



**PUBLIC REQUEST TO ADDRESS
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD

HILDA L. SOLIS
HOLLY J. MITCHELL
LINDSEY P. HORVATH
JANICE HAHN
KATHRYN BARGER

Correspondence Received

The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:				
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments
BUDG-2A.		Favor	Akib Rahman	
			Carrie Lemmon	
			Darren Dunaway	Please support the ongoing and basic needs of senior citizens who need the elderly nutrition program. As the population grows the demand for meals is higher than ever. As we rely on funding almost solely from the Older American's Act, the funding has not kept pace with demand. Any regional plan needs to include State and local funding to meet demand. The congregate and home delivered meals programs help seniors age independently with dignity in their communities. Please support the funding request from the Department of Aging and Disabilities.
			Jacqueline Herrera	
			Kevin MacDonald	Support for Department of Aging and Disabilities Budget proposal
			Kevon Jones	
			Lauri Collier	<p>We support full funding of Budget Items 2A and 2B for the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity's Youth@Work program.</p> <p>Youth@Work is critical in providing workforce training and paid work experience to young adults who have experienced disconnection from school or employment, including youth impacted by the foster care, justice, and homeless systems.</p> <p>Sustained investment is especially urgent given recent federal changes to CalFresh eligibility requirements, which now require more young adults to meet work participation standards. Without access to paid work experience and structured workforce pathways, vulnerable young adults risk losing essential food benefits and facing deeper economic instability.</p> <p>Youth@Work provides a necessary bridge to employment, income stability, and long-term workforce attachment. We urge the Board to maintain full funding.</p>



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The following individuals submitted comments on agenda item:					
Agenda #	Relate To	Position	Name	Comments	
BUDG-2A.		Favor	Venita L Veal	<p>Family liberty is possible.</p> <p>Culture is protective.</p> <p>Community is preventative.</p> <p>We saw something beautiful during the Super Bowl halftime show — children asleep in chairs while music and joy filled the room. That is culture. That is safety. That is thriving.</p> <p>We do not want systems that separate first and ask questions later.</p> <p>We want love.</p> <p>We want connection.</p> <p>We want families supported — not separated.</p>	
			Other	Gloria Romero	LA County is a major epicenter of human/sex trafficking. All departmental budgets should be considered in light of this.
				Gloria Romero	LA County is an epicenter of sex trafficking. The budget and proposals must direct funds and resources to protecting our children
				Jenna Hauss	<p>My name is Jenna Hauss, and I am speaking on behalf of ONEgeneration, a nonprofit aging services provider serving more than 10,000 older adults, children, and families across Los Angeles County each year.</p> <p>We appreciate the County’s continued commitment to older adults and people with disabilities, and we want to emphasize how critical it is to sustain — and thoughtfully strengthen — the Aging and Disabilities Department budget. The funding reflected in this overview is not simply a line item; it directly determines whether older adults in our communities can remain healthy, independent, and connected.</p> <p>Los Angeles County is home to one of the fastest-growing older adult populations in the state of California. Demand for services is accelerating, particularly among older adults with limited incomes, chronic health conditions, and increased risk of isolation. The systems that support them must grow accordingly.</p> <p>Nutrition services are a prime example. These programs are not just about meals—they are preventive health interventions. They help manage chronic disease, reduce hospitalizations, prevent malnutrition, and combat the epidemic of loneliness among older adults. For many participants, a daily meal is also a daily wellness check and a critical point of human connection.</p>



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Currently, the demand for older adult nutrition services across Los Angeles County is approximately 2 million meals short — even with specialized MOCA funding included in the system. While the County has very fairly implemented rate increases to reflect rising costs, those adjustments have reduced the total number of meals providers are able to deliver within existing allocations. In an environment where food, labor, and transportation costs continue to rise, flat funding effectively translates into fewer services.

If funding is not maintained — and ideally expanded — we will see tangible impacts:

Fewer meals available to vulnerable older adults

Longer waitlists

Increased food insecurity

Greater strain on emergency healthcare systems

And higher long-term public costs as preventable conditions worsen

Conversely, sustaining and strengthening this investment protects older adults' health, preserves independence, supports family caregivers, and keeps people connected to their communities.

ONEgeneration sees firsthand how these services stabilize lives. We also see the growing need. Maintaining the current budget is essential to prevent backsliding, and future growth should reflect the demographic realities facing our County.

We respectfully urge you to prioritize sustained and adequate funding for the Aging and Disabilities Department, particularly nutrition services, to ensure that older adults in Los Angeles County can age with dignity, health, and connection.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to our community.

