



# The COLLECTIVE CHRONICLES

The Children's Collective, Inc.

July 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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## WHERE WE ARE



### 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:

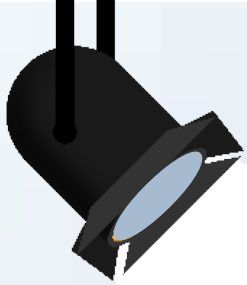
**CHILDRENSCOLLECTIVE.ORG**

### 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.

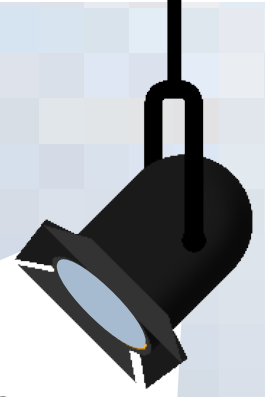


# COO CORNER

## **Together, We Grow: Celebrating Milestones and the People Who Make Them Possible**

This month, I had the privilege of attending culmination ceremonies at our Child Development Centers. I witnessed the joy on children's faces as they received their diplomas and the pride radiating from their families who were there to celebrate with them. It was a beautiful reminder of why we do this work—and how many people it takes to make moments like these possible.

Behind every milestone, whether it's a toddler taking their first steps toward independence or a parent building confidence through support and resources, there is a network of dedicated individuals who help make it happen. From teachers and classroom staff to administrators and countless others who often go unrecognized, each person plays a vital role in the success of the children and families we serve. I couldn't be prouder to work alongside them.



If you're reading this, you've likely contributed to our mission of poverty alleviation in a meaningful way yourself. Whether you are a member of the TCCI family, a funder, a donor, or another kind of supporter, please know how sincerely grateful we are. Your commitment enables us to continue walking alongside children and families, nurturing their growth every step of the way.

I am filled with deep gratitude for you. Thank you for trusting us with what matters most. It's a responsibility we carry with deep respect and unwavering dedication.

In Service,



*Fernando Reyes*

Chief Officer of Operations  
The Children's Collective, Inc.

# CALFRESH CLIENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT: VICTORIA

## How are you involved with TCCI?


Victoria's son is enrolled at King/San Pedro child care center.



## How long have you been a TCCI client?

Victoria has been with TCCI for a year.

## In what ways has TCCI changed your life?

 Victoria says that CalFresh's nutrition classes have been such a great resource not only for her child but for her whole family. She says her son comes home excited to share what he's learned about healthy eating and it's inspired them to prepare healthy meals together as a family. Victoria says the produce distributions have also made a big difference and that having access to fresh fruits and vegetables has helped them stretch their food budget and eat healthier without the extra stress. Victoria can't say enough about the gardening classes! Her son loves getting his hands in the soil and learning where food really comes from. She says it's been amazing to see the kids' confidence grow along with the plants they've helped raised.

## Tell us more about you!

Victoria participates in the CalFresh program in every way possible! Her son receives nutrition and gardening lessons at TCCI's King/San Pedro child care center. She also attends parent nutrition classes and receives produce at King/San Pedro's produce distributions.



# SUPER DADS, REAL HEROES

This month, we celebrated some of our favorite superheroes—Dads! Did you know? Research shows that positive father involvement boosts a child's social skills, confidence, and academic success. Whether it's through play, routines, or bedtime chats, fathers help children feel safe, seen, and supported.

This year, we had the privilege of welcoming some of TCCI's Dads to our sites to share encouraging words with the Fathers in our program. A huge Thank You to Dr. Lee-Johnson, Fernando Reyes, Russell Peppers, and Anthony Martinez for taking time out of their busy schedules to make our dads feel special. The connections that were made during these conversations have left a wonderful impression on the fathers in our program.

From all of us at The Children's Collective, Inc., thank you for your dedication, kindness, and daily efforts to help your little ones grow and thrive. We honor ALL father-figures — grandfathers, stepdads, uncles, older brothers, and mentors — who fill children's lives with strength, safety, and love.



