

YOUNG HORIZONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS 501 Atlantic Avenue Long Beach, CA 90802

#### Address Service Requested

Our mission is to provide quality childcare and preschool programs in a caring, loving and learning environment.



To our friend (s):

Young Horizons is a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization serving children in Long Beach. Donations are tax deductible to the limit allowed by law.

#### **Board of Directors**

#### Founders: Dr. Gerhard & Irena Kohn

Alejandra Albarran Moses, Ph.D. Kris Gragson Frank Gutierrez Danita Humphrey Claudia Kouyoumdjian, Ph.D. Nancy Manriquez Dowell Dominique Perez Roger Scott Jake Mooney, **Board Chair** 

> Advisory Board Martha Bernadette, MD Katie Larson Ed Ludloff Michael Mais Roland Spongberg Ed Sudario Ron Whittaker



Serving 416 children in five Long Beach locations (pre-COVID-19)

Kohn Center/Main Office 501 Atlantic Ave.

**Central Pacific Center** 1840 Pacific Ave.

> Grisham Center 11 A W. 49th St.

North Pacific Center 2418 Pacific Ave.

Ludloff Center 2650 Pacific Ave.

License #198000638

Young Horizons is an equal opportunity provider and employer Office: 562 437-8991 Fax: 562 436-8847 Info@younghorizons.org www.younghorizons.org



PROUD MEMBER OF:

EveryChild 🔞 Kiwanis 🚮 The Chamber 🌎 thp





YOUNG HORIZONS CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS www.younghorizons.org Fall 2022

# "Educate Early"

# **FAMILY FUN DAY**

Back in person for the first time since the start of the pandemic, our centers opened their doors to families and children for our annual Family Fun Day. Parents were excited to come out and play games, learn about our center, and get to know one another. The fun activities included arts and crafts, science activities, painting, play dough making, and even dancing.

A very special craft activity was introduced for children this year. Parents assisted children in designing and painting their child's favorite story or book character on a t-shirt. This t-shirt was worn on October 31 for Special T-shirt Day.

A huge thank you to the Organization of Parents and Teachers (OPT) volunteers who helped coordinate and plan these fun family activities and to all the staff for making this a FUN Family Fun Day.



## HARVEST FESTIVAL

Parent engagement activities have been a high request from parents to participate in the center in activities with their children. We held our First Annual Harvest Festival at each center for all children and parents to join. Children created arts and crafts, danced in the music and movement area, took photos in the photo station, and picked their own pumpkin to take home from the pumpkin patch.

Pumpkins were donated by Albertson's, Deluca Pumpkin Patch, Sprouts, Superior Markets and El Dorado Frontier Train Ride (a park in Long Beach). We are grateful for our community's support.



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

### A Season of Gratitude

As the fall season comes around and we find ourselves caught up in the busyness of the holiday season, we also pause to take note of those things we are grateful for. Young Horizons is very grateful to our faithful contributors and supporters who continue to give not only financially but of their expertise, time, and talent. Thank you to our board members and advisory board members for all you have done to help Young Horizons throughout the years. And to our staff whose dedication, passion, love, and support shine through daily as they invest in the lives of the children in our care.

#### Thank you to our community for supporting families and children in a myriad of ways. We are grateful.

Young Horizons will hold our Annual Gala on December 1 and we are so grateful for the sponsorships and supporters who have already stepped up. Join us for a fun evening at The Grand from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.

As the year winds down and we celebrate the holidays, we keep love, caring for others, and nurturing relationships as our steadfast purpose. This time of year, represents such love and warmth and I am reminded that every day, we commit to giving our children that feeling of a safe, caring, loving and learning environment where each child can thrive.

Happy Holidays,



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Sarah M. Soriano Executive Director

# **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR TEACHERS**

Each year we close our centers for a day to provide professional development training for our teachers. In early September, we hosted our first in-person training day for our entire staff since the pandemic.

One of our key trainings, Back to Basics, was a review of the quality-of-care standards we follow to ensure a high-quality program. Our care is guided by our mission, beliefs statement, philosophy, and goals. Staff had an opportunity to review these tenets of our program and recommit to them. For some of our newer staff, this was a wonderful experience to hear other staff share their love for Young Horizons and their years of service. (Over 51% of our staff have been with Young Horizons 10 years or more.)

The session ended with a powerful reminder of the WHY each staff chose this field and their desired impact on children's lives. Staff have a renewed sense of commitment and energy to make a difference in children's lives.



## **GROSSMAN BURN CENTER PRESENTATION**

Burn prevention is of paramount importance for young children. We were grateful to welcome Debbie Karaman from the Grossman Burn Center to provide a presentation to children, "Careful That's Hot." This important workshop teaches about burn risks in the home and to keep children safe from injuries. Ms. Karaman shared tips on home safety and basic first aid for burns. Resources were shared with parents on burn prevention in both English and Spanish.





Thursday, December 1, 2022 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. The Grand Event Center \$125 per ticket | \$1,250 per table of 10 PLEASE JOIN YOUNG HORIZONS AS WE HONOR

MARATHON PETROLEUM

DEBRA FIXEN Learning Award

NANCY RAMIREZ Caring Award



Scan to Purchase Tickets

# STAFF YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNIZED

Young Horizons has been blessed with dedicated, passionate, caring staff who love the children in their care. Our staff were celebrated at our Professional Development Day with years of service awards. Four staff were recognized for 5 years of service, one for 10 years of service, six for 15 years of service, two for 20 years of service and 2 for 25 years of service. Our 30-year awardee, Nancy Ramirez, is our Learning Award honoree at our Annual Gala, December 1st. Nancy worked as a teacher assistant and then promoted to a teacher after completing her education.

Congratulations and thank you to all our staff for your dedication.



Our 30-year awardee, Nancy Ramirez, Learning Award honoree at our Annual Gala



ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE Please email us at info@younghorizons.org if you prefer to connect electronically.

## **EVENT CALENDAR**

Nov. 24-25	Centers closed for Thanksgiving holiday
Dec. 1	Young Horizons Annual Gala
Dec. 22-26	Centers closed for Christmas holiday
Dec. 30- Jan. 1	Centers closed for New Year's holiday
Jan. 16, 2023	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Feb. 20, 2023	Presidents' Day

