

THE COLLECTIVE EXPRESS

A Non-Profit Corporation

2017

Caring for Kids Since '72

LOCATIONS SERVED

The Children's Collective, Inc. has 15 locations in the following communities:

- Greater Crenshaw
- Exposition/Los Angeles
- Manchester/Figueroa

We serve approximately 12,000 children, youth and families each year and have served the community since 1972.

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Jackie Kimbrough, Ph.D.
Executive Director

THE CHILDREN'S COLLECTIVE, INC. TURNS 45!

TCCI was established July 2, 1972 by Jackie Kimbrough, a psychology graduate student at UCLA. The Administration for Children Youth and Families in Washington DC provided the initial funding for Dr. Kimbrough to study the development of cooperative behavior in groups of preschool children. This research project began with a part-time staff of four graduate students at the Mafundi Institute on 103rd Street in Watts. It grew into a human services program with a staff of 120 at 15 locations in Greater Los Angeles.



Forty five years later, TCCI serves more than 12,000 children, youth and adults annually in child development, youth development, family support and health programs. It provides more than 250,000 nutritious meals each year to pre-schoolers in child care; improves health outcomes for pregnant and parenting women; increases employment and income for families; improves student achievement; and promotes healthy eating and physical activity among all segments of the population. TCCI addresses immigration issues, providing assistance with visa and citizenship applications. TCCI also supports youth and adult active sports, such as wheelchair basketball, drill teams and cheer squads for neighborhood youth.



The Children's Collective Inc. continuously enrolls for Infant, Toddler, Full Day and Part Day Preschool Programs. Call 213-747-4046.

Mission Statement: To improve life outcomes for children, youth and their families in South Los Angeles by providing high quality, comprehensive, educational and support services.



**THE CHILDREN'S COLLECTIVE, INC. CULMINATES
OVER 345 CHILDREN IN JUNE**



WELL DONE!

**BABY2BABY
COLLABORATIVE
PARTNERSHIP**



The Black Infant Health Program collaborated with Baby2Baby to provide baby items for our pregnant participants. Ms. Black was extremely grateful for her much needed baby crib. She stated that "The Black Infant Health Program really looked out for her and her unborn child's well-being." She also expressed her appreciation and support for her Family Health Advocate and embraced her with a hug.

The BIH Program staff strives to fully serve each participant with resources and referrals to help them maintain a healthy pregnancy and life for the baby following birth.

A DAY AT KENNETH HAHN PARK

The End of the Year Day in the Park was a fun-filled event with over 500 children and their families roaming freely with no visible boundaries through Kenneth Hahn Park.

There was a lot of activity including face painting, sack races, chasing the ducks and water balloon tossing. Following all of the fun and games, the children settled down to have a tasty and nutritious lunch.

The staff and parents also had a wonderful time. Jermaine Kyle, Child Development Manager noted, "Every year, this event gets bigger and bigger. The children had the opportunity to explore the park and the pond in a safe and open environment."



FREE FAMILY LAW HELP



Vera Brown-Curtis Hayes

The Children's Collective, Inc. is pleased to announce a new partnership with the Harriet Buhai Center for Family Law through the Vera Brown Curtis Project. This program will be housed at the Rita Walters Learning Complex. According to Jackie Kimbrough, Executive Director for The Children's Collective, Inc., "This partnership will bring desperately needed legal services to the families in the Vermont-Manchester area and will provide support and information to families in distress."

The **Vera Brown Curtis Project** will offer free legal aid to individuals in need of assistance with domestic violence, child custody and support, divorce, and other family law matters. It was named to honor the personal and professional legacy of Vera Brown Curtis (1943-2011), who as a committed member of the California Bar, Black Women Lawyers Association of Los Angeles, the Harriett Buhai Center, and The Los Angeles Chapter of The Links, Incorporated, spent her career passionately defending the legal rights of the disadvantaged.

This program will be hosted by The Children's Collective, Inc. at the **Rita Walters Learning Complex** on Manchester and Vermont Avenue once every month starting **Thursday, October 19, 2017** from 9am to 4pm.

The mission of the Harriet Buhai Center for Family Law is to protect victims of domestic violence and improve the well-being of children living in poverty. With the help of volunteers, the center provides **free family law assistance and legal education to the poor**. They strive to empower people and assure them meaningful access to the courts.

To see if you qualify for services from the Harriet Buhai Center for Family Law, please call (213) 388-7505, ext. 306.



IMMIGRATION FORUM

On Saturday, August 19, the Mayor's Office of Public Engagement and Immigration Affairs presented a half day Town Hall meeting on "Immigration, Citizenship and Renter's Rights."

Representing the 59th District, Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer addressed the packed room in the cafetorium located at the Rita Walters Learning Complex. The presenters discussed "Knowing Your Immigrant Rights, Obtaining Free Assistance with Caregiver Affidavits and Guardianship Requirements, Discrimination against Black Immigrants and Finding Affordable Housing." Translators were on hand so attendees could also receive vital information in Spanish.

Following the forum, attendees went into the gymnasium where representatives from the City, State, and non-profit organizations distributed helpful information. More than 175 residents were in attendance and visited with the following organizations: Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI), Central American Resource Center (CARECEN); Head Start & State Child Care; Los Angeles City Housing + Community Investment Department (HCID); Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office; Reginald Jones-Sawyer, California State Legislature; Tenants/Inquilinos; United States Senator Dianne Feinstein's Office; and the West Angeles Community Development Corporation.



Left: Dr. Kimbrough, Executive Director and Assemblymember Reginald Jones-Sawyer, 59th District.



Free Child Care Provided For Immigration Workshop



LOS ANGELES COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDERS FORUM

The Los Angeles County Public Defender's Office held a community open house at the Rita Walters Learning Complex. Three panel discussions were offered on how to get a criminal record expunged, knowing your rights when interacting with the police and understanding your case.

What resonated with the audience was the importance of educating children about their rights and how to respond to an officer when being questioned. Attorney Christine Rodriguez stressed "If you are driving and stopped by the police, sit there and wait for instructions and then follow the instructions. In the event you or your child are taken into custody, remain silent and wait for your attorney from the Public Defender's Office. You don't want to say something incriminating that will hurt your case."

In addition to the sage advice on the arrest process, the attendees were given a general overview of the investigative process, the role of the Psychiatric Social Worker and the court process as well. Attendees received detailed handouts from the Public Defender's office of available resources.



LAW ENFORCEMENT DAY



In an effort to familiarize the children with the police, the staff at Casa Dominguez held a Law Enforcement Day at their site. This was a great opportunity for the children to interact with police and feel comfortable and safe in their presence.

Representatives spoke on being safe and what to do if they are in trouble or need help. The children learned how to call 911 to get help in emergencies.



SPOTLIGHT ON 56TH STREET

56th Street/Western Avenue Child Development Center is one of the new sites to become part of The Children's Collective, Inc. This site serves a high percentage of homeless children from the community. TCCI supports them by providing stability, a peaceful place to nap, nutritious meals and developmental activities.

The children and staff are fully engaged and participate in activities that promote cognitive development as well as support and encourage team playing and sharing.

The Site Director is Ms. Lizbeth Renova. For more information or enrollment at 56th Street/Western Avenue Child Development Center, call (323) 421-6117 or contact the Admin Office at (310) 870-1370.

