



The COLLECTIVE CHRONICLES

The Children's Collective, Inc.

March 2025

A Poverty Alleviation Non-Profit

WHO WE ARE

TCCI is dedicated to alleviating poverty and transforming lives in South Los Angeles by empowering children, youth, and their families to overcome systemic challenges and build pathways to sustainable success through high-quality, comprehensive, educational and family support services.



WHAT WE'RE DOING



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Locations

The Children's Collective, Inc. has 10 locations in the South Los Angeles area, offering various programs and services. To learn more, check out our website:

CHILDRENSCOLLECTIVE.ORG

Administrative Office

8616 La Tijera Blvd Ste 100
Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 870-1370

TCCI continuously enrolls for infant, toddler, and preschool programs. Call 424-286-4409.

WHERE WE ARE



CORNER SPOTLIGHT GEO

As we step into March, I want to take a moment to thank each of you for the amazing work you have been doing in 2025 to serve our clients in extraordinary ways. Your dedication and commitment make a significant difference in the lives of those we serve in South Los Angeles, and I am incredibly proud of the impact we are making together.

This month offers us a moment to reflect on the vital contributions of social workers in our communities while also honoring the incredible women—especially women of color—who have dedicated their lives to making the world a better place.

Celebrating Social Work Month

Social Work Month is a time to acknowledge the significant impact that social workers have on individuals, families, and communities. They are the champions of social justice, advocating for those who are marginalized and underserved. Their commitment to empowering others is at the heart of our mission at TCCI, as we strive to alleviate poverty and promote equity in all forms.

Throughout the month, let us recognize the tireless efforts of our social workers and their dedication to improving the lives of our clients. Their compassion, resilience, and advocacy are instrumental in creating positive change and ensuring that every voice is heard.

Honoring Women of Color

In addition to celebrating our social workers, March is also Women's History Month—a time to honor the achievements of women throughout history. This year, we particularly focus on the extraordinary contributions of women of color who have fought for justice, equality, and community empowerment.

From trailblazers like Harriet Tubman and Ida B. Wells to contemporary leaders like Michelle Obama and Marsha P. Johnson, women of color have played vital roles in shaping our society. They have made remarkable strides in various fields—social justice, education, health care, and more—all while advocating for the rights of those often



overlooked.

Among them is Dolores Huerta, a tireless advocate for labor rights and social justice. Her work has empowered countless individuals to stand up for their rights and has made a profound impact on the labor movement. As Huerta once said, "Every moment is an organizing opportunity, every person a potential activist." Her words resonate deeply as we celebrate the contributions of women who have ignited change in our communities.

These women remind us of the strength found in diversity and the importance of uplifting voices that reflect the myriad experiences within our communities. Their stories inspire us to continue our work with passion and purpose.

A Call to Action

As we celebrate these important observances, I encourage all of us at TCCI to engage in meaningful conversations about the role of social work and the impact of women of color. Share stories of the women who inspire you, and let us collectively honor their contributions.

Together, let us commit to fostering an inclusive environment where everyone's voice is valued. By recognizing and supporting the work of social workers and the achievements of women of color, we reinforce our commitment to building a more equitable and compassionate world.

Thank you for your dedication, and here's to a month filled with celebration, reflection, and action!

Warm regards,

Dr. Charles Lee-Johnson

CEO, TCCI

BLACK HISTORY IN THE CLASSROOM



Each February, we celebrate Black History Month, a time to honor the incredible contributions of African Americans throughout history. Over the years, the celebration grew from a week to a month-long observance, where we celebrate the achievements of African Americans and reflect on the ongoing journey towards equality. From groundbreaking leaders to innovative artists, inventors, and everyday heroes, this month is a reminder of the strength, resilience, and creativity of Black communities.

Every year at our Willowbrook Childcare site, Ms. Mitchell curates a wonderful display of inventions by African Americans in her preschool classroom. Ms. Mitchell dedicates her time during this month to teaching the children about prominent African American figures. We aim to provide our children with an engaging and meaningful learning experience while celebrating the diversity that enriches our community. It is important for us to stress the importance of how certain people changed the world, but to also instill in our early learners that they can be the change as well.

