



Political Animals Leading the Way

On July 26, 2017, the Department of Human Resources (DHR) launched its *Countywide Signature DIALOGUE Series*. The *DIALOGUE Series* was initiated by DHR’s Director, Lisa Garrett, to inform and educate our County workforce on a range of topics that fulfill the County’s commitment to diversity, inclusion and acceptance.

Supervisor Sheila Kuehl was the guest of honor for this inaugural event. The event started in the Board Hearing Room (BHR) with the screening of a documentary titled *Political Animals*, and concluded on the eighth floor terrace of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration with a reception and Q & A exchange with Supervisor Kuehl.

As guests approached the BHR, they were greeted in movie premiere style with the red carpet and paparazzi (Matt Leos and Jorge Miranda, Jr. of DHR donned cameras for the day and acted as our photographers). In addition, guests were treated with freshly made popcorn.

Lisa Garrett and Chief Executive Officer Sachi Hamai kicked off the program. Their remarks emphasized the need to embrace the *DIALOGUE Series* as part of the County’s ongoing commitment to create and maintain a workplace where all employees belong. Guests appreciated the documentary which featured Supervisor Kuehl and three of her colleagues from the California State Assembly and Senate (i.e., Carole Migden, Jackie Goldberg, and Christine Kehoe). The film brought to the screen a tactile exhibition of the historic fight that these four women waged with weapons of legal theory and political artistry to achieve legislative victories for the LGBTQ community—a community to which they each belong.



Next, on the eighth floor terrace, Terri L. McDonald, the County’s Chief Probation Officer, introduced Supervisor Kuehl with a profoundly heartfelt speech of appreciation for the Supervisor’s activism and legislative accomplishments. Regina Waugh, Executive Director of the County’s Women and Girls Initiative, facilitated the Q & A with Supervisor Kuehl, and the Supervisor’s intellect, wisdom, passion, and humor made the event memorable.

The event concluded with Lisa Garrett presenting a DHR event memento to the Supervisor inscribed with the Supervisor’s own words —”My vision is for an equal and just society.”

Calendar of Events.....	2	HIGHLIGHTS	Open Enrollment/Pre-Retirement Workshop.....	6
Homeless Initiative.....	3		Suicide Prevention.....	7
LA Digital Government Summit Conference.....	4	Volume 49 Issue 9	Parks Online Fall Magazine.....	8
DACA.....	5		Retirees/Rideshare.....	9

Calendar of Events

Los Angeles County Museum of Art
(323) 857-6010
www.lacma.org

Through October 15 – Home-So Different, So Appealing

Center Theatre Group
(213) 628-2772
www.centertheatregroup.org

Ahmanson Theatre
Through October 1 – Matthew Bourne’s The Red Shoes

Kirk Douglas Theatre
Through October 8 – Big Night

Mark Taper Forum
Through October 22 – Head of Passes

Grand Park
(213) 972-8080
www.grandparkla.org

Every Tuesday through September 27 – Bootcamp
Every Tuesday through Thursday – Lunchtime! Food Trucks
Every Wednesday and Friday – Lunchtime! Yoga Retreat

Hollywood Bowl
(323) 850-2000
www.hollywoodbowl.com

September 23 – Fleet Boxes, Beach House
September 24 – Solange, Blood Orange, KING, Kelela, Moses Sumney, Kelsey Lu

Ford Theatres
(323) 461-3673
www.fordtheatres.com

September 22 – Viver Brasil
September 23 – Wind Whisperers from India
September 24 – 100: The Apollo Theater Celebrates Ella’s 100th Birthday
September 25 – JAM Session: Tango Dance
September 28 – Allan Rayman
September 30 – Viva La Tradicion! 30 Anos de “Canciones de Mi Padre”



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



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Lisa M. Garrett
Director of Personnel

Carla D. Williams
Senior Human Resources Manager

John S. Mina
Editor-in-Chief

County DIGEST

County DIGEST Editorial Office
Department of Human Resources
500 West Temple Street, Suite 555
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 893-7810

CountyDIGEST@hr.lacounty.gov

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

Check out the DIGEST at
<http://hr.lacounty.gov/about-the-county/>



Stories From the Homefront

A Second Chance

Unemployment can bring about homelessness. Maria A knows this from first-hand experience.

