

SEPTEMBER 2019

It is that time of year again...
ANNUAL STAFF APPRECIATION MONTH!

SSG ANNUAL STAFF APPRECIATION MONTH

September has been deemed 'SSG STAFF APPRECIATION MONTH'. SSG has a great reputation for service and excellence due to everybody's collective efforts.

Based upon schedules and approval by Supervisors, all eligible staff (20 or more hours per week; not temporary or as-needed; not on a formal leave of absence) who have provided a minimum of 12-months service through 8/31/19 will receive one (1) regular (8-hour) Leave with Pay day off. This day must be scheduled in either September or October 2019. This is a use it or lose it benefit.

Should you have any questions about this benefit please contact HR Director Tonie Diaz at adiaz@ssg.org.





HOPICS

HOPICS PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON HOMELESSNESS



Pictured L to R: Karen Guillermo, Sanea Smith, Nelly Motta, Jasmine James, John Helyar, Veronica Lewis, Liset Escobar, Cristina Nieto, Jonathan Bryan, Dorothy Morrison, Amber Samuel, Waynetta Robinson, Fernando Siordia

HOPICS team (led by Division Director **Veronica Lewis**) attended the **2019 National Conference on Ending Homelessness and Capitol Hill Day** that was held from July 22 - 24, 2019 in Washington, DC. It is the nation's largest convening of service providers, leaders, advocates, and consumers working to end homelessness in the United States. This year's July conference featured dedicated tracks focused on families and youth experiencing homelessness, updated content on chronic homelessness, veterans, single adults, and other populations. Capitol Hill Day provided an opportunity for the HOPICS team to speak with members of Congress and their staff, and advocate directly for resources that will benefit homeless families and youth in South Los Angeles.

A BRIDGE HOME SHELTER RIBBON CUTTING



Honorable Mayor Eric Garcetti & Veronica Lewis, HOPICS Director

In partnership with the City of Los Angeles and LAHSA, SSG Division HOPICS, held a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 9, 2019 to launch a new project to provide temporary housing in LA Council District 8. This bridge housing project is a model of temporary housing that has service-enriched programs aimed to quickly bring homeless Angelenos off the streets and help them rebuild their lives.

This bridge housing project offers 24/7 security and on-site services like case management, access to services such as mental health care and substance abuse treatment, and housing placement to help residents stabilize their lives, move on to permanent housing, and stay off the streets. Further, the bridge housing project will keep our neighborhood clean because as the new bridge housing sites open their doors, City Sanitation teams will work to restore spaces that were previously encampment sites into open and clear public spaces.

The Bridge Housing project will be located at 5965 South St. Andrews Place. The St. Andrew's site will include 100 single unit pods with dining and hygiene facilities. The site also features an art mural, outdoor communal space, and a space for pets.

VERONICA LEWIS STEPPING DOWN FROM LA CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD



After 7 years of service, with 2 years as Chair on the LAHSA Los Angeles Continuum of Care Board (CoC), HOPICS Division Director **Veronica Lewis** is stepping down from the Board on September 4, 2019. A CoC is a regional and local planning body that coordinates housing and services funding for homeless families and individuals. One of the most important activities entrusted to CoC's is the bi-annual count of the homeless population and an annual enumeration of emergency beds, transitional housing units and beds that make up the homeless assistance systems. These counts provide an overview of the state of homelessness in a CoC and offer the information necessary to redirect services, funding and resources. During Veronica's service, the LA Coc has an estimated 43,854 homeless people (LA CoC excludes the cities of Glendale, Pasadena and Long Beach). Los Angeles is the largest urban county in the nation at 4,083 square miles. While in some areas average incomes are amongst the highest in the country, there is also incredible poverty. Furthermore, Los Angeles is one of the most racially diverse and ethnically varied counties in the U.S. LAHSA helps coordinate efforts among agencies, businesses, community leaders, government agencies and elected officials to determine priority needs and services from a local, regional and county-wide basis. Please join us in applauding Veronica's service to this important board.



SILVER

SSG SILVER 20TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

On August 29th, SSG SILVER celebrated the Division's 20th Anniversary at the California Endowment with 120 guests in attendance. SSG Executive Managers and Administration staff, Directors from SSG Divisions, community partners, and funding agencies joined for the milestone celebration. SSG Board Members **John Eckman** and **Glenn Pacheco** were also in attendance to commemorate this achievement.

