

**August 9, 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 protect our diverse communities, and those most highly impacted by COVID-19 in particular, we will provide you with updates, information and resources. We appreciate your continued partnership and efforts!

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**SUPERVISOR SOLIS AND LOS ANGELES COUNTY HEALTH SERVICES CELEBRATED NEW HEALTH CENTER IN WESTLAKE**



Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis and the Los Angeles County Department Health Services hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony and resource fair to celebrate the grand opening of the new Alvarado Health Center. Residents enjoyed a free information-filled outdoor community event with music, information, and resources from various community organizations. The new Alvarado Health Care Center will serve as a primary care provider for Medi-Cal patients in the Westlake District and surrounding neighborhoods. Patients will have access to many clinical care and supportive services, including primary care, behavioral health intervention, addiction treatment, and laboratory work in English, Spanish and Korean.

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## AUGUST IS NATIONAL BREASTFEEDING MONTH



August is National Breastfeeding Month! Each year, we celebrate all the breastfeeding, chestfeeding, and human milk feeding families across the USA and everyone who supports them.

Celebrate yourself! Celebrate everyone who is supporting breastfeeding, chestfeeding, and human milk feeding!

The specific weeks are:

Native Breastfeeding Week: August 9-15

Black Breastfeeding Week: August 25- 31

Find out more information on breastfeeding from La Leche League USA [here](#).

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## AUGUST 9 IS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

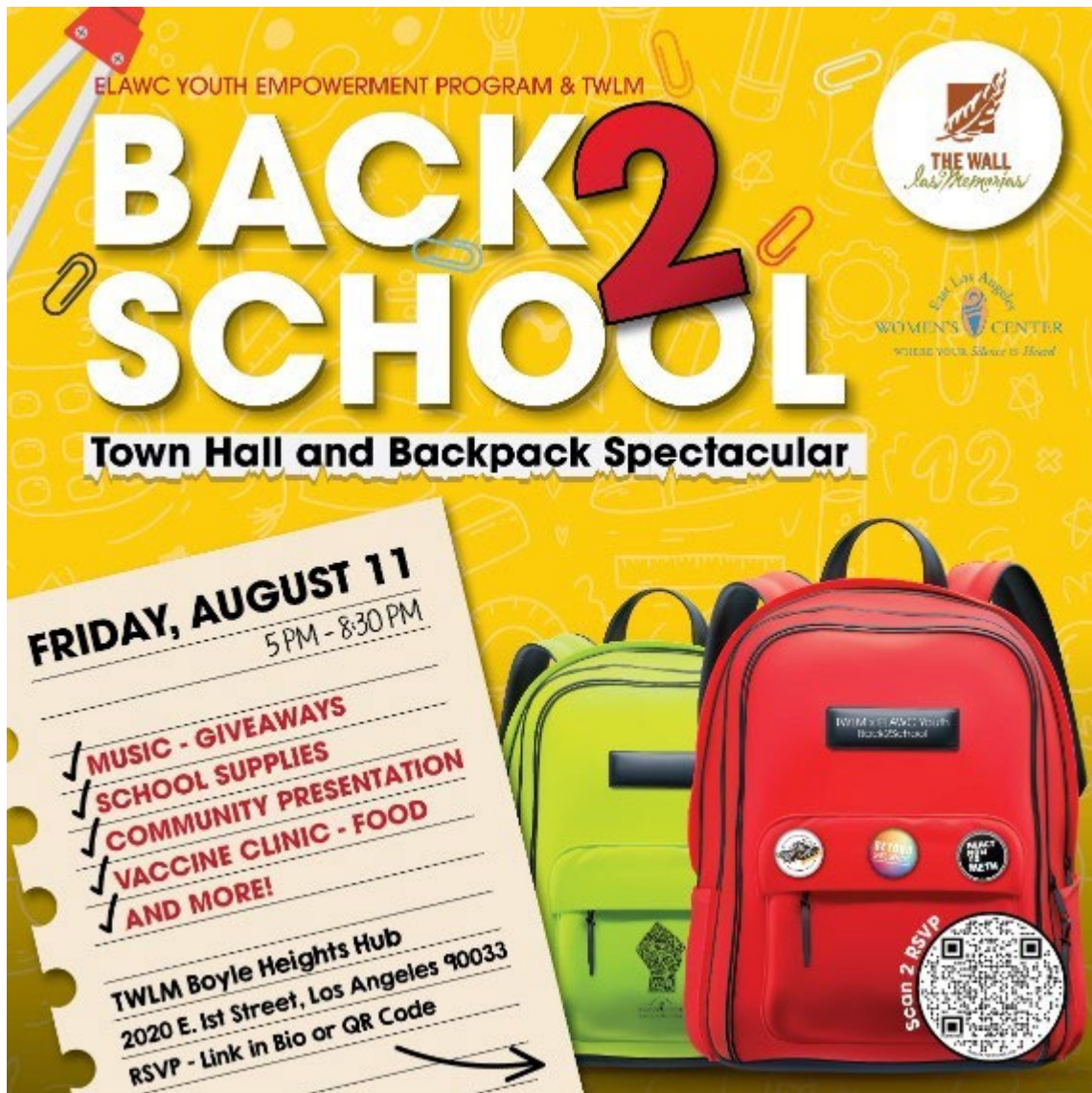


The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples is observed on 9 August each year to raise awareness and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population. This event also recognizes the achievements and contributions that indigenous people make to improve world issues such as environmental protection. Read about the virtual commemoration below.

[More Info](#)

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## THE WALL LAS MEMORIAS TOWN HALL AND BACKPACK SPECTACULAR



The event will feature backpack giveaways, parent and student workshops, and a resource fair of available services and other opportunities. **Please RSVP by August 11.**

Back-to-School Night Backpack Spectacular

Friday, August 11, 2023

5:00 PM- 8:30 PM

Location:

TWLM Boyle Heights HUB

2020 E 1st. Street, Los Angeles, CA 90033

**Snacks and refreshments will be provided!**

[RSVP](#)

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**FREE EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC PROVIDING RECORD CLEANING SERVICES**



**GORILLA UNIVERSITY**  
POWERED BY LIFE DEVELOPMENT GROUP



# FREE EXPUNGEMENT CLINIC



**Is your criminal history holding you back?**

**FREE CERTIFIX LIVE SCANS  
PRO-BONO ATTORNEYS ONSITE  
ON-SITE DECLARATION WRITING**

**CALL OUR HOTLINE FOR MORE INFORMATION (818) 570-1548**

**AUGUST 19TH 11AM-3PM**

Gorilla University Training Center  
4241 Crenshaw Blvd Los Angeles, CA 90008

Fill out our registration form for an appointment  
**[bit.ly/LosAngelesExpungementClinic](https://bit.ly/LosAngelesExpungementClinic)**

Appointments and  
Limited Walk-Ins  
Available

Is your past getting in the way of your future? The expungement process can help reduce or eliminate certain past convictions so you can keep moving forward. Register online at [Los Angeles Expungement Clinics](#) for the next expungement clinic **Saturday, August 19, 11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**, for a chance to meet with pro-bono attorneys and get the help you need to start the expungement process.

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**AUGUST 25-31 IS BLACK BREASTFEEDING WEEK (BBW)**



Black Breastfeeding Week (BBW) was created because for over 40 years there has been a gaping racial disparity in breastfeeding rates. This is a week to discuss the lack of diversity among lactation consultants and to change our narrative. A time to highlight, celebrate and showcase the breastfeeding champions in our community who are often invisible. Discover virtual events [here](#). Find ideas for events that will help make breastfeeding more visible and rooted in your area below.

#### [Ways to Celebrate BBW](#)

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#### **WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY IS AUGUST 26, 2023**



Women's Equality Day, celebrated every August 26, commemorates the passage of women's suffrage in the U.S. and reminds us of the hurdles overcome by the heroic women who faced violence and discrimination to propel the women's movement forward. Learn more about the movement and history of the day below.

#### [Watch Video](#)

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#### **DPSS UNVEILS NEW NAME FOR GROW PROGRAM: INTRODUCING THE START PROGRAM**



### New Name, New Goals

## DPSS is excited to announce the new **START PROGRAM!**

**START** Program represents a new beginning for **General Relief (GR)** participants by preparing them with education and training for stable employment.

