

# FIRESTONE ADULT AREA OFFICE HOLDS JOB AND RESOURCE FAIR

## FIRST FAIR AT NEW LOCATION IS A SUCCESS

**“No resource fair is too small and any opportunity to be of service to the community is an asset.”**  
**- Director McCovery**

Inside their offices at the Martin Luther King Medical Center Campus at 12021 S. Wilmington Ave in Los Angeles, the Firestone Adult Area Office staff hosted their first job and resource fair.

Vendors included INVEST, Whole Systems, Volunteers of America, the Office of the Ombudsman, and others. Vendors were quickly able to assist clients thanks to short lines and first-rate coordination by Director McCovery and the Firestone Adult Office staff. “The Firestone area office relocated to this location in September 2022, so this is our first resource fair. It's small but this is our start,” said Director McCovery.

“Deputy Director Giron expressed some concern because we don't have a lot of foot traffic here at this office,” McCovery said. “He said, ‘Don't overthink it. Let's try to do a small event and we can build from there.’” Firestone staff scheduled clients to come in on the day to have access to the resources provided by the vendors. “Clients that didn't make their regular appointments are also coming in,” McCovery added.

And the resources were plentiful. The Department of Public Health handed out emergency Naloxone packs and shared how to use the medication for emergency treatment of a possible opioid overdose. The Volunteers of America team were signing clients up for assistance in overcoming the many challenges they face. “We're here to be a helping hand to give warm handoffs to other organizations,” said Lead Case Manager Ted Somers. “We offer help with storage, employment, education, building a resume, and different housing situations like rentals, shelters, transitional living, rental assistance program - we help in many different ways.”

Director McCovery will be working towards growing the event for the next Firestone resource fair. They have a number of agencies right in their own building at the MLK complex. “Exodus, Tarzana Treatment Center, Healthright 360, are just a few,” said Director McCovery. “So we can extend an invitation to some of our partners that are here in the building as well. We're looking forward to growing!”

Even a small resource fair takes work. “I would like to thank the Firestone area office adult operation,” said McCovery. “If it were not for the deputies, the supervisors, clerical support, the head clerk, and assistant director, this would not be possible. They've been an excellent source of support and provided great teamwork.”

The Director's advice for other offices wanting to offer a Job and Resource fair included to *just do it*. “Don't overthink it. Reach out to the agencies, they're more than happy to come and share their resources with our clientele. Just provide them with a little space, a table and two chairs, and they'll come with their own information, maybe giveaways. They're excited to get the referrals,” she said.

Thank you and congratulations to the Firestone Area Adult office.



Just some of the Firestone Adult Area Office Staff and Partners  
 (L to R): Secretary Williamson, SDPO Ramirez, Assistant Director Pool-Brewer, DPO II Malveaux, Director McCovery, Head Clerk Amezcua, DPO II Dawson, ITC Mikayelyan, DPO II Dominguez, DPO II Escobar, Director Probasco, Secretary Deramus-Jemison, SDPO Siler



(L to R) Southgate Volunteers of America  
 Program manager, Theodore Somers, VOA  
 Program Coordinator of San Pedro Navigation  
 Center Tavaion Sowell



(L to R) INVEST Team - BSR Aldana, DPO Logan,  
 DPO Whaley, DPO Orozco, SDPO Chavez