

LACCEA NEWS

October 2021

Est. 1969



CALENDAR

OCTOBER 29

Winter Scholarship
Applications Available

OCTOBER 30

LACCEA Hike

NOVEMBER 6&20

LACCEA Hike

DECEMBER 2

LACCEA Toy Drive

LACCEA SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION AWARDS

APPLY NOW!

The Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association Scholarship Foundation invites all LACCEA members to participate in the Winter Scholarship Program. Scholarships are open to LACCEA members, family and referred friends. Scholarships are used to financially assist with College, University, Trade School or Approved Certified Programs.

LACCEA FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP: \$1,000 - Five (5) available

APPLICATION PERIOD: October 29 to November 19, 2021

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: November 19, 2021 at 3:00pm

Visit the LACCEA website at www.lacountychicano.org or call our office for an application and additional information. Applications must be completed and received by the deadline, no exceptions.

Office: (626) 365-1591

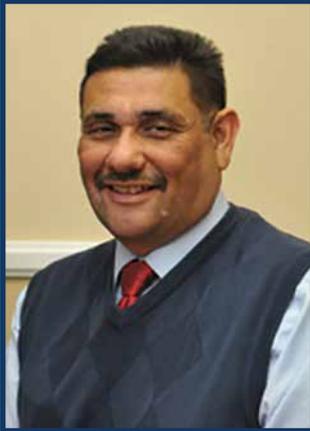
Email: info@lacountychicano.org

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A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by John Villa, President

Hello,

I would like to thank all the members for your continued support of our organization. I would like to start off by announcing that our long time and beloved General Manager, Penny Arroyo, will be retiring at the end of the year. "Penny" as she is known to all has been a vital piece to our organization. Whether it was handling the day-to-day operations, assisting with important events, meeting with dignitaries, recruiting, and many other duties, she always did them with a kind heart and a warm smile. Penny, you will be missed, but will always be part of our LACCEA family.

I am happy to announce that we have several new Board members. Two of which are returning to the batting line up. First is Gilbert Bautista, who worked with the Los Angeles County Probation Department for many years. Next is Marcelino Sandoval, who is currently employed by the Los Angeles County Probation Department. They both have spent several successful years in the past on the LACCEA Board. Finally, we have a new addition to the Board and her name is Marcela Trujillo, who also works for Los Angeles County Probation. Ms. Trujillo jumped right in by becoming the Board's Secretary. Thank you for that Ms. Trujillo. I am also happy to announce that we have a new Paralegal on staff by the name of Anastasia Grant who brings a wealth of knowledge and a great attitude.

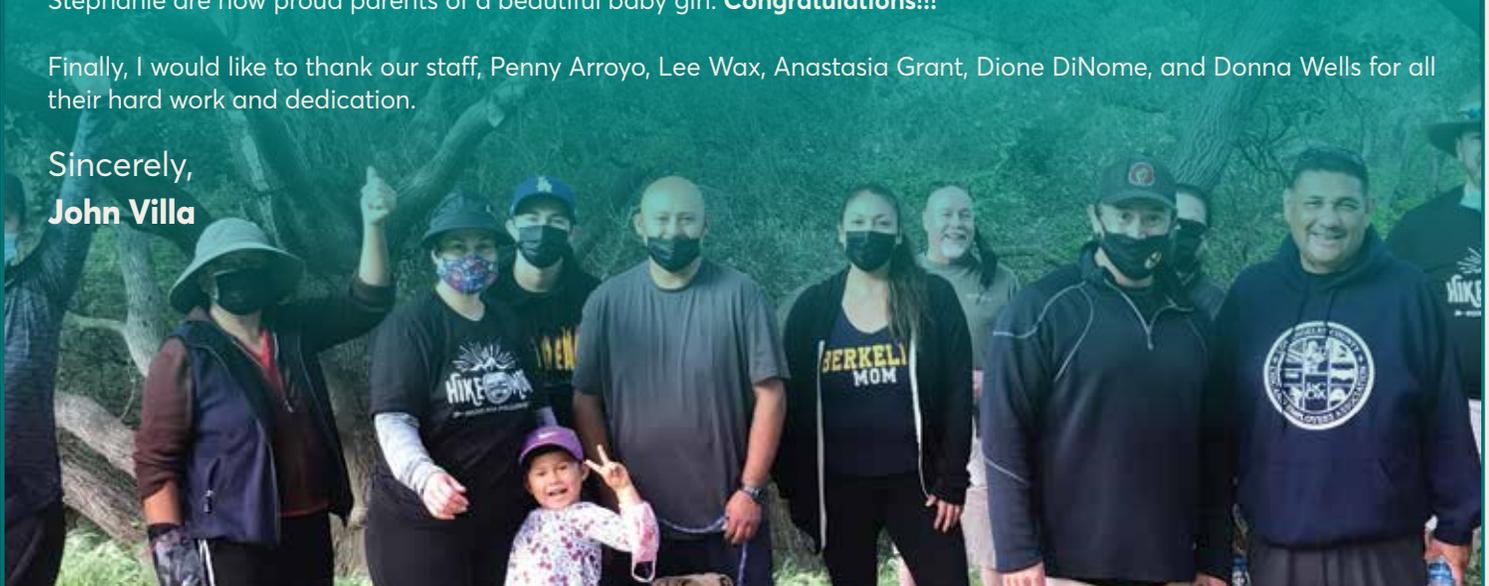
With the challenges this pandemic has brought on, we continue work hard for our members, and although we have not been able to put on all the events we had in mind, we were still able to get together safely. Recently, we gave away several scholarships to well deserving young people. The keynote speaker at the event was Los Angeles County Chief Probation Officer, Dr. Gonzales. He did a great job; one thing he did which really made a huge impression on me was when he brought out the serving staff and thanked them in English and Spanish. It was a great reminder that as the President of this great association, I must always be thankful to our members, our community, my family, and this Board.