Juliet Schwarz	
Kristian M Huling	Please see attached Letter
Kyle D Haab	
Lisa Shuger Hublitz	
Minouche Kandel	
Tina Rios	Pre-Petition Advocacy Provides Critical Support • Rather than leaving parents and caregivers to navigate the harmful family policing system on their own, Pre-Petition Advocacy provides parents and caregivers with legal representation and other supports at the start of a DCFS

			<p>investigation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under a preventive advocacy model, parents are connected with attorneys, parent advocates, and social workers who can both help parents and caregivers navigate the DCFS investigation, and can identify and address families' underlying needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Specialized legal assistance; o Intimate partner violence services; o Services to assist with housing, food insecurity, and other basic needs. • We must continue providing comprehensive support from the outset of an investigation, so that families can get the resources they need to stay together, and to remain out of the family policing system going forward. • The Families Stronger Together LA pilot has already proven to successfully keep families together <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o In its first nine months, only 28 children were removed by the pilot office, compared with 316 removals from that office in the year before the pilot was implemented. <p>All Families Deserve Pre-Petition Advocacy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We applaud the expansion the Families Stronger Together LA pilot to all of SPA 6. It is imperative that all families in Los Angeles receive this comprehensive support. • It is critical that the County expand the pilot to at least one other SPA this year. • DCFS spends over \$3 billion per year separating families, and only a fraction of their budget goes towards preventative programs. We urge the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors to invest in alternative supports that serve families, by dedicating at least \$1 million annually to expand the Families Stronger Together LA program to at least one other SPA. • We call on the Board to commit to seeking additional funding to further expand the network to all of Los Angeles in the coming years.
		Item Total	17
Grand Total			17

Sent: Wednesday, February 4, 2026 7:39 PM

To: Gutierrez, Margarita (Schiff) <Margarita_Gutierrez@schiff.senate.gov>

Subject: Response to inquiry from Sen. Schiff obo Kyle D. Haab | 2026-9DMA-FLD-00015

Dear Senator Schiff,

Thank you for your inquiry dated December 18, 2025, submitted to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on behalf of your constituent, Mr. Kyle D. Haab, regarding his complaint against the Coalition for Responsible Community Development (CRCD).

CRCD is a current subrecipient of HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds administered by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and the City of Los Angeles, respectively. HUD has forwarded Mr. Haab's complaint to the appropriate officials at LAHSA and the City for their initial review and for any further action deemed necessary, including referral to their respective fraud, waste, and abuse divisions. The points of contact are as follows:

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority:
Christopher Williams, Deputy Chief Risk Officer
cwilliams@lahsa.org

City of Los Angeles:
Rebecca Ronquillo, Chief Management Analyst
rebecca.ronquillo@lacity.org

In addition, because the complaint includes allegations of fraudulent practices, HUD has referred the matter to the HUD Office of Inspector General for review.

I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely,

Office of Community Planning and Development
Community Planning and Development | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
California | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)



Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>

Kyle Haab - Project Tipping Point CPRA Request

6 messages

Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 18, 2025 at 6:06 PM

To: Jose Guadron <jguadron@coalitionrcd.org>

Cc: Latea Davis <ldavis@coalitionrcd.org>, Marc Magallanes <marc.magallanes@lacity.org>

Good afternoon Jose,

I hope all is well with you. I am reaching out to you for assistance, (not EO related for once) in regards to a California Public Records Act request I am processing for EWDD and I need some assistance. I have CC'd my supervisor Marc Magallanes from EWDD as well.

In the last 24 hours, a participant you are familiar with **Kyle Haab (CalJobs User ID: 36716949)** submitted four separate CPRA requests, seeking records and communications related to his enrollment in Project Tipping Point (PTP), as well as records associated with what appears to be a County of Los Angeles rental assistance program (not sure if he was referring to the same program). He also indicated that he worked with a CRCD employee at the time (roughly July 1, 2024 and August 31, 2024), Alexander Saltzman, and is seeking records related to his enrollment, financial transactions, funding, services, case notes, and communications. The four requests are quite extensive.

I know Latea Davis handles complaints for CRCD for Project Tipping Point, however, since he is seeking public records related to Project Tipping point, is the funding for PTP from the County? I do not see he is enrolled in any City of LA services.

Do you have a point of contact with the County, someone that may handle CPRA requests, or is familiar with Project Tipping Point, so that I may refer Mr. Haab to them, as EWDD does not have the information he is seeking?

Please advise when you have a moment.

Thank you Jose!