Help us raise awareness about **START** by informing **GR** participants about the new program name. Visit our webpage at:

<https://bit.ly/GR-START>

The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) General Relief Opportunities to Work (GROW) Program that provides employment and training services to help employable General Relief (GR) participants obtain jobs and eliminate the need for County benefits, has a new name.

The new and improved name of the program is **START**, an acronym for **Skills and Training to Achieve Readiness for Tomorrow**. The **START** Program will persist in its mandatory participation requirement for all GR able-bodied adults, each of whom will be assigned to a dedicated case manager to assist them in achieving their employment aspirations.

The **START** Program will extend support for transportation costs and job-related expenses, including but not limited to supplies and uniforms.

To learn more about the **START** Program, visit the DPSS webpage at <https://bit.ly/GR-START>.

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## FREE PROJECT LIFESAVER TRACKING BRACELETS FOR CAREGIVERS



Project Lifesaver provides a voluntary system of trackable bracelets for at-risk individuals. The bracelet works by emitting a radio frequency (RF) signal every couple of seconds to help locate individuals who have wandered away from their homes.

When this happens, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department deploys a specially equipped team to assist with search and rescue. Caregivers are asked to quickly call 911 and advise the

operator that the missing person is wearing a Project Lifesaver bracelet. The bracelet is not monitored until the person is reported missing.

L.A. Found will distribute Project Lifesaver Bracelets to 7 L.A. County Community and Senior Centers in August and September 2023 at no cost.

For locations and more information in English and Spanish, [click here](#).

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## MORE COMMUNITY HEALTH WORKERS WANTED



The Worker Education and Resource Center (WERC) is a workforce development organization that works with people experiencing barriers to employment and connects them to employment opportunities. WERC's free pre-employment training program Preparing Los Angeles for County Employment (PLACE), can help prepare those who are interested in a career with Los Angeles County. Click below for more information.

[More Info](#)

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## EAST LA CAREERS FOR A CAUSE (C4C) ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS



The East Los Angeles College Careers for a Cause (C4C) Social Services Employment Training Program is now accepting cohort interest forms through August 25th.

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 9/25/23 – 11/16/23 at:***

East Los Angeles College: 1301 Avenida Cesar Chavez, Monterey Park, CA 91754

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](#)

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## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT - LA COUNTY'S RACIAL EQUITY STRATEGIC PLAN



# LA COUNTY HAS LAID OUT ITS VISION FOR RACIAL EQUITY.

Join us on our journey to create an LA County  
where we all thrive and experience justice.

**Partner with us today.**



County of Los Angeles  
**Anti-Racism,  
Diversity,  
& Inclusion**

[ceo.lacounty.gov/ardi](https://ceo.lacounty.gov/ardi)



Los Angeles County now has a Racial Equity Strategic Plan to develop a more equitable county over the next 10 years. See what steps the county is taking and how you can get involved - [click here](#) to learn more.

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**GET HELP WITH BECOMING A U.S. CITIZEN**



# Citizenship & Immigration Resources

**FREE AT THE LIBRARY**

Check with library staff or visit  
**LACountyLibrary.org/citizenship**



COUNTY  
LIBRARY

The Los Angeles County Library has partnered with L.A. County Office of Immigrant Affairs to provide resources and guidance for those on the path to citizenship. All County Library locations can assist with locating material on citizenship and immigration. Learn more at [Citizenship & Immigration](#).

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**NEED QUALITY CHILDCARE ASSISTANCE?**

# QUALITY CHILDCARE & HOME VISITING

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

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QUALITY PROGRAMS FOR QUALIFYING  
PREGNANT WOMEN AND FAMILIES WITH  
KIDS AGES 6 WEEKS THROUGH 5 YEARS

- HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATORS
- SCHOOL READINESS
- SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
- NUTRITION SERVICES

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**CALL NOW: 310-397-4200**

Allies for Every Child is now accepting applications for their childcare and home visiting programs. Call 310-397-4200 for more information or visit [Allies Early Education Registration Form \(wufoo.com\)](https://www.wufoo.com) to register online.