In February 2015, Maria A failed to pay the full amount of her rent. In doing so, she received a 3-day notice to either pay the remaining balance or move out. Because she did not hold a permanent job, she was unable to pay the remaining balance. She had no family to turn to for help during desperate times, so she was forced to move out and seek shelter elsewhere. With five daughters in tow, Maria A, a single mom, moved into a shelter, fearing for her daughters' safety.

A month later, she received notification from the Housing Authority of Los Angeles County that she had been chosen to receive a housing voucher, after having been on the waiting list for 11 years.

"I couldn't believe that I was finally going to have a secure place for me and especially my children," Maria A said.

With the debut of the County's Temporary Services Registry Program (TempLA) in April 2017 which is administered by the Department of Human Resources, Maria A found herself in another unbelievable situation. She was hired and is currently on assignment to the Human Resources Division of the Department of Public Social Services.

"After attending so many job clubs, knocking on doors, being rejected by companies, and receiving denial letters, I finally got a huge break from the County of Los Angeles," Maria A said. "I feel confident working for the County."

Though temporary, she feels great that the County's TempLA will give her more experience in the workplace and a chance of landing a permanent job. She hopes that this is just the beginning of more wonderful things happening in her life and the lives of her children. She gushes when they ask her how her day went and knows how proud they are of their Mom.

"We deserve a chance," Maria A said.

Share Your Heart Share Your Home

*Become a Foster/Adoptive Parent
Dept. of Children and Family Services*

Sometimes, we can lose perspective on the things that really matter. We "like" posts that catch our eye and if we are particularly moved, we might even share these stories on social media. Every now and then, a story really hits you, pulling at your heart strings, and inspiring you to do more than just share. This is a story we hope will inspire you to do more. Whether you take on the role as an advocate or an adoptive parent, you have the power to make a difference.

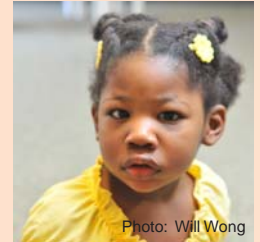


Photo: Will Wong

In L.A. County, we have approximately 400 children in need of adoptive homes. About 10 percent of these are children with special medical needs. Medical needs range from diabetes to gastrostomy tube, to tracheotomy dependent kids. Many of these special kids are growing up in facilities, without a family to call their own. By finding them a family, we change their entire world.

Meet a little girl who is looking for an extra special forever family. Ida, age 3, has not had an easy start in life and is at great risk of growing up in a medical facility without a family. Ida suffers from a seizure disorder, blood sugar irregularities, and global developmental delays. Despite these issues, Ida is learning to walk and communicate some of her needs. She loves music (singing to her is a favorite), toys that light up, and being read a story with colorful pictures. She thrives on structure and routine and lights up with a smile at seeing familiar faces. Ida's medical needs will require a lifetime of monitoring and support. That is why the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) offers extensive financial and medical assistance to kids with special medical needs until they turn 26 years old, even if they are adopted. DCFS provides specialized training and support to families, ensuring that both families and children flourish. After age 26, the state's disability program kicks in, enabling the children to grow up and thrive well into adulthood. Ida deserves to know and feel a family's love and is sure to bring joy and smiles to any family lucky enough to adopt her. Let's make this a reality for Ida. If you feel your heart being pulled, call (888) 811-1121 to start the process.

LA County Wins Big @ the LA Digital Government Summit Conference

The Los Angeles Digital Government Summit's mission is to encourage innovation and broadcast best practices in public sector. This year's conference honored individuals and teams who have projects that exemplify innovation. The County of Los Angeles garnered twenty awards—four for outstanding individuals and 16 for outstanding projects.



