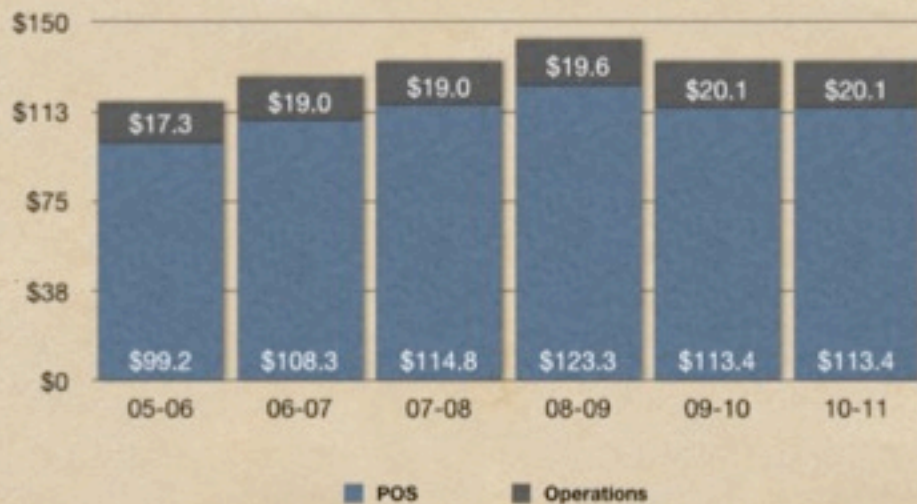
Because a budget shortfall in 2011-12 was predicted at the time the 2010-11 budget was adopted, Governor Jerry Brown proposed through Trailer Bill Language another \$750 million cut for the 2011-12 fiscal year (in which we are currently operating). As you will see on SCLARC's "Historical Expenditures" chart on the next page, the cost containment measures put in place were effective. But while our annual Purchase of Service budget of \$113 million has remained static for the last two years, our consumer caseload has increased by 5% which translates into SCLARC staff and vendors having to do much more with far fewer resources.



SCLARC Consumer and POS Growth



SCLARC Historical Expenditures (in millions)





SCLARC: Making a Difference in the Lives of Our Consumers

On January 29, 2010, the Schwarzenegger Administration announced it would propose legislation to close Lanterman Developmental Center (LDC), which provides 24-hour residential care for approximately 380 people with developmental disabilities. On October 8, 2010, the California Legislature gave its approval to do so. SCLARC immediately began working with West Bay Housing Corporation (WBHC) and Friends Community Housing to develop several Special Residential Facilities for 33 longtime LDC residents in order to transition its consumers from the state hospital into our catchment area.

It wasn't so long ago that people with disabilities were sent to state hospitals because communities lacked the resources to care for them. Over the last decade, regional centers have worked tirelessly with developmental centers to transition consumers into the community through our Community Placement Plan known as CPP. The use of CPP funds allows regional centers to develop permanent, affordable and accessible homes. In collaboration with the regional center, the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) uses CPP funds to create housing under the "Buy It Once" model through which a non profit housing corporation owns the property for the restricted use of regional center consumers.

Today, SCLARC is proud to work with West Bay and Frineds Community Housng because, like the regional center, these organizations believe quaility housing services are key to successful community integration and independence for people diagnosed with developmental disabilities. They understand SCLARC stakeholders prefer to live in homes and communities of their choosing—just like everyone else.





SCLARC's Board of Directors Elects New Officers and Recruits Members

SCLARC's Board of Directors has been busy recruiting community members to serve on the board. New officers were also recently announced during the Annual Board Meeting held August 9, 2011. Board President **William West** was elected to a second term. Lisa Sanchez is the group's Vice President, returning board member and parent advocate **Ana D'Silva** is the new Secretary and **Renett Clough** was elected Treasurer.

Ms. Clough is a grade level chairperson at Frederick Douglas Academy Elementary School where she facilitates parent information meetings and is a liaison between parents and school personnel. Another new recruit, **Dr. Angela James**, is an Associate Professor of African American Studies at Loyola Marymount University and is trained as a sociologist and demographer. **Dr. Anissa McNeil**, who is also new to the board, hopes to use her extensive background in speech and language to make the broader community aware of the challenges our consumers face.

Board member **Karen Washington** is a long-time SCLARC consumer who has been a member of the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) for three years. Before joining the CAC, Karen was an active member of the Braille Institute Student Committee where she served as Secretary. SCLARC's other two recruits were referred by dedicated community activists and board members. **Jocelyn Baber-Gant**, whose son is a SCLARC consumer, was referred by board member **Guadalupe Barrera**. And **Veronica Moser**, whose son is also a SCLARC consumer, was referred by former regional center board member and current Friends of SCLARC board president **Malcolm Bennett**. Together, the board of 13 assessed SCLARC's 2010-11 accomplishments and presented FY 2011-12 goals.



SCLARC Directory

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SCLARC WANTS YOU AS A BOARD MEMBER

Presently, there are several vacancies on SCLARC's Board of Directors. Our board members primary functions are to assist in creating policies that ensure SCLARC is run effectively, legally and ethically. Board members also provide direction to the organization by setting long-range goals and helping to develop strategic planning. During the planning process, members are asked to assess the present and future needs of the community in order to determine how SCLARC can better serve its stakeholder community. Board members are also occasionally called on to represent the agency at other community meetings and events throughout the year.

If you are interested in an application for board membership, please contact Marsha D. Mitchell, Director of Community Services & Family Supports at (213) 743-3061. SCLARC's Board of Directors meets the 4th Tuesday of every other month at 7:00 p.m.