

Together We Count

NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

2019 ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT REPORT



Support vital programs like the Neighborhood Leadership Program by participating in the 2020 Census. Make sure you get counted.



Neighborhood Leadership Program Neighborhood Leader Achievement Dinner

Monday, January 6, 2020 — 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Grand Long Beach, 4101 E. Willow St.

Sponsored by Marathon Petroleum Foundation

On behalf of the Long Beach Development Services Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau, I am pleased to welcome you to the Neighborhood Leadership Program (NLP) Neighborhood Leader Achievement. This dinner is made possible by the generous support of the Marathon Petroleum Foundation!

This is an opportunity to recognize and celebrate neighborhood leaders for all your hard work. The dinner kicks off recruitment of new leaders to participate in the NLP's Class of 2020.

The Neighborhood Leadership Program thrives with the active involvement of neighborhood leaders engaged in recruiting and training new leaders in our community. Your participation will help us to continue this critically acclaimed program. The success of the program is due to the hard work of staff and volunteers who work tirelessly and include participants that reflect the diversity of our city. Thank you for inviting a friend or family member who is a potential candidate to our Neighborhood Leader Achievement dinner. You all are an inspiration to show how ordinary people can do extraordinary things to make Long Beach a better place to live. Enjoy this evening of food, friends, and fun!

Margaret Madden

Neighborhood Improvement Officer

Neighborhood Leadership Program (Class of 1994)

Together We Count

This issue of the NLP's Alumni Achievement Report highlights our graduate's collaborative efforts throughout Long Beach's neighborhoods. This year, we celebrate the Neighborhood Leadership Program's partnership with Marathon Petroleum Foundation and the importance of working together to successfully complete grassroots projects in the International City. Graduates cohosted neighborhood clean-up events in the AOC7, Central, Hamilton, Roosevelt, Washington School, West East Side and Willmore City, and West Long Beach neighborhoods utilizing the Neighborhood Clean-up Assistance Program. During 2019, NLP alumni coordinated community events and projects in neighborhoods. Some of these events are highlighted here. Remember to encourage all your neighbors to participate in the 2020 Census. Vital programs like Neighborhood Leadership Program depend on census results to receive funding.

2019 Alumni Support Team

The Neighborhood Leadership Program has an Alumni Support Team composed of graduate volunteers who help train the next generation of grassroots Long Beach neighborhood leaders. The alumni who make up the team live across Long Beach and represent the diversity of our community. The 2019 team was made up of the following graduates: **Octavio Mojica** (Class of 2014), **Stacey Morrison** (Class of 2015), **Ayleen Mojica-Muñoz** (Class of 2018), **Gustavo Orozco Gomez** (Class of 2018), **Sinara Sagn** (Class of 2018), **Maximilian Tokarsky** (Class of 2018), and **Tom Underhill** (Class of 2015).

AOC7

Mary Simmons (Class of 2012), **Cassandra Davis** (Class of 2012), **Tommie Simmons** (Class of 2012), **Andre Beasley** (Class of 2012), **Jesus Lopez** (Class of 2014), and **Rocio Torres** (Class of 1997)

served in lead roles working together to develop a master plan in order to be eligible to apply for up to \$8 million in funds. In May of 2019, AOC7 Board Members Mary Simmons, Jesus Lopez, Cassandra Davis, and Rocio Torres competed at the Neighborhoods, USA annual conference in Palm Springs, CA to compete for the national Neighborhood of the Year

award. AOC7 won the First Place Award for Social Revitalization/Neighborliness category (and a \$500 cash prize) and also won the national Neighborhood of the Year Grand Prize Award (and a \$1,000 cash prize.) The association was awarded the Coalition for California (\$1,000) grant and encouraged community members to "Take The Clean Air Day Pledge" @cleanair.



The National Award Winning AOC7 Annual Literacy Fair Team: **Mary Simmons** (Class of 2012), **Cassandra Davis** (Class of 2012), **Tommie Simmons** (Class of 2012), **Andre Beasley** (Class of 2012), **Jesus Lopez** (Class of 2014), and **Rocio Torres** (Class of 1997)

org. They also organized an event in October 2019 with volunteers to help water and care for 300 I Dig Long Beach street trees they helped to plant over the past five years.

City of San Bernardino Neighborhood Leadership Program

Margaret Madden (Class of 1994), **Francisco Rodriguez** (Class of 2004), and **Reyna Ochoa** (Class of 2006), helped the City of San Bernardino launch their own Neighborhood Leadership Academy with ideas and inspiration from the award-winning Long Beach program.

Day of Discovery Volunteers

The following graduates served as Day of Discovery 2019 tour guides. Thank you for your help!

Alice Robinson, Bryant Ben, Colleen McDonald, Dan Pressburg, Stacey Morrison, Tom Underhill, Emily Kiwa Tanaka, Esperanza Ochoa, Jerry Fink, Jesus Lopez, Juanita Wilson, Kelly Carroll, Pat Long, Renee Rios, Renette Mazza, Rocio Torres, Sharon McLucas, Sherry Martinez, Val Lerch, Will Cullen, Juanita Wilson, Isela Zarate.

I Dig Long Beach

Margaret Madden (Class of 1994) credits the Neighborhood Leadership Program for teaching her grant proposal writing skills that have helped her to successfully win over \$2M in grants to improve Long Beach neighborhoods. In her capacity as the City's Neighborhood Improvement Officer, Margaret helped organize twelve street tree planting events with neighborhood groups and 1,500 volunteers in 2019 as part of the initiative. Margaret partnered with several Neighborhood Leadership Program alumni to help build the urban forest in their Long Beach neighborhoods, including **Karla Jimenez Teran** (Class of 2017) and her parents group at Bobbie Smith Elementary School, **Renette Maza** (Class of 2018), and **Jerry Fink**



Many thanks to the alumni that volunteered at an **I Dig Long Beach Event** including the team **Orange County Credit Union**

(Class of 2018), and their Hamilton Neighborhood Association neighbors, and two tree care day events with **Mary Simmons** (Class of 2012) and her AOC7 neighborhood association.

LB In Your City News

Jeremiah Rosborough (Class of 2019) and **Dusty Stiggers** (Class of 2017) served in a lead role for LB In Your City News, an organization they founded in 2014. They were inspired to make a difference to address the lack of knowledge of video production in the community. LB In Your City News captures the essence of culture, embraces diversity, and reflects the positive perspective of news in the community. Jeremiah and Dusty networked with various industry experts and community leaders to promote journalism by creating professional opportunities in multimedia. Their goal is to develop public speaking, team building, and interpersonal skills in multimedia to serve the Long Beach community.

Long Beach Environmental Alliance

John Kindred (Class of 2013), **Sokha Ny** (Class of 2018), **Audrey Ridenour** (Class of 2018), and **Gus Orozco** (Class of 2018) served in leadership roles as members of the Long

Beach Environmental Alliance. During 2019, the group hosted 11 beach and cigarette butt clean ups at Alamitos Beach. On April 27, 2019, the group also partnered to help host the Medical Center Pharmacy Take Back project to keep expired pharmaceutical drugs out of the landfill and waterways. In addition, on Saturday, August 10, 2019 Long Beach Environmental Alliance volunteers removed 12 pounds of cigarette butts from Long Beach bus stops as part of a project with the Long Beach Health Department, Long Beach Police Department, and Long Beach Transit.

Long Beach Filipino Festival

Dante Mapanao (Class of 2019) and **Joy Mendoza** (Class of 2011) volunteered to make the Long Beach Filipino Festival possible. The event took place on Sunday, December 15, 2019 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Browning High School.

Long Beach Zine Fest

Emily Kiwa Tanaka (Class of 2011) and **Ziba Zehdar** (Class of 2016) are part of the Long Beach Zine Fest (LBZF) organizing team. On Sunday, September 8, 2019, 4,000+ people attended the one day event at EXPO Art Center in

Bixby Knolls. Zines (pronounced zeens) are self-published magazines featuring anything from poetry, photography, illustrations, stories, and more, were celebrated with a zine marketplace featuring over 100 zinesters sharing their creations. Local music, free artist workshops, panel discussions, and local foods were also presented. This year, InspiredLBC hosted the Hello Welcome Live Art Battle. Also, Long Beach Public Library Studio hosted the CHILL ZONE & MAKER ZONE.

Neighborhood Clean Ups

Renette Mazza and **Jerry Fink** (Both Class of 2018) hosted monthly clean ups in their Hamilton neighborhood, removed several tons of trash and debris, organized and hosted tree planting events to plant a total of over 400 trees in their neighborhood in recent years.

NLP Candidate Interviews

The following graduates served on Class of 2019 candidate interviews. Thank you for your help! Anthony Formoso, Crystal West, Don Sutton, Dusty Stiggers, Gloria Jaramillo, Isela Zarate, Jenilee Arnaldo, Jimmy Gleeson, Jose Jaramillo, Karen Reside, Kelly Nhim, Lewis Brownson, Lucero Marquez, Marta McCoy, Mary Simmons, Nery Hernandez, Nubia Flores Cedeño, Pat Long, Paula Trzicky, Raul Nario, Jr., Renette Mazza, Roger Abea, Sean Long, Teresa Gonzalez, Tommie Simmons, Val Lerch, and Boniface Tsobnang.

NLP Alumni at MLK Parade

NLP graduates participated in the 2019 the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade. Over a dozen graduates marched in the parade and several graduates volunteered at the Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau booth at Dr. Martin King, Jr. Park community celebration to help invite residents to participate in the Class of 2019 program. Thank you to all the Neighborhood Leadership Program



Many thanks to the alumni that volunteered at an **NLP Alumni at MLK Parade** and served as ambassadors for the program at this event

Alumni who served as ambassadors for the program at this event including, **Gus Orozco** (Class of 2018), **Maria DiGirolamo** (Class of 2004), **Paula Trzicky** (Class of 2010), **Mayra Ochoa** (Class of 2010), **Lewis Brownson** (Class of 2012), **Stacey Morrison** (Class of 2015), **Sinara Sagn** (Class of 2018), **Tom Underhill** (Class of 2015), **Mary Simmons** (Class of 2012), **Dan Garcia** (Class of 2013), **Isela Zarate** (Class of 2012), **Reyna Ochoa** (Class 2006), **Francisco Rodriguez** (Class of 2004), **Margaret Madden** (Class of 1996), **Paulette Dunn** (Class of 2014), **Alma Whitehurst** (Class of 2011), and **Cynthia Gonzalez** (Class of 2007).

Orange County Credit Union

Amazingly, Orange County Credit Union employees have volunteered at nearly every monthly "I Dig Long Beach -- 10,000 Trees by 2022" tree planting since 2013. Employee volunteers include **Jocelyn Rubio** (Class of 2019), **Lupe Gallegos** (Class of 2018), **Maritza Avelar** (Class of 2017), and **Azul Sanchez** (Class of 2014). In 2019, Orange County

Credit Union staff volunteered to plant dozens of new I Dig Long Beach street trees. In 2019, Orange County Credit Union staff volunteered every month to plant dozens more of new street trees to help build the urban forest in Long Beach. Lupe Gallegos led the Bite of Reality financial literacy training at MacArthur Park in November 2019.

Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach

Nubia Flores Cedeño (Class of 2017), **Francisco Rodriguez** (Class of 2004), **Rocio Torres** (Class of 1998), and **Mary Simmons** (Class of 2012) launched a new community organization called Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach to help neighbors get to know other areas of Long Beach -- all in the name of health and fitness. The group organized walks through different neighborhoods each month to encourage people to come check out other neighborhoods and do some power walking, running or leisurely strolling -- all fitness



Students at the Briney Elementary School **Yoga Program**. Remember to breath!



Scenes from **Sunny Central Neighborhood Association** 2019 activities



STEP UP! STEP OUT! Long Beach helping neighbors get to know other areas of the city

levels were welcome! Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach hosted their kick-off event on Thursday, March 14, 2019, at Craftsman Village Park before their walk in the AOC7 and Craftsman Village Historic District neighborhoods. The group hosted additional neighborhood walks in 2019 in the Belmont Heights, Rose Park, Sunny Central, Starr King, and DeForest Park neighborhoods. The group also wrote a grant proposal and won a \$600 grant from the Port of Long Beach to host six additional walks in 2020.

Sunny Central Neighborhood Association

Isela Zarate (Class of 2012), **Reyna Ochoa** (Class of 2006), **Esperanza Ochoa** (Class of 2005), and **Mayra Ochoa** (Class of 2010) served in leadership roles for the Sunny Central Neighborhood Association. On Saturday, February 9, 2019, Sunny Central Neighborhood Association held the Red Ribbon Cutting of the sunflower-themed, Little Free Library, they unveiled in their neighborhood. The Little Free Library provides free books to children and adults in their community. The group hosted their first fundraising campaign in partnership with CSULB students, to provide a special Easter Basket giveaway. The Sunny Central Neighborhood Association provided 100 Easter baskets for children from low-income families attending Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park’s Child Development Center and provided 80 additional Easter baskets to a nearby church. On Thursday, September 12, 2019, Sunny Central Neighborhood Association partnered with Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach and 25 neighbors to walk and explore their Central Long Beach neighborhood. On October 12, 2019, Sunny Central Neighborhood Association and **Cathy Martinez** (Class of 2019) and **Jose Martinez** (Class of 2019) partnered to host a pumpkin carving event in Central Long

Beach, providing 100 pumpkins to neighborhood children. Sunny Central Neighborhood Association also hosted a block party in November 2019 for neighbors to get to know each other and to promote public safety. In 2019, Sunny Central Neighborhood Association received a well deserved Peacemaker Award from the Vice Mayor in recognition of their efforts to make Long Beach a better place.

The Beetle Group

Beth Dana (Class of 2018) and **Anna Rubino** (Class of 2018) served in lead roles together at The Beetle Group. The Beetle Group is a nonprofit organization created to transform communities by offering sustainable services to future and existing homeowners and to educate residents to have a better understanding of their finances with free financial empowerment programs. In 2019, Beth served as the President & Founder of the organization and Anna served as Executive Director.

Yoga Program

Jenilee Arnaldo (Class of 2017) and **Rocio Torres** (Class of 1998) have partnered to bring yoga to the students at Birney Elementary School. Jennilee has taught yoga at several locations including serving as a Community Yoga instructor at Drake Park. Jenilee serves as a yoga instructor at the school. Rocio serves as the school counselor.

You Count

In this section we will acknowledge the priceless contributions and impact Long Beach grassroots neighborhood leaders have in roles as neighborhood association presidents, clean-up volunteers, tree planters, historic preservationists, community volunteers, and more in 2019! Thank you for doing your part to make our community a great neighborhood to live in.



Scenes from *Sunny Central Neighborhood Association* 2019 activities

CLASS OF 1992

Bryant Ben served as a Neighborhood Services Specialist for the City of Long Beach's Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau.