# FSC EMPOWERS LA: ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

After an eventful program year, the staff at the FamilySource Center (FSC) have come to realize: *Our clients' challenges are a result of the inequities placed in our Los Angeles neighborhoods.*

The cost of living is rising -- food, rent, and transportation are expensive. Many families in Los Angeles face the dual burdens of unaffordable living and limited access to essential services. However, at our FSC, our clients are getting ahead of today's economic challenges. Families have access to a variety of services such as food assistance, crucial items, and more. They bring home hope and relief after a visit to our center.

Along with our partners at Hurting & Hungry Charities, we have fed over 3,700 individuals through our food pantry and monthly food distributions. Over \$20,000 has been spent on rental units that are now called homes because of the move-in costs and furnishings we have provided. Another \$240,000 kept families in their homes and avoided eviction. Over 2,000 youth can live and grow with the free books, tutoring services, toys, clothing, and diapers we have provided. We have returned over \$500,000 to our clients' income during our tax season! Fifty clients have been able to address their immigration needs with our subcontractor, CARECEN. This means no attorney fees, no risks of being scammed, and no facing pertinent documents alone.

At our core, we are dedicated to empowering individuals through transformative support. Whether it's pre-employment assistance, housing navigation, or providing vital resources and referrals, we are committed to offering comprehensive guidance at every step. Our goal is to ensure that everyone who walks through our doors leaves equipped with the tools and support they need to transform their lives and build a brighter future.

*FSC will continue to empower our community and address the issues to alleviate poverty despite the challenges in today's society.*



# CALFRESH, FATHERS, & FLAVOR

During the month of June, the CalFresh Healthy Living (CFHL) Program partnered with TCCI's Parent Advocate, Joyce Hernandez, in presenting the program's organizational wellness policy to parents. This parent meeting was dedicated to TCCI fathers and hosted a workshop that introduced CalFresh and the wellness policy. Additionally, we highlighted the role fathers have in encouraging healthier eating to their children and reminded them to attend our future parent nutrition classes.



In June the CFHL team also hosted a Rethink Your Drink Day, which included:

- This campaign, which aims to reduce consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages, was hosted at one of TCCI's graduation culminations. The goal was to reach a large group of adults and children and distribute resources and recipes to reinforce the campaign message while providing activities to keep the kids engaged.
- CFHL educators, Citlalli and Kat, also offered a healthy popcorn taste test for the parents attending the culmination.
- During the culmination events, the CFHL team will also be distributing comment cards that provide parents the opportunity to share feedback on CFHL classes and produce distributions.



# BIH WRAPS THE YEAR WITH PURPOSE

As we finish up this fiscal year, Black Infant Health (BIH) wrapped up their 10th prenatal Sister Circle group where four mothers commenced on June 18th. The mothers received diaper bags full of items necessary for their postnatal journey such as postpartum recovery kits, diapers, wipes, journals, books, and clothing for their bundles of joy.

On Saturday, June 17th, Black Infant Health team members Tara Barnes (program supervisor) and Lena Canyon (family health advocate) participated in the annual Father's Day/Juneteenth baby shower and resource fair at Curtis Tucker Center for Community Wellness in Inglewood, California hosted by Black Infants and Families. T. Barnes and L. Canyon hosted the BIH table where guests learned about services that BIH offers, distributed materials including custom mugs, hand sanitizers, journals and water bottles.

On June 18th, BIH also hosted an asthma training workshop that was open to all TCCI family members. The event was led by the Asthma Coalition from the County Department of Public Health.

Participants and BIH staff were able to learn ways to prevent asthma attacks and how to manage if someone close to them or themselves were in that predicament.



# FEATURED EMPLOYEE: MARIBEL MARTINEZ

**Site:** Florence Child Care Center



## What do you do in your role?



My role as a teacher entails making sure the classroom runs smoothly, the children are safe, parents are informed, and the curriculum is taught according to Department of Education and Creative Curriculum standards.