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|---|--|
| <p>1 Latricia Walker, MAPP and LMS Mobile Learning – DHR</p> <p>2 McKandy Leger, ePAR – DHR</p> <p>3 Raquel Mireles, eAppeals – DHR</p> <p>4 Elió Salazar, Troubleshooter Tracking System – RR/CC</p> <p>5 Vision Zero Traffic Collisions Viewer – DPW</p> <p>6 Electronic Permitting and Inspections County of Los Angeles – DPW</p> <p>7 Automated Booking System – LASD</p> <p>8 Active Directory Federation Services – LASD</p> <p>9 LA Vote.Net Election Results Website Redesign – RR/CC</p> <p>10 SECURE eRecording Government to Government – RR/CC</p> | <p>11 Property Tax Management System – TTC</p> <p>12 Patient Registry and Empanelment Project – DHS</p> <p>13 In-Home Supportive Services Helpline – DPSS</p> <p>14 LEADER Replacement System – DPSS</p> <p>15 Assessor Modernization Project – Assessor</p> <p>16 Board of Supervisors Podcast and Livestreaming Project – Executive Office</p> <p>17 Countywide Integrated Radio System – ISD</p> <p>18 MyLA County – ISD</p> <p>19 Self Service Interactive Receptionist – Housing Authority (no picture)</p> <p>20 Mobile Learning Platform – DHR (no picture)</p> |
|---|--|

GOT DACA? RENEW IT TODAY!

YOU MUST RENEW YOUR DACA STATUS BY:
OCTOBER 5, 2017
IF IT EXPIRES BEFORE MARCH 5, 2018

CONTACT OIA TO LEARN:

- About the latest DACA updates
- If you are eligible to renew DACA
- How to get County documents to support your DACA renewal application
- About the LA Justice Fund and other low-cost legal resources
- How to prevent and resolve immigration services fraud and other consumer scams
- About free County services for you and your family



VISIT:

- oia.lacounty.gov

CONTACT US:

- (800) 593-8222

FOLLOW US ON:



@LAC4Immigrants
#RenewYourDACA



Los Angeles County
DEPARTMENT OF

Human Resources



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
CONSUMER &
BUSINESS AFFAIRS



It's Time to Enroll in Benefits Online

Have you been wanting to change one of your benefits? Do you want to add a dependent? Remove an ex-spouse or domestic partner? Now is the time. **Annual Benefits Enrollment starts October 1 and goes through October 31, 2017 for 2018 benefits.** You will receive your Annual Benefits Enrollment packet in the mail by October 11, 2017.

During Annual Benefits Enrollment you may:

- Enroll in or change your medical and/or dental plans.
- Waive or decline medical or dental coverage, if you qualify.
- Add or remove coverage for dependents
- Enroll or re-enroll in the Health Care and/or Dependent Care Spending Accounts.
- Select, change, or cancel any of your additional optional benefits, such as life insurance, Accidental Death & Dismemberment, and Medical Coverage Protection (Long-Term Disability Health Insurance).
- Buy Elective Annual Leave Days (*MegaFlex* participants only).

Go to mylacountybenefits.com to complete your enrollment. If you have questions, call the Benefits Hotline at (213) 388-9982 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. During annual benefits enrollment, hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Pre-Retirement Workshop

RELAC (Retired Employees of Los Angeles County) will hold a Pre-Retirement Workshop at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center on **Wednesday, October 4, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.** This presentation is designed to provide County employees anticipating retirement within a few years with information relevant to their future life as a County Retiree. This special event will feature speakers from RELAC, LACERA, Empower Retirement, the Social Security Administration, and Pacific Group Insurance. Handouts will be provided, along with an opportunity to answer individual questions.

Seating is limited and reservations are a must! **Please contact the RELAC office at (800) 537-3522 and secure your spot.**

RELAC is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the health care and pension benefits earned by L.A. County employees. The RELAC Board of Directors includes three RELAC Board members also elected to the LACERA Boards of Retirement and Investment. Representation and advocacy for County retirees is our mission. Please visit our website at www.RELAC.ORG and on Facebook for additional information on RELAC.

Bicycle and Vehicle Safety Tips

Fire Department

While bicycles promote health and environmental benefits, riding one in Los Angeles poses risks as motorists and cyclists share the road with pedestrians, buses, and trains.



