



**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:

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Alejandra Albarran Moses, Ph.D.
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Advisory Board

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Serving 340 children in five Long Beach locations

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

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www.younghorizons.org



PROUD MEMBER OF:





YOUNG HORIZONS

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS

www.younghorizons.org

Winter 2024

“Educate Early”

DAISY LANE PARADE

Young Horizons families and staff were excited to participate in the 69th Annual Daisy Parade in collaboration with Council District 7 and the Wrigley Area Neighborhood Alliance. Children and parents alike were excited to decorate strollers and tricycles. The Parent Advisory Group purchased reindeer antlers with twinkling lights and light up necklaces for participants to wear. This outreach opportunity helped Young Horizons share information about our centers and the important work we do. It was so heartwarming to see many of our past children and parents in the crowds cheering us on. Thank you, Councilmember Uranga, for the invitation to participate.



MENTAL HEALTH COMPONENT ADDED TO YOUNG HORIZONS PROGRAMS



We welcome the newest member of our staff to Young Horizons, Stephanie Bobadilla, LCSW, our newly hired Mental Health Consultant (MHC). Through funding from the State, Young Horizons created an Early Childhood Mental Health program to support children experiencing challenges in the classroom. Our mental health consultant will work in the classroom to support children experiencing difficulties utilizing a strength-based, culturally responsive, trauma-informed approach. She will also provide training for teachers and support parents in their role to help the children succeed.

We are pleased to welcome Stephanie to the YH family. She has already begun making a difference in the classrooms and with children in need.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

Celebrating Milestones

This year I have the honor and privilege of reaching my 30th anniversary at Young Horizons. It has truly been a journey serving the children and the community over my tenure. Looking back over these years, it gives me much joy to know that I have been able to play a small part in laying a solid foundation for so many children. I am grateful to our awesome staff who surprised me with a wonderful celebration.

In our strategic planning process, I was reminded how far we have come and all the good that has happened over the years. Our prior plan sunset in 2023 and we celebrated our accomplishments thus far. Young Horizons has seen tremendous growth and development over the years, and we were able to continue our work through the pandemic and beyond. As we share in this newsletter, this new plan will ensure that we continue providing high-quality early education for children and parents, support the workforce, and build our board. We envision a program that addresses the needs of children and families and values our workforce.

I hope to continue serving Young Horizons for many years to come and make a lasting impact. Do you want to join in the celebration? I invite you to join me in making a \$30 donation to Young Horizons at www.younghorizons.org/donate to help celebrate my thirty years of service.



In Service,

Sarah

Sarah M. Soriano
Executive Director



FUNDRAISING GALA HONORS DIFFERENCE MAKERS

Our December annual fundraising gala was a tremendous success as the community came out to show their support. This annual gala recognizes and honors outstanding members of our YH and Long Beach community who have made a difference in children's lives. The awards given were: Caring Award to LB Public Health Emergency Management for their work to support families during the pandemic; Loving Award to Roger Scott for his dedication and service on the YH Board; Learning Award to Young Horizons Program Director, Danielle Triplett recognizing her 20 years of service and the Champion of Children Award to Cynthia Young, retired LBUSD administrator who has worked tirelessly to support children and families throughout her career.

We are grateful for the support of our donors and contributors who helped make this event a success.



STREAMLINED STRATEGIC PLAN 2023-2028

"How can Young Horizons recognize current economic and health challenges and compassionately address the needs of children and families, while navigating uncertainties in the landscape of early childhood education, in order to assure high quality programming and build organizational strength in the next 3 to 5 years?"

This was the principal question that the staff, administrators, and Board of Directors sought to answer to provide a road map for Young Horizons in the coming years.

As a result of our process, we identified nine focus areas and goals:

1. Strong Supported Workforce
2. Diverse Instructional Program
3. Robust Connected Mental Health Program
4. Accessible comprehensive opportunities for professional development
5. Engaged and Connected Parents
6. Broad Strategic Partnerships
7. Increased visibility and awareness to support full enrollment
8. Responsive Community Needs Assessments
9. Active and Engaged Board

From these nine goals, we identified four strategic directions:

1. Enhancing our Marketing
2. Expanding our Programs
3. Engaging Stakeholders
4. Building and Strengthening the Workforce.

Teams were formed to address each of the areas and tasked with quarterly goals. Over the next year, we will focus on our one-year implementation plan with measurable actions.

INFANT TODDLER SERVICE EXPANSION

We are pleased to announce some upcoming changes in 2025. Young Horizons applied for and was approved to increase our infant and toddler care by 36 children at our Ludloff Center. The center will change from serving only preschool children to serving 12 infants, and 24 toddlers. We will convert three classrooms and half of our playground to an infant and toddler play area. We are so excited for this change as the data has shown the highest need for care in Long Beach is for infants and toddlers. Pending licensing changes, we hope to begin serving the new age group in January 2025.



HOLIDAY CHEER FOR ALL THE CHILDREN

Young Horizons children received a special holiday surprise by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, Atherton Ward, with a holiday gift for each child. Children were filled with joy to receive this special treat.

Additionally, Young Horizons was the winner of the LBS Financial Credit Union's online vote for Favorite Long Beach Charity. Rosalina Vergara and Derrick Ronquillo hand delivered a \$500 check to support Young Horizons programs.

We are always grateful for our community's support.



WINE & CHEESE SUMMER FIESTA

THE GRAND EVENT CENTER
SAVE THE DATE 9.20.24

EVENT CALENDAR

May 6-10
Teacher Appreciation Week

May 27
Centers Closed
for Memorial Day

July 4
Centers Closed
for Independence Day

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WE ARE HIRING, JOIN OUR TEAM!

Are you a compassionate, enthusiastic educator with a passion for shaping young minds? Young Horizons is on the lookout for talented teachers to join our dynamic team.

Call for more information 562-437-8991 or visit www.younghorizons.org/employment

For Employment
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