Chantara Nop served as a Neighborhood Services Specialist for the City of Long Beach's Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau.

Teresa Gonzalez served as a Neighborhood Services Specialist for the City of Long Beach's Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau.

CLASS OF 1994

Margaret Madden served as the Neighborhood Improvement Officer of the City of Long Beach. In 2019, Margaret was awarded a Community Hero Leadership Award from California-Cambodia Sister State, Inc. for her years of service to the community.

In her capacity as Neighborhood Improvement Officer, Margaret helped organize twelve street tree planting events with neighborhood groups and 1,500 volunteers in 2019 as part of the I Dig Long Beach -- 10,000 Trees by 2022 initiative. Margaret partnered with several Neighborhood Leadership Program alumni to help build the urban forest in their Long Beach neighborhoods.

CLASS OF 1997

Jo Murray served on the City of Long Beach's Marine Advisory Commission. She wrote two weekly columns in the Grunion Gazette -- "On the Water" and "Business Beat." Jo volunteered many hours at the Assistance League (ALLB) Thrift and Vintage Shop on Funky 4th Street. Jo served on the Long Beach Salvation Army Board and is helping them reach their capital funding goals. Jo served as a volunteer with the Steel Magnolias to assist the Stramski Center at Miller Children's and Women's Hospital.

CLASS OF 1998

Gonzalo Sanchez served as a Neighborhood Services Specialist for the City of Long Beach's Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau.

Rocio Torres served as an AOC7 board member and served in a lead role to help her neighborhood association win both First Place and the Grand Prize awards at the Neighborhoods, USA conference in May 2019. Rocio also served in a lead role in a partnership with the LA Land Trust, the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, City Fabrick, Friends of MacArthur Park and the Vice Mayor's office to submit an \$8 million grant proposal to revitalize MacArthur Park. Rocio advocated for her neighborhood with her neighbors at City Hall to speak on behalf of the Bridge Housing Project which was approved by City Council. Rocio led AOC7 to



Sharon McLucas (Class of 1998) at African American Cultural Center kick-off event (second from the right)

host a Gaviota Avenue Block Party in July 2019 to build community and educate and mobilize neighbors to connect with Long Beach Departments and Litter Free Long Beach. Rocio served in a leadership role an organizer of the Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach citywide initiative to get residents to meet their neighbors while getting some exercise. Rocio served as a school counselor at Birney Elementary School. In 2019, she partnered with **Jenilee Arnaldo** (Class of 2017) to bring yoga to the students at Birney Elementary School. Rocio credits the Neighborhood Leadership Program for learning community improvement strategies and the opportunity to network with other community members. She worked in collaboration with neighborhood groups and the schools in the community to create neighborhood pop-up events that were beneficial to residents. In 2020, Rocio is looking forward to expanding the Annual Literacy Fair to benefit children through literacy, mental health, and physical health. Rocio believes that a healthy mind contributes to the success of a child, one who will become a productive member of Long Beach.

Sharon McLucas served on the African American Community Advisory Committee's Community Working Group as part of a citywide effort to create an African American Cultural Center. The African American Cultural Center will serve as a community hub for African American arts, culture, and history. Over 80 residents and community leaders attended the group's kick-off event in 2019. Sharon and her husband co-founded Forgotten Images, a travelling education exhibit that includes African-American artifacts from the 1600's to present day. Forgotten Images exhibited artifacts in honor of Black History Month at Long Beach City College on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 and again at the Liberal Arts Campus and at the Pacific Coast Campus on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

Val Lerch served as Chair of Good Neighbors of North Long Beach. Val also served as a Tour Guide at 2019 Day of Discovery. He and his family planted and dedicated an I Dig Long Beach tree in front of the 9th District Council Field Office in memory of his wife Janet.

CLASS OF 2002

Mary Zendejas was elected to serve as the 1st District City Councilwoman in 2019. Mary also served on the Long Beach Transportation Company's Board of Directors.

CLASS OF 2003

Coby Skye served on the City of Long Beach's Sustainable City Commission.

Gabrielle Weeks served as the Chair of Sierra Club Long Beach Group.

Griselda Barba served as a Community Development Specialist for the City of Long Beach's Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau.

Ines Echegaray served in a leadership role for the Ridgewood Heights Neighborhood Association and Lightning Camp Fire Group. She led volunteers from both groups to provide volunteers and refreshments at an I Dig Long Beach tree planting event in the adjacent Ridgewood Triangle neighborhood in December 2019. Ines served as a guest presenter at the Neighborhood Leadership Program's Class of 2019 grant writing session.

CLASS OF 2004

Francisco Rodriguez served in a leadership role an organizer of the Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach citywide initiative to get residents to meet their neighbors while getting some exercise.

Gavin McKiernan served in a leadership role for the Long Beach Neighborhood Foundation, a nonprofit that hosted River Runners training sessions and the annual Wrigley River Run in June 2019.



Will Cullen (Class of 2006) in Palm Springs receiving the "News From Neighborhood" won 1st Place in the NUSA Newsletter Competition

CLASS OF 2005

Colleen McDonald served in a leadership role for Wrigley Association, Holy Innocents School, and Holy Innocents Church. In June 2019, Colleen served as the lead to host the Wrigley Pizza Pig Out carbo load community event at Holy Innocents School. Colleen also helped host the Wrigley River Run race that followed. Colleen also volunteered at Friends of Alice Robinson monthly community lunch events at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

Peggy Kozlowski served in a leadership role for Craftsman Village Historic District and helped to host their neighborhood clean-up events.

CLASS OF 2006

David Clement served in a leadership role for the North Alamitos Beach Association, Rose Park Neighborhood Association, the Belmont Heights Community Association, and Friends of Bixby Park. He also served as the greeter for the Belmont Heights Community Association.

Mst Musze partnered with The HOPE Foundation's 2019 Fit for a Queen and King formal wear charitable event to offer a creative writing workshop entitled The Fighting Flowers to prom bound teens in need. She was honored by Maple Village Waldorf School teachers for her service nurturing K-8 students in Long Beach. Mst's song Cool was featured in a music video released by local artist, Kershawn Ware. Mst volunteered at Long Beach Organic's 25th Anniversary fundraiser and engaged Long Beach residents and visitors as a Beach Streets Pacific Avenue Intersection Captain and Information Booth Docent.

Mst credits NLP for providing her, tools, training and encouragement during the class in 2006 and



A selection of photos from *Mst Musze* 2019 charitable adventures

beyond. It increased her knowledge of what she can do to make this city one she has wanted to live in. It strengthened my resolve to approach positive and challenging opportunities one step at a time with research, planning, action and help as needed.

NLP training kicked in during a difficult time in her life. Rendered temporarily disabled by stage 3 Hodgkins Lymphoma blood cancer and the side effects of rigorous chemotherapy, she addressed the issue of people trespassing in the property in which she lived.

In 2020, Mst looks forward to hugging her mom, to suit up, move, live in remission, kiss her partner, write a book, unpack an idea for a new themed fundraiser, lead The Fighting Flowers workshop more frequently, make, and release art, to celebrate her support team and try growing snap peas.

Reyna Ochoa served in a leadership role for Sunny Central Neighborhood Association. Reyna served as a Community Worker for the City of Long Beach's Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau and served as a team captain at monthly I Dig Long Beach street tree planting events.

Vincent Puth served as Activities Director at Poly High School.