For 20 years, SILVER has focused on developing community-based solutions to addressing specific issues to Los Angeles' older adults population. SILVER staff has taken the lead in providing robust mental health services, support services for older adults and their caretakers. Additionally, SILVER collaborates and participates in research projects such as identifying the social determinants of health that affect an aging population. To address the vast ethnic diversity of the aging population in Los Angeles, SILVER is a leader in launching close collaborations with multi-cultural community partners to ensure services to the aging population in Los Angeles are culturally appropriate. As an example, SILVER provides services to older adults and their families in over 6 languages including Korean, Tagalog, Spanish and Vietnamese.

County Supervisor **Hilda Solis's** Field Deputy **Hoang Nguyen** presented SILVER with a County Commendation recognizing SILVER's commitment to serving older adults in Los Angeles County. SILVER debuted two original videos created by staff conveying their roles and what drives them to continue their work with older adults. The videos conveyed the importance, values and rewards working with this population.

Reaffirming the importance of community partnerships, SILVER also recognized the Cambodian Association of America (CAA) and the Mission to Assist and Provide for Seniors Charities (MAPS) for their unwavering support and dedication serving seniors in the Los Angeles area. SSG Executive Director, **Herbert Hatanaka**, and Director of Risk Management, **Naomi Kageyama**, were honored by SILVER Staff for their ongoing contributions to SILVER's development and growth.

SILVER launched the social media outreach campaign **#olderandbolder** on Facebook to reach multiple generations and to raise awareness about services needed for older adults, address ageism, and promote the growth of professionals pursuing work with older adults.

For more news related to SSG SILVER, please follow us on Facebook at Special Service for Groups SILVER or call (213) 553-1884.





SSG

THE BOARD CORNER

APAIT

SAVE THE DATE

On July 13, 2019, the SSG Board selected the following Board Officers for the upcoming 2019-20 year:

- John Eckman, President
- Donna Wong, 1st Vice President
- Donna Mills, 2nd Vice President
- Glen Pacheco, Treasurer
- Herbert Hatanaka, Secretary and Executive Director



• Anna Del Rio, spouse of SSG Boardmember Fernando Del Rio was a special guest at the June Board meeting.

Also, please join us in welcoming Boardmember Don Kinsey's granddaughter Maya Patrice born on April 11th, 2019. Congratulations to Don Kinsey and his family!



20TH Anniversary
ENDURANCE THROUGH DIVERSITY & SERVICE

THURSDAY 7PM-10PM | **SEPT 19 2019** | 6PM Doors Open 7PM Program Begins

Venue by Three Petals
 18582 Beach Blvd. #7, Huntington Beach, CA 92648

As we celebrate **20 years** of HIV/AIDS community and service in Orange County.

Cocktail Reception | Honors Gala | Fashion Show | Surprise Guests

APAIT
 A DIVISION OF SPECIAL SERVICES FOR GROUPS

The More You Know

PROPOSED AB376: THE STUDENT BORROWER BILL OF RIGHTS

Millions of Americans who went to college seeking a better future now face crushing debt from student loans—while the industry makes a handsome profit. Consumer Reports reported that 42 million American bear roughly \$1.3 trillion in student debt that's altering lives, relationships, starting families and even retirement. Fewer know that growing alongside 42 million indebted students is a formidable private industry that has been enriched by those very loans. Student debt has become a problem for the nonprofit community. An estimated 160,000 nonprofit staff in California have student debt, and the average debt has risen to more than \$37,000. Studies show that graduates with large loan balances hesitate to join the nonprofit sector. A California bill **AB376** (Stone) called **The Student Borrower Bill of Rights** is ready to help student borrowers. This bill does the following:

- Fights abusive practices by the student loan industry and requires companies to handle student loan payments in borrowers' best interests, while ensuring that servicers give accurate information to borrowers.
- Protects borrowers from fees and credit damage due to mistakes made by loan servicing companies.
- Creates a new California state Student Borrower Advocate position that will help to provide timely assistance to any student loan borrower facing issues with their loan.

For more information about student debt and the Public Service Loan Forgiveness program, please check out CalNonprofit at <https://calnonprofits.org/programs/nonprofit-student-debt-project>.



