



September 11, 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!

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH



Pasadena Latino Heritage Parade & Festival Committee

National Hispanic Heritage Month honors the culture, heritage, and contributions of Hispanic Americans each year. The event began in 1968 when Congress deemed the week including September 15 and 16 National Hispanic Heritage Week to celebrate the contributions and achievements of the diverse cultures within the Hispanic community.

Each year a different theme for the month is selected and a poster is created to reflect that theme.

Check out Los Angeles area Heritage Month events!

Heritage Events

SEPTEMBER 1 WAS NATIONAL FOOD BANK DAY!



The L.A. Regional Food Bank feeds local individuals and families. Learn more about how to make a donation or access a food distribution site near you.

[LA Regional Food Bank](#)

ETHIOPIAN NEW YEAR IS SEPTEMBER 12



Enkutatash (Ge'ez: እንቁጥላሽ) is a public holiday in coincidence of New Year in Ethiopia and Eritrea. It occurs on Meskerem 1 on the Ethiopian calendar, which is **11 September** (or, during a leap year, 12 September) according to the Gregorian calendar.

Read about the history of Little Ethiopia (Los Angeles) [here](#).

Learn more about Ethiopian events and culture at LA Little Ethiopia Cultural and Resource Center [here](#).

[Definitive Guide to Little Ethiopia](#)

ARMENIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY IS SEPTEMBER 21

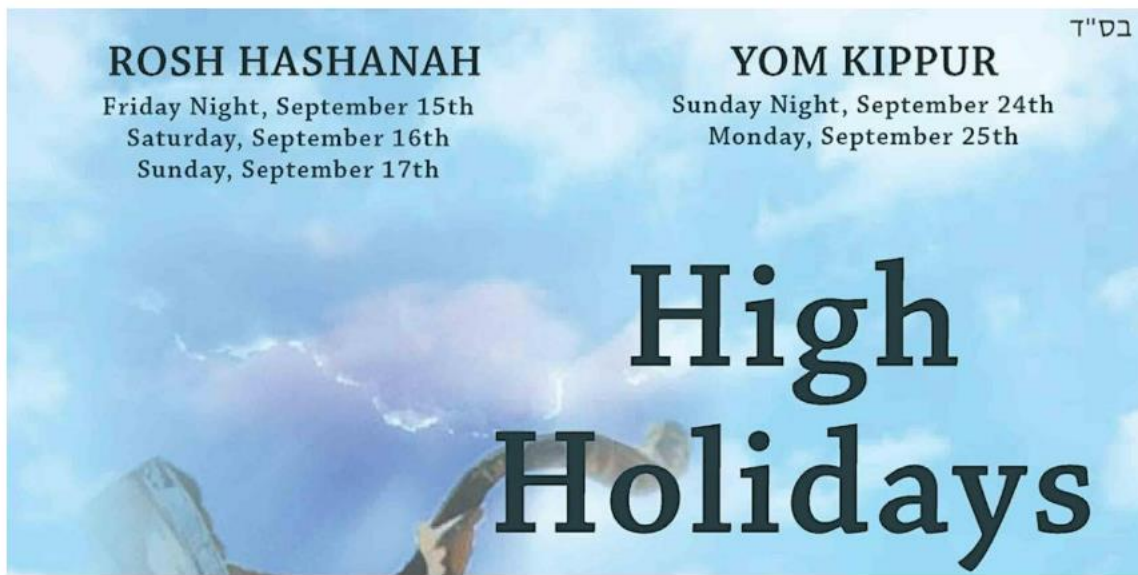


Armenian Independence Day is commemorated every September 21. It is a holiday to celebrate the independence of the country. On this day Armenia officially became independent from the USSR with the adoption of the Declaration of State Sovereignty.

The Annual Armenian Independence Day Festival featuring live entertainment, authentic cuisine, cultural displays and fun for all. Free admission to general public.

Sunday, September 17th at 11AM at Verdugo Park in Glendale, CA.

JEWISH HIGH HOLIDAYS CELEBRATED THIS MONTH



Rosh Hashanah is a two-day festival and considered a time of serious introspection, personal growth, and spiritual rebirth. Learn More about the holiday [here](#).

Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, is the culmination of the Jewish High Holidays. The most solemn day of the Jewish year, Yom Kippur is traditionally observed by praying and fasting.

For finding more connections within the community click [here](#).

[Find Jewish Events](#)

SEPTEMBER 22 IS NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE DAY



Native American Day is celebrated on the fourth Friday of September every year, falling on **September 22** this year, as a way of honoring those who have been a part of the American tradition even before the nation of the U.S.A. came into being.

[Video](#)

FOCUS GROUP RESULTS ON 2024 MEDI-CAL EXPANSION TO NEWLY ELIGIBLE IMMIGRANTS

 Webinar – Communicating about the 2024 Medi-Cal Expansion to Newly...Watch laterShare



- Both fact sheets provided **clear, complete, and easy-to-understand** information:
 - The blue box stating that applying “*will not affect your immigration status*” stood out.
 - Other standouts were “*undocumented immigrants*,” “*low income*,” and “*26-49*” (“All In” version).
- The headline “**You and Your Family**” immediately draws respondents in.
- The **imagery of an entire family** allows respondents to see themselves reflected while the message of “age does not matter.”
 - While “all eligible people” in “Family” resonated with many, some single respondents also wanted to see themselves represented.
- In the “All In” fact sheet, there was **mixed reaction to specifying the 26-49 age range**:
 - Some were comforted/reassured when seeing their specific age called out as being eligible; others were confused when “children, teenagers, and older adults” are mentioned in the same sentence.