Will Cullen served on the Board as President for the Belmont Heights Community Association. In the past year the organization produced 10 community meetings and 11 special events like "Make A Difference Day" and "The Redcar Greenbelt Egg Hunt" which collectively brought together over 2,000 participants. Their quarterly publication, "News From The Neighborhood" won 1st Place in the Neighborhoods, USA Newsletter Competition for 2019.

CLASS OF 2007

Flora Easter served on the City of Long Beach's Senior Citizen Advisory Commission.

CLASS OF 2008

Dan Pressburg served as President of the DeForest Park Neighborhood Association. In 2019, Dan also served a Tour Guide for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Day of Discovery.

CLASS OF 2009

Jesus Esparza has been part of the Washington Neighborhood Association since 2016 and has been a hardworking volunteer at monthly association neighborhood cleanup events, at community board meetings, and at National Night Out neighborhood events.

Jesus has also been involved in the neighborhood with planting trees, and several other neighborhood improvement projects. In May 2019, Jesus became the president of the association and continues to work with his neighbors and Habitat for Humanity to improve safety, cleanliness and union among the residents of the Washington community! In December 2019, he won a \$500 grant from Habitat from Humanity to decorate his street with Christmas decorations.

Jim Danno served in a lead role with the Willmore City Heritage Association. He secured a Port of Long Beach Community Grant of \$440,000 for the Willmore Bioswale Project to add trees, different types

of grasses, and plants to filter stormwater runoff. Jim credits the Neighborhood Leadership Program for helping him to develop the skills he needed to make a difference in his neighborhood including public speaking, fundraising, and addressing issues. In 2019, Jim served in a leadership role to complete several neighborhood projects including Winter in Willmore, the 6th Street and Daisy Avenue Beautification Project, and the construction of the Willmore Gingerbread Village on Pine Avenue. Jim is currently employed with the City of Long Beach's Department of Public Works. In 2020, Jim is looking forward to working on the Drake Park to Chavez Park Greenbelt.

Tom Flores served in a leadership role for Friends of Alice Robinson and Friends of Daryl Black Park.

CLASS OF 2011

Emily Kiwa Tanaka attended the Neighborhoods USA conference in Palm Springs in May. In addition to supporting her Long Beach neighbors she attended workshops to be inspired by innovative community improvement projects throughout the country. In July, she participated in the Comic Con San Diego Art Show. She continues to serve on the Long Beach Zine Fest 2019 organizing team. #LBZF19 was held on Sunday, September 8, 2019 at the Expo Art Center. On Sunday, November 17, she participated in the Belmont Heights Art Association Art and Architecture Stroll.

Erika Moreno served as a Neighborhood Services Specialist for the Long Beach Police Department.

Ida Marie Briggs continued to work passionately in creating a safe place for others as a personal development life coach. In July 2019, Ida Marie joined a faith team that travelled to Soweto, Katshele, and Ivory Park Townships of Johannesburg, South Africa, where they hosted the first "God's Dream Girl Conference." The team collaborated with local pastors and ministries, schools, and organizations to facilitate workshops to aid the young people in building their self-esteem by learning effective life skills and seeing a better future for their lives. This conference allowed Ida Marie to present her excerpts from the play she wrote, produced, and performed in 2018 called, "Excess Baggage...A Woman's Story | Only You Know When You've Had Enough."

CLASS OF 2010

Alice Robinson led her group, Friends of Alice Robinson, to host their monthly community lunch program at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park in Central Long Beach. On August 7, 2019, Friends of Alice Robinson celebrated their 16th Anniversary of providing a hot lunch to the community at the park.

Ernie Villa served in a leadership role for the Willmore City Heritage Association.

Juanita Wilson, fondly known as Mama J, is a staple in the Long Beach community. Juanita served in a leadership role with the Roosevelt Linden Historic District. Juanita led several neighborhood clean-ups and hosted an annual 'Mama J's Jacket Drive' to provide winter coats for the children in Central Long Beach in 2019. Juanita Wilson also served in a lead role at Friends of Alice Robinson monthly free lunch events at Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

Paula Trzicky served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO OUR

16th

ANNIVERSARY

Celebrating

ALICE ROBINSON AND FRIENDS

FEEDING AT THE PARK

BRING A FRIEND



INVITE A NEIGHBOR

FREE HOT LUNCH WITH DESSERT AND COLD BEVERAGE

WHERE FRIENDS MEET FRIENDS * ALL ARE WELCOME

Wednesday AUGUST 7, at 12-Noon

Opening Ceremony includes Invocation and Salute to the Flag
MLK JR. PARK, 1950 Lemon Avenue, Long Beach

Alice Robinson (Class of 2010) & **Friends Feeding at the Park** invites you to next years 17th Anniversary event



Jesus Esparza (Class of 2009) in the Washington Neighborhood

Joy Mendoza Macias was involved with the planning of the Wrigley Association's Pizza Pig Out in June 2019. The event is on its 10th year of helping runners "carbo-load" before participating in the Wrigley River Run. She volunteered at the event with **Colleen McDonald** (Class of 2005), **Lilian Villa Quintero** (Class of 2005), and **Michael Macias** (Class of 2017). She was also involved in planning the Long Beach Filipino Festival Pasko Edition in December 2019 and worked alongside **Karen Reside** (Class of 2011), and **Dante Mapanao** (Class of 2019).

Joy was also active with the Long Beach Parol Lantern Festival in December 2019 and volunteered with **Jenilee Arnaldo** (Class of 2017) and **Dusty Stiggers** (Class of 2017). She volunteered with the Holy Innocents Thanksgiving Lunch in November 2019 and the Little Free Library project alongside **Emily Kiwa Tanaka** (Class of 2011) and **Anthony Formoso** (Class of 2012).

Karen Reside served in a leadership role for the Long Beach Grey Panthers, Partners of Parks. She also served on the City of Long Beach's Census Complete Count Committee and the Office of Sustainability's 2020 Earth Day 50th Anniversary Planning Committee. Karen also served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Marta McCoy served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Otis Hogan served on the City of Long Beach's Human Relations Commission. Otis also served as President of the Houghton Park Neighborhood Association.

CLASS OF 2012

Andre Beasley served the community at AOC7 Neighborhood Association's Clean Air Day event in October 2019. He also served as a stakeholder participating in Just Environment Long Beach's two day leadership training on environmental issues in October 2019.



Sinara Sagn (Class of 2018) is currently volunteering in Cambodia using the skills that she learned in NLP

Anthony Formoso helped install Little Free Libraries with neighborhood group partners in several parts of the city including a beautiful custom replica of the historic Bembridge House in the Willmore City Historic District next door to Drake Park and a sunflower-themed library in the Sunny Central neighborhood. The Little Free Library provides free books to children and adults in their community. Anthony helped garner funding for the libraries by winning a successful Neighborhood Partners Program matching \$10,000 grant from the Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau. Anthony developed additional partnerships and fundraising to provide additional Little Free Libraries in Long Beach.

Cassandra Davis served on the board of AOC7 neighborhood association. Cassandra led AOC7 to host a Clean Air Day tree care event with over 100 volunteers utilizing a \$1,000 grant she wrote last year. The event included over 100 volunteers to help water and care for over 300 I Dig Long Beach street trees. In October 2019, Cassandra led Aquarium of the Pacific staff to help plant I Dig Long Beach street trees in the Alamitos Beach neighborhood. Cassandra also served on the MacArthur Park Visioning - Steering Committee.

Darleen Broom served in a leadership role for the DeForest Park Neighborhood Association. She helped lead DeForest Park Neighborhood Association's 6th Annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, July 27, 2019 and Teen Summit 2019 on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library.

