



south central los angeles
regional center

sclarc
scene

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members of sclarc's leadership team cut the 40th anniversary commemorative cake.

sclarc celebrates 40 years of service with luncheon event

SCLARC first opened its doors in 1974 under the direction of Dr. Anna Smith. At that time, SCLARC served 1,059 clients with a budget of half a million dollars. Today, funded by the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), SCLARC provides assessment, residential, transportation and day program services to 12,500 active stakeholders with a budget of \$140 million. SCLARC has grown tremendously in the last 40 years. Much of its innovation and forward thinking is due to its Executive Director Dexter A. Henderson and its Board of Directors, who continue to find ways to improve the quality of services.

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center (SCLARC) celebrated its four decades of service throughout the entire 2014 calendar year. Starting with the unveiling of its 40th anniversary logo, the regional center culminated celebrating its birthday with more than 230 staff members and consultants at its annual holiday meeting. There was also a 40th Anniversary Luncheon entitled: "Legacy: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow" that was hosted in October at the City Club of Los Angeles. The event allowed community partners and stakeholders to commemorate the agency's historical milestone. The 40th Anniversary Luncheon honored SCLARC's present and past stakeholders via the Legacy Awards.



sclarc's new headquarters, which will be called the legacy plaza, gets its roof. (see page 11)

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regional center employee spotlight

Maura Gibney has been selected as South Central Los Angeles Regional Center's new Fund Development Manager. The role is part of a newly created Development Office that will establish the essential systems and best practices targeting SCLARC's fundraising efforts and associated fund raising programs. In her new position, Ms. Gibney will leverage SCLARC's programs and relationships to secure major gifts and/or grants from corporations, foundations, organizations, and individuals. She will also be responsible for establishing and implementing the initial building blocks for creating individual gift programs as well as building and establishing a development program infrastructure that includes operational policies, donor tracking and communications databases, as well as evaluation/reporting systems.



maura gibney

Marssia Chutan has been named Interim Family Resource Center Program Manager. In her new role, Mrs. Chutan will conduct outreach with community entities, i.e. hospitals and schools, medical and educational professionals and other community stakeholders in order to ensure general awareness of regional center services and coordinate parent orientations and support groups at SCLARC and in the community. She will also represent SCLARC at health fairs, conferences and in-services.



marssia chutan

JAI LONG SCLARC'S AUGUST CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARDEE

Jai Long, SCLARC's August Star of the Month, was recognized for his exemplary customer service in working with a family assigned to his caseload. A parent wrote to Jai's supervisor to express her gratitude for the care and support Jai has offered to her and her family during several difficult situations they have gone through. Although some of the issues the family dealt with were challenging, Jai, "responded in objective, professional and understanding ways; following up with a plan that best fits [our son's] need(s) and the family."



jai long

The parent was especially appreciative that when Jai did not immediately know the solution to the families' issues, he would communicate effectively to let her know the status of the issue. "That let me know he's a humble man that doesn't have to know everything." Jai's willingness to listen to the parent and her concerns demonstrated his understanding of good customer service. As the mother stated, Jai is able to "make us feel okay asking questions when we don't know what to do... letting us know that we are a priority as well!"

sclarc celebrates 40 years ... continued from page 1



From left (clockwise) Mireya Romero, Legacy Spirit Awardee; Tom De Simone (left), Community Partner Awardee and Iлона Hendrick, Vanguard Awardee. Pictured with Mr. DeSimone is Leandro Tyberg who presented the award. Karlton Levias, President of the Society of California Care Home Operators presented Mrs. Hendrick's Award.



Four distinguished individuals who have contributed greatly to the success of SCLARC were recognized at the luncheon including Mireya Romero (Legacy Spirit Award), Tom De Simone (Community Partner Award), Iлона Hendrick (Vanguard Award) and Malcolm Bennett (Trailblazer Award). This year's Legacy Spirit Award recipient Mireya Romero is an avid community activist and mother of SCLARC consumer Christy. Mrs. Romero has participated over the last 10 years on various SCLARC boards, including the agency's Board of Directors, and its Family Resource Center Advisory Board. Her commitment to working with the regional center, service providers and community embodies the true spirit of the Lanterman Act, the legislation that created the regional center system.

