

## 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

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Dr. Gerhard & Irena Kohn

the limit allowed by law.

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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

Office: 562 437-8991 Fax: 562 436-8847 Info@younghorizons.org www.younghorizons.org









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## **YOUNG HORIZONS**

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS www.younghorizons.org
Summer 2025

"Educate Early"

### **CELEBRATING A JOYFUL MILESTONE: GRADUATION DAY AT OUR FIVE CENTERS**

This summer, laughter and applause filled the air as we celebrated one of the most heartwarming events of the year, graduation. Each ceremony was a beautiful reminder of the incredible journeys our little learners have taken and the bright futures that lie ahead.

Across each of our centers, children stood tall, some a bit shy, others full of enthusiasm, ready to take the next big step into kindergarten and beyond. Parents and caregivers watched with joyful smiles, capturing every moment as their children sang songs, received certificates, and marked the completion of this important chapter in their young lives.

Graduation is more than a celebration. It's a milestone that honors the growth, curiosity, and resilience our children have shown. From learning their ABCs and making new friends to discovering how to share, express emotions, and explore the world around them, these early years have laid a strong foundation for future success.

For families, this moment is both joyful and bittersweet. Sending a child out into the world can stir up a mix of pride and emotion, but it is made easier by the confidence that they are ready. They've been nurtured in a caring, loving, learning environment where every story read, every block stacked, and every question asked has helped shape their path forward.

Thank you to the parents, teachers, and staff who have supported our children every step of the way. Because of you, they leave with not only academic skills, but also the confidence, compassion, and curiosity they need to thrive.

As we send them off with hugs and high-fives, we know this is just the beginning. The foundation has been laid, and the world is waiting. Congratulations to the Class of 2025!





### SPLISH, SPLASH, SUMMER FUN! WATER PLAY DAY HELPS CHILDREN BEAT THE HEAT

This month, laughter echoed through the air as children gathered for a much-anticipated Water Play Day. It was the perfect way to cool off and celebrate the joys of summer.

With temperatures climbing and the sun shining, our young adventurers swapped their morning routine for swimsuits, water shoes, and a day packed with splashes and smiles. This day was more than just a fun break from the heat, it was a wonderful opportunity for children to build friendships, develop motor skills through active play, and experience the simple joy of being outdoors. Staff were on hand to ensure everything ran smoothly and safely, creating a welcoming environment for all.

Thanks to all the staff who helped make the day a splash-tastic success.





# EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MESSAGE

A Season of Play, Purpose, and Possibility

Summer is in full swing, and we are feeling the energy here at Young Horizons. As we soak in the warmth of the season, I want to take a moment to thank you for being such an essential part of our child care community. This season has been filled with laughter, learning, and plenty of outdoor adventures, everything that childhood should be. At Young Horizons, we remain committed to providing a safe, nurturing, and enriching environment for every child. Whether it is through outdoor play, quiet reading time, or hands-on exploration, our dedicated staff continue to go above and beyond to spark curiosity and joy in each child's day.

We are looking ahead with great excitement to our Annual Fiesta Fundraiser on September 26th at The Grand Event Center. This is one of our favorite events of the year, a time to gather in support of the mission we all care so deeply about. Tickets are available now at younghorizons.org/fiesta, please join us.

This month, our board and staff will meet to review our strategic planning and goals to ensure we stay focused and continue to grow. It is a vital part of our commitment to strengthening our programs for our children, families, and dedicated team members.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Your support makes everything we do possible.

Wishing you a safe and sunny summer,

In Service,



Sarah M. Soriano

**Executive Director** 

### A JOYFUL JUNE TRADITION: OUR ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC

On a sunny Saturday in June, more than 300 families came together for our much-anticipated Annual Family Picnic. It was a beautiful celebration of community, connection, and the spirit that brings our centers together, children, families, staff, and supporters united in fun and fellowship.

This year's picnic was a huge success. Families arrived with picnic blankets, big smiles, and eager little ones ready for games, a bubble station, and the ever-popular face painting. But the real stars of the afternoon ... the grill masters! Our incredible staff and board members rolled up their sleeves and worked side by side at the grills, serving up hundreds of hamburgers and hot dogs to hungry, happy guests. The smell of sizzling food mixed with the sound of music and laughter made for an unforgettable summer scene.

Events like this remind us that our work goes beyond classrooms. We are not just building strong foundations for children, we're building a strong community. The family picnic gave everyone a chance to connect, share stories, and simply enjoy being together in a relaxed, joyful setting.

To the volunteers who flipped burgers in the heat, the families who showed up in full spirit, and the staff who made it all come together, thank you. Your time, energy, and care helped make this event a true celebration of community, collaboration, and joy.

We're already looking forward to next year's picnic, but for now, we are grateful for the memories made and the connections strengthened. Here's to many more moments like this, where we celebrate not just the children we serve, but the incredible village that supports them.









# CSULB INTERN LEADS WORKSHOP: "HEALTHY BEGINNINGS TO THE SCHOOL YEAR" AT CENTRAL PACIFIC CENTER

At Young Horizons, we believe in setting our students up for success from the very first day and that includes making healthy choices. Our student intern, Ian Elia, a Public Health graduate from CSULB, completed his internship at Young Horizons, which began in June 2025.

During his time with us, lan prepared and presented a parent workshop that offered guidance to families,

especially those with children transitioning to kindergarten and newly enrolled children at our centers. The workshop focused on the importance of up-to-date vaccinations, allergy awareness, safety, supporting transitions, separation anxiety, and keeping healthy daily routines.

We are very grateful to collaborate with CSULB and their internship program and offer college students an opportunity for hands-on learning and putting their learning into practice.

We wish Ian much success in his career.



### ARE YOU RECEIVING OUR ELECTRONIC MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT?



Stay in the loop with everything happening at our centers. On the first of each month, we send out a Monthly Spotlight email featuring the exciting learning topics and activities planned for the month.

It is a fantastic way for families and our community to stay connected and informed about the fun, educational experiences we offer.

Here's what you can expect in each edition:

- A preview of upcoming monthly learning themes
- A wide variety of age-appropriate activities
- STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math) highlights
- Key vocabulary words to support at-home learning
- Full program transparency
- Each month, we include a 'Did You Know' question.

Biannually, we have a quiz with a raffle for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card!

Don't miss out – join our Monthly Spotlight mailing list now. https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/sl/qWnCOik Invite a friend to join as well.

# WE WELCOME OUR NEWEST BOARD MEMBER: SHARON BARKER



We are excited to welcome Sharon Barker to the Young Horizons Board of Directors. Sharon is a retired school district educator with over 25 years of experience. She brings a deep commitment to early childhood education and a wealth of experience. Sharon's passion has been to support young learners, especially those with differing abilities and early childhood educators. Her leadership and insight will be invaluable as we continue to increase our impact.

Please join us in giving Sharon a warm welcome. We are honored to have her on our team and excited for the journey ahead!





### **EVENT CALENDAR**

August 29: CENTERS CLOSED Professional Development Day

September 1: Labor Day

September 18: Long Beach Gives

**September 26: Annual Fiesta** 

November 27 & 28: CENTERS CLOSED Thanksgiving



www.younghorizons.org/fiesta OR call 562-437-8991

# NOW ENROLLING 2025–2026 PROGRAM YEAR

A new year brings new beginnings! Ensure your child is prepared for kindergarten with our nurturing, educational programs.



For Admission Scan QR Code

### New State income scale allows more families to qualify.

- ► Spanish speaking all centers
- ► Healthy meals and snacks
- Centers open all year
- ► High quality education programs

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

