

# ESPERANZA NEWS

The Community Newsletter of El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.

www.elproyecto.us

2023, Issue 1

## El Proyecto Serves the Unhoused on Christmas Day



*Tiffany Haddish (center) poses with the El Proyecto clinical team that supported the Laugh Factory's Christmas event by providing free health care services to participants.*

El Proyecto made free health services available for more than 2,000 unhoused and underserved people at the Laugh Factory's Annual Free Christmas Dinner and Show on December 25, 2022.

The El Proyecto team joined some of comedy's brightest stars, including Tiffany Haddish, Tim Allen and Craig Robinson in the event that four more decades has offered a free Christmas feast and comedy show at Laugh Factory Hollywood. El Proyecto provided free flu shots, COVID-19 vaccinations and boosters and health screenings.

## A Memorable Evening at the Laugh Factory



*Laugh Factory Owner Jamie Masada (right) hosted a free comedy show on October 17, 2022 to thank El Proyecto's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary sponsors. It was a great evening!*



*Comedy star Craig Robinson with El Proyecto clinical team at Laugh Factory on Christmas.*



*El Proyecto clinical team that provided free health care services to the underserved.*



El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.

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# Assemblymember Gabriel Names El Proyecto “Hero of the Year”



**Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel presents framed resolution to Corinne Sánchez El Proyecto’s President & CEO.**

State Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel (D-Woodland Hills) hosted a special awards ceremony recognizing the achievements and contributions of individuals and organizations who have positively impacted the San Fernando Valley over the past year and made it a better place to live and work. Assemblymember Gabriel presented special California state legislature resolutions acknowledging their community work in San Fernando Valley to each of the 13 honorees. The recipients included activists, civic and community leaders, educators, and small business owners. El Proyecto and its employees were named “Community Heroes of the Year.”



**Corinne is with El Proyecto YouthSource Director, Haimanot Fekadu (left) and El Proyecto Board Member, Maria Townsend (right). Named Business Owners of the Year, Dale and Monique Mascari joined for a photo opportunity.**

## First Foundation Bank Virtual Tour of the WorkSource Center

El Proyecto acknowledges and appreciates First Foundation Bank for its generous support of El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.’s 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.

Executives from First Foundation Bank asked to virtually tour the WorkSource Center and YouthSource Center.

This provided an excellent opportunity for them to see the facility and learn more about the impact El Proyecto’s WorkSource and YouthSource have for clients.

First Foundation was also able to speak with several of our clients, who made a great impression discussing the accomplishments they have made with El Proyecto’s help.

El Proyecto will work with First Foundation to continue holding financial literacy workshops for clients at the WorkSource.



**Brittney Grimes worked with El Proyecto as a participant in the Transitional Subsidized Employment program and was later hired as WorkSource staff. Malaysia Henderson was also a part of the Transitional Subsidized Employment program and she returned to school to complete hours for her Teacher’s Aid Certification.**



# El Proyecto Holds Corporate Board Planning Retreat



**Board Chair Bob Winn greets fellow Board members Maria Avila, Helen Madrid-Worthen, and Maria Townsend at the retreat.**

The Board Retreat is essential to El Proyecto's future goals and strategies for the next three (3) years. This Retreat was an excellent opportunity for creative thinking and strategic planning for the organization. Key El Proyecto managers presented reports for review and discussion. An essential part of a successful retreat is a great facilitator. El Proyecto was delighted to welcome back a skilled trainer and group leader, Ms. Sandra Carter, retired Urban League Vice President, to lead the discussions for the day. Ms. Carter will draft a report and final recommendations.



**Attendees Edith Medina, Leticia Vasquez, Greg Waskul and Sandra Corner.**



**Board Vice-Chair, Dr. Ambrosini (standing) with Managed Care Director, Ruth Novodor.**



**CEO Corinne Sánchez welcomes facilitator Sandra Carter to the Board Retreat.**

## El Proyecto Congratulates Supervisor Hilda L. Solis



Supervisor Hilda L. Solis was sworn in for her third term as Supervisor for the First District of Los Angeles County on December 5, 2022. El Proyecto is grateful for the Supervisor's recognition and support of the work we are doing at the Hilda L. Solis East Los Angeles Early Education Center in East Los Angeles and at our medical centers in Azusa and Baldwin Park in the San Gabriel Valley. Her generous support allows us to continue and expand the community's access to vital human services

## Meet El Proyecto Board Treasurer Jim Garrison

Jim Garrison is president of Mesa Pacific, LLC, a company he established in 2010 for investment management and asset leasing. Jim serves as the Board Treasurer for El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc. and is a board member for several distinguished organizations. Jim has been the recipient of the Boys and Girls Club of the SFV Golden Hands Award, Teamsters National Hispanic Caucus Community Award, Dolores Huerta Foundation's Richard Chavez Memorial Award, and numerous other recognitions. The San Fernando Valley Business Journal has named Jim among the San Fernando Valley's most influential 200 business leaders every year since 2016. Jim and his wife Rachel reside in Glendale and have four grown children and eight grandchildren. One of their shared passions is making Chicano artwork accessible to Angelenos through their support of local artists and public exhibitions. Rachel and Jim enjoy travel, boating, and skiing.



## Anissa Alfaro, FNP Receives Award

Congratulations to Anissa Alfaro, FNP, on receiving a HRSA National Health Service Corps (NHSC LRP) Award. NHSC is a clinician recruitment and retention program that aims to reduce health workforce shortages in underserved areas. The program was designed to help build healthy communities by providing loan repayment to qualified health care professionals dedicated to working in underserved areas. In exchange for assistance with loan repayment, award recipients commit to at least two years of service at a NHSC-approved site, such as El Proyecto. i “I can’t begin to tell you how thankful I am for this award,” Anissa said. This country offers so much...we just have to reach out and get it.”



***At the El Proyecto Azusa Clinic: Ms. Alfaro (center) with Dr. Karmen Tatulian, Medical Director; Corinne Sánchez, President/CEO; Mary Hernandez, COO; and Christian Garcia, Azusa Clinic Manager.***

**ESPERANZA NEWS**

## PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

from Corinne Sánchez

### Preparing El Proyecto for the Next 50 Years

After finishing a remarkably successful 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, which included more than \$2 million of supporting gifts from our friends and colleagues, we turn our focus to the future—and our next 50 years.

We plan to continue our upward arc, growing our health and human services that bring so much hope to our communities, thanks to the dedicated and courageous El Proyecto staff who have served those in need in the community so heroically.

Today, we are the eighth-largest nonprofit in the San Fernando Valley and one of the 25 largest in the Los Angeles area. We offer health care, behavioral health, adult and youth employment and child development services in the San Fernando and San Gabriel Valleys, East Los Angeles and San Bernardino.

We lengthened our stride during the pandemic. Now we are planning how to provide more and better service to the community in the future. But one thing will never change—our Spirit of Esperanza. For wherever there is El Proyecto, there will always be hope.



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**El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.**

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