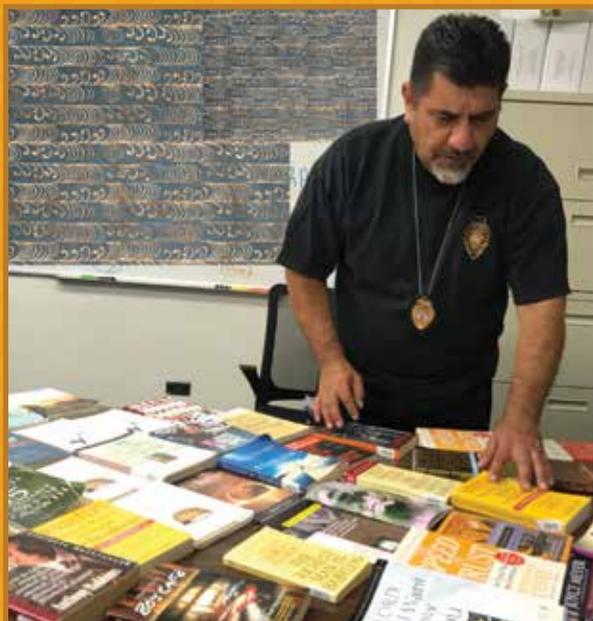
Speaking of this Board, I would like to thank them for all the work they have done to assist me, the organization, and the members. As the President, I have always relied on the Board for guidance and assistance. They have not disappointed! From assisting by volunteering to being on committees, assisting with interviews, counting ballots, keeping tabs on our finances, etc., they go the extra mile.

On another bright note, I am excited to announce that one of our attorney's Dione DiNome and his awesome wife Stephanie are now proud parents of a beautiful baby girl. **Congratulations!!!**

Finally, I would like to thank our staff, Penny Arroyo, Lee Wax, Anastasia Grant, Dione DiNome, and Donna Wells for all their hard work and dedication.

Sincerely,
John Villa





GIVE A GIFT OF LIFE/ BOOK GIVEAWAY

While being deployed to Juvenile Hall during the covid-19 crisis in 2020, I began to assist with supervision on a regular basis with the youth detained in the High Risk Compound at Barry J. Nidorf Juvenile Hall. I began to communicate and create good working relationships with the youth in the compound. I was going to school with them daily and they were asking me so many questions. I began to share conversations with them and began to share inspirational, spiritual, motivational and occupational books and information with them.

I personally handed each book to each youth, taking time to speaking to them about their family and goals in life. Giving them some words of life and encouragement to see past their situation and attempt to create a vision for their life, once released. I explained to them on how to model their life pursuits, learn to network with prosocial adults in their families and community, seek prosocial adults and build or confront their mental, spiritual, and physical well-being. Then I began to work on their relationships with their families. All this in about five minutes time. The visits were happening weekly and regularly until I was no longer deployed to juvenile hall. These meetings began to become conversation sessