



MAY 2019

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

# L.A. County CalFresh Outreach Strategies Recognized Statewide

## *May is CalFresh Awareness Month*

The State of California observes May as CalFresh Awareness Month, which is an annual campaign highlighting the critical role CalFresh benefits play in eliminating food insecurity. The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) is being recognized statewide for its strategies to reduce hunger through increasing participation in the program.

Launched by Los Angeles County DPSS in 2011, CalFresh Awareness Month has become a prime opportunity for the department to partner with the community to host hundreds of CalFresh enrollment events throughout the County. The events are held at supermarkets, community centers, schools, clinics, or any public setting that offers a comfortable environment for assisting with the application process.

The California Food Policy Advocates recently awarded DPSS Program Assistant Gabriela Gomez with the 2019 “Freshy Award.” The annual forum brings together hundreds of stakeholders from across the state to identify and discuss strategies to improve the reach and impact of CalFresh.

Gomez’s work was selected from the state’s 58 counties in recognition of her dedication to promote the department’s #ChooseCalFresh campaign through DPSS social media pages and community organizations as part of the department’s ongoing enrollment efforts. In fact, the state was so impressed with the #ChooseCalFresh campaign, they decided to adopt the Los Angeles County DPSS’ #ChooseCalFresh campaign as their official tagline for marketing the program statewide. The California Department of Social Services has also embraced the concept of hosting community enrollment events and the #ChooseCalFresh campaign, encouraging all counties to apply similar strategies as part of their CalFresh outreach.

This year marks the ninth year of CalFresh Awareness Month in the County. Throughout the month of May, DPSS will partner with County departments, the 88 cities in the County, community and faith-based organizations, community health clinics, food insecurity coalitions, supermarket chains, farmers’ markets, food banks, college campuses, school districts, and homeless services organizations to achieve the goals of the campaign. Additionally, the inclusion of the #ChooseCalFresh campaign has enhanced the existing outreach by seizing on the power of social media to better inform and serve residents more efficiently.



*Members of the DPSS team representing the outreach efforts of CalFresh Program celebrate winning the California Food Policy Advocates “Freshy” Award, recognized for the department’s innovative social media campaign to reduce hunger in L.A. County.*

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# Calendar of Events

## Center Theatre Group

(213) 628-2772

[www.centertheatregroup.org](http://www.centertheatregroup.org)

### Ahmanson Theatre

Through May 19 – Falsettos

June 4 through July 7 – Indecent

### Kirk Douglas Theatre

May 26 through June 23 – From the Words and Writings of Dana H.

### Mark Taper Forum

May 15 through June 30 – Happy Days

## Ford Theatres

(323) 461-3673

[www.fordtheatres.org](http://www.fordtheatres.org)

May 18 and 19 – JAM Sessions

May 21 – Johnny Marr

June 14 – Last Whispers: Oratorio for Vanishing Voices

June 15 – TAIKOPROJECT: Rhythmic Relations 2019

## Grand Park

(213) 972-8080

[www.grandparkla.org](http://www.grandparkla.org)

Every Tuesday through Thursday (Through May) – Lunch a la Park Food Trucks

Every Wednesday and Friday (Through May) – Lunch a la Park Yoga reTREAT

Every Thursday (Through May) – Lunch a la Park Spring Concerts featuring L.A.'s Youth Artists

## Hollywood Bowl

(323) 850-2000

[www.hollywoodbowl.com](http://www.hollywoodbowl.com)

May 17 and 18 – The Little Mermaid: An Immersive Live-to-Film Concert Experience

May 26 – New Kids On The Block: The Mixtape Tour

June 1 – Kidz Bop World Tour 2019

June 3 and 4 – Dead & Company

## Join the County of L.A. HomeWalk

Saturday, May 18, 2019

6:30 am Registration

8:45 am Run 9:00 am Walk

Grand Park

<https://www.homewalk.unitedwayla.org/>

Visit <http://hr.lacounty.gov> for  
information on employment  
opportunities with the  
County of Los Angeles



### Members of the Board

**Janice Hahn**

Chair

Fourth District

**Hilda L. Solis**

First District

**Mark Ridley-Thomas**

Second District

**Sheila Kuehl**

Third District

**Kathryn Barger**

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Submissions to the DIGEST may be  
edited or otherwise altered for clarity.

Check out the DIGEST at:

<http://hr.lacounty.gov/about-the-county/>

## ISD's Benny Chacko Honored as Inspirational Leader

The Los Angeles Chief Information Office Academy provides government and industry executives the opportunity to collaborate and address the most important policy, management, and leadership issues surrounding the future of digital government and the role of the public sector Chief Information Officer.

This year's event was held in March at the Sheraton Grand Los Angeles. Five individuals from across the entire region were presented leadership awards. The Internal Services Department's Benny Chacko, a Deputy General Manager in the Shared Services Branch in the Information Technology Service Division, received an Inspirational Leader award, honoring motivational leaders who bring out the best in others through inspiration, compassion, mentorship, and exemplary performance.

Chacko is a dedicated IT professional and public servant. For more than two years, he has been responsible for all activities within the Information Technology Services (ITS) Shared Services Branch (SSB), consisting of 242 budgeted positions in ITS Services, Internet Development and Customer Assistance operations. In his role, he manages SSB's annual operating budget of \$60 million, and holds the executive responsibility for directing and planning the County's centralized technical support and infrastructure management functions, as well as the expansion of Information Technology Shared Services (ITSS).

His progressive technical and leadership experience includes 13 years in County service at the Los Angeles County Library, Fire, Sheriff, and Probation Departments. As Chief Information Officer of the County's Probation Department, Chacko managed 111 employees and an annual operating budget of \$40+ million.

Chacko is universally respected by his professional peers, colleagues, and team members, an achievement which is a clear reflection of being an effective inspirational leader.



*Benny Chacko*

## Health Care & Dependent Care Spending Accounts

***Deadline to submit spending account claims for 2018 expenses is June 30, 2019***

If you participated in a health care or dependent care spending account in 2018 and have a remaining balance in your account, take action NOW so you do not lose money.

### Here's how you file a claim:

- **Online** – [www.mylacountybenefits.com](http://www.mylacountybenefits.com). Click on "Spending Accounts" on your home page under My Tools.
- **EZ Receipts App** – Use your smartphone to download the WageWorks EZ Receipts app. The app registration process will require you to establish a User ID and password.
- **Fax** – (877) 353-9236. Download claim forms at [www.mylacountybenefits.com](http://www.mylacountybenefits.com), click the "Enroll or make changes" button and then download forms from the "Spending Account Forms."

**Don't wait until June 30.** Last minute claims may potentially be delayed due to high volumes in claims received by the administrator. The sooner you turn in health care and dependent care claims, the sooner you will receive your claim reimbursements.

### Here's more information on the spending account rules:

- **Dependent Care Spending Account (DCSA) "Use-it-or-lose-it" Rule** – Any 2018 DCSA money not claimed by the deadline will not carry over to 2019 and will be forfeited (lost) to the County.
- **Health Care Spending Account (HCSA) Carry Over** – Any 2018 HCSA money not claimed by the deadline (only a maximum of \$500) will automatically carry over to the 2019 Plan Year. Any unclaimed money over \$500 will be forfeited (lost) to the County.

If you have questions about submitting a claim or about spending accounts in general, call WageWorks at (877) 924-3967, Monday through Friday, 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time.



# Field Guide to PII

Whether at work, at home, or on the go, we're bound to a lifecycle of data that is often the top target of cybercriminals. Protecting that data isn't a highly technical process, but rather one that requires common sense and a strong commitment to privacy in every aspect of our lives!