Iлона Hendrick, the Legacy Vanguard awardee, was one of the first residential providers to complete SCLARC's Residential Services Training in the 1980s. With that training, Mrs. Hendrick has cared for adults with disabilities as the owner and operator of Hendrick Homes for more than 30 years.

Community Partner Award recipient, Tom De Simone, has been a stalwart financial partner who has been integral to SCLARC while developing its new headquarters—Legacy Plaza—as well as SCLARC's permanent housing in the community for its consumers. DeSimone currently oversees Genesis LA which has generated \$100 million in direct lending and new market tax credit investments throughout the Greater Los Angeles area. Mr. DeSimone has been instrumental to securing the financing necessary to build Legacy Plaza as well as 12 homes in SCLARC's service area.

Former SCLARC board member, and current Friends of SCLARC Board President, Malcolm Bennett, was honored with the Trailblazer Award. Mr. Bennett has made a significant impact on the lives of the developmentally disabled living in South L.A. working tirelessly to support the regional center. Former Los Angeles Councilwoman Jan Perry was initially supposed to present the award to Mr. Bennett, but she graciously accepted the Trailblazer Award on his behalf after he was unexpectedly called out of town on business.

SCLARC's Leadership Team also enjoyed celebrating its 40th Anniversary year with more than 230 staff members and consultants on December 17, 2014 at the J.W. Marriott at L.A. Live.



sclarc board members celebrate 40 years!



sclarc executive director dexter a. henderson with former councilwoman jan perry, who accepted the trailblazer award on behalf of malcolm bennett.

see anniversary on page 6

friends of sclarc celebrates 10th golf tourney

By MARIA FIGUEROA

Community Relations Specialist

On Friday, September 26, 2014, Friends of SCLARC (FoS) celebrated its 10th Anniversary Golf Tournament. On this momentous day, FoS welcomed 32 sponsors, 100 golfers and 170 dinner guests. Together, the event raised more than \$120,000 for the organization which supports the consumers of South Central Los Angeles Regional Center.

As with past tournaments, Friends of SCLARC proudly hosted a number of regional center consumer golfers at the tournament. The highlight of the dinner was the skillful and funny auctioneering talents of Daron

Campbell of DC Capital who helped auction off a donated skybox at the



sclarc volunteers, consumers, service providers & the hole in one prize!

Staples Center. The luxury sports box went for a whopping \$3,000. The proceeds raised at the annual Friends of SCLARC Golf Tournament and Awards Dinner are used to support consumers and their families who are faced with emergency situations, rental fees, educational opportunities, specialized medical services to SCLARC consumers and Friends of SCLARC's programming needs. Malcolm Bennett, FoS Board President says they are "looking forward to the next 10 years of partnering with the regional center," as the group continues to fundraise while having fun. Preparations for next year's tournament, slated for September 25, 2015, are already underway. If you would like further information on sponsorship opportunities, please visit www.friendsofsclarc.org.



sclarc parent advisory council off to a great start

SCLARC's Leadership Team began meeting with several parent groups in the southern portion of its catchment area in April 2014, after its Town Hall Meetings regarding Purchase of Services (POS) Differences. The meetings lead to the creation of SCLARC's Parent Advisory Council (PAC) in August of 2014. The focus of the PAC is to foster better collaboration with SCLARC management in order to understand the needs and issues affecting SCLARC's consumers and families. In order to participate, support groups must have a membership of at least 20 participants who meet monthly, every other month or quarterly.



One rep and one alternate were selected by each parent group to interface with SCLARC's Leadership Team on a monthly basis in order to discuss strategies for program and resource development in SCLARC's service area. The PAC also updates regional center management on the various parent group activities in which they are involved. To date, eight parent groups have been identified and five groups participate regularly. The members of the PAC represent established SCLARC Parent Support Groups throughout the agency's various communities. Together, these five groups represent approximately 1,000 SCLARC consumers.