APCTC

APCTC RECEIVES GENEROUS BACKPACK DONATION



Pictured L to R: Christopher Murakami, Caryle Buenaventura, APCTC Executive Assistant



APCTC Main and Alhambra Center received a generous donation of backpacks and school supplies for their child clients. A local philanthropist named **Christopher Murakami** started a community donation project using social media to market his venture and developed a small network of people who shared his same passion for giving back to the community. APCTC staff were familiar with Christopher and once they discovered his project on Instagram they shared APCTC’s mission and a great opportunity came of it. Christopher rallied for APCTC and through his network of partners collected 70 backpacks and a variety of school supplies for children for the new school year. Christopher is continuing to find more partners who will be collecting gifts for children during the upcoming holidays. APCTC is so grateful to Christopher and his partners and is looking forward to what’s to come from this relationship!

AMAZING GIRL SCOUT TROOPS DESIGN AND CREATE IMPROVED SPACES FOR APCTC CLIENTS

Bronze. Silver. Gold. These represent the highest honors a Girl Scout can earn. Each year, enterprising and creative Girl Scouts create projects to help communities, effect change and make the world a bit better for all!

The 17-year old **Katherine Dodge**, a 12th grader at Mark Keppel High School, is an ‘Ambassador’ level Girl Scout for Troop 9011. For her Gold Award Project she was determined to help less fortunate children and families. She proposed a renovation project centered on APCTC’s play therapy room - a key component of children and TAY centered services. She meticulously planned a new youth-friendly space complete with fresh paint, new furniture and toys. The result was a fresh, positive and welcoming space for children and youth to relax, play and heal. Great job Katherine!



The 8th graders **Kiyomi Banta** (age 13; Girls Academic Leadership Academy) and **Airi Montoya** (age 13; Dodson Middle School) both from Troop 12135 are ‘Senior’ level Girl Scouts. For their Silver Award Project they decided to focus on helping children. Learning that many APCTC families are unable to afford children’s clothes they decided to convert a narrow and old storage area into a cool kid-sized boutique filled with children’s clothes and a full-length mirror. APCTC parents, children and youth can shop clothes for free all year around. They plan to continue collecting new or gently used clothes to sustain the closet year around. Thank you Kiyomi and Airi!





APIFM

API FORWARD MOVEMENT HEALTH INITIATIVES FEATURED IN LOCAL NEWS AND MEDIA



Farmer June Moua of Dream Farms, a partner farm of Food Roots

The Alhambra Source Newspaper recently featured a story on Food Roots, a program run by APIFM that connects local and sustainably grown Asian specialty foods to communities and business in Los Angeles while supporting local Asian American farmers. The article details the disconnect between the many local Asian farmers growing fruits, nuts and Asian specialty vegetable and nursery crops and those able to access this fresh and locally grown produce. Many of the communities that APIFM works in don't have access to a local farmers' market or a grocery store that carries locally grown produce items. If shoppers do have access to Asian markets, it's not always clear where the produce is grown, if pesticides were used, or who the farmer is. In addition, many low-income people in the Asian American community may not be able to afford the higher prices of local or organic produce. The Food Roots program is helping to close this gap; to date, Food Roots has distributed over 22 tons of local produce, provided more than \$67,500 in revenue to the farmers they work with and served over 5,000 families across Los Angeles County. You can read the full article at: <https://www.alhambra.org/story/how-food-roots-provides-locally-grown-organic-asian-produce-to-people-with-financial-need>

CLEAN AIR SGV ON KPCC

APIFM's environmental program, Clean Air SGV, was featured on the local news radio show 89.3 KPCC. APIFM staff **Kevin Liao** was interviewed sharing that APIFM is hoping to install 60 more sensors in households across Alhambra and Monterey Park to support the Clean Air SGV initiative. The goal is to collect data on key areas in the community that are exposed to poor air quality and use the data to advocate for changes to local policy that will improve air quality. You can listen at: <https://www.scpr.org/news/2019/08/21/90425/sgv-air-quality-pollution-sensors/>



KIZUNA WORKSHOP



This summer, **Kyle Tsukahira** and I had the honor of being guest speakers at NCI: an 8 week summer internship through Kizuna. The 13 interns were growing into our next generation of community leaders, learning about their ethnic identity and increasing awareness of Asian American communities and issues. Our role was to help broaden their scope from Japanese American issues to those of the general API community. The interns demonstrated immense knowledge about historic Japanese American involvement in agriculture! During our workshop, we taste-tested grape tomatoes from a supermarket vs grown from our API farms- and the difference is drastic! The tomato haters in the group actually ended up enjoying the produce once they realized what grape tomatoes are really meant to taste like. I encourage you to try this out yourself!