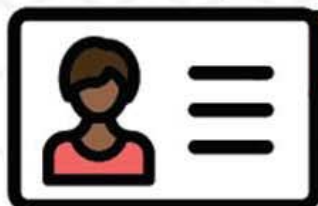


## What is PII?

PII, or **personally identifiable information**, is sensitive data that could be used to identify, contact, or locate an individual.

## What are some examples of PII?

PII includes (but is not limited to) name, Social Security numbers, driver's license numbers, credit card numbers, home addresses and personal phone numbers.



## What are some examples of non-PII?

Information such as business phone numbers and email addresses, race, religion, gender, workplace, and job titles are typically not considered PII. But they should still be treated as sensitive, linkable information because they could identify an individual when combined with other data.

## Why is PII so important?

On a personal level, our PII is necessary to acquire some goods and services, such as medical care and utilities. But in the wrong hands, PII leads to identity theft and other forms of fraud. On a professional level, we may store PII of customers, clients, vendors, contractors, employees, and partners. If left unprotected, our organization could face steep fines and our reputation could be severely damaged.



## How do you protect PII at work?

Protecting PII begins and ends with following the County BOS IT security policies. Treat all requests for sensitive information with a high degree of scrutiny, stay alert, think before you click. When sending email containing PII or Non-Public Information, remember to send securely by adding the encryption trigger word **[Secure]** to the email subject line to enable email encryption.

## How do you protect PII at home?

Store your Social Security card in a safe place, not in your wallet. Avoid handing over your Social Security number just because someone asks for it. Make sure they need it. Ask how they'll protect it. Shred important documents before discarding them. Limit what you share on social media. If it's the answer to one of your online security questions, your dog's name is PII!







# BIKE *to* WORK *Day*

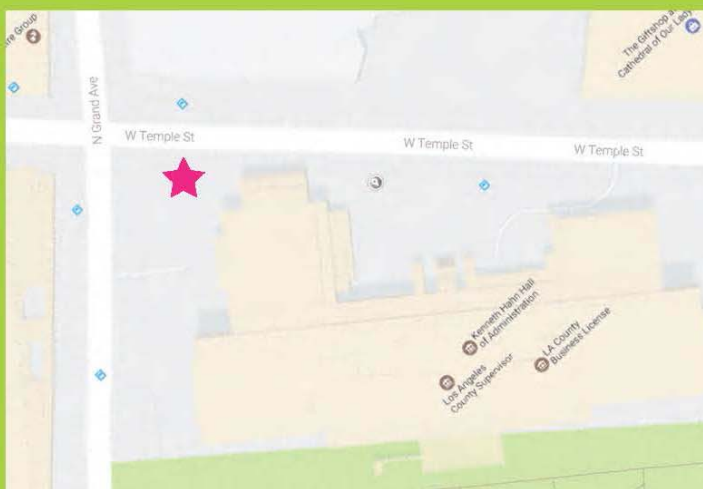
**PIT STOP!**

**THURSDAY  
MAY 16, 2019**

**6:30 AM - 8:30 AM**

**ON THE CORNER OF  
GRAND AND TEMPLE**

**Stop By & Say "Hi!"  
LA COUNTY PIT STOP**



**ON THE CORNER OF  
GRAND AND TEMPLE**

**We'll have some  
*goodies*  
for all cyclists**



**fun, bike-related  
*+giveaways!***



# It's Back – LA County Dodger Night!!



## Rockies at Dodgers

Saturday, June 22nd @ 4:15pm PST

Dodger Stadium, Los Angeles, CA

Purchase Deadline: May 22nd @ 9:00pm PST



## March of Dimes Fundraiser

Bring your department, family and friends out to Dodger Stadium on **Saturday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>** for LA County's Annual March of Dimes Fundraising Day. This special offer includes a discounted seat to the game as well as a donation from each ticket back to the March of Dimes.