## What do you like about working at TCCI?

I like the curriculum and the culture in my center. It's very welcoming and inviting.

## Tell us something about you.

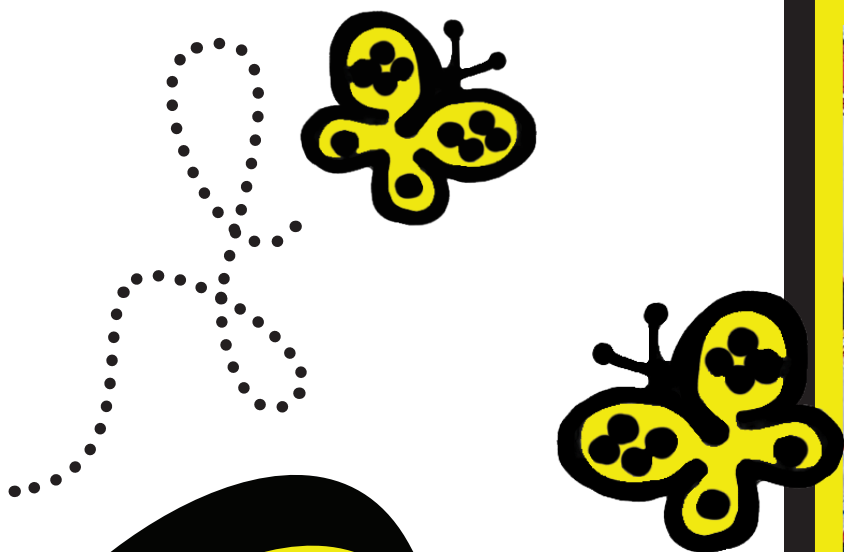
I like all kinds of music, from classical to alternative rock.

## What is your favorite part of the job?

Everything! But I love talking to and listening to my kids. I love helping our families.



# FEATURED PHOTOS: CHILD DEVELOPMENT CELEBRATES FATHER'S DAY





# CELEBRATING TCCI'S BIRTHDAY AND FOUNDER



Founded in July 1972 by the visionary Dr. Jackie Kimbrough, The Children's Collective, Inc. (TCCI) has been a steadfast pillar of support in the South Los Angeles community for more than half a century. This July, we proudly celebrate 53 years of impact—honoring Dr. Kimbrough's enduring legacy and the transformative foundation she established.

Dr. Kimbrough dedicated over five decades as TCCI's Executive Director, guiding the organization with unwavering commitment and purpose. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology (with a minor in German) from the University of Texas at Austin in 1968, followed by a Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles in 1974. In 2007, she furthered her leadership acumen through the Executive Program in Management at UCLA's Anderson School of Management.



It was during her graduate studies at UCLA that Dr. Kimbrough's passion for improving outcomes for children took root, inspiring her to establish TCCI in July 1972. Since then, her vision has flourished into a vital community institution, empowering generations of families across South Los Angeles.

Please join us in expressing heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Kimbrough for her extraordinary leadership and years of service—an enduring legacy that continues to spark change and uplift lives. To read more about Dr. Kimbrough, head to our website at [childrenscollective.org/staff/founder](http://childrenscollective.org/staff/founder).

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**CAN YOU GUESS HOW MANY BUTTERFLIES ARE IN THIS NEWSLETTER?**

Find the answer in next month's newsletter!

The June newsletter had **26** butterflies! Did you get it right? (*hint: a t-shirt makes 26*)

# NOW **HIRING**

**The Children's Collective, Inc.**



## **EARLY INTERVENTION SPECIALIST**

Child Development

## **LEAD CASE MANAGER**

FamilySource Center

## **MAINTENANCE COORDINATOR**

General Hire

## **PRE SCHOOL TEACHER ASSISTANT**

Child Development Program

## **PRE SCHOOL TEACHER**

Child Development Program

### **To Apply:**

To browse any of our open positions, please go to [childrenscollective.org/careers](http://childrenscollective.org/careers) or scan the QR code to the right.

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