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**GOLDEN BEAR PASS OFFERS FREE ENTRY TO CA PARKS AND BEACHES**

A family of three is shown on a beach. A man is carrying a young boy on his shoulders, and a woman is standing next to them, all smiling. The background is a bright, sunny beach scene. In the top left corner, there is a logo for the Golden Bear Pass, featuring a yellow bear silhouette inside a blue circle, with the text "GOLDEN BEAR PASS" and "State Parks & CDSS" below it. A large yellow banner across the middle contains the text "OUTDOORS FOR ALL" in white, "Free" in a large white script font, and "GOLDEN BEAR PASS" in bold blue capital letters. Below this banner, on a dark blue background, is white text stating: "CalWORKs households can now apply to receive FREE access to 200+ beaches and parks through 2023 with the Golden Bear Pass. Get started online at [www.cdss.ca.gov/goldenbearpass](http://www.cdss.ca.gov/goldenbearpass)". To the right of this text is a QR code. Below the QR code, it says "Scan QR code for more information". At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a yellow bar containing logos for "dpss", "CalWORKs", "CDSS CALIFORNIA Department of Social Services", and the "CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS" logo.

**GOLDEN BEAR PASS**  
State Parks & CDSS

OUTDOORS FOR ALL  
*Free*  
**GOLDEN BEAR PASS**

CalWORKs households can now apply to receive FREE access to 200+ beaches and parks through 2023 with the Golden Bear Pass. Get started online at [www.cdss.ca.gov/goldenbearpass](http://www.cdss.ca.gov/goldenbearpass)

Scan QR code for more information

dpss CalWORKs CDSS CALIFORNIA Department of Social Services CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS

Visiting California's state parks and beaches is a fun and healthy way to connect with family, friends, and communities. The Golden Bear Pass provides FREE entry to CalWORKs families at 200-plus state parks and beaches. Sign up today at [Golden Bear Pass.Golden Bear Pass](http://GoldenBearPass.GoldenBearPass). [More Info](#)

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**THE SOUTH LA MLK HEALING CENTER PROVIDES WELLNESS SERVICES TO ALL**



The Healing Center serves children, families, and individuals with a continuum of services designed to strengthen families and promote individual wellbeing in South Los Angeles. It has three main areas of services, including mental health, substance use, and general health and wellness. All activities are **FREE** and open to the community.

[Click here](#) to download the calendar of FREE workshops.

[More Info](#)

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## UNDERDOG COMMUNITY PROJECT JOB OPPORTUNITIES FOR PET OWNERS

### UNDERDOG COMMUNITY PROJECT

## Flexible Job Opportunity for Pet Owners

The Underdog Community Project is teaming up with Paws to Share to recruit pet owners for paying pet handling positions!



#### Pet Handler Position

- Pet handler takes their own pet to visit schools, campuses, and senior centers to provide pet therapy to the public
- \$15 cash per hour
- 1-3 hr shifts across LA daily and weekly

#### Pet Handler Requirements

- Must have a copy of Covid-19 vaccine card
- Must pass a background check (felonies not accepted, misdemeanors are case by case basis)
- Must have a consistent working cell phone to schedule shifts online
- Must be a responsible and timely person with a positive attitude and must be okay with communicating with children and strangers during their shifts

#### Pet Requirements - Dogs and Cats only

- No previous training or certification is required! Each pet is assessed by their temperament and behavior in person.
- Must have no reactivity to other people, other animals, or children
- Pets must be fully vaccinated and sterilized (UCP provides for free)
- Unfortunately Chihuahuas, Rottweilers, and pure-bred Staffordshire Terriers/PitBull Terriers are not accepted (mixes are allowed)

REFER POTENTIAL  
CANDIDATES TO  
UNDERDOG  
COMMUNITY  
PROJECT

### CONTACT

LIV SIGEL

512-650-0134

[udcommunityproject@gmail.com](mailto:udcommunityproject@gmail.com)

[www.underdogcommunityproject.org](http://www.underdogcommunityproject.org)   [@udcommunityproject](https://www.instagram.com/udcommunityproject)

The Underdog Community Project collaborates with Paws to Share to recruit pet owners for paying pet handling positions. Please contact Liv Sigel at 512-650-0134 or [udcommunityproject@gmail.com](mailto:udcommunityproject@gmail.com) if you are interested in the project. Also, please visit [www.underdogcommunityproject.org](http://www.underdogcommunityproject.org) to learn more about the project.

[More Info](#)