

ESPERANZA NEWS

The Community Newsletter of El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.

elproyecto.us

2020, Issue 3

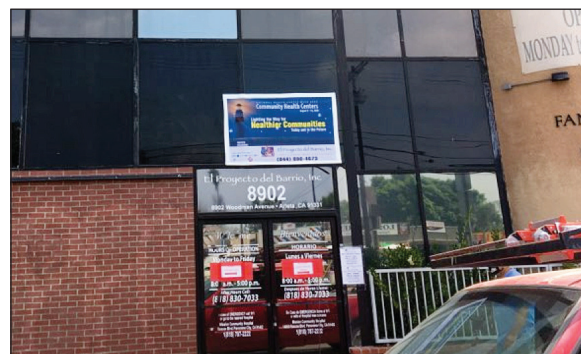
El Proyecto Celebrates Health Center Week

National Health Center Week has a 30-year history. The annual celebration during August raises awareness about the mission and accomplishments of America's Community Health Centers over the past five decades. The theme for the celebration this year is "Lighting the Way for Healthier Communities Today and in the Future." Community Health Centers fill a critical role in the national, state, and local responses to the coronavirus pandemic. This year the week-long celebration honors those frontline providers and staff who are essential workers during the COVID-19 pandemic. From the very beginning of the crisis, Community Health Centers began finding innovative ways to provide preventative and primary care to their patients.

El Proyecto has provided quality social services and medical care to our communities for almost 50 years. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the observation of National Health Center Week is significantly different from past celebrations. Previously we held in-person community celebrations and hosted state and local officials and Congressional representatives at our clinic sites.



National Health Center Week signage was displayed prominently at all El Proyecto health care sites.



Staff Appreciated during National Health Center Week



Pizza was supplied for lunch for all El Proyecto clinic and Program locations to honor staff for their dedication.

A special thanks to El Proyecto Board Member Maria Townsend, of Providence Holy Cross Medical Center, for providing lunch for our Arleta and Winnetka Clinics.

Our employees are committed to providing quality care to our patients every day. During the COVID-19 pandemic, they are on the frontline to serve our communities. National Health Center Week's **Staff Appreciation Day** was the perfect time to demonstrate our appreciation to our team by providing lunch.



Each of our El Proyecto del Barrio employees is a Hero!



El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.

HOPE • COMMITMENT • EXCELLENCE

El Proyecto Board Chairman Robert "Bob" Winn



"Bob has brought tremendous leadership and vision to our Board of Directors and throughout the SFV community, and we are ecstatic that he is serving as our Board Chair." — President & CEO Corinne Sánchez

Bob has served in several leadership positions on the El Proyecto Board of Directors since 2013. He was named Chairman of the Board in 2018. Bob was born in Birmingham, and he is a proud native of Sawyerville, Alabama. He attended the University of Maryland, and he earned a degree in Business Administration. Bob served his country with honor and distinction in the United States Army.

Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Bob was one of 500 people who marched with Congressman and legendary civil rights leader John Lewis from a Selma church to the Pettus Bridge in 1965 on "Bloody Sunday." For almost 50 years, Bob has been working to improve the community by solving conflicts, empowering people, and creating positive change. He works to advance racial and economic justice across Los Angeles County with a focus on the San Fernando and Antelope Valleys.

A Memory with John Lewis

Bob and the late Congressman John R. Lewis were together in 1997 when they participated in a march in Washington, D.C. They discussed their historic experiences during the "Bloody Sunday" march at the Pettus Bridge in 1965.



Congressman John Lewis, Robert Winn, and Zedar Broadous, former President SFV Branch, NAACP (from left to right).

WorkSource Holds Annual Hiring Fair

El Proyecto WorkSource held its 2020 Hiring Fair in partnership with LA Family Housing. The Hiring Fair was held outdoors to observe COVID-19 health and safety regulations, including social distancing, masks, and sanitizers in place. Job seekers had first hire opportunities with employers, including Mission Foods, Amazon, Vallarta, Allied Universal, People Ready Staffing, Ready Mix Concrete, Jack in the Box, and United One Global.



LA City Council President representative Marcos Sanchez; Hector Pacheco, member of the LA City Workforce Development Board; and John Alvarez, LAUSD Navigator, greeted attendees. Congressman Tony Cárdenas provided canopies for the day and a certificate of thanks to employers and host agencies. El Proyecto's Clinic ambassadors provided health service information.



Many job seekers at the hiring fair received immediate job offers!

For more information:
El Proyecto WorkSource Center
9024 Laurel Boulevard
Sun Valley, CA 91352
(818) 504-0334

El Proyecto Supports Supervisor Hilda Solis



President/CEO Corinne Sánchez and staff members were present for an important presentation by County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis to the Baby2Baby nonprofit organization.



El Proyecto staff members Aracely Robles and Ricky Garcia join Supervisor Hilda Solis and Corinne Sánchez (from left to right).

At Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis' direction, Los Angeles County recently awarded Baby2Baby a \$1 million grant, the single largest donation Baby2Baby has ever received. Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Baby2Baby has partnered with Supervisor Solis to distribute thousands of diapers, wipes, and cans of formula throughout the Supervisorial First District, including at El Proyecto events.