Isela Zarate served in a leadership role for Sunny Central Neighborhood Association. Isela also served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019. Isela served as a Community Worker for the City of Long Beach's Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau and served as a team captain at monthly I Dig Long Beach street tree planting events.

Kirk Davis served in a leadership role to help residents in the McKinley neighborhood host neighborhood clean-up events.

Lewis Brownson served in a lead role for the Committee of 300, a volunteer auxiliary supporting the Long Beach Grand Prix. He received an award from the Long Beach Police Department for completing their Community Police Academy in 2019. Lewis also volunteered at the I Dig Long Beach street tree planting in the Collins neighborhood in February and the 6th District Serving with a Thankful Heart banquet on November 25, 2019 at McBride Park. The event serves over 2,000 meals to hungry residents.



Renee Rios (Class of 2013) &
the Longwood Neighborhood Association

wrote several successful grant proposals in 2019 to fund community events and projects including from the Port of Long Beach (\$1,000 for their literacy fair), Rotary Club of Long Beach’s Read by Nine Grant (\$2,000 for their literacy fair), and Molina Foundation (2,400 books for their literacy fair.) Mary has her fingers crossed that the Katy Stone Grant proposal she submitted in October 2019 to fund a body/mind/spirit project in MacArthur Park in 2020 will be funded. Mary credits the Neighborhood Leadership Program with teaching her the skills that are helping her to write all of these successful grant proposals to improve her community.

Tommie Simmons served on the Deacon Board of The ROCK Christian Fellowship. Tommie also served on their church finance committee. He also served the community at several AOC7 Neighborhood Association events. Tommie credits the Neighborhood Leadership Program for strengthening his leadership and for developing his communication skills. Tommie also gave back to the program by serving as a Class of 2019 candidate interview panelist.



John Kindred (Class of 2013)



Mary & Tommie Simmons
(Class of 2012)

CLASS OF 2013

Gloria Bradley served as the President of the Country Club Manor Neighborhood Association. She coordinated their Annual Christmas Tree Decorating and Lighting event at Scherer Park for the seventh year. She was elected to serve on the AARP National Committee and provided free driver safety workshops for Parks, Recreation and Marine at the El Dorado Park Senior Center and various locations for the second year. Since 2013, Gloria served as a member of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member. In partnership with the Long Beach Ministers Alliance, Gloria met regularly with Long Beach Police Department’s Chief of Police. Gloria received a community volunteer award from U.S. Vets for her years of service at the winter shelter. She also organized a cleanup of Willow Springs Park with her church, Chapel of Change.

Mary Simmons had a full year of improving the community in 2019. Mary served as a Board Member for the AOC7 Neighborhood Association and helped organize their monthly cleanups in her Cambodia Town neighborhood. AOC7 volunteers removed an amazing 91 tons of trash in 2019. Mary also helped organize and raise funds to support AOC7’s 7th annual book drive and literacy fair at MacArthur Park and provide approximately 5,000 books to neighborhood children. In addition, Mary served on the MacArthur Park Visioning - Steering Committee and she advocated at City Council for the MacArthur Park Vision Plan in August 2019. Mary served in a lead role at the Pray BIG event at MacArthur Park in August 2019. Mary also served in a lead role in a partnership with the LA Land Trust, the City of Long Beach Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine, City Fabrick, Friends of MacArthur Park, and the Vice Mayor’s Office to submit an \$8 million grant proposal to revitalize MacArthur Park. Mary served in a leadership role an organizer of the Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach’s citywide initiative to get residents to meet their neighbors while getting some exercise. Mary served in a lead role to host AOC7’s Corridor of Color Art Pop Up Event in October, the ROCK Christian Fellowship’s turkey giveaway in November, and the AOC7 2nd Annual 10th Street Tree Care and Holiday Decorating event in December. Mary

John Kindred helped to organize the Be Healthy, Be Well Festival on Saturday, March 9, 2019 at Mac Arthur Park. The event featured free health screenings as well as information on illness prevention as well as education about self care activities and good nutrition. People who attended the event were also treated to music and games. John is also a Long Beach City College and Associated Student Body Alumni, a Long Beach Forward Alumni 2018, Co-Founder of the Long Beach Environmental Alliance, Outreach Director for the Long Beach Gray Panthers, a Member of 350 Long Beach, Don’t Waste Long Beach, and Coalition for a Smoke Free Long Beach, Long Beach Transit Paratransit Advisory Committee, Cambodian Association of America-

Cambodian Prevention Coalition, Citizen Climate Lobby, Long Beach Residents Empowered, Congress of California Seniors, and California Alliance for Retired Americans.

Renee Rios served as President for the Longwood Neighborhood Association. She helped lead the group to host a neighborhood cleanup in April 6, 2019 to remove several tons of dumped trash and debris in partnership with Coolidge Triangle Neighborhood Association and Hamilton Neighborhood Association. She also led some fun neighborhood projects including a holiday lights contest and a cookie social. Renee served as a Tour Guide for the Neighborhood Leadership Program's 2019 Day of Discovery, organized several neighborhood clean ups in 2019.

Samuel Molina worked for the Public Service Street Maintenance Division of City of Long Beach's Department of Public Works.

Terry Beebe served in a leadership role for the Willmore City Heritage Association.

CLASS OF 2014

Kelly Nhim served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Lucero Marquez served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Octavio Mojica was one of a group of community members and friends who founded PUENTE Latino Association focusing on connecting the Latinx community with available community resources in the north side of Long Beach. They created and shared the Latinx culture through the 5 de Mayo celebration and Day of the Dead event at the Michelle Obama Library. They are also improving the community with

neighborhood clean ups, mural paintings, leadership education, and healthy living events. Assembly member Mike Gibson from the 64th district honored each of the Puente members for organizing the Dia De Los Muertos celebration and for their effort to preserve the Latinx culture in our community.

Next year, Octavio will be celebrating twenty years of working with student and families at Jordan High School providing north side communities with resources as a parent involvement specialist at the parent center at Jordan High School. 2020 will also be Octavio's third year as NLP alumni support facilitator. Octavio credits NLP for helping he be a better leader for the community. It has provided him the tools to sharpen skills to help his community. He is more confident and connected to resources and other leaders in Long Beach. In 2019, Octavio was active in the Jordan Parent Action Committee, the English Parent Advisory Council, Jordan High School's PTA, the Jordan Action Committee, Puente Latino Association Inc., 23 Seeds of Greatness, Latin American Student Society, Holy Trinity Catholic Church, and the California Conference of Equality and Justice.

Sean Long served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Sherry Martinez was crowned the Queen of the Long Beach Mardi Gras at the Mardi Gras Festival and Parade on Saturday, March 9, 2019. She continues to serve as District Executive of New Frontier - ScoutReach for Long Beach Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.



Lewis Brownson (Class of 2012) middle in



Gloria Bradley (Class of 2013) with the Country Club Manor Neighborhood Association & more



Sherry Martinez (Class of 2014) Queen of the Long Beach Mardi Gras at the Mardi Gras Festival and Parade



Carole Sergy (Class of 2015) and the North Pine Neighborhood Association



Dante Mapanao (Class of 2019) and **Joy Mendoza** (Class of 2011) served in lead roles to host the Long Beach Filipino Festival.

CLASS OF 2015

Crystal West served in a leadership role the Roosevelt Linden Historic District. Crystal served as a key stakeholder for the first council district’s participatory budgeting effort to implement funds throughout the district for beautification and public safety projects.