BLACK INVENTORS AND THEIR INVENTIONS

Carbon light bulb filament
Lewis Latimer

Refrigerated trucks
Frederick McKinley Jones

Three-light traffic signal and gas mask
Garrett Morgan

Ironing board
Sarah Boone

Automated elevator doors
Alexander Miles

Super Soaker water gun
Lonnie Johnson



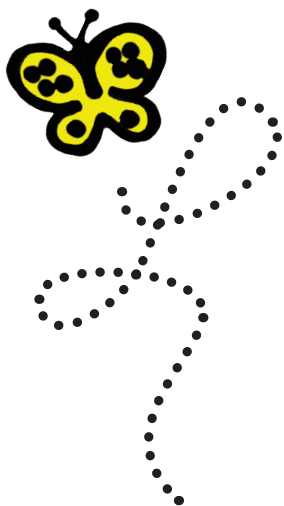
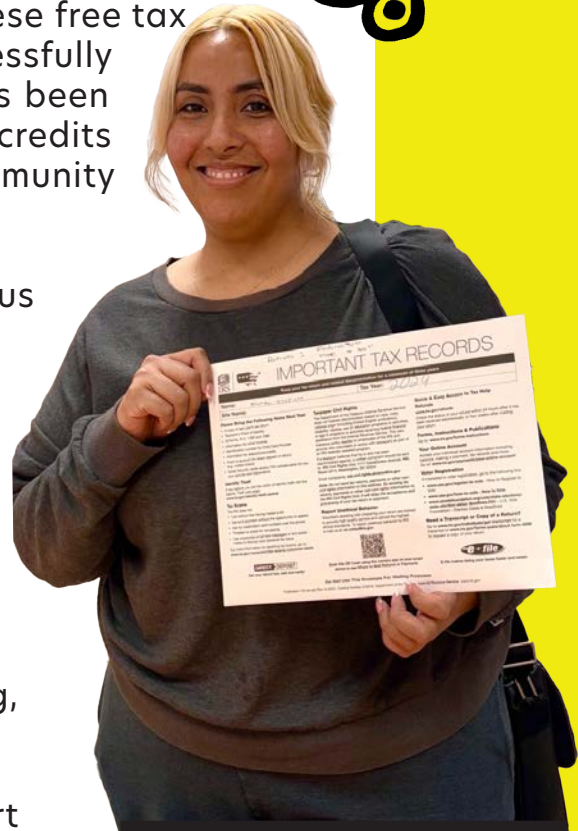
FILE YOUR TAXES FOR FREE AT FSC

The FamilySource Center's (FSC) February was full of love and care in various forms. FSC's wonderful team of tax representatives and preparers stayed long hours to ensure community taxpayers' tax returns were filed accurately and timely. These free tax services save taxpayers over \$200 for each successfully filed tax return. Through this initiative, FSC has been able to identify and claim over \$30,000 in tax credits that go right back into the pockets of our community members!

Throughout February, FSC has provided various additional supportive services, including:

- Providing 85 air purifiers to those impacted by the wildfires
- Holding a Black History Month distribution through the program's food pantry, which gave out 75 bags of non-perishables and protein food items
- Supporting 30 households with needed household items such as diapers, clothing, and public transit tap cards.

The FSC continues to provide any and all support possible to assist our community in overcoming various barriers with the goal of alleviating poverty.



Free Income Tax Preparation



To Be Eligible You Must:

- Make no more than \$60,000 as a household or individual
- If married, you must file jointly
- Short form filing only

Out-of-Scope:

- Self-employed or receive cash income with certain deductions
- Filing as a property owner with tenants

Filing for the 2024 tax year?

Scan QR code to receive a call from us



Unsure if you're eligible, give us a call!

CALFRESH STARTS PARENT NUTRITION SERIES AT FLORENCE CHILDCARE SITE



In February, the CalFresh Healthy Living Program (CFHL) began offering parent classes at TCCI's Florence Childcare site. The series, Healthy Happy Families, consists of eight different weekly lessons and is designed specifically for parents of preschool age children. Parents learn about the nutritional needs of young children and how to make healthy changes at home for the whole family.

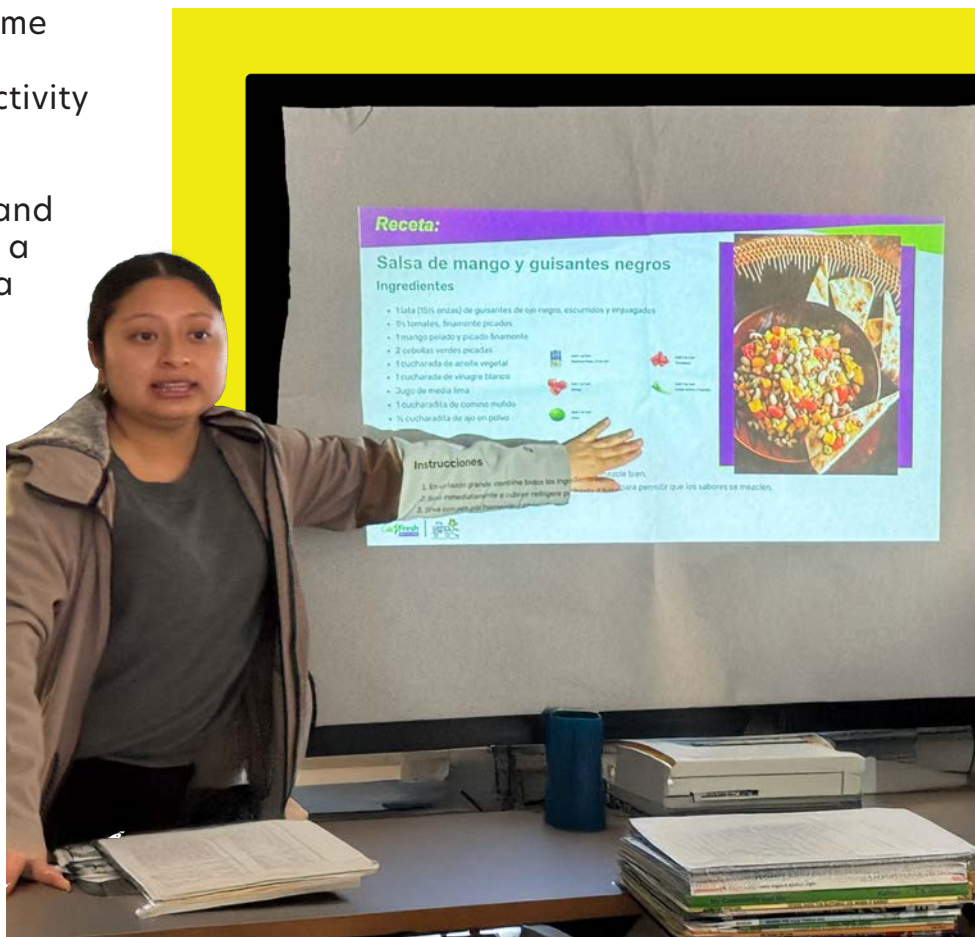
Different topics include:

- Growth patterns of preschool children
- Importance of and how to develop beneficial home routines
- How to involve kids into mealtime preparation and planning
- Tips for picky eaters and how to encourage positive behavior
- How to develop healthy mealtime habits at home
- How to incorporate physical activity as a family



CFHL health educators, Kat and Citlalli, offer the lessons twice a week. Each lesson includes a cooking demonstration and taste test of a healthy recipe. Some recent tastings include black bean and veggie tostados; mango and black-eyed pea salsa; and green smoothies.

Although the lessons are held at TCCI's Florence site, all TCCI preschool parents are welcome to attend the lessons, which are offered in both English and Spanish. Classes are held Tuesdays at 9am and Fridays at 1:30pm.



BIH SPREADS A LIL' JOY

Celebrating
BLACK HISTORY MONTH



During the month of February, the Black Infant Health (BIH) program provided a variety of support services to pregnant and parenting mothers. Staff conducted twenty prenatal and postpartum groups where mothers learned about healthy nutrition, setting personal goals, home safety, and how to support a healthy baby.

Three group series were initiated this month and ten mothers successfully completed their sessions. To celebrate their success, we hosted three baby showers. Each mother received various infant and maternal care items that included diapers bags, bottles, pacifiers, baby clothing, safety materials, and diapers. Mothers who completed the postpartum sessions received a postnatal recovery kit with personal care items to support post-delivery hygiene.

On February 23rd, BIH staff participated in the 8th Annual Black Joy Parade (BJP) and Festival in Oakland. The event was cosponsored by Black Infant Health's public awareness campaign and gave staff the opportunity to honor Black History Month while offering support and services to those in the Oakland community. BIH staff from all over California came to the parade, allowing local staff to reconnect and socialize with other BIH jurisdictions.

At the end of February, BIH hosted a self love event, giving mothers the opportunity to engage in selfcare activities like belly dancing and sound baths. Participants also received personal items like body butter and lip balm.



FEATURED EMPLOYEE: ANA PETRONA GUEVARA

Site: Casa Dominquez Child Care Center

What do you do in your role?

I am the infant teacher at Casa Dominquez Childcare Center. My primary responsibility is to provide a safe and nurturing environment for infants, attend to their physical and social needs, observe their development, and engage them in age-appropriate activities that stimulate their sensory, motor, and cognitive skills. I also maintain open communication with parents about their child's progress.



What do you like about working at TCCI?

I enjoy working for TCCI because it gives me the opportunity to do what I love. I appreciate the teamwork at my site, as well as the positive atmosphere. I'm also happy with how the administration team communicates with the staff.

Tell us something about you.

I enjoy gardening and spending time with my family.

What is your favorite part of the job?

My favorite part of this job is how rewarding it is to witness children's growth and development while having fun every day. I love being part of shaping young minds. While my job can be unpredictable, it's incredibly fulfilling. I truly enjoy the interactions I have with the children, staff, and parents.

NOW **HIRING**

The Children's Collective, Inc.



CASE MANAGER

FamilySource Center

COMMUNITY OUTREACH LIAISON

Black Infant Health Program

FAMILY HEALTH ADVOCATE

Black Infant Health Program

LEAD CASE MANAGER

FamilySource Center

MAINTENANCE WORKER

General Hire

MENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

Black Infant Health Program

PRE SCHOOL TEACHER ASST

Child Development Program

PRE SCHOOL TEACHER

Child Development Program

PROJECT ASSISTANT

Black Infant Health Program

STAFF AND RECRUITING SPECIALIST

General Hire

To Apply:

To browse and apply for any of our open positions, please go to childrenscollective.org/careers or scan the QR code to the right.

Thank you for your interest in employment at The Children's Collective!