To end out the workshop, the interns planted their own basil seeds in take home pots. They were eager to get their hands dirty and start growing their own herbs. We are so grateful for the opportunity to have worked with the interns.
-Article by **Courtney Shojinaga**, APIFM



SSG News & Highlights

BACUP

BACUP Art Corner

MATAN

SINGER-SONGWRITER.
MUSICIAN. ARTIST.

Many first-time guests at BACUP begin their visit by taking a seat and allowing their eyes to wander over the colorful art and crafts adorning the walls. Such was the case when Matan—a new program participant from SSG-Alliance—sat in a chair upon entering BACUP.

BACUP's Director, Vera Calloway, was drawn to observing Matan as he observed BACUP. Such action is not typical of those engaging in any form of peer support because it is rude, obtrusive and extremely weird. However, Matan was so engrossed in taking in his new surroundings that Calloway became engrossed in watching the watcher as he continued his tour.

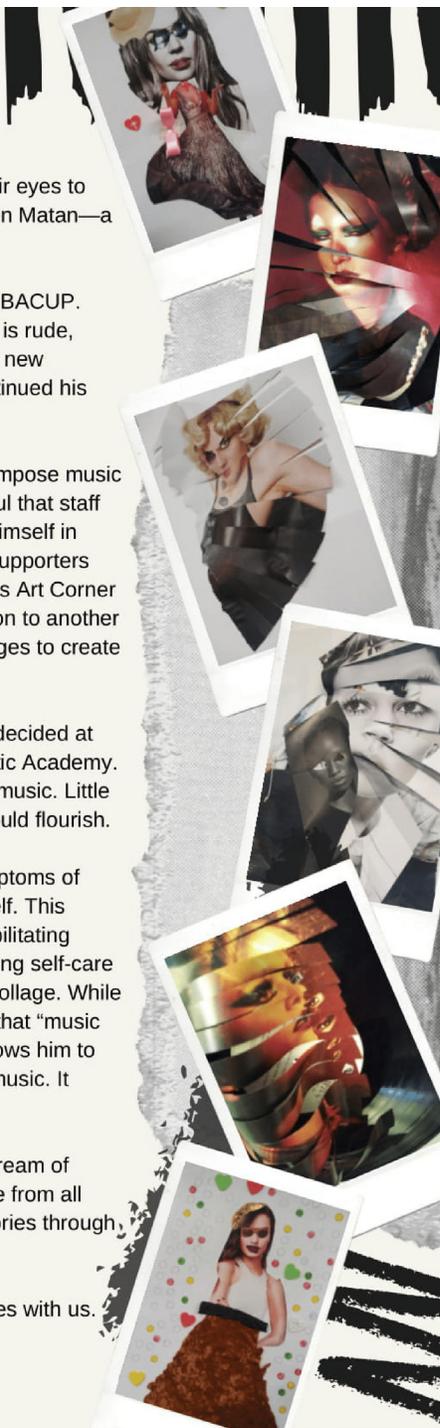
Eventually, Matan shared that he creates art—especially collage—and loves to compose music and play the piano. He sat down to play a melody which was so hauntingly beautiful that staff from offices neighboring BACUP soon drifted in to listen as the pianist immersed himself in playing. In a way, this was peer support in action as the composer supported the supporters with his music. Juan Burgueno and John Boudreau—the Art Instructors in BACUP's Art Corner—added their own special brand of peer support and invited Matan to take his vision to another level by adding drawing to his growing repertoire of talent and developing his collages to create three dimensional works of art.

Matan was born in Romania but moved to Israel with his family at 3 years old. He decided at eighteen to travel to New York City and study at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy. He soon moved to Los Angeles to finish school and pursue a career in acting and music. Little did he know that his journey to L.A. would last ten years, and his artistic growth would flourish.