Our Early Education Center in East Los Angeles received a generous donation of diapers and formula from Baby2Baby. Aracely Robles, El Proyecto Site Supervisor, said these items will be given to parents of our enrolled children.

Our Hilda L. Solis Early Education Center is located at 4824 Civic Center Way, Los Angeles, CA 90022. Contact the Center at 323-796-4200.

Patient-Centered Medical Home Team meets with NCQA

El Proyecto's Patient-Centered Medical Home (PCMH) team met for a virtual evaluation of our program with National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) representatives. Clinic administrators and executive management were present to answer questions and provide program information. The PCMH is a team-based health care delivery model designed to provide comprehensive and continuous medical care to patients with maximal health outcomes.

Patient-centered care is the practice of caring for patients in ways that are meaningful and valuable to the individual patient. It includes listening to, informing and involving patients in their care. Care is provided in a culturally and linguistically appropriate manner. In seeking the highest-quality health care for limited-resourced communities, HRSA supports centers that attain and maintain National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) PCMH Recognition by providing quality improvement awards and technical assistance.



The NCQA Accreditation and Patient-Centered Medical Home Recognition Initiative supports health centers working towards better care and lower costs for patients.

YouthSource Centers Launch Free Health Training Courses

El Proyecto YouthSource Centers launched two health occupational training courses offered at no cost to youth ages 18-24. Training runs 7-18 weeks and will award industry recognized certification as a Medical Assistant or Pharmacy Technician. These occupations are in high demand in the health industry. Contact one of the El Proyecto YouthSource locations below for more information:

San Fernando 11844 Glenoaks Blvd. San Fernando, CA 91340 (747) 877-3030	Canoga Park 8399 Topanga Canyon Blvd. #210 Canoga Park, CA 91304 (818) 710-5236	Sun Valley 9024 Laurel Canyon Blvd. Sun Valley CA 91352 (818) 771-0184
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Every El Proyecto Hero has a story!



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COVID-19 A Hero's Story
Brenda Sandoval
Business Career Development Specialist
YouthSource Program

Brenda Sandoval is in the business of making connections. She is responsible for linking businesses with young jobseekers in our YouthSource Program. Brenda works with a large network of businesses to match qualified and talented young people with a great job. Employers need to find the right person for their job opening. Brenda works with a great team at our YouthSource Center to provide qualified and well-screened youth for our business partners. Brenda has worked with hundreds of employers. Her experience and skills enable her to make connections that create a win-win situation.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Brenda maintains her communication and linkages to provide services to her business partners. Telephone, email, and virtual communications continue to bring positive results for her. The business relationships she established before COVID-19 remain strong. During the pandemic, Brenda searches for new business opportunities. She knows that some companies have increased demands for certain jobs in response to the spread of the Coronavirus. Making these important connections keeps Brenda focused. She is doing a great job for our customers during the coronavirus pandemic.

Before COVID-19, Brenda was involved in community outreach activities. She attended the North Valley Occupational Center Annual Job Fair and Open House held in February 2020. Large gatherings, like health fairs and job fairs, were banned in March 2020.

Brenda was a client at our YouthSource Center. She was seeking guidance and a job. "They helped me get back into school and obtain my Bachelor's Degree in Sociology. I want to offer the same opportunities the youth program offered me to others." After finishing her degree, Brenda applied for a job at El Proyecto and was hired in August 2022.

Our YouthSource Centers provide comprehensive employment and training services for youth ages 18-24. Our services ensure that young people that have barriers to employment or education get the skills and education that is required to continue their education or enter the workforce. El Proyecto YouthSource Centers are major players servicing the low income, underserved youth and underserved youth communities with a significant result oriented outcome such as education and jobs for the growing young communities for the whole San Fernando Valley.

The El Proyecto YouthSource Program is funded by the City of Los Angeles Department of Social Services (DSS) and the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Health (DPH).

El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc. • Outreach • 8932 Woodman Avenue, Arleta, CA 91331
Website: www.elproyectodelbarrio.org • Phone: (818) 810-3500, Extension 7042

A letter from the President/CEO Corinne Sánchez, as well as a COVID-19 Hero Pin (shown below), was mailed personally to each El Proyecto del Barrio Hero.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from Corinne Sánchez

A Letter to El Proyecto del Barrio Heroes

To honor and acknowledge the dedication of our employees during this year's COVID-19 pandemic, we implemented the "El Proyecto Hero Stories" campaign. Each of our heroes received the following letter.

Please accept my thanks for your extraordinary contributions. Your outstanding service during this unprecedented health crisis allows El Proyecto to provide critical medical and social services for our patients. Your unwavering commitment to overcome challenges created by this pandemic is admirable.



The COVID-19 pandemic continues to negatively impact people around the world. Each of you is a critically essential combatant in the war against COVID-19. In the communities that El Proyecto is committed to serving, we see and understand the struggles that take place daily within these families.

As a gesture to show our gratitude and acknowledge your selfless dedication, please accept the enclosed "COVID-19 Hero Pin." El Proyecto will continue to recognize heroes, like you, who emerge during this crisis. Thank you for your commitment as El Proyecto continues our mission to serve communities most in need.

Sincerely,
Corinne Sánchez, Esq.
President & CEO

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