--

Luis F. Preciado

California Public Records Act Coordinator

Administrative Services Division

Economic & Workforce Development Department

Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>

Thu, Dec 18, 2025 at 6:09 PM

To: Richard Cheng <richard.cheng@lacity.org>

Just FYI

[Quoted text hidden]

Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>

Mon, Dec 29, 2025 at 9:41 AM

To: Jose Guadron <jguadron@coalitionrcd.org>

Cc: Latea Davis <ldavis@coalitionrcd.org>, Marc Magallanes <marc.magallanes@lacity.org>

Good morning Jose and Latea,

I hope you both are doing well and enjoying the Holidays. I just wanted to follow up on my previous email for information regarding PTP funding and the appropriate County contact.

Thank you both in advance.

[Quoted text hidden]

Jose Guadron <jguadron@coalitionrcd.org>

Tue, Dec 30, 2025 at 12:50 PM

To: Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>

Cc: Latea Davis <ldavis@coalitionrcd.org>, Marc Magallanes <marc.magallanes@lacity.org>

Hello Luis,

Apologies for the delayed response. Project Tipping Point is a college persistence program which helps foster youth achieve their post secondary education goals. PTP is a CRCD program and not funded by the County so there is no County contact.

It is my understanding that Kyle has been provided with the documentation he has requested as it relates to his participation in our program. Should he have any further questions, please redirect him to Latea Davis.

Thank you

Jose Guadron | Senior Director of Workforce Development

Workforce Development

CRCD: 213.743.6193 | **M:** 323.897.9384 | **F:** 323.521.1928 | **TTY:** 711

jguadron@coalitionrcd.org | www.coalitionrcd.org



[View CRCD's 2024 Annual Report](#)



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From: Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>
Sent: Monday, December 29, 2025 9:42:05 AM
To: Jose Guadron <jguadron@coalitionrcd.org>
Cc: Latea Davis <ldavis@coalitionrcd.org>; Marc Magallanes <marc.magallanes@lacity.org>
Subject: Re: Kyle Haab - Project Tipping Point CPRA Request

CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is SAFE.

[Quoted text hidden]

Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>
To: Jose Guadron <jguadron@coalitionrcd.org>
Cc: Latea Davis <ldavis@coalitionrcd.org>, Marc Magallanes <marc.magallanes@lacity.org>

Tue, Dec 30, 2025 at 2:00 PM

Ok, thank you for the clarification Jose. I will reach out to Mr. Haab with this information.

[Quoted text hidden]

Jose Guadron <jguadron@coalitionrcd.org>
To: Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>
Cc: Latea Davis <ldavis@coalitionrcd.org>, Marc Magallanes <marc.magallanes@lacity.org>, Kenta Estrada-Darley <kestrada-darley@coalitionrcd.org>

Wed, Jan 7, 2026 at 6:15 PM

Hello Luis,

I hope you are well. After consulting with my team, I was reminded that a portion of the supportive services (rental assistance) is covered by funding from the Amity Foundation that serves as a third-party administrator for the County of Los Angeles Care First Community Investment, which is funded by the board of supervisors spending plan. However, Projecting Tipping Point (PTP) is primarily supported by private funding sources.

We will notify the Amity Foundation of the request as they are the administrators of the funding and main point of county with the County of Los Angeles. Please let us know if you have any further questions.

Thank you.

Jose Guadron | Senior Director of Workforce Development
Workforce Development
CRCD: 213.743.6193 | **M:** 323.897.9384 | **F:** 323.521.1928 | **TTY:** 711
jguadron@coalitionrcd.org | www.coalitionrcd.org



[View CRCD's 2024 Annual Report](#)



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From: Luis Preciado <luis.preciado@lacity.org>

Sent: Tuesday, December 30, 2025 2:00 PM

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]



865 S. Figueroa Street, Suite 2750
Los Angeles, CA 90017
P: 213.489.9833
F: 213.489.3761
john@harrishayden.com
herbert@harrishayden.com

VIA EMAIL & USPS CERTIFIED MAIL

February 2, 2026

Mr. Kyle Haab
1551 E. 106th Street, Unit ¾
Los Angeles, CA 90002
kyle.dietz99@gmail.com

**Re: Our Client: Coalition for Responsible Community Development, Inc.
(CRCD)
Matter: Cease and Desist Demand**

Dear Mr. Haab:

This firm represents Coalition for Responsible Community Development, Inc., (“CRCD”). We write in response to your written correspondence today, February 2, 20226, to the Hon. Holly Mitchell, Supervisor, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and her staff, in which you made false, misleading and defamatory statements concerning CRCD and its role in the Project Tipping Point.

In your letter, you accuse CRCD of “misconduct,” “non-disclosure,” “[fraudulent] “inducement,” and “enforcement failures,” among other things, in connection with allegedly County-funded supportive services. These statements are deliberately false, factually inaccurate, misleading and published to third parties, including elected officials and City of Los Angeles and County staff with the clear and palpable intent to damage CRCD’s reputation and interfering with its contractual and economic relationships.