According to the National Safety Council, more than 480,000 people in 2015 were treated in emergency rooms after being injured while riding a bike. And, the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety estimates 817 bicyclists were struck and killed in crashes with motor vehicles.

With back-to-school season here, the Los Angeles County Fire Department offers these tips to ensure everyone is safe on the road:

Bicycle Safety

- Always wear a helmet. California state law requires helmets must be worn by children and adolescents.
- Always obey traffic regulations. This includes signs, signals, and roadway markings.
- Use reflective gear and lights and wear bright clothing while riding in order to be visible to motorists.
- Ride in the same direction as traffic, never against it.
- Always yield to pedestrians.
- Use bicycle lanes when available.

Vehicle Safety

- Everyone riding in the vehicle must wear seat belts at all times when the vehicle is in motion.
- All children younger than 8 years old must ride in the back seat of a car in a booster seat or car seat.
- DO NOT speed or drive aggressively.
- Always keep a safe distance from the car in front of you in case the car in front of you brakes suddenly.
- When driving, all cell phone conversations must occur while using a hands-free device.
- If using a map app or GPS system, the same hands-free laws apply.

Suicide Prevention is Everyone's Business

September is Suicide Prevention Month. Individuals and organizations around the country and the world join forces to broadcast the message that suicide is preventable and to educate as many people as possible with tools and resources. Here are a few basic things you should know and can share with those around you.

Suicide can be prevented. Most of us have been touched by the tragedy of suicide. We may have lost someone close to us or been moved by the loss of someone we never met. For example, when Robin Williams died in 2014, millions of people felt intense grief. When a suicide happens, those left behind often experience deep shock. Even if they knew the person was struggling, they may not have expected suicide to be the result. However, many people who find themselves in a suicide crisis can, and do, recover. Suicide can be prevented; you can help by taking the following actions:

- **Know the Signs:** Most people who are considering suicide show some warning signs or signals of their intentions. Learn to recognize these warning signs and how to respond to them by visiting the Know the Signs web site (www.suicideispreventable.org).
- **Find the Words:** If you are concerned about someone, ask them directly if they are thinking about suicide. This can be difficult to do, but being direct provides an opportunity for them to open up and talk about their distress and will not suggest the idea to them if they aren't already thinking about it. The "Find the Words" section of the Know the Signs web site suggests ways to start the conversation.
- **Reach Out:** You are not alone in this. Before having the conversation, become familiar with some resources to offer to the person you are concerned about. Visit the Reach Out section of the Know the Signs web site to identify where you can find help for your friend or loved one.
- **The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)** has many resources, including a Smart Phone App, that equips health providers with education and support resources to assess a patient's risk of suicide, communicate effectively with patients and families, determine appropriate next steps, and make referrals to treatment and community resources (<https://store.samhsa.gov/product/SAMHSA-Suicide-Safe-Mobile-App/PEP15-SAFEAPP1>).

The Know the Signs campaign is one of several statewide initiatives funded by counties through the voter-approved Mental Health Services Act (Prop 63). These efforts are

administered by the California Mental Health Services Authority and are part of Each Mind Matters: California's Mental Health Movement.

Prevention Works. Many people who feel like taking their own life don't want to die. If they can get through the crisis, treatment works. There are programs and practices that have been specifically developed to support those who are in a suicide crisis. The Suicide Prevention Resource Center hosts a registry of 160 programs, practices, and resources for suicide prevention. You can learn more about them by visiting <http://www.sprc.org/strategic-planning/finding-programs-practices>.

An evaluation of the Know the Signs campaign in California found that more people now feel prepared to recognize the warning signs of suicide and confident to intervene with someone they are concerned about. The evaluation also found that suicide prevention training programs funded in California will have a long-term impact in the state, potentially preventing at least 140 deaths and 3,600 suicide attempts over the next three decades. The analysis also estimates that for every \$1 the state invests in the suicide prevention program, the people of California will receive an estimated \$1,100 in economic benefits such as reduced spending on emergency care and increased earnings. Prevention not only works to reduce suffering and distress, it also makes financial sense.