The Parent Advisory Committee chair, which has yet to be selected, will hold a seat on SCLARC's Board of Directors. And in February, each parent group will receive a stipend, courtesy of Friends of SCLARC (fos), in the amount of \$500 to help with costs associated with guest speakers, meeting space rentals, office supplies, and printing or copying. At the PAC's most recent meeting, the group acknowledged the wonderful efforts and dedication of SCLARC staff members. To date, SCLARC's staff has work with the PAC to:

- Create an arts program in Downey that will be vendored soon,
- Vendored the Autism Parent Education Program (APEP) so that parents receive training,
- Given a presentation on conservatorships for the PAC,
- Met with Senator Ricardo Lara to discuss much needed resources for the community.

In 2015, SCLARC will work with the PAC to present an Individual Educational Planning (IEP) Conference and subsequent IEP Clinics to bolster parent education initiatives. Additionally, staff members are working with the PAC to create a parent survey to determine customer satisfaction and opportunities for growth as it relates to service delivery. The survey will be administered on-line via SCLARC's website.

SCLARC's Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) meetings are held as follows:

WHERE: South Central Los Angeles Regional Center
650 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007.

WHEN: The third Monday of each month.

TIME: 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

For more information on the Parent Advisory Council, contact Marsha Mitchell-Bray at 213.743.3061 or marshamb@sclarc.org.

sclarc's 40th anniversary holiday event



sclarc's newest employees



sclarc employees celebrating 5 years tenure



sclarc employees celebrating 10 years



sclarc employees celebrating 15 years



sclarc employees celebrating 20 years



sclarc employees celebrating 25 years tenure



sclarc employees celebrating 30 years tenure



sclarc's most tenured employee gricelda james, center, celebrating 35 years at the agency



sclarc's team of dedicated consultants



sclarc's lanterman developmental center closure committee

sclarc board of directors 2015 meeting schedule

We invite the communities within our service area to join us as we form a circle of support around those we serve. The impact of your support will have a rippling effect that uplifts and empowers, and helps to shatter preconceived notions held about persons diagnosed with developmental disabilities. Together, we focus on our consumers "ability" to live the most productive and vibrant lives possible.

Board of Directors Meetings

January 27, 2015

(7 p.m. to 9 p.m.)
650 W. Adams Blvd.
Los Angeles, 90007

March 24, 2015

(7 p.m. to 9 p.m.)
650 W. Adams Blvd.
Los Angeles, 90007

May 26, 2015

(7 p.m. to 9 p.m.)
650 W. Adams Blvd.
Los Angeles, 90007

July 28, 2015

(7 p.m. to 9 p.m.)
650 W. Adams Blvd.
Los Angeles, 90007

September 22, 2015

(7 p.m. to 9 p.m.)
650 W. Adams Blvd.
Los Angeles, 90007

November 17, 2015

(7 p.m. to 9 p.m.)
650 W. Adams Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90007

sclarc's uniform holiday closure schedule 2015

SECTION 26. Welfare & Institutions Code section 4692 (a)

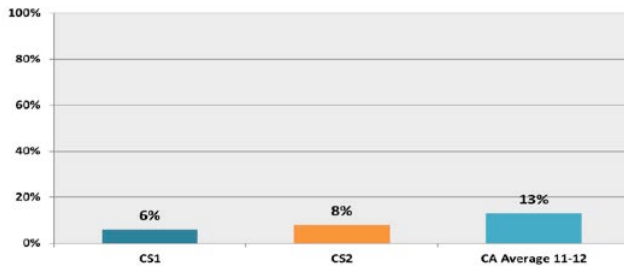
This schedule applies to all the following vendor types: work activity program, activity center, adult development center, behavior management program, social recreation program, adaptive skills trainer, infant development program, program support group (day service), socialization training program, client/parent support behavior intervention training program, community integration training program, community activities support service, or creative arts program and transportation services. It does not apply to supported living services or licensed homes, but providers of these services should be aware that their clients will not be attending programs on uniform holidays.