These assertions falsely imply that CRCD has (1) engaged in misconduct in its management of administrative services; (2) made inconsistent or deceptive misrepresentations to the City and County officials; (3) obstructed public records requests or concealed funding authority; and (4) caused or contributed to delays in your family law court proceedings.

You know full well that these allegations are patently false and untrue. CRCD has not engaged in any misconduct as you have alleged. By publishing these false allegations to the Board of Supervisors and County personnel, you have intentionally interfered with CRCD’s existing and prospective contractual relationships, including its relationships with public agencies, administrators, funders and partners. Moreover, your communications were clearly calculated to prompt adverse governmental action and reputational harm and constitute an unlawful and unfair business practice in violation of *Business & Professions Code Sect. 17200, et seq.*

Accordingly, CRCD hereby demands that you:

- (1) Immediately cease and desist from making or publishing any further false or misleading, either oral or written, about CRCD, its programs, staff, funding, or operations to any third party, including but not limited to City and County officials, or the public;
- (2) Retract in writing the defamatory statements contained in your correspondence to Supervisor Mitchell and provide a written correction clarifying that you have no factual basis to assert misconduct, inducement or non-disclosure by CRCD; and
- (3) Preserve all documents and communications (including emails, texts, letters, drafts, and recordings) you have in your possession relating to CRCD, Project Tipping Points, Amity Foundation, County funding, and your communications with any governmental entity.

Nothing in this letter constitutes a complete recitation of CRCD's potential claims or remedies against you for your actions discussed herein. If you fail to cease and desist, and assent to our demands made hereof, we will pursue against you all available legal remedies, including claims for libel, defamation, intentional interference with contractual and economic relations, Sect. 17200 violations, and injunctive relief, as well as the recovery of legal fees our clients has incurred in this matter.

We strongly urge you to govern yourself accordingly.

Regards,

HARRIS & HAYDEN

By: _____


John W. Harris, Esq.



AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

Southern California

February 10, 2026

Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
500 West Temple Street, Room 383
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: DCFS Budget and Expanding Pre-Petition Advocacy Project

Dear Supervisors Hilda Solis, Holly Mitchell, Lindsey Horvath, Janice Hahn, and Kathryn Barger:

The American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California (ACLU SoCal) strongly urges the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to **fund the expansion of pre-petition advocacy services for families throughout the County, by investing at least \$1 million annually and expanding the Families Stronger Together LA program to at least one additional SPA in the next year.**

ACLU SoCal is a partner of the Reimagine Child Safety Coalition, which has made pre-petition counsel one of its main demands.¹ Providing parents with legal and social service support at the outset of a child welfare investigation strengthen families, instead of ripping them apart.

Parents and caregivers too often navigate DCFS investigations alone. By the time legal counsel is appointed, children may already be removed, and opportunities to prevent unnecessary separation lost. These harms disproportionately impact Black and low income families. Pre-petition advocacy offers a better alternative. Families receive early legal representation, social services, and holistic supports, helping them understand their rights, engage with DCFS, and prevent unnecessary removals.

In May 2022, the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors approved a motion to allocate \$1 million to develop a one-year Pre-Petition Advocacy Program, which funded “Families Stronger Together LA” in SPA 6. **The Families Stronger Together LA pilot program has already demonstrated resounding success.** From March through November 2025, 332 families were referred to the program. DCFS filed petitions in only 53 of those cases, and ultimately removed just 28 children from their homes. This represents a dramatic and meaningful reduction compared to the previous year, when the same DCFS office removed 316 children.

Based on the 2025-26 DCFS budget, Los Angeles County spends over \$3 billion annually on family separation, and only 6% of its budget is devoted to prevention programs that could safely keep families together.² The Families Stronger Together LA program is estimated to cost \$687,000 per

¹ Reimagine Child Safety Coalition, Demand 3 (2021), <https://www.reimaginechildsafety.org/demand3>.

² Department of Children & Family Services Budget Presentation (2026), <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/212615.pdf>

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Chandra S. Bhatnagar

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AFFILIATE EQUITY OFFICER Nichelle Carr **NATIONAL BOARD REPRESENTATIVE** Julie Morales

office per year, and there will be start-up costs in a new SPA. By expanding services, the program could continue focusing services on each district's most impacted regional offices, thereby significantly reducing other administrative costs associated with separating families.

ACLU SoCal respectfully urges the Board to include this investment in the DCFS budget, and pursue further funding to expand pre-petition advocacy countywide—keeping families together, advancing equity, and upholding the civil rights of parents and caregivers.

Thank you for your leadership and for your continued commitment to the well-being of children and families in Los Angeles County.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marisa D London". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Marisa London
Legal Fellow



Santa Clarita Valley Committee on Aging

Independence ♦ Dignity ♦ Quality of Life

27180 Golden Valley Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

February 11, 2026

To: Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

From: Kevin MacDonald, CEO

Re: Department Budget Hearings – Department of Aging and Disabilities

.....