Matan's journey moved in a tragically different direction when he experienced symptoms of bipolar disorder with severe manic episodes and was unable to fully care for himself. This experience brought him to Alliance where he has been learning to manage the debilitating symptoms. However, Matan believes now that living with his diagnosis and practicing self-care are just extensions of his lifelong ability to balance music with art, and piano with collage. While he is no longer interested in the acting profession, Matan is even more convinced that "music heals me. I have to create every day, no matter what." His creative expression allows him to go about his day. "It makes me feel good, so I know I'm on the right path with my music. It really guides me to stay true to my own voice."

When Matan resumes his job at one of L.A.'s Art Centers, he will also further his dream of pursuing music and performing in front of a crowd. His music style draws influence from all genres to form what Matan refers to as "deep music with deep lyrics which tells stories through the piano. And songwriting is just like storytelling."

BACUP and its visitors are thankful that Matan chooses to share his inspiring stories with us. All photograph credit to Juan Burgueno Jr.





OTTP-SF

OTTP-SF 2ND ANNUAL YOUTH EMPOWERMENT FUNDRAISER

Article by Jessalyn Gagui, Mental Health Rehabilitation Specialist &

Tori Chie, Mental Health Rehab Specialist (OTTP-SF)

OTTP Hangout is a program development project, specifically developed as a drop-in program for alumni youth. We had the honor of working alongside each other as capstone students to create a drop-in safe space that was quickly valued by the youth and OTTP staff alike. This drop-in program, which was named the "OTTP Hangout" by alumni youth during development, was piloted in May 2019 and ran every Wednesday from 12-4pm, for 14-weeks at OTTP-SF. The structure of the program was informed by the Clubhouse Model and used a Trauma-Informed Care approach consistent with OTTP's practice of working with at-risk youth. Many of the youth who attended were in high school, about to start or were in college.

From reading the evidence on at-risk youth programming and from best practices in Trauma-Informed Care, OTTP Hangout incorporated components for successful youth engagement that included choice, power-sharing, and peer support; with an emphasis on occupation-based, strengths-based, and culturally sensitive activities. In April 2019, surveys were distributed to youth to identify activity interests including occupation-based activities such as making collages, board games, jewelry making, creating personal self-care kits. The drop-in program also provided a safe space to have discussions on culturally relevant topics (i.e., race, relationships), along with guest speakers that were local artists. In May 2019, OTTP Hangout was piloted focusing on youth chosen activities including participation in cooking, games, and craft activities on-site, hosting a local artist and musician for a percussion lesson, as well as community outings to Japantown and Alamo Square Park. Youth were referred to as members, consistent with the Clubhouse Model, and we worked side by side with them during these activities.

Members shared what they enjoyed about the OTTP Hangout and many agreed that it was a welcoming space that allowed for enriching conversations of "taboo" but necessary topics and develop various life skills. One youth member stated, "We did something new each day and that pushed people a little out of their comfort zones. That was cool." Another youth member shared with us that she usually keeps to herself in group environments, but she was more open during the hangouts to create a welcoming space for other members. Mid-way through, the youth were encouraged to help "design" suite 200 to make it feel like it was truly their space in which they added youth-made art and an affirmation board featuring words of encouragement on post-its for people to take or contribute. The affirmation board turned out to be more than a decoration. An OTR/L reported, "(My client) spent a lot of time picking a quote that spoke to him. He told me afterwards that the experience grounded him and gave him hope." Developing this

drop-in program opened our eyes to the needs that high school and post high school aged youth have as they make their way into adulthood. The entire process was a huge learning experience and was very unique and memorable. We were able to design a program while building rapport and relationships with the clients. It was such a pleasure to work side by side with the youth and get to watch them break through some personal barriers and grow into leaders.





OTTP-SF

BRINGING HEALTHY SNACKS TO BENEFIT SF YOUTH

OTTP-SF has taken some special steps to promote well-being among both the youth they serve and their staff. Eating healthy can affect one’s wellbeing and mental health. Going long hours without nutritious food will lead to low blood sugar that can cause such symptoms as irritability, low energy, poor concentration, weakness, headaches, sugar or fat craving, and tendency to overeat when you do eat. Many of the youth in our programs at OTTP-SF come from low income family and neighborhoods where access to healthy food can be challenging. That is why OTTP-SF has partnered with San Francisco-Marin Food Bank in their shopper program allowing us to purchase fresh vegetable, fruits, and healthy snacks at little or not cost. Through this partnership, we have been able to provide clients with healthy snacks both onsite as well as out in the field.