New Year's Holiday	Thursday, January 1, 2015
Martin Luther King Day	Monday, January 19, 2015
Presidents' Day	Monday, February 16, 2015
March Closure Day	Tuesday, March 31, 2015
Memorial Day	Monday, May 25, 2015
Independence Day	Friday, July 3, 2015 (observed)
Labor Day	Monday, September 7, 2015
October Closure Day	Monday, October 12, 2015
Veteran's Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2015

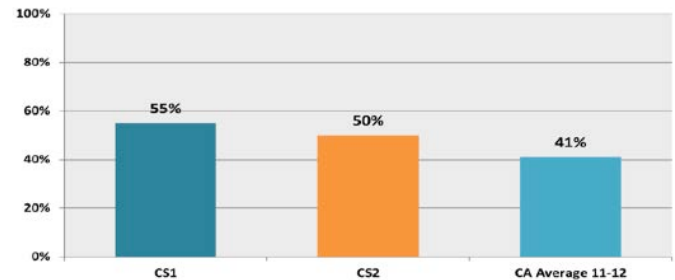
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday, November 26, 2015
Thanksgiving Holiday	Thursday, November 27, 2015
Christmas Holiday	Wednesday, December 23, 2015
Christmas Eve	Thursday, December 24, 2015
Christmas Day	Friday, December 25, 2015

sclarc's national core indicators available on the web

Has a Paid Job in the Community



Went Out For Exercise In the Past Month



Specifically, the National Core Indicators measure outcomes that are important to individuals with developmental disabilities and their families such as good health, a home of choice, meaningful relationships with friends and family, and full participation in the community through employment and other activities.

National Core Indicators (NCI) is a collaborative effort between the National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services (NASDDDS) and the Human Services Research Institute (HSRI). The purpose of the program, which the California Department of Developmental Services (DDS) adopted during fiscal year 2010-11, is to gather a standard set of performance and outcome measures that can be used to track the quality of services that regional centers deliver as well as consumer satisfaction with said services. NCI uses a survey to ask people how they feel about the services they receive from regional centers across the state. 400 consumers per each of the 21 regional centers were asked questions. Overall, the total number of surveys completed across the State of California was 8,691.

Why is the information important? The National Core Indicators Help to Identify Areas for Improvement

Since DDS launched its quality improvement and management initiatives, those working with data needed to determine which areas should be targeted for improvement and measured over a period of time. Categories being measured include how consumers feel about:

Choice

Work

Community Inclusion

Relationships

Respect

Education

Safety

Self-advocacy

Rights

Satisfaction

Health

Access

Priorities are reassessed each year. Some priorities may result in multi-year efforts and others may be successfully addressed within the year. Selecting priorities does not mean that other aspects of the data are not important. It merely reflects the major targets of change over the next period of time. Once priorities have been set, SCLARC and its stakeholders—including the Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC), the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) the Vendor Advisory Committee (VAC) and the agency's Staff Advisory Committee (SAC) can begin to concentrate on those strategies that are most likely to bring about improvement.

What can SCLARC do with this information?

SCLARC will have our service coordinators ask our consumers these questions on a regular basis so that we can take a proactive approach to improving our services. Additionally, by becoming familiar with these types of questions, our consumers will be more knowledgeable should they be randomly selected to participate in a NCI survey. Our regional center will also have its Consumer Advisory Committee train consumers at day programs around areas such as self-advocacy which SCLARC is currently trending on the low side in comparison to other regional centers.

To see the full report, visit <http://www.sclarc.org/pdf/National-Core-Indicators-Adult-Consumer-Survey-2011->

local girl scouts spread a little holiday "troop" cheer

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center was honored to have Girl Scouts Troop 659 SU 513 host a Toy-Give-Away. On December 6, 2014, the Girl Scouts eagerly met SCLARC consumers who were invited to have hot chocolate and receive toys. The girls were very attentive hostesses and made sure everyone felt welcomed. SCLARC families were delighted to learn that the Girl Scouts had collected gifts from families and friends in order to donate them to their children who were equally excited to receive the presents. SCLARC's Leadership Team and staff members would especially like to thank Mrs. Laura Mitchell for initiating this partnership with SCLARC. In addition, another warm thank you goes to Troop 659 members whose Holiday "Troop" Cheer was very evident. SCLARC's FRC and Community Relations staff looks forward to working with the Girl Scouts again next year. —Marssia Chutan



