The Community Resource Center (CRC) is proud to commemorate 20 years of dedicated service to the communities in the southeast area of Los Angeles County. Since 1998 the CRC has remained committed to its mission to provide comprehensive, integrated, and accessible services and support to the community.

In the 1990’s, the Community Development Commission/Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (CDC/HACoLA) invested $40 million to revitalize Whittier’s unincorporated communities with affordable housing and infrastructure improvements. Through a unique partnership that included the CDC/HACoLA, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, and the local community, the CRC opened on February 8, 1998.

Owned and operated by the CDC/HACoLA, the CDC assists nearly 40,000 residents of all ages within unincorporated Whittier and the surrounding communities each year. As the hub of this community, the CRC brings together non-profit organizations, schools, county departments, and social, health, education, and referral services to meet community needs. The CRC also offers homework assistance and computer education; a health clinic; and resource fairs. Its annual food and toy distribution has become an invaluable resource to area families during the holidays. In 2016, the CRC completed the expansion of the facility to better serve its visitors.
Welcome to The Fiesta

On March 22, 2018, the CDC/HACoLA celebrated the grand opening of The Fiesta, a 50-unit affordable housing development that includes 12 units for homeless persons that are frequent users of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Service (DHS), and 37 units for homeless persons living with a mental illness. The Fiesta includes one onsite property manager’s unit.

The CDC/HACoLA provided construction and permanent financing of $1.6 million in County General Funds. The loan included a $100,000 incentive to assist with the development of a Federally Qualified Health Center. LA Family Housing, the site's developer, is also the lead service provider offering an onsite case manager and service coordinator, mental health services, and substance use disorder counseling. Residents of The Fiesta enjoy amenities such as a community room with a communal kitchen, computer lab, a residents’ lounge, and fitness room. The site also includes laundry rooms and outdoor common areas.

The Fiesta includes five units for mobility-impaired residents and two units for audibly or visually-impaired residents. It exceeds California’s Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards by 30%, and achieve LEED gold standard. The Fiesta also includes a solar hot water system.

Homeless Resources Awarded to Los Angeles County

In January 2018, the CDC/HACoLA received an allocation of 514 Continuum of Care (CoC) certificates. The CoC Program involves the combined efforts of community-based organizations and the CDC/HACoLA to link rental assistance to supportive services for homeless individuals and families with disabilities. The CoC Program assists those diagnosed with severe mental illness, chronic substance use disorders, or HIV/AIDS, by creating long-term housing stability in combination with supportive services, leading to self-sufficiency and reintegration into the community. Prior to this allocation, the CDC/HACoLA had received a total of 1,344.

With the additional 514 CoC certificates, the CDC/HACoLA and its partners now have critically-needed resources to help combat the homelessness epidemic in Los Angeles County. This is especially critical as the 2017 Homeless Count conducted by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority found there are 57,794 persons in Los Angeles County experiencing homelessness on any given night. There is a dire need to house this vulnerable population and the CDC/HACoLA is hopeful that the additional certificates will make a difference within the County.
On March 28, 2018, Monique King-Viehland was sworn in by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors as the Executive Director of the CDC/HACoLA. Mrs. King-Viehland previously served as Acting Executive Director since October 2017.

Mrs. King-Viehland first came to the agency in 2015, as the Deputy Executive Director over community and economic development programs. Prior to that, she served as Director of the Department of Housing & Economic Development for the City of Trenton, New Jersey. Mrs. King-Viehland is a seasoned public sector executive serving in leadership roles at municipal, county, and state levels. Mrs. King-Viehland has over twenty years of experience in housing, community, and economic development, primarily in the area of real estate development.

“I appreciate the support and confidence the Board of Supervisors expressed in my ability to effectively lead the agency in this new era of unprecedented challenges, but also extraordinary opportunities,” stated Mrs. King-Viehland. “My vision for the agency is to go beyond ‘building better lives and better neighborhoods,’ and to position ourselves as a forward thinking, industry leader in the provision of services aimed at disrupting the cycle of generational poverty and homelessness, and developing cross-functional programs that don’t just create a safety net, but rather, a springboard for the people we serve.” Mrs. King-Viehland will be the first woman and African-American to take the helm of the 35-year old agency.
On March 11, 2018, the CDC/HACoLA joined Los Angeles City and County leaders to launch “Everyone In,” a coalition of people fighting towards the common goal of ending homelessness across Los Angeles County. Led by the United Way of Greater Los Angeles, the goal of Everyone In is to monitor and make sure homeless programs being funded by Measure H and Proposition HHH are successful over the next decade. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has called upon the CDC/HACoLA to be a key player in the County’s Homeless Initiative (HI). The CDC/HACoLA are leaders or contributing agencies in 27 of the 51 HI strategies, many of which are funded through Measure H. The agency is proud to have developed award-winning approaches to housing homeless families, veterans, and individuals and looks forward to supporting the efforts of the Everyone In movement.

Count Us In!

As the nation observed Women’s History Month during the month of March, the CDC/HACoLA was proud to celebrate the success of a local woman-owned business. The agency recently awarded $200,000 to ED Technology Funds, a fast growing business based in unincorporated Altadena that offers consulting and comprehensive support services to help position technology resources efficiently.

ED Technology Funds provides consulting services to schools and libraries in underserved areas across the country for the E-rate Schools and Libraries program, directed by the Federal Communications Commission. Beverly Sutherland founded the company 13 years ago with the belief that technology can be a “game-changer” for students and their families. “We are a full spectrum consulting and management firm that brings together technology, funding, and vital resources needed for these organizations to efficiently build 21st Century network infrastructures,” said Sutherland. Loan proceeds will be used to acquire new equipment and provide working capital to help the company expand into new markets nationwide.

Whose Business is Next?

#EveryoneIn