



Update from the Office of Supervisor Kuehl

Expanding Care for Justice-Involved Women and LGBTQ+ Individuals

As part of LA County's broader goal to divert people from jails and build out a community-based care infrastructure, there is a need to closely examine and tailor our approach to historically marginalized subpopulations, including women and the LGBTQ+ community. With this in mind, the Board passed a motion authored by Supervisor Kuehl this week that was spurred by a comprehensive report by the Gender Responsive Advisory Committee (GRAC.)

The GRAC report's clearest message is that too many cisgender women (including those who are pregnant or elderly), as well as two-spirit, LGBTQ+ and intersex individuals, are being needlessly incarcerated. According to a Rand Corporation analysis, 76% of the people held at the Century Regional Detention Facility (CRDF) have mental health issues but could be safely diverted. This motion brings together the different teams working on our diversion efforts, including Alternatives to Incarceration, Office of Diversion, Jail Closure Implementation, and GRAC, to ensure collaboration on these goals related to justice-involved women and LGBTQ+ people. It also requests routine reports on our progress, so the Board can closely monitor how efficiently we are meeting the needs of this population and facilitating a successful transition out of incarceration.

Renewing our Commitment to DREAMers

The Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (DACA) program allows hundreds of thousands of DREAMers to work and study in the U.S., pursuing their American dream. With the DACA program under attack, LA County is once again reaffirming our commitment to DREAMers and publicly stating our support for this critical program.

A motion passed this week, co-authored by Supervisor Kuehl and Supervisor Holly Mitchell, authorizes County Counsel to submit public comment in support of the Biden administration's new DACA rule, which would preserve the program.

Roughly 13% of DREAMers live in LA, so this motion is about supporting our friends, neighbors, and colleagues and their right to stay in the country they have called home for the majority of their lives.

Small Business Relief Programs

The County continues to put our COVID-19 American Rescue Plan dollars to work. This week, the Board passed a motion authored by Supervisors Holly Mitchell and Hilda Solis allocating funds to the Los Angeles County Development Authority for programs to help revitalize LA small businesses.

The funding includes \$10m for the Keep LA Dining Program to provide grants to qualified restaurants and \$7.5m for a Rent Relief Program to offer commercial rental assistance to Small Businesses. This program will be available to qualifying businesses County-wide.

Rebuilding a County Healthcare Workforce

The pandemic highlighted the need for a stable and skilled County health care workforce, along with the challenges frontline workers face that make these positions challenging to fill. The Board passed a motion put forth by Supervisor Holly Mitchell to fill gaps in our healthcare workforce, particularly in nursing and other clinical positions, to ensure that we deliver quality care to those who rely on the County healthcare system.

The motion lays out a plan to evaluate vacancies, streamline the hiring process, and leverage our relationships with community colleges and industry partners to fill critical positions quickly, with qualified and well-suited people to meet the diverse needs and experiences of patients in our care.

Be Prepared. Stay Safe.

The Board officially recognized October as National Fire Prevention Month, an issue the Third District knows all too well.

There is no better time than now to make sure your family has a plan as well as the supplies necessary to safely evacuate should a fire occur, and to take simple steps to protect your property. If you're not sure where to start, don't worry! LA County has your back. For your emergency preparedness needs, visit Ready.LACounty.gov!

Additional Resources

StayHousedLA.org -

Stay Housed LA is a partnership between the County of Los Angeles and local community and legal services providers. The site provides Los Angeles County residents with information and resources to keep people in their homes. At the Stay Housed LA website, you can find out more about your rights by participating in a virtual tenant workshop, get the legal assistance you need, and sign up for updates to stay keyed into LA County's evolving housing climate.

VaccinateLACounty.com -

Vaccinate LA County is your one stop shop for vaccine information. You can find a site nearby, learn about the vaccines, data, and find information on mobile and homebound vaccinations. Please reach out if you have specific questions - our office is here to help.

ReopeningLACounty.com -

For best practices for businesses, information regarding COVID-19, the current Health Officer Order, and more – ReopeningLACounty.com has information to help you stay healthy, safe and informed.