All You Can Eat Right Field Pavilion **\$59 Tickets**  
Left Field Pavilion **\$42 Tickets**





# Need a Workout Buddy? Adopt a Dog

## *Department of Animal Care and Control*

Spring has sprung. It's finally warming up in Southern California. The longer days and inviting temperatures are making healthy activities tempting once again. We admit it, jogging in torrential rain is no fun. Even with perfect weather, some of us could use a little encouragement to get off the couch.

So if you've fallen away from your New Year's resolution or are just wanting to move more, we'd like to recommend adopting a dog from one of our seven Animal Care Centers. We have dogs to match your lifestyle no matter what stage of fitness you are in. If you have a few pounds to lose, we have pets that can lose weight with you. If you need a less active companion for walks around the block, we have perfect dogs for that as well. (And of course, if you go on 10K runs, we have dogs for that, too.) Our Animal Care Centers are ready to help you find the new workout buddy that is best for you and your lifestyle. Once you get into a regular workout habit, your new companion will helpfully insist on sticking to the schedule.

Keep in mind that you can do more with a canine than just run or go on hikes. While dogs do love running with their owners, you can get creative if you prefer other activities. If you like biking, you can take your pooch along too. If you have a pup that has difficulty staying on track, there is a device called a Springer that mounts on your bike and acts as a shock absorbing dog leash. When the weather gets really hot, your pooch will enjoy swimming in your pool if you have one. If you like rollerblading or skiing, your dog will definitely enjoy coming along. (This year, Mammoth is open until July.) If you prefer competitive activities, consider dog agility. In this sport, the dog races through an obstacle course while you run alongside and guide them. Competitors meet for matches where they seek to have the best scores.

And if there is a rain shower or two coming up in the calendar, you can even spice up plain old fetch. While your dog is fetching, do some jumping jacks. Or even try to race your dog to catch the ball. Alternatively, there are videos on YouTube of people working out with their pets. While some are just silly, you really can learn how to do Pup Pilates. Just use your good judgment and don't force anything on your pet that they do not want to do.

Whatever activities you enjoy doing with your dog, be sure to start slow and work your way to longer activity times. Even though your dog may have a ton of energy to burn, their foot pads may need some time to grow thick enough for long

activities on rougher terrain. Be aware you do not overexert your dog, and always bring water and a foldable water bowl (especially on those hot summer days) so your pooch can rehydrate just like you.



## Share Your Heart Share Your Home

### *Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent*

### *Dept. of Children and Family Services*

Meet Ricardo.

Spring is in full swing and before we know it, summer will be upon us. So many summertime adventures await us in beautiful Southern California. Trips to the beach, the mountains, and the many museums, aquariums, and sporting events are all part of what makes sunny California days so amazing. When you add a child to these adventures, you just might have the perfect equation to a lifetime of happiness.

Who better to have summer adventures with than 8-year-old Ricardo? His smile and joy for life are so very evident in this picture. Ricardo is an energetic, bright, and curious young man whose personality lights up the room. Ricardo enjoys engaging in outdoor sports like football and roughhousing with his buddies. And he doesn't mind getting dirty. The curious side of Ricardo delights in learning how things work, building something, and then tearing it down and starting over. Ricardo has a great personality and once he gets to know you, he really opens up. He is in elementary school and loves learning new things. His favorite subject is Math and favorite time of the day is recess. According to his teacher, Ricardo is a very bright kid. What he needs most is a family who will provide structure, attention, and unconditional love. If you can see your family being a good fit for Ricardo, please contact us at (888) 988-2800.



# DODGERS STORYTIME

Wear your Dodger blue and meet a Dodgers Alumni!