The purpose of this memo is to support the Budget Requests from the Department of Aging and Disabilities.

As a local non-profit organization providing nutrition services to thousands of individuals in the Santa Clarita Valley and Antelope Valley, we strongly support the Department's request for additional funding for Nutrition programs.

The combination of cuts to nutrition programs from federal and state resources and the surging requests for meals from older adults is presenting a crisis. The waiting list for meals in our region has surpassed 700 individuals in just a few months and will be well past 1,000 by the end of the current fiscal year.

It should also be noted that we are still short of funding to meet the needs of current seniors for this year.

The Home Delivered Meals program and Congregate Dining and Pick Up programs are vital to providing nutrition for our older adults. We owe it to those in need to provide fresh meals on a daily basis and we must continue to provide meals for those in need.

We ask you to support the Budget proposal from the Department of Aging and Disabilities as we all work toward addressing the critical issue of nutrition for older adults in Los Angeles County.

Phone: 661-259-9444 email: admin@scv-seniorcenter.org www.scvseniorcenter.org
DBA: SCV Senior Center, Meals on Wheels Santa Clarita Valley,
Meals on Wheels Antelope Valley

JEWISH FAMILY SERVICE LA

February 11, 2026

On behalf of Jewish Family Service LA (JFSLA), we respectfully submit the following comments on the importance of nutrition services for older adults and other support services that help sustain older adults' independence and connection to the community.

Jewish Family Service LA is a nonprofit, non-sectarian organization committed to enhancing the well-being of individuals and families across Los Angeles. For more than a century, JFSLA has provided life-improving services that help the people of Los Angeles live with dignity and exercise self-determination. Supporting vulnerable older adults is central to our mission. Our work ensures that older adults' basic needs are met so they can remain safely housed, socially connected, and have access to food.

Nutrition Services (Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals)

JFSLA provides approximately 250,000 meals annually to nearly 3,300 older adults throughout Los Angeles, meeting roughly one-third of participants' daily nutritional needs and play a critical role in supporting health, independence, and aging in place.

Congregate meal programs reduce social isolation and connect older adults to supportive services, while home-delivered meals offer essential wellness checks for homebound older adults. However, only 61% of our meal services are funded through baseline dollars, with the remaining 39% reliant on temporary funding sources, including ARPA and MOCA. Without these supplemental funds, nearly half of our meal services would be eliminated. In the past two years, five meal sites have closed, meal caps have been implemented, and home-delivered meals are being reduced by 15% due to City funding cuts despite growing demand and increasing waitlists.

Continued funding reduces threats to food security, health outcomes, and social connection for thousands of older adults. Sustained and increased state funding is essential to keep older adults nourished, healthy, and safely housed.

Transportation Services

Reliable transportation allows older adults, especially those who are low income and those with disabilities, to access medical care, groceries, senior centers, and social connections.

Programs are now operating at unsustainable deficits. Without transportation, older adults face isolation, declining health, and higher institutionalization risk. Investing in accessible transit supports independence, safe aging at home, and reduces long-term public costs.

Social Services Program

Funding for social services has remained flat for years and has more recently declined. As a result, JFSLA has been forced to reduce social work staffing significantly. On the Westside (ASA 6), staffing has been reduced from three full-time positions to a 0.5 FTE position, and at West Wilshire (ASA 7), staffing has been reduced to 1.5 FTE positions.

These reductions severely limit our capacity to respond to the growing number of older adults facing complex challenges, including food insecurity, housing instability, financial hardship, and the need for home and respite care. The impending end of MOCA funding in March 2026 further underscores the urgent need for collaboration and sustainable funding to meet the needs of older adults with increasingly limited resources.

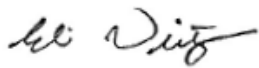
Health Promotion and Wellness Programs

JFSLA offers daily Arthritis Foundation Exercise classes at five senior centers and virtually, serving up to 50 participants per session. These classes help reduce falls, improve mobility, and boost independence.

Additional programs like chair yoga, tai chi, Zumba, arts and crafts, and discussion groups combat social isolation and support both mental and physical health. These wellness services delay institutionalization and lower healthcare costs, making continued state investment essential.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments. If you need additional information, please feel free to contact Lisa Shuger Hublitz, Senior Director of Public Policy and Government Relations, at lshuger@jfsla.org.

Sincerely,



Eli Veitzer
President & CEO

Dear Supervisor Mitchell and Members of the Board,

On behalf of The Helpin Hand Project, I am writing in strong support of Agenda Item #15.