Deborah Slaney served in a leadership role for Rebuilding Together Long Beach.

Jose Jaramillo served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Kelly Carroll served in a leadership role for the North Pine Neighborhood Alliance and the Downtown Residential Council. Kelly served as the Senior Manager of Community Development for the American Cancer Society. Kelly served on the Neighborhood Leadership Program’s Alumni Support Team, as a Day of Discovery Tour Guide and as an alumni interview panelist for the Class of 2019.

Stacey Morrison served in a leadership role for the California Heights Neighborhood Association, the Cal Heights Clean Team, and the Long Beach Community Foundation. Stacey served on the Neighborhood Leadership Program’s Alumni Support Team as a Day of Discovery Tour Guide and as an alumni interview panelist for the Class of 2019.

Tom Underhill has served on the Neighborhood Leadership Program’s Alumni Support Team as a facilitator and photographer for his fourth and final year, but will continue to help with any NLP events when needed. Tom serves as a volunteer photographer with Friends of the Los Angeles River and documented their efforts to clean

our local waterways and the Willow Street Estuary. His photos are used in their annual reports and on their social media posts to help educate the community about water quality and the environment. Tom also serves as a board member of both the California Heights Neighborhood Association and the Cal Heights Clean Team. The California Heights Neighborhood Association had a very successful Historic Home Tour this year and raised over \$8,000 that will be used to fund many more neighborhood efforts and events. The Cal Heights Clean Team has removed over five tons of trash from our local streets and alleys this year. Tom has also secured a Long Beach Community Foundation Grant in the amount of \$1,700 for the California Heights area. The grant will be used to purchase much needed tools and supplies for their weekly cleanups and continued tree care efforts in Long Beach.

CLASS OF 2016

Carole Sergy is the new President of the North Pine Neighborhood Alliance. The North Pine Neighborhood Alliance is a neighborhood association representing the residents of Downtown Long Beach. The NPNA is bordered by Long Beach Boulevard on the East, Pacific Avenue on the West, 3rd Street on the South, and Anaheim Boulevard on the North.

Danita Strauss served in a leadership role with YouthScore, Inc. and led their annual turkey basket giveaway for families in need of a holiday dinner. The group provided free turkey dinners with all the fixings to Long Beach families, including 10 families referred by Neighborhood Leadership Program alumni. Danita hosts the Thanksgiving giveaway events in memory of her mother, Shirley Willis. Shirley Willis (Class of 2009) fed hungry families by serving

holiday dinners for many years.

Jimmy Gleeson served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Jan Ward (2016 Honorary) served on the City of Long Beach's The Long Beach Community Investment Company.

Shayne Whitehead continues his work with the Midtown Neighborhood Association. The association hosted monthly clean-ups in 2019 and removed several tons of dumped items and trash from streets and alleys.

CLASS OF 2017

Alan Zimmerman served as President for the Bixby Knolls Neighborhood Association.

Debra Shelton served as the President of the College Square Neighborhood Association. In 2019, she helped plant new I Dig Long Beach street trees in her College Square neighborhood.

Enchantra Cardenas-Baldwin served in a leadership role for Justice for Murdered Children.

Karla Jimenez Teran served in a lead role for several parent groups at Bobbie Smith Elementary School. She led her groups to host an I Dig Long Beach tree planting to plant new street trees in her Central area neighborhood.

Nubia Flores Cedeño served on the City of Long Beach's Citizens Advisory Commission on Disabilities. Nubia also served as the Media Relations Representative for the DeForest Park Neighborhood Association. She also helped lead DeForest Park Neighborhood Association's 6th Annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, July 27, 2019 and Teen Summit 2019 on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at

the Michelle Obama Neighborhood Library. In addition, Nubia served in a leadership role as an organizer of the Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach citywide initiative to get residents to meet their neighbors while getting some exercise.

Nury Curtis served as the President of the Committee of 300 of Long Beach. Committee members serve as ambassadors for the Long Beach Grand Prix race weekend. Nury credits the Neighborhood Leadership Program for giving her the confidence and tools to lead the members of this organization during 2019-2020. Nury led the Committee of 300 to volunteer at Justin Rudd's 30 Minute Clean-ups. She also provided support for the Taste of Brews, volunteered with the JetBlue Long Beach Marathon, and at the Ronald McDonald House in Long Beach. Nury served in a leadership role for the Alamitos Beach Neighborhood Association and participated in the Alamitos Beach Breakfast and Yappy Hour at Bixby Park and at Bixby Park clean-up events.

Raul Nario served as Vice President of the Starr King Neighborhood Association. He helped lead the association to host monthly clean ups to remove tons of trash and dumped items in his neighborhood. On April 11, 2019, Raul led Starr King Neighborhood Association to host a Step Up! Step Out! Long Beach event in his neighborhood. "It was an opportunity for neighbors to get to meet other neighbors, de-stress after a long week, and just enjoy a beautiful sunset," shared Starr King Neighborhood Association President, Monica Keller. "The other important thing is to encourage people in North Long Beach to get healthy. This motivated neighbors to get a walking group going." Raul Nario also served as in a lead role with Puente Latinos and helped neighbors in the McKinley



Nury Curtis (Class of 2017) at a Committee of 300 of Long Beach beach clean up

neighborhood a new Spanish-speaking North Long Beach neighborhood association. Raul served in a leadership role to help the McKinley Neighborhood Association to organize and host their first neighborhood clean-ups.

Tyler Baldwin helped plant I Dig Long Beach trees at Century Villages at Cabrillo on September 11, 2019. Tyler also served in a lead role for LB In Your City News and reported on the I Dig Long Beach tree planting at Bobbie Smith Elementary School.

CLASS OF 2018

Anna Rubino and **Beth Dana** served in lead roles together at The Beetle Group. The Beetle Group is a nonprofit organization created to transform communities by offering sustainable services to future and existing homeowners and to educate residents to have a better understanding of their finances with free financial empowerment programs. In 2019, Anna Rubino served as the Executive Director and Beth served as the President & Founder of the organization.



Jerry Fink served as a Board Member for the Hamilton Neighborhood Association. He and **Renette Maza** (Class of 2018) led the group to host monthly neighborhood clean-up events to remove tons of trash and dumped items from his neighborhood in 2019. In 2019, Jerry served a Tour Guide for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Day of Discovery.



Linda Reach (Class of 2018) was a liaison for a local Long Beach family as they navigate a tragedy

Linda Reach served as a liaison for the Hou family to help with the tragedy that occurred on October 29, 2019 when a shooting took the lives of three guests at a Halloween party at the Hou's residence near 7th Street and Temple Avenue. Linda led an effort to help the family with their move from the house including organizing a clean-up of the residence with community volunteers. Part of the family's move from the house involved a Buddhist cleansing ceremony. The ceremony, called the 7th Day Memorial Service, was attended by several City of Long Beach representatives and elected officials and Linda helped invite the community to attend. Linda assisted the Hou family with a GoFundMe Campaign to assist them with the expenses for housing relocation. She also secured a turkey, a bag full of Bath & Body Works self-care products, and six bags of clothing from an event organized by the Local Hearts Foundation and the Manny Pacquiao Foundation. Linda also serves in a lead role with the Cambodia Town Neighborhood Association and partnered with Midtown Business Improvement District to host an e-waste collection in the community. She was recognized by her employer, Platt Security, for outstanding performance and dedication to her duties. The award recognized her work to serve her community without expectations.