Mon, June 10, 3:30 pm  
El Monte Library

Wed, July 31, 4 pm  
San Fernando Library

Sat, June 15, 2 pm  
Sorensen Library

Sat, August 3, 2 pm  
Clifton M. Brakensiek Library

Tue, July 9, 5 pm  
Huntington Park Library

Sat, August 10, 3 pm  
Gardena Mayme Dear Library

[LACountyLibrary.org/Dodgers-Storytime](http://LACountyLibrary.org/Dodgers-Storytime)





# Retirees

*Congratulations for your many years of service to the County of Los Angeles*

## 45+ Years

**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Lynne Aguirre  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Robert B. Sitzman  
**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Lois P. Gibson  
**PROBATION:** Dolores G. Broom  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Lula Brown, Anna Hernandez, Nancy Marquez  
**SHERIFF:** Anna M. Velez

## 40+ Years

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE:** Zenaída R. Umali  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** George J. Denton  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Anna L. Francisco, Kathy K. Hanks, Paula J. Hedgecock, Jack L. Love Jr, Lauren B. Pitts Dove, Lorene Price  
**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Dennis R. Lockridge  
**MENTAL HEALTH:** William Arroyo, Carmen M. Chan-Fong, Jose L. Reyes  
**PROBATION:** Herbert Taylor, Irma Villanueva  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER:** Patricia Mulligan  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Lorraine ABD EL Alim, Gloria S. Austin, Armando Cabrera, Lina K. Martin, Clarence Mc Ghee, Ernestina Roldan  
**SHERIFF:** Sandra R. Cowthran  
**TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR:** Luci Prieto

## 35+ Years

**ANIMAL CONTROL:** Gary Pecorelli  
**ASSESSOR:** Awiak H. Azenab, Yvonne D. Evans, Paul K. Jones  
**AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:** Imelda L. Maico  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE:** Dorothea Park  
**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Yenework Alemayehu, Francine Bell, James L. Blaydes, Sandy H. Lee, Rosa Rodriguez, Sharon W. Sanchez, James Vasquez  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Blanca G. Peavy  
**FIRE:** Sandra R. Clark, Judson Kading, Kevin M. Paulson, Michael J. Richey, Richard J. Robinson, John W. Santero, Larry A. Tucker  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Bobbie J. Cannon, Tamara Lujan, Teresa L. Martinez, Judy H. Ning, Aida T. Pascual-Cruz, Harold G. Pedersen, Gabriela D. Perez, Maria Belind V. Rarela, Bouavanh Sivilay, Claude Smith, Vladimir Zelman  
**HUMAN RESOURCES:** Evelyn Hightower  
**INTERNAL SERVICES:** Thelma B. Mancao  
**MENTAL HEALTH:** Yolanda D. Smoot  
**PROBATION:** Joseph A. Franco, Eric M. Nevarez, Alma E. Reyes  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Sandra P. Araiza, Clare A. Cabrera, Myanh N. Lee  
**SHERIFF:** Michael W. Chinery, Sheryl R. Davis, Karen A. Dearborn, Vivian M. Gomez, Kevin A. Goran, Arturo Rodriguez, Terrance J. Wenger  
**TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR:** Christina Khau Lui

## 30+ Years

**ASSESSOR:** Michael H. Doom, Gary H. Kishi, John D. Loew, Niyada Senesombath

**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Rachel M. Telles  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Eduards R. Abele, Karen Barreras, David Berton, Candace F. Smith  
**FIRE:** Janet Babcock, George A. Cruz, Robert J. Denton, Scott T. Fellhoelter, John S. Haugh, Michael E. McClanahan, John K. Neese, Danny K. Novak, Kenneth E. Renz, Leon D. Rosborough, Mark A. Savage, Arthur L. Suddeth, Larry E. Tietgen  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Gladys Alvarenga, Chisa Aoyama, Marko Blagotic, Ewa M. Bourke, Maria L. Bowsa, Carol Brown, Latonya D. Godley, Ping Luh, Lakshmi D. Makam, Isreal J. Rodriguez, Maribel Roque, Ricky Taira, Robin J. Smith, Mandy C. Tam, Brenda D. Watson  
**PARKS & RECREATION:** Steven M. Evans  
**PROBATION:** David Corrales, Juan Rodriguez, Rhonda L. Watson, Evette D. Wills  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER:** Daniel A. Kuperberg  
**PUBLIC LIBRARY:** Illeana C. Hogan  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Alfred Becerra, Guadalupe Gonzales, Frances T. Ly, Boon A. Shin  
**PUBLIC WORKS:** Julie A. Sanchez  
**SHERIFF:** George A. Betor Jr., Sean A. Boog, Tommy D. Clothier, Mark S. Darling, Brian J. De Ruyter, John A. De Vries, Leonard J. Felix, Lynne A. Gipson, Lendell D. Johnson, Edgar Joyner Jr., Keith Lieberman, Saira Maradiaga, Cheryl L. Martin, Robert L. Mckee, Cipriano R. Nainggolan, David M. Nakatani, Albert M. Ortiz, James T. Rewald, Kenneth S. Roller, Chae H. Song, Steven L. Thomas, Donald E. Thompson, Darrin J. Walker  
**SUPERIOR COURT:** Luann E. Mc Kenzie, Pelenaise Ngaue

## 25+ Years

**AGRICULTURAL COMMISSIONER/WEIGHTS & MEASURES:** Alaric C. Vingua  
**CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES:** Alenoosh Adamian, Dawn M. Bazler, Hermenegilda G. Malinao, Joan A. Marks  
**DISTRICT ATTORNEY:** Mark A. De Prima  
**FIRE:** Salvatore G. Adamo, Michael A. Alves, Bernardo Diaz Jr., Vincent Dominguez, Edward T. Edmonds, Tom Magallanes, Vincent C. Scott, Daniel P. Steindlberger, David D. Stilwell, David H. Whitney  
**HEALTH SERVICES:** Violeta A. Bagon, Editha A. Banaga, Sandra L. Frommer, Francine L. Gastelum, Olufunke C. Jaiyeola, Carlomagno A. Leal, Buddy J. Meijer, Juan G. Ochoa, Carlos A. Suarez, Huilian Zhang  
**MENTAL HEALTH:** Omar R. Castillo  
**PROBATION:** Valerie A. Kane, James T. Luu, David A. Ojo  
**PUBLIC DEFENDER:** Mary D. Burton, Michael R. Coghlan  
**PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES:** Edgardo A. Castillo, Varoosh Keshishian, Chi Kha, Aurora M. Montenegro, Jennie Sam, Nair Sanchez, Elizabeth Sanchez-Flores, Armida Saucedo, Mary L. Toney, Silva Torossian, Annabel Tovar, Sergio M. Velazquez, Karina Zeytuntsyan  
**PUBLIC WORKS:** Robert C. Martinez  
**SHERIFF:** Robert L. Hernandez, Marie F. Hyland, Pamela S. Johnson, Brian J. MacDougall, Alfreda S. Leftwich, John M. Mayer, Maria A. Quito-Nunez, Daniel S. Rindge, Steven J. Sciacca  
**SUPERIOR COURT:** Lorraine M. Dedrick, Michelle J. Gama, Norma G. Remark, Dyan Starr  
**TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR:** James A. Gomez



## COUNTYWIDE FITNESS CHALLENGE 2019



# MAKE A SPLASH!

Visit this great location for some water fun.

KAYAKING\*  
PADDLEBOARDS\*  
HIKE TO A LOOKOUT  
VOLLEYBALL  
HORSESHOE GAMES  
HEALTHY SNACKS  
FREE GIVEAWAYS  
DRAWING PRIZES  
PICNIC AREA

### Castaic Lake State Recreation Area

Paradise Cove, Lower Lake  
32132 Castaic Lake Drive  
Castaic, CA 91384  
5th Supervisorial District

**Saturday,  
June 15, 2019  
8:00 a.m. – Noon**

\*Free use of kayaks and paddleboards

RSVP to secure your giveaways at:  
[www.LACountyGetsFit.com](http://www.LACountyGetsFit.com)