Yet eating healthy is not only a challenge for our youth, as clinicians and other staff can also sometimes find it difficult to snack properly thanks to busy schedules seeing clients onsite and in the field, going to meetings, and fulfilling deadlines. That is why in addition to making sure our clients have access to healthy snacks through the Food Bank, we are also providing simple healthy snacks to staff.

-Article by Debra Wong



PAADP

LOTUS FESTIVAL

This past July 13th and 14th marked the successful completion of the 2019 Los Angeles Lotus Festival in Echo Park. The festival is led by SSG’s PAADAP Division Director **Dr. Leo Pandac**. The Lotus Festival is an annual summer event coinciding with the blooming of lotus flower and celebrates the ethnic diversity with the Asian Pacific Region. This year’s festival featured the country of Thailand. The weekend kicked off with an opening ceremony, featured live music, and a film screening. Cultural performances including a colorful Dragon Boat Race on Echo Park Lake, martial art demonstrations, and dance showcases highlighted both traditional and contemporary faces of the Asian pacific region. The Lotus Festival is produced in collaboration with the City of Los Angeles. Congratulations Leo!





The Development Team

The Gift of Corporate Partnerships

Securing a corporate donor or sponsor can be a challenge but can also be very rewarding. Such connections can become long-term relationships that include increasingly substantial support over the years. Typically, the *starting ingredients are simple* and vary from partner to partner:

- ✓ A cause that they support;
- ✓ A chance for their staff to volunteer (in some cases);
- ✓ Opportunities for public acknowledgement of their contributions; and
- ✓ Someone at our agency willing and ready to ask for involvement and support.

A few examples of recent SSG partnerships that have already made a big difference and have promising futures:

A division asked a private professional school - via faculty that used to work at SSG - to contribute a modest sponsorship for a second annual fundraising campaign. Not only did the school readily agree, but also they have already hinted that they will donate a larger amount next year if this campaign is a success.

An SSG director approached a bank and learned that they wanted to support more local nonprofits that address housing - a perfect fit! Today, a bank staff has joined the advisory board, and this bank has made a gift each of the past two years and indicated a willingness to provide ongoing annual support, at increasingly high levels of funding.

What started with a volunteer who enthusiastically fundraised for SSG has grown to a robust partnership with her employer, thanks to her endorsement and advocacy. Over the past four years, this corporation has given: cash gifts to match her volunteer hours, grants to support programs, and sponsorships annually for a fundraising event.

Have some thoughts on colleagues, friends, vendors or others who might become a corporate partner? Contact devteam@ssg.org to learn more and to start strategizing to make an ask.

Grant Announcements

From July 1, 2019 to September 15, 2019, SSG has been recommended for the following grants:

Funder	Program	SSG Division
LA County Arts Commission Community Impact Arts Grant	OTTP Art Show	OTTP-LA
Kaiser Permanente LA Medical Center	Mind Body Spirit Wellness	APAIT
Capital Group	General Operating	APIFM
California Community Foundation	Census 2020 Outreach	APIFM
Dept. of Children, Youth and Their Families	iPad Grant	OTTP-SF
LAHSA	Safe Parking Compton & Crocker	HOPICS
LACo DMH	LGBTQI2-S Indigenous Pride Project	APAIT
LACo DPH	HIV Testing and STD Testing	APAIT
Royal Bank	Enrichment Activities	APCTC



LA Latino Heritage Month - September 15 - October 15

2019 HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

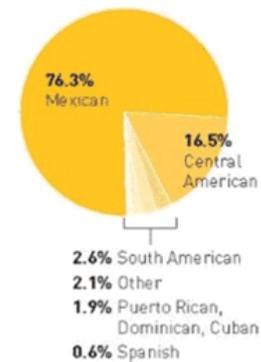
National Hispanic Heritage Week began in 1968 as a way to recognize and celebrate the culture, history, and contributions of the Latinx community in the United States. 20 years later, Congress extended the week-long celebration to one month, officially establishing Hispanic Heritage Month which begins on September 15th and ends on October 15th every year. Los Angeles began officially celebrating this month in 2002 and changed the name to Latino Heritage Month due to changes in perception about the meaning of the term Hispanic.