Annie Banks lives in the 2300 block of Cedar in Wrigley and noticed that several of the intersections didn't have four way stop signs. Annie contacted the Sixth District Council Office and was referred to Traffic Engineering to see if the stop signs could be installed. Annie received notice on October 10, 2019 by Hector Rivas of the City's Traffic Engineering Office that a stop sign would be installed at Hill and Cedar.

Nery Hernandez served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Audrey Ridenour served in a leadership role for the Long Beach Environmental Alliance.

Crystal Day served as Director of Community Engagement at Intellectual Virtues Academy High School.

Pat Long served as president of the Coolidge Triangle Neighborhood Association. She raised money in February and March 2019 to donate 285 pairs of socks to the Winter Homeless Shelter run by US Vets. She organized 12 alley clean-ups with assistance from Housing and Neighborhood Services staff and the Long Beach Clean Team with 35 neighbors participating in June. Pat and her neighbors held their 20th annual neighborhood yard sale in September. The yard sale included items on sale from 75 residents from Coolidge Triangle and Longwood neighborhoods. The association increased the participation of their Nextdoor social network to 400 people.

Don Sutton served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Guz Orozco served on the City of Long Beach's Veterans Affairs Commission. He volunteered in the city of Bellflower during the exhibition of The Wall That Heals. The wall is a memorial to honor the more than 58,000 men and women who were killed during the Vietnam War. Gus Orozco served in a leadership role for the Long Beach Environmental Alliance. In 2019, Gus also served as a member of the Neighborhood Leadership Program's Alumni Support Team and a Day of Discovery Tour Guide.

Renette Maza served as a Board Member for the Hamilton Neighborhood Association. She and **Jerry Fink** (Class of 2018) led the group to host monthly

neighborhood clean-up events to remove tons of trash and dumped items from her neighborhood in 2019. She also led her association to host an I Dig Long Beach tree planting event to plant and celebrate their 400th new street tree in the neighborhood since 2014.

Roger Abea served as an alumni interview panelist for the Neighborhood Leadership Program Class of 2019.

Sinara Sagn served in a leadership role for the United Cambodian Community and California-Cambodian Sister State, Inc. She organized the California-Cambodian Sister State, Inc.'s 4th anniversary dinner that provided college scholarship to local Cambodian youth. She is currently volunteering in Cambodia using the skills that she learned in NLP.

Sokha Ny served in a leadership role for the Long Beach Environmental Alliance.

CLASS OF 2019

Cathy Martinez and her husband **Jose Martinez** (Class of 2019) partnered with Sunny Central Neighborhood Association to bring the first Pumpkin Carving Event to Central Long Beach, providing 100 pumpkins to neighborhood children.

Dante Mapanao and **Joy Mendoza** (Class of 2011) served in lead roles to host the Long Beach Filipino Festival. The event took place on Sunday, December 15, 2019 at Browning High School.

Deaka McClain served on the City of Long Beach's Citizens Advisory Commission on Disabilities.

Jose Martinez and his wife **Cathy Martinez** (Class of 2019) partnered with Sunny Central Neighborhood Association to bring the first Pumpkin Carving Event to Central Long Beach, providing 100 pumpkins to neighborhood children.

Juanita Doplemore served as the President of the Collins Neighborhood Association. She served in a lead role to host an I Dig Long Beach tree planting in her neighborhood where volunteers planted new street trees. Juanita also served on the City of Long Beach's Veterans Affairs Commission.

Miguel Felix held an event for a pilot project of the JUST PLAY ARTS program on May 24, 2019. Miguel turned Play Nice Vintage Clothing into a community space to help promote the youth arts program. The event featured music, vendors, local organizations, and an art auction. All proceeds from the event were put towards acquiring art supplies for JUST PLAY ARTS.



Pat Long (Class of 2018) at the 20th Annual Coolidge Triangle and Longwood neighborhoods yard sale in September



Sanghak Kan (Class of 2019) volunteering for the library

Sanghak Kan served on a volunteer team named "CAM-SCHOLAR GROUP" that partnered with the Mark Twain Library to host and promote many programs and activities within the Cambodian community. Sanghak volunteered at the library teaching Khmer classes, leading and conducting bilingual English and Khmer story time, provided tutoring, and led classes of basic computer and basic photography. Sanghak is a board member on the Cambodian American Civic Engagement Council (CACEC) whose mission is to engage, educate and support the policies and candidate(s) that represent the interest of the Community. Sanghak and the CAM-SCHOLAR GROUP assisted the Signal Tribune newspaper to translate news article from English to Khmer. Sanghak and the volunteer team provided free interpretation and translation services to the Cambodian community. Sanhak served in a lead role to host a 6th district candidates debate forum on Friday, November 22, 2019.



Remembering Jacob Rosborough

Jacob Rosborough passed away on May 12, 2019. Jacob was a graduate of the NLP's Class of 2016. Jacob is son of **Juanita Wilson** (NLP Class of 2010) and brother of **Jeremiah Rosborough**, (Class of 2019). Jacob was as a military veteran who served his country, his community, and his family with honor and pride. Jacob volunteered many hours with Juanita's project, Mama J's Jackets to help over 300 children at Roosevelt Elementary School to have warm winter coats. Jacob volunteered at Roosevelt Linden Historic District neighborhood clean-ups. Jacob promoted the great work of volunteers throughout Long Beach as a journalist with LB In Your City News. Jacob was a proud graduate of the Neighborhood Leadership Program and helped to recruit many young people to join the program and encouraged them to also make a difference in the community.

The following are excerpts from the program at Jacob's memorial: Jacob spit rhymes and wisdom as a member of Young Poets Society – the first club fully dedicated to poetry at Long Beach City College. Each week, he hosted a radio show, "The Full Metal Alchemist," where he shared his eclectic taste in music and insights on anime. When Jacob listened to records, he let his mind and sonic interests soar, playing artists from Immortal Technique and Frank Sinatra to Coldplay and John Coltrane.

Jacob's passion for politics and people was vast. He worked on the campaign trail for Bernie Sanders and served veterans as an employee for the Long Beach VA Healthcare System. Jacob trained for the military in Fort Wood, Missouri and served in Fort Hood, Texas.

In 2011, Jacob received the Dr. John Fylpaa Student Life Journalism Award. He was also a recipient of the 2019 In Your City News Trainer of the Year Award and the Cees Kendall Scholarship in 2012.

Remembering Carol McCafferty

Born and raised in North Long Beach, Carol McCafferty was born nine months to the day of the Long Beach Earthquake in 1933. There is a long running joke that she was the earthquake's youngest survivor. Carol taught school in Paramount for over 30 years, mostly 3rd grade. In 1986, Carol moved to the Willmore City historic district neighborhood. She served on the Willmore City Heritage Association's Board of Directors for many years and served four years as President. Carol was a colorful writer and always used a typewriter. Interestingly, she never owned a computer or had an email address. In the 1970's, she was the editor of the National Organization for Women's NOW Times newsletter. Carol assisted with the publication of the Willmore City Enterprise as Newsletter Editor and as the "Cheap Therapy" Columnist.

Over the years, Carol served on the City of Long Beach's Cultural Heritage Commission and was instrumental in the establishment of the Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association. She volunteered with Long Beach Heritage, Historical Society of Long Beach, Long Beach Police Department's South Division Neighborhood Advisory Committee, and supported the Willmore Community Police Center for many years. Carol McCafferty graduated from the Neighborhood Leadership Program's Class of 1996. She was awarded the Mayor Beverly O'Neill Lifetime of Leadership Award at the Long Beach Neighborhood Leadership Conference on November 17, 2007.

Carol playfully referred to herself and her fellow Willmore City area neighbors as "Willmorons" and was known to say "to live in Willmore one needs three things: a great house, good neighbors, and a sense of humor." Carol made a difference in Long Beach and in preserving and sharing Long Beach history. She will be missed.



"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed, organized citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

- Margaret Mead



2019 Alumni Support Team

The Neighborhood Leadership Program has an alumni support team composed of graduate volunteers who help train the next generation of grassroots Long Beach neighborhood leaders. The alumni who make up the team live across Long Beach and represent the diversity of our community. We are grateful for their continued time and effort.

The 2019 team was made up of the following graduates:

Octavio Mojica (Class of 2014), **Stacey Morrison** (Class of 2015), **Ayleen Mojica-Muñoz** (Class of 2018), **Gustavo Orozco Gomez** (Class of 2018), **Sinara Sagn** (Class of 2018), **Maximilian Tokarsky** (Class of 2018) and **Tom Underhill** (Class of 2015).

Neighborhood Leadership Program
Class of 2019



Congratulations Class of 2019!!!

The Neighborhood Leadership Program Alumni Creed

As graduating Alumni of the Neighborhood Leadership Program (NLP), we carry the responsibility of representing the core values of the City of Long Beach Neighborhood Leadership Program.

At all times, in all places, we will respect others while trusting the process of creating a safe environment and being committed to improving our community. Because the Neighborhood Leadership Program emphasizes team work, we agree to support our elected, appointed and volunteer leaders, and to create change through consensus, inclusion, and community building.

As NLP graduates, we are motivated by previous alumni and we will make continuous efforts to inspire new generations of neighborhood leaders. We will be mindful of taking advantage of opportunities to give back to NLP.

This is our own little way of sharing our pride for Long Beach!

Creed written by members of the
Neighborhood Leadership Program Alumni Support Team on June 28, 2014

CENSUS 101: WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The 2020 Census is closer than you think!
Here's a quick refresher of what it is and why it's essential that everyone is counted.

Everyone counts.

The census counts every person living in the U.S. once, only once, and in the right place.



It's in the Constitution.

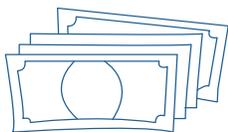
The U.S. Constitution requires a census every 10 years. The census covers the entire country and everyone living here. The first census was in 1790.

It's about fair representation.

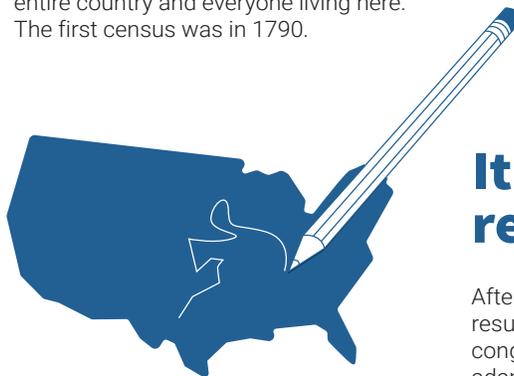
Every 10 years, the results of the census are used to reapportion the House of Representatives, determining how many seats each state gets.



It means \$675 billion.



Census data determine how more than \$675 billion are spent, supporting your state, county and community's vital programs.



It's about redistricting.

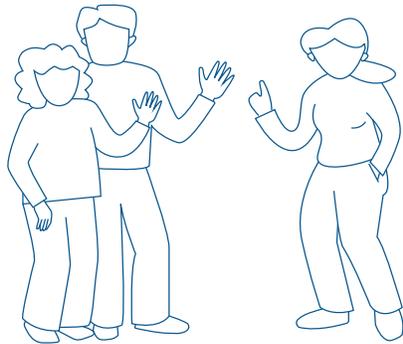
After each census, state officials use the results to redraw the boundaries of their congressional and state legislative districts, adapting to population shifts.

Taking part is your civic duty.

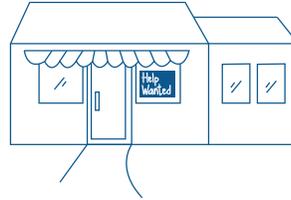
Completing the census is required: it's a way to participate in our democracy and say "I COUNT!"



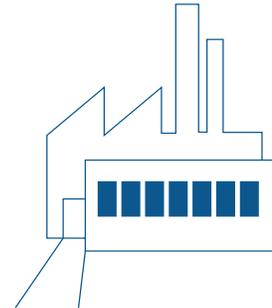
Census data are being used all around you.



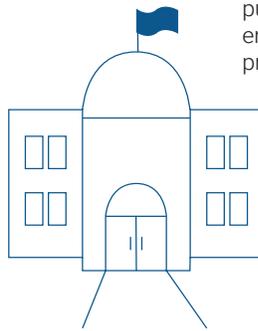
Residents use the census to support community initiatives involving legislation, quality-of-life and consumer advocacy.



Businesses use census data to decide where to build factories, offices and stores, which create jobs.



Local governments use the census for public safety and emergency preparedness.



Real estate developers use the census to build new homes and revitalize old neighborhoods.



Your data are confidential.

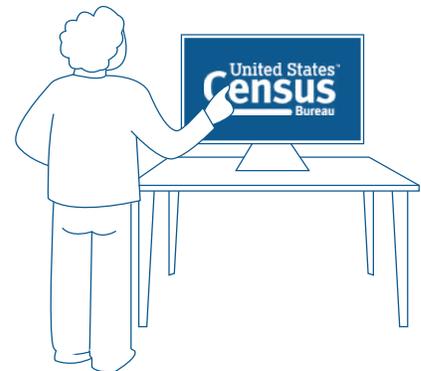
Federal law protects your census responses. Your answers can only be used to produce statistics.

By law we cannot share your information with immigration enforcement agencies, law enforcement agencies, or allow it to be used to determine your eligibility for government benefits.



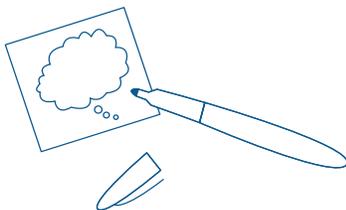
2020 will be easier than ever.

In 2020, you will be able to respond to the census online.



You can help.

You are the expert—we need your ideas on the best way to make sure everyone in your community gets counted.



The Neighborhood Leadership Program

The NLP is offered by the City of Long Beach Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau. This five (5) month multilingual program assists grass-roots residents and provides you with the skills, knowledge, and resources you need to make a difference in the quality of life in our community. This program is free to participants and is partially funded through the Federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program.

This program will help you:

- Improve your communication skills
- Recognize the benefits of diversity
- Create innovative solutions for improving your neighborhood
- Identify resources and partnerships
- Apply for grants
- Plan and complete a community project
- Gain confidence as a public speaker
- Meet Long Beach decision-makers:
 - » Mayor and City Council
 - » Community, Government, and Nonprofit Leaders
 - » Neighborhood Leadership Program Alumni

For more information, please contact the Housing and Neighborhood Services Bureau at (562) 570-1010 or via e-mail to Francisco.Rodriguez@longbeach.gov.



Long Beach Development Services

411 W. Ocean Blvd., 3rd Floor
Long Beach, CA 90802

Visit us at longbeach.gov/lbds

  @LongBeachBuilds

This information is available in alternative format by request at 562.570.3807.
For an electronic version of this document, visit our website at longbeach.gov/lbds.