ideal celebrates the holiday season with sclarc's consumers & families



On December 22, 2014, the South Central Los Angeles Regional Center had an event that was beyond "Ideal," for the Christmas season. The event was heart-warming, memorable and beautiful thanks to the consumers of Ideal Program Services Day Program who sang holiday songs to SCLARC's younger consumers who attended the event. The Ideal consumers came dressed for the day in their holiday gear and Santa hats, topped off by the biggest smiles ever as they sang Feliz Navidad.

Karla Melgar, Program Manager from Ideal Services Day Program organized, the event in conjunction with SCLARC's Family Resource Center and Community Relations staff. Together, Ideal

and SCLARC invited families to celebrate a morning full of singing, dancing and celebrating the Christmas season. After the caroling, Ideal's staff performed a traditional Belizean dance. Then consumers served as Santa's helpers, giving toys to each child participant. IDEAL's personnel, consumers and families donated the toys. Overall, all had fun and they ushered in the holiday spirit. SCLARC is very grateful to Ideal Program Services and its consumers for the efforts made to ensure our consumers enjoyed a Merry Christmas. —Marssia Chutan



Special Olympics Athlete: for marco martinez competition is the mame of the game

“Let me win, but if I cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt.” --- Special Olympic Athlete Oath

BY DESIREE BOYKIN * SCLARC Consumer Advocate

Marco Martinez has been a SCLARC consumer for many years. He credits Lorena Jimenez, his SCLARC Service Coordinator, with his long association with the organization. “Every step of my journey, Ms. Jimenez has helped me a lot,” he says.

Marco’s love for sports began at Manual Arts High School, where he participated in Sports, a citywide program that provides special students an opportunity to stay fit and to participate in a team sport. He remembers two of his coaches, Ms. Rosalyn Williams and Coach Ron, fondly. “Coach Williams motivated me while I was on her track and field team,” Marco commented. “She is the reason that track and field is my favorite sport today.” Coach Ron had his role, too. “He encouraged me to be my best, to never give up,” recalls Marco.

Marco would travel with his cross-country team to Pierce College for competitions. While Marco attended Manual Arts, Mr. Steven Bradley, his Special Education teacher, taught Marco various life skills; there was community- based instruction as well. “I learned how to ride the bus, and I took home economics,” stated Marco.

He graduated from Manual Arts in 1994. He now attends Abram Friedman Occupational Center, where he found his niche in artwork. Marco takes the city bus every day to get to class.

In various Special Olympics competitions, Marco has won gold, silver, and bronze medals. His fall/winter sports are bowling, floor hockey, soccer, softball, tennis and volleyball. His spring/summer sports are aquatics, track and field, basketball, golf and gymnastics. On May 28, 2011, Marco was interviewed by local television station KTLA in the segment, “The Beginning is a Beautiful Thing,” as an inspiring athlete.

The interview highlighted his creativity in making signs for display, a skill that evolved when he initially entered a class at Abram Friedman Occupational Center to study floor coverings. In fact, he made a “Special Olympics of Southern California” sign that was used as one of the Organization’s events. Currently, Marco is the Special Olympics of Southern California Global Messenger, chosen by Regional Director Eloise Crawford of Los Angeles and the San Gabriel Valley Regions. He has given a half- dozen speeches.

“I stand in front of crowds and talk about what Special Olympics means to me,” Marco says.

Marco is preparing for the 2015 Special Olympics Summer Games. He was interviewed at the Downtown Los Angeles Radio Station KMPG, to talk about the World Games. “I’m excited about the World Summer Games coming to Los Angeles,” he says. Marco has met legendary Olympic Gold Medalists Rafer Johnson, Bruce Jenner, and Michelle Kwan. In the future, Marco wishes to become the President’s Global Messenger for Special Olympics. “I would really like that,” he said.