As an organization deeply rooted in underserved communities across Los Angeles County, we see firsthand the direct impact that reductions in Medi-Cal and CalFresh have on the families we serve. In just the past several months, the loss of coverage for over 135,000 residents and food assistance for 80,000 individuals is not just a statistic – it represents parents, children, seniors, and individuals with disabilities who are now navigating increased instability.

At The Helpin Hand Project, our mission is centered on uplifting youth and families through education, wellness, workforce development, and community engagement. Access to healthcare and food security are foundational to everything we work to build. When families are forced to choose between rent, groceries, or a medical appointment, it undermines long-term stability, youth development, and economic mobility.

We strongly support measures that stabilize and protect the County's safety net. Preserving access to essential services ensures that the most vulnerable residents are not disproportionately burdened by federal cuts. Protecting Medi-Cal and CalFresh access is not only compassionate policy – it is sound public health and economic policy.

We appreciate Supervisor Mitchell's leadership in prioritizing health equity and standing in support of low-income families and communities most impacted by these reductions.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony and for your continued commitment to the well-being of Los Angeles County residents.

With appreciation,

Kevon Jones
Executive Director
The Helpin Hand Project
info@helpinhandproject.org
310-956-7569

Letter of Support for the Department of Arts and Culture's FY 2026–27 Budget Request

February 12, 2026

Honorable Chair and Members of the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Dear Supervisors,

On behalf of our community, we write in **support of Director Kristin Sakoda's FY 2026–27 budget request** for the Department of Arts and Culture. The department's mission is to advance arts, culture, and creativity across L.A. County by supporting over **550 arts organizations each year**.

The department currently manages **98 capital projects** and cares for **over 600 artworks** in the County's civic collection, while the majority of its funding is leveraged from non-County sources. Investing in this department yields wide returns in education, youth development, and community vitality.

Director Sakoda's proposal seeks a **\$9.4 million appropriation** and **five additional positions**. Key requests include:

- **\$5.1 M for the Organizational Grant Program** – a one-time infusion to stabilize and expand grants to arts nonprofits.
- **\$0.3 M for administrative cost alignment** – ongoing funds to ensure effective management.
- **\$0.2 M for a Civic Art Project Manager** – to oversee the expanding civic art portfolio.

These modest investments address challenges like underfunded grants, limited staffing, and barriers to participation. Funding the request will help sustain the arts sector, maintain civic artworks, and expand creative opportunities for youth and communities.

We urge you to **approve the Department of Arts and Culture's full budget request**. Thank you for championing the arts and ensuring that creativity continues to flourish throughout Los Angeles County.

Sincerely,

Akib Rahman (Arts for LA)



February 11, 2026

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California 90012

Re: Fiscal Year 2026-27 Departmental Budget Presentations— Maintain Funding for Youth@Work Program

Dear Supervisors,

On behalf of UNITE-LA – a Los Angeles-based nonprofit dedicated to improving economic mobility for individuals from historically underserved communities through increased access to high-quality early childhood education, enhanced college access and success, development of career pathways in high-growth industries, and ensuring workforce readiness – we appreciate the opportunity to submit public comments on the Fiscal Year 2026-27 Departmental Budget Presentations.

We commend the L.A. County Board of Supervisors for its continued leadership in centering equity and systems alignment in this budget season. UNITE-LA strongly supports full funding of Budget Items 2A and 2B for the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity's Youth@Work program, including the requested \$13.2 million investment.

Youth@Work plays a critical role in providing workforce training, wraparound supports, and paid work experience for young adults who have experienced disconnection from school or employment, particularly youth impacted by the foster care, justice, and homelessness systems. These are young people who often face multiple barriers to entering the labor market and are least likely to benefit from traditional workforce programs. Sustained County investment is especially urgent given recent federal changes to CalFresh eligibility requirements, which increase work participation expectations for young adults. Without access to structured, paid workforce opportunities like Youth@Work, many vulnerable young people risk losing essential food benefits while still lacking the experience and credentials needed to secure stable employment.

Youth@Work provides a necessary bridge between public systems and the labor market—helping young adults build skills, earn income, and establish long-term workforce attachment. At a time when federal resources are increasingly uncertain, County leadership is essential to ensure that opportunity youth are not left behind.



We urge the Board to approve full funding for Youth@Work and continue investing in programs that prevent deeper economic instability, strengthen our regional workforce, and advance the County's commitment to equity and economic recovery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carrie Lemmon'.

Carrie Lemmon
Senior Vice President, Systems Change Strategy
UNITE-LA



Today the LA County Board of Supervisors are meeting to discuss funding for several departments and programs, including those that impact the County's children.

I am here today to remind the Supervisors that one of our most important roles as a society is to protect our children. Yet Los Angeles County is ground zero for sex trafficking of minors, and recent laws have turned this into a haven for traffickers. Children are being used as sex slaves. This is the most grotesque of crimes, and unless we work immediately to create a safe environment for our children, we are failing as a society.

Our own District Attorney of LA County pointed out just a few days ago that LA County is a major epicenter for this brutal use and abuse of minor children, girls and women. While Band-Aid measures like Operation Reclaim and Rebuild are touted by the Supervisors during their annual one-week end-of January blitz, very little addresses the root of the problem. In fact, from a trafficker's point of view, it's a message to simply take a week off while the heat is on. It's a predictable push that allows traffickers to adapt, relocate and resume business as usual once the Human Trafficking Prevention/Awareness Month in January is passed.

SEX TRAFFICKING OF UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS

Los Angeles is a sanctuary city and Mayor Karen Bass has disturbingly made clear that ICE isn't welcome and she won't cooperate with them to arrest rapists, murderers, and pedophiles who prey on our county's girls and women. Operation Reclaim and Rebuild doesn't mention undocumented immigrants. Their status remains hidden—because I suspect if the truth comes out, it will be a national embarrassment.

In reality, undocumented immigrants in the United States are among the most vulnerable populations to human trafficking, including sex trafficking, due to factors like fear of deportation, language barriers, economic desperation, and lack of access to legal protections or support networks. And when the Biden-Harris Administration destroyed our border and allowed for unfettered border crossing with little to no vetting, they created the horrific conditions for us to see trafficking on steroids—perpetuated by the Supervisor's silence and hidden statistics.

Data from the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline indicates that immigrants, particularly from Latin America and the Caribbean, make up a significant portion of identified victims; for instance, around 52% of victims with known immigration status were non-U.S. citizens or legal permanent residents between 2015 and 2018, with many from Mexico (58%), Guatemala (12%), and Honduras (7%). Sex trafficking accounts for a subset of these cases, but labor trafficking is more common among this group (77% of Latin American and Caribbean victims). ([Ice.gov](https://www.ice.dhs.gov))



Underage undocumented immigrants (UACs)—defined as minors under 18 without a parent or guardian—face even greater risks of sex trafficking. Studies estimate that 60% of Latin American children attempting solo border crossings are captured by cartels and abused in child pornography or sex trafficking. In the U.S., 75–80% of newly arriving UACs are victims of trafficking, with vulnerabilities amplified by low education levels, language barriers, and foster care involvement. DHS initiatives have uncovered widespread abuse, including cases where children were placed with inadequately vetted sponsors, leading to sexual exploitation, forced labor, or even pregnancies by alleged sponsors. ([dhs.gov](https://www.dhs.gov))

Until the Supervisors are truthful and transparent about the extent of this in Los Angeles today, their “efforts” to combat trafficking will be relegated to a soundbite each end of month January. In their meeting today as they address funding for children’s programs, they should issue a directive to stop hiding the truth from the people of LA County.

A HAVEN FOR TRAFFICKERS

Exacerbating these anemic moves to end trafficking in Los Angeles County, is Senate Bill 357, signed by Governor Newsom and which went into effect January 1, 2023. The measure decriminalized loitering with the intent to engage in prostitution. It ties police officers’ hands since they can no longer stop women and children on the street whom they think are being trafficked. Officers know many of the young women on the street are minors, but because of this law, they can no longer stop them. I urge the Supervisors to join me in how this law has backfired on protecting our children, and exacerbating the budgets they are talking about today.

THE MOST FREQUENTLY CITED AREAS WITH AN UPTICK IN SEX TRAFFICKING:

- **Figueroa Corridor (South Los Angeles, often called "the Blade" or "Kiddie Stroll")** — This remains the most notorious and heavily documented hub, spanning roughly 3–3.5 miles from around Gage Avenue/Imperial Highway northward (e.g., between Slauson and Century Boulevards). Multiple sources describe it as having become "much busier" in recent years, with more girls (including minors), customers, traffickers, and violence. Reports note an expansion from a few intersections to over three miles, increased recruitment from out-of-state or foster care, and ongoing challenges despite targeted enforcement (e.g., multi-agency initiatives, "Dear John" warnings, and felony charges for buyers). It's frequently called the "epicenter" of child sex trafficking in the U.S.
- **Western Avenue Corridor (Koreatown, Larchmont Village, Melrose Hill, and surrounding areas)** — From Santa Monica Boulevard to Olympic Boulevard (and extending south). Residents and businesses have reported a noticeable uptick in street-level activity, including spillover into quieter residential streets (e.g., Oakwood Avenue), with visible sex work at night, encampments, and public acts. Complaints



escalated in late 2025–early 2026, leading to a new multi-agency coalition (announced January 2026) involving the City Attorney, DA, LAPD, and nonprofits like Journey Out. Some speculate it's partly due to displacement from Figueroa crackdowns, though officials suggest new operations ramping up for future demand.

