



July 10, 2023

LA County Health Services is proud to share Community Connects, a monthly newsletter designed to inform our valued community partners. As you work to engage and support our diverse communities we will provide you with updates, information and resources.

We appreciate your continued partnership and efforts!

HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!



On July 4th, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, which had been written largely by Jefferson. Though the vote for actual independence took place on July 2nd, from then on, the 4th became the day that was celebrated as the birth of American independence. We hope your celebrations were safe and fun!

JULY 18 IS INTERNATIONAL MANDELA DAY

July 18

Nelson Mandela International Day

Mandela Day is an annual global celebration that takes place on July 18th to honor the life and legacy of Nelson Mandela. He is a South African revolutionary and political leader known for leading the transition from apartheid to a multiracial democracy. This day is a call to action for individuals, communities, and organizations to take time to reflect on Mandela's values and principles and to make a positive impact in their own communities. The aim is to celebrate the idea that each individual has the power to transform the world. Learn more about this day. [Click below for more background and a brief video.](#)

[More Info](#)

PARTICIPATE IN THE TGI COMMUNITY TOWNHALL IN PERSON OR ONLINE!

TGI
COMMUNITY
TOWN HALL

Join us to provide feedback and recommendations on County strategies to promote equity, inclusion, and belonging for **transgender, gender-nonconforming, and intersex communities.**

Come give feedback and recommendations on County strategies to ***promote equity, inclusion and belonging for transgender, gender-nonconforming, and intersex communities.***

Free parking and refreshments - First come, first served.

GJLA Center: 2701 N. Broadway, LA CA 90031

July 11, 2023, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

The link to register for in-person is [here](#) and the link to register for Zoom hybrid participation is [here](#).

[Register Here](#)

LAHSA RELEASES RESULTS OF 2023 HOMELESS COUNT



The 2023 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count results were released, showing a 9% rise in homelessness on any given night in Los Angeles County to an estimated 75,518 people and a 10% rise in the City of Los Angeles to an estimated 46,260 people. While this year's increases are slightly lower than previous year-over-year increases in the homeless count, they continue a steady growth trend of people experiencing homelessness in the annual Point-in-Time Count (PIT Count). View results [HERE](#).

**LA COUNTY PARK POOLS OPEN LATER EVENINGS - JUNE 15 - AUGUST 5
DURING PARKS AFTER DARK (PAD)**



The LA County Parks After Dark (PAD) Program features fun free activities for all ages including fitness, wellness, educational, sports and more! Click below for more details on any of the 17 County locations hosting these events.

[PAD Activities](#)

FIND YOUR FUN THIS MONTH AROUND CALIFORNIA



July is a festive month in California and throughout the U.S., thanks to the annual Independence Day Celebration with fireworks, parades, bands, picnics, and summer outdoor fun for all ages. There are rodeos, blues festivals, fishing derbies and more. Want food? [July Food Festivals](#) include Gilroy Garlic Festival, French Festival in Santa Barbara, and Salsa Festival in Oxnard. Want to sand? Check out the Ocean Festival Sand Sculpture Contest in San Clemente or the US Open of Surfing in Huntington Beach. The beach is a blast, but the fun never stops from the mountains to the sea in California. July is the right time to get out and see California festivals.

CA Fairs & Festivals

Whether you're looking for educational activities, entertainment ideas, or merely want to enjoy the outdoors, LA has it all - and it's at your fingertips all year long. Here's a look at top family-friendly and exceedingly fun things to do in the City of Angels. Click below to see!

The Top Family Friendly Things to Do in LA

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) OFFERS AN EMOTIONAL WELLNESS TOOLKIT IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH

Emotional wellness is the ability to successfully handle life's stresses and adapt to change and difficult times.

The NIH created the ***Emotional Wellness Toolkit*** to help users learn how to improve their emotional wellness in six areas. The cards cover how to build resilience, reduce stress, and other topics. They can be printed out to help distribute in your community. There are printable checklists to utilize as self-care reminders for yourself and your loved ones.

Toolkit

THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA COULD HELP YOU PAY YOUR BILLS



The Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a limited term program that provides financial assistance to help eligible income-qualified households struggling to pay their **residential water and sewer bills**.

LIHWAP can help you with **a one-time benefit**:

- **Up to \$15,000** to pay **overdue bills** which accrued during **any timeframe**.
There is no date restriction for when the overdue amount occurred; or
- From **\$200 to \$316** to pay **current bills**.
- To learn more, check eligibility, and apply today, please contact your local service provider:
 - **San Fernando Valley, Northeast LA, East LA areas:** Maravilla | 323-721-4162 or 800-906-4651 | www.maravilla.org/water-bill-assistance
 - **West LA, Central LA, and South LA areas:** PACE | 213-989-3177 | www.pacela.org/our-work/energy

- **Harbor area:** Long Beach Community Action Partnership | 888-351-4061 | <https://lbcap.org/energy-assistance-lihwap>
 - **Owens Valley area:** Inyo Mono Advocates for Community Action | 760-873-8557 | www.imaca.net/energy-assistance
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LA PIERCE COLLEGE COMMENCES CAREERS FOR A CAUSE SOCIAL SERVICES EMPLOYMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The Los Angeles Pierce College Careers for a Cause (C4C) Social Services Employment Training Program is now accepting cohort interest forms through July 31st.

C4C is an **8-week training** for individuals with lived homelessness, re-entry, or other experiences of marginalization. Individuals accepted into the program will receive case management and supportive services to ensure successful training completion and job placement in the homeless or social services industry.

The C4C training will be held in person from **9/5/23 – 10/27/23** at

Los Angeles Pierce College

6201 Winnetka Ave

Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Please share this opportunity within your networks and with your clients/participants who are compassionate about helping others, able to attend the entire 8-week training session, and ready to work.

[More Info](#)

988 CRISIS LIFELINE WEBINAR: WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT THE NATIONAL HOTLINE



Attend a webinar that will focus on the rollout of 988, how to align it with your work in substance use, and how to educate your community as an outreach strategy for overdose prevention.

Last year the national 988 Crisis Lifeline was introduced. Instead of calling 911, people are now able to dial 988 to connect directly to a crisis counselor. Since its introduction, the hotline has expanded and changed. Attend to discover more:

Wednesday, July 12 | 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PT

[**Register Here**](#)

LADWP HAS MANY PROGRAMS TO LEVEL OUT YOUR BILLS



Cool LA is designed to help LADWP customers better manage the impacts of extreme heat caused by climate change, especially older adults, income-qualified families, and those living in underserved communities where hot weather has an especially significant impact. Cool LA includes increased rebates on various types of cooling units to help LADWP customers overcome the health risks associated with extreme heat.

In addition, a new monthly payment program – Level Pay – is available to help customers smooth out their electric bills across twelve (12) monthly payments.

Some Cool LA offerings require customers to be current participants in one of the following programs: EZ-SAVE, Senior Citizen/Disability Lifeline Rate, Physician Certified Allowance Discount, and Life-Support Equipment Discount. Click below to learn more or to sign up for one of these qualifying programs.

[More Info](#)

LA COUNTY LIBRARY OFFERING LAPTOP AND HOTSPOT LOANS



Whether you are looking to apply for a job, access school resources, or simply a way to stay chat with friends and family, our [laptop loans](#) are here to help get you connected. We offer laptops for use inside our library and for customers to borrow and take home.

All laptops and hotspots require a full access Adult card to check out. Call your nearest library location for details about signing up or upgrading your digital card.

[More Info](#)

LA COUNTY HELPFUL RESOURCES:

- [Community Vaccine Resource Page](#)
- [COVID-19 Testing](#)
- [Get Ahead - LA Financial Resources](#)
- [Vaccine Locator Tool](#)
- [COVID-19 Resources for Parents and Guardians](#) (Spanish: ph.lacounty.gov/covidinfopadres)
- [One Degree Community Resources](#)



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