All along the way, Marco has had the love and support of his family--his mother, Bertha Flores; brothers Herman and Hector, and niece Alisha. He acknowledges his love for his mother, whom he says teaches him so much including cooking and washing his own clothes. However, more than these skills, he states that she has taught him to be a good man. Then, there are his brothers with whom he feels a special closeness and inclusion. “I am just thankful for my loving family at home and at the Special Olympics. “



marco martinez

legacy plaza celebrates another milestone with a topping off party

As South Central Los Angeles Regional Center celebrated the anniversary of its 40 years of service, the regional center was also in the midst of another milestone event—the development of its new headquarters—Legacy Plaza. The construction project includes the brand new SCLARC Legacy Building as well as the renovated historic Golden State Mutual Building which was designated as Los Angeles’ 1,000th historic landmark in 2011. Located on the corner of Western Avenue and Adams Blvd., SCLARC employees are set to have a new place to call home by March 17, 2015. The developers and contractors hosted a Topping Off party on September 5, 2014 to which SCLARC’s board members, the Friends of SCLARC board members and the regional center’s senior staff witnessed the progress being made on the new employee campus. In construction, “topping off” is a builders' ritual traditionally held when the roof is placed atop a structure that is under development.



one of the buildings at sclarc’s new headquarters, which will be called the legacy plaza, got its roof. the project is scheduled to be finished march 17, 2014.



Picture 1: Ron Hartshorn, Superintendent KSJ Construction; Pic 2: (L-R) Jake Belinski, Project Engineer/KSJ Construction, Nassib Farhat, Senior Project Manager/KSJ Construction, DH, Travis Erwell, Project Manager, Primestor Development Inc. and Pic 3: (L-R) Doug Davis, Principal, AE3 Partners and Friends of SCLARC's Board Member Mark Iles



Picture 1: SCLARC CEO Dexter A. Henderson (left) and Friends of SCLARC Board President Malcolm Bennett; Pic 2: SCLARC CFO Roy Doronila and staff member Deanna Corbin; Pic 3 (l-r) R. Doronila, Community Relations Specialist Maria Figueroa, D. Henderson and SCLARC's Foundation Supports Manager Hillary Henderson.

sclarc successfully transitions residents of lanterman developmental center into its catchment

Following other states in the country, California began shutting down its six developmental centers in 2004 with the closure of Agnews Developmental Center in San Jose (which was completed in 2009). When Lanterman Developmental Center was ordered closed by the state in 2010, the population of the 302-acre campus had dwindled from a peak of nearly 3,000 in the late 1960s to 398. In 2013, the California State Legislature mandated that the Lanterman State Hospital closure be fully completed by December 31, 2014. Of those 70 residents remaining at the time of the that second mandated closure announcement, SCLARC had eight consumers needing to be transitioned into the community. On November 5, 2014, the regional center successfully placed its last consumer into the community.

All consumers are happy, blossoming and continue to thrive in their new homes. Donna, for instance, likes wearing makeup and having her hair done. She is very stylish. Teddy could not be happier with his new life. He enjoys karaoke, watching movies, and playing ball. We think he wants to be the next Tiger Woods. Lethia enjoys her home so much that she stays awake more and wants to partake in activities with her peers. Our consumers' families are also very happy with their loved one's new home environments.

SCLARC's Board of Directors and Leadership Team sincerely thank all families, staff members, consultants and vendors who worked diligently to complete the move of our stakeholders from Lanterman Developmental Center into our catchment. Your hard work and committed effort have made a tremendous impact on those we serve. Visit www.sclarc.org to see more about the project.



do you know about sclarc's consumer advisory committee?



The CAC members are comprised of SCLARC consumers who identify topics that are important to the group. The CAC also invites speakers to their meetings to address these topics.

South Central Los Angeles Regional Center's Consumer Advisory Committee meetings are held on the fourth Monday of each month.

During the holiday season, the November/December meetings may be held on the 3rd Monday of the month.

WHERE: SCLARC

2nd Floor

650 West Adams Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90007.

TIME: 4:00 P.M.-5:30 P.M.

For additional information, you may contact

Desiree Boykin at (213) 743-3071.

sclarc's 40th anniversary candid camera