Watch on  YouTube

Starting January 2024, all Californians age 26 to 49 with low incomes can enroll in Medi-Cal, regardless of immigration status. This is the last age group that is still excluded from the program because of immigration status; that barrier has already been removed for children, young adults, and seniors age 50 and over.

To inform outreach efforts in 2024, focus groups were conducted with undocumented Californian immigrants who will be newly eligible for Medi-Cal next year.

See more details about the focus group study [here](#).

[Watch Webinar](#)

NORTH HOLLYWOOD HOMELESS CONNECT DAY

HOMELESS CONNECT DAY

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2023
9:00 AM. - 1:00 P.M.



Homeless Connect Day features government, legal and housing assistance on site to individuals and families.

St. Charles Borromeo Church

10800 Moorpark Street

North Hollywood, CA 91602

[More Info](#)

LOS ANGELES COUNTY PARKS' FREE SNACK PROGRAM RETURNS THIS FALL!

FREE SNACK PROGRAM



This Fall, the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation brings its Free Snack Program to 46 LA County Parks, beginning on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, and conclude May 24, 2024.

Children 18 and younger are invited to receive a nutritious lunch and snack that includes vegetables, fruits, and healthy dairy products like milk, string cheese, and yogurt. Snacks are served Monday through Friday, between the hours of 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

[Find Program Near You](#)

NOW OPEN: ARTS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM



The [Arts Internship Program](#) provides eligible Los Angeles County arts nonprofits, municipalities, and social justice and social service organizations providing arts programming, grants to hire undergraduate and community college students for 400 hours of paid work experience. The program will maintain a flexible timeline to continue to be responsive to both students and organizations.

Application Window: September 6, 2023 - October 11, 2023 | 11:59PM (PDT)

[More Info](#)

RESOURCES TO EVERYONE IMPACTED BY THE DOUBLE-STRIKE

Hollywood's Double Strike

Resources for Workers and Businesses Impacted by the SAG-AFTRA and WGA Strikes

The Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO) have created new SAG-AFTRA and WGA [Strike Resources](#) for **LA County residents out of work**. We contributed numerous resources, links, and organizations that were shared by DEO, along with our Department of Arts and Culture website for our grants, resources, and artist opportunities.

Resources

NEW LA HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY RESOURCE FOR SERVING UNDOCUMENTED AND IMMIGRANT CLIENTS

New LAHSA Resource for Serving Undocumented and Immigrant Clients

(available both in English and Spanish)!

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) has created a non-exhaustive list of resources that are available to certain immigrant populations, including those who are undocumented. This **Immigrant Homeless Services Guide for Service Providers** includes links and eligibility information on resources such as LAHSA's Prevention Programs, CalFresh, Medi-Cal, and the Cash Assistance Program for Immigrants. This **document is also available in Spanish.**

Please keep in mind that this document does not constitute legal advice, and any individuals interested in receiving any of the resources listed should reach out directly to the entity administering the program, such as LAHSA, the Los Angeles County Department of Public and Social Services, and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health.

You can view the documents on LAHSA's website here:

English Version

Spanish Version

DPSS GROW PROGRAM IS NOW THE NEW START PROGRAM



DPSS is excited to announce the new
START PROGRAM!
Previously the GROW Program

Visit our webpage at <https://bit.ly/GR-START>

dpss.lacounty.gov



The new Skills and Training to Achieve Readiness for Tomorrow (START) program, previously named the General Relief Opportunities to Work (GROW) program, empowers General Relief participants with skills and training to navigate the workforce and gain financial independence.

[Learn More](#)

COMMUNITY IMPACT ARTS GRANT PROGRAM (CIAG) - FOR NONARTS-SPECIFIC NONPROFIT PROGRAMS



CIAG recognizes the value of arts and culture as a vital tool for cross-sector and civic problem solving across a range of issue areas. Nonprofit organizations whose primary mission provides services other than arts programming to support arts projects and programming as part of larger missions to provide services to individuals and communities.

[More Info](#)

GREEN TOGETHER COLLABORATIVE OFFERING RESOURCES TO PACOIMA AND SUN VALLEY RESIDENTS



- [Frequently Asked Questions](#) for GRID's free solar program for homeowners.
- Learn more about GRID's [solar installer training program](#)
- [Univision coverage of GRID Alternatives' free solar program](#)
- Learn more about the Green Together Collaborative and climate action in the San Fernando Valley [here](#).
- Learn more about Transformative Climate Communities funding [here](#).

Watch the Univision video below for more information on the solar panel program for homeowners below.

[Watch Video](#)

METROLINK'S MOBILITY-4-ALL LOW-INCOME FARE PROGRAM



Metrolink’s new Low-Income Fare Program Mobility-4-All is now available, offering Metrolink tickets for a 50 percent off discount in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura Counties. Tickets are only available for purchase from Metrolink ticket machines. Learn more at [Mobility-4-All \(metroinktrains.com\)](https://www.metroinktrains.com/mobility-4-all).

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](#)