Help is available

The Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255- TALK) offers 24/7 free and confidential assistance from trained counselors. Callers are connected to the nearest available crisis center. The Lifeline is also available in Spanish, and for veterans or for those concerned about a veteran, by selecting a prompt to be connected to counselors specifically trained to support veterans.

To find local services and supports, visit the Reach Out section of the Know the Signs resources page where you will find California statewide and national resources, as well as links to resources in your county.

During September and October, the L.A. County Department of Mental Health (LACDMH) will promote suicide awareness and prevention in partnership with hip-hop radio station Power 106. LACDMH will be promoting awareness messaging on-the-air and through social media directed at 16-40 year old Latinos and African Americans in the County. Look for our all-star basketball games that bring celebrities to local highschools and colleges where students will participate in high energy, relevant entertainment, and create peer support through personal pledges.

Working for You

Department of Public Health

Emergencies happen. Floods, fires, earthquakes, windstorms, or other disasters occur when we least expect it. A little preparation now will help us to act fast when the time comes. Have emergency preparedness kits ready at home, work, and in your car in the event of a disaster.

Make an Emergency Plan

1. **Select a place to meet.** If you have to leave your home or work during an emergency, choose a place to meet, such as a local park or landmark. Do not forget to include your pets in your emergency plans.
2. **Get connected.** Maintain a contact list of people you need to communicate with when an emergency happens.
3. **Be informed.** Maintain updated local sources of emergency information and resources.
4. **Know the plan.** Ask about the emergency plans at work, your children's school or daycare, or other facilities where you and your family spend time.
5. **Know where your important documents are.** Take pictures and save digital copies of important documents like your driver's license, medical records, etc.
6. **Share your plans.** Talk about your plan with your family, friends and neighbors. Work within your community to create an emergency plan to keep everyone safe.

Emergency preparedness kit items include:

- Flashlight
- Blanket
- Food and water
- First aid kit
- Fire extinguisher
- Prescriptions
- Personal care items (soap, toothbrush, etc.)
- Radio and batteries
- Cellphone charger
- Important documents (copies of insurance cards and immunization records)
- Supplies for pets (food, water, leash, pet toys and medical records)

Disaster can strike at any time, but you can be prepared. You can sign up for alerts and updates from L.A. County at <https://www.alert.lacounty.gov>.

Visit the following websites for additional information:
publichealth.lacounty.gov/eprp/index.htm
readyla.org
ready.gov

Department of Parks and Recreation Online Fall Magazine Now Available

The Department of Parks and Recreation released the fall issue of its online e-Brochure, the P&R Magazine, which contains information on hundreds of programs and recreational activities offered to the public. The issue also includes inspiring articles about youth leaders who received leadership training through County programs, and how they intend to use their knowledge to make a difference in their communities.



As a Department that understands the demand for recreational programs that promote good health and more, this e-Brochure presents County employees and the general public with an online magazine that's easy to navigate, read, and register for classes.

No matter where you live in L.A. County, there's a program, class or activity waiting for you. Whether you enjoy sports, hiking, biking, cooking, arts and crafts, or are looking for an after-school program for your child, the Parks and Recreation Department has something that's just right for you. And, to better meet your needs, the Department has expanded your ability to register for many programs online, as it continues to make programming more accessible and user-friendly.

Take advantage of this new and exciting way of learning about and signing up for many available programs at little or no charge.

To view the Department of Parks and Recreation's comprehensive and easy-to-read P&R Magazine, visit <http://bit.ly/2vAoTJO>.