As part of this celebration, SSG would like to recognize the contributions of all Latinxs in Southern California, particularly in Los Angeles. The term Latinx is used to encompass individuals from Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South American countries. Central Americans make up the second largest group of Latinxs in Los Angeles after Mexicans. Yet, many people are unaware of the way Central Americans have shaped Los Angeles and thus, the community is not often recognized for their contributions to the region.

Central Americans have migrated to this country as early as 1930. Prior to 1970 however, the number of Central Americans migrating to the United States was fairly small, primarily attracting members of affluent families involved in banana and coffee trading. During the 1970's, California's economy was booming and transitioning from the manufacturing to service industry, attracting Central Americans for economic opportunities. During the 1980's, the multiple countries in Central America were undergoing political turmoil, causing the biggest influx of Central Americans into the region, until now.

A second wave of Central American migration began again in 2014 due to violence and economic insecurity throughout the region. For the first time in history, the number of Central Americans migrating to the United States surpassed the number of Mexican immigrants entering the country. The wave of migration has given rise to family separation as children and their parents are detained waiting for their day in court in order to prove their asylum status. This has resulted in wide-spread media attention on the difficulties the community faces during the asylum-seeking process, as well as the harmful effects this separation has on both the family and community at-large. Despite this, there is much more to the rich history and culture of the Latinx community than what's currently portrayed in the media. In celebration of LA Latino Heritage Month, check out these upcoming local events to learn more:

Population of Latino Subgroups in LA County



10/5 at 2pm: Arte Plumaria: The History of The Art of the Feather @ East Los Angeles Library
 10/5 & 10/6 11:30am-8:30pm: Annual Latin Jazz & Music Festival @ Sycamore Grove Park
 10/11 at 4:15pm: Latino Stories and Songs @ West Los Angeles Regional Library
 10/19 at 10am: 21st Annual Latino Heritage Parade and Festival @ Pasadena Central Library
 Para Todos Los Niños – Fighting Segregation in California @ Museum of Tolerance (now thru 12/31)



Announcements



Congratulations to Tina Vasinamakin from PALS for Health and her family on the birth of sweet baby girl Curie Leila Yuen Fernandez. She was born on 8/31/2019 weighing in at 8lbs 12oz.



SSG

SSG Newsletter Scavenger Hunt

Hi SSG family! Here is the July-August 2019 Connecting the Dots - SSG Newsletter Scavenger Hunt. Are you ready to win some prizes?! The multiple choice challenge will be hosted on an online game app called Kahoot! The scavenger hunt will begin as soon as the SSG newsletter is emailed out - be sure to read this newsletter first. The first 4 SSG employees to answer all 4 questions in the challenge quickly and most accurately will each win a **\$25 gift card!** If you've won 2 consecutive times you must sit out the next round.

Instructions: Please visit: <https://www.kahoot.com> on your smart phone, click on "Play!" at the top and enter the following game pin# **0819100** to access the challenge. You will need to download the free app. When the game begins it will ask you to create a "nickname". **Be sure to use your SSG employee number listed in ADP.** The **timed** challenge will begin as soon as you click "Ok, go!". You'll need to be fast! Members of the SSG Newsletter Committee are not eligible. The quiz will be open until **October 11th at noon** and the winners will be notified by October 16th.



Happy reading & Good luck!

SOME DATES TO REMEMBER SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER

9/2	Labor Day (SSG Holiday)	10/2	National Walk and Bike to School Day
9/10	World Suicide Prevention Day	10/8	Yom Kippur
9/11	Patriot Day	10/11	National Coming Out Day
9/16	Mexican Independence Day	10/16	World Food Day
9/28	National Coffee Day	10/24	United Nations Day
9/29	Rosh Hashanah	10/31	Halloween

Your Name or Picture May Appear in SSG's Newsletter and Website

If you participate in an agency event and an article or picture from that event is submitted for publication, your name and/or picture may be included. If you do not approve of this, then please refrain from being photographed at events and let your supervisor know not to include your name in articles. You may also contact Tonie Diaz in the HR Dept. at adiaz@ssg.org or Leah McGowan for newsletter publishing inquiries at lmcgowan@ssg.org.