• **Other Mentioned Corridors:**

- **Sepulveda Boulevard (San Fernando Valley)** — Noted as one of the main prostitution areas in LA, with arrests and activity reported in operations.
- **Holt Corridor (Pomona) and Sepulveda Corridor** (broader references) — Included in official briefings as active corridors alongside Figueroa and Western.

DATA AND ACCOUNTABILITY

We need data and we need accountability. Our County Board of Supervisors should work with its taskforce, District Attorney Nathan Hochman and other county agencies to produce clear metrics on what has been done and what has been accomplished.

As the LA County Supervisors contemplate funding levels and needs in their various departments, it is imperative for them to take strong action to combat sex trafficking right under their noses. I stand here today as candidate for Lieutenant Governor of California who seeks to protect our daughters, sisters, aunts, mothers, grandmothers from the horrors of sex trafficking. The budgets that the Supervisors are debating are more than just numbers on a page. They have identities, names, lives.

Saturday is Valentine's Day. This Saturday night, while the "Queens of LA County" are out on their dates and celebrating this annual "Day of Love", I urge them to drive through any one of these corridors and see with their own eyes what is happening to, mostly, these young girls and women. I invite them to do a ride along with me if they wish.

Some of our Supervisors are mothers. I implore them to do the right thing today: don't just continuously engage in abstract talk about dollars for programs. I urge them to think about the true foundations that are needed to provide child support services—and start with public safety dollars that are directed to end LA County being a shameful epicenter of the most horrific acts of modern day slavery happening right under the Supervisors noses—if they can step off their daises and out of this building to actually see what is happening. I urge them to direct funding to protect our most vulnerable and stop the coverup of sex trafficking at the hands of the cartels that exploited the open border policy these same Supervisors championed and now refuse to tell us the numbers.

Let's do this as we get ready to celebrate yet another Valentine's Day.

Stakeholder Support of LA Board of Supervisors Motion to Establish ICE-Free Zones in Los Angeles County

On January 13, 2026, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a motion by Supervisors Lindsey P. Horvath and Hilda L. Solis initiating the development of an ordinance to establish “ICE-Free Zones” across County-owned and County-controlled properties. The Board action directs County Counsel to draft and return an ordinance for Board consideration within 30 days.

Link to the full motion: <https://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/211800.pdf>

The Risks Associated with ICE Raids

ICE is currently staging and conducting unauthorized raids in public spaces such as school parking lots, public parks, public buildings, open spaces and public parking lots etc. These unauthorized “staging areas”, “operations bases” or “processing locations” are often used for unauthorized and often violent immigration enforcement, public harassment and arrests without a warrant, causing significant risk to public safety.

Aggressive “Surprise ICE Raids” cause physical harm and death.

These unauthorized and aggressive surprise tactics terrorize and endanger innocent bystanders and those being chased down by federal immigration agents. In Camarillo a man died after falling 30 feet, running from federal agents chasing him. A man fleeing immigration agents in Monrovia was struck and killed on the 210 Freeway. Innocent children are being arrested and people shot during ICE created public chaos.

Lindsey Horvath has stated: "Los Angeles County will not allow our public property to be used by ICE to cause harm and to frighten people away from receiving services and support," Horvath said. "When residents are scared to seek care or show up in public spaces, something is deeply wrong."

Stakeholder also requests that the following entities and departments give their support to the Board of Supervisors’ motion and proposed ordinance.

City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks
Los Angeles Police Department
Los Angeles Unified School District
Council District 3 – Councilmember Bob Blumenfield

Signed as a private citizen,
Juliet Schwarz



February 12, 2026

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VIA ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

Honorable Members of the Board,

On behalf of AFSCME District Council 36 and our membership of Jewish Vocational Services Southern California represented by Local 800, we would like to express our unwavering support of the Greater Avenues for Independence (GAIN) program remaining with this agency. This incredible program benefiting more than 15,000 people annually, would not be possible without the dedication and passion of nearly 120 AFSCME members. These direct service providers care deeply about their work and the communities they serve.

We urge you to renew the GAIN program contract administered through JVS to maintain continuity of access for the individuals who rely on these services. If this contract is eliminated, these union represented workers will lose employment security at a time in which the county is attempting address the increasing reliance on the social services safety net. We also believe it is in the best interest of the county and the community at large to retain this contract.

In Solidarity,

Matthew Maldonado
Executive Director
AFSCME District Council 36

CC: Lilia Arbona
President
AFSCME Local 800