WeTip

WELFARE FRAUD
1 (800) 87-FRAUD

Retirees

Congratulations to the following employees who are joining the ranks of the retired after their many years of service to the County of Los Angeles:

45+ Years

PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Donald Smith

40+ Years

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Remy Jammal
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Debra J. Marsh
HEALTH SERVICES: Geraldine Albritton, Anna M. Cortez, Kathryn Rowley, Gregory Williams
INTERNAL SERVICES: Tom Wehling
PARKS & RECREATION: Martin L. Markham
PROBATION: Dennis Carroll
SHERIFF: Beverly A. Loza, Charles W. Porter
WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AGING & COMMUNITY SERVICES: Bobbie Cubit

35+ Years

ASSESSOR: Lawrence S. Rubinson
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Wanda L. Harris, Robert A. Sepulveda
FIRE: Richard A. Ortiz
HEALTH SERVICES: Nicanor Catangay, Yolanda M. Gonzalez, Selina W. Lee, Tomas D. Lomeda, Debra A. McCray-Singleton, Juanita Patricio, Charlene Simmons, Josefina A. Velens, Maura G. Wilkins
INTERNAL SERVICES: Ralph E. Elmore, Gloria P. Makabenta
PARKS & RECREATION: Andrew Morales
PROBATION: Alberto Ramirez
PUBLIC LIBRARY: Cathy M. Saldin
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Asenath Clark, Patricia A. Gregoire, Pamela Lewis
PUBLIC WORKS: Richard J. Yribe
SHERIFF: Henry Andujo, Jeffrey A. Cochran, Pamela K. Gardner, Robert L. Killeen
SUPERIOR COURT: Janette L. Cruz, Norman A. Rhodes

30+ Years

CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Ginny L. Anderson, Susanne De Francis
FIRE: Berwyn R. Coffin, Richard D. Tiberio
HEALTH SERVICES: Evelyn L. Balanay, Isabel Cabanatan, Carol L. Campbell, Elizabeth Chevestre, Leonardo Creencia, Zelma Jimenez, Myung S. Park, Maria Romero
INTERNAL SERVICES: Gus San Miguel, Cathy C. Toy
PARKS & RECREATION: Mario Ruiz
PROBATION: Vilma G. Mansfield, Robert S. Valencia
PUBLIC DEFENDER: Jennifer T. Mayer

PUBLIC LIBRARY: Diane B. Gavin
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Ladonna Adams, Marcelino Ceja, Sam T. Duong, Sonia H. Kasparian, Elaine M. Lee, Rose Simonian-Hai
SHERIFF: Kenneth J. Bolks, Donna M. Cheek, Trent A. Denison, Joseph R. Dillon, Scott V. Johnson, Mark E. Murren

25+ Years

ASSESSOR: Angelita Moya, Long X. Nguyen
AUDITOR-CONTROLLER: Helen R. Mack
CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES: Gloria Nelson, Ronald L. Poprosky, Christian I. Unaka
FIRE: Walter B. Maddocks, Scott A. Oglevie
HEALTH SERVICES: Alma A. Baltierrez, Elvira G. Bwrede, Sara K. Lim, Eleanor M. Lynch, Dennis M. McIntyre, Nilda Molina, Ronie G. Monis, Cora R. Soriano, Terry A. Starr, Theresa S. Yoo
PARKS & RECREATION: Floyd E. Bell, Jr.
PROBATION: Mary A. Norment, B. J. Polinsky, Art J. Reyes, David R. Robinson
PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES: Yoon K. Kim, Assia Pezeshkian, Dorothy M. Washington, Sterling Williams-Banks
PUBLIC WORKS: Michael R. Perry
REGISTRAR-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK: Rehana S. Uraizee
SHERIFF: Richard Davis, Jr., Sharon D. Drisdorn, Lonnie J. Duplechan, Jon W. Dutcher, Richard B. Ortega, John W. White
SUPERIOR COURT: Muriel B. Palmer, Carl W. Taylor

Rideshare L.A. County!

from Department of Human Resources

Did you know that 5,000 people die every year from pollution-related ailments? Studies have shown that exposure to elevated levels of vehicle pollution can contribute to asthma, heart diseases, and other health problems. Ridesharing can help improve public health and the environment. To learn more about how you can help the pollution problem, visit the Civic Center Rideshare Fair on Thursday, October 5, in Grand Park from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. or this site www.rideshare.lacounty.gov. There will be free prizes and promotional giveaways for all Rideshare Fair participants. You can also contact your local Employee Transportation Coordinator for all Rideshare related issues. Take Pride and Share the Ride.



Celebrate
National Hispanic Heritage Month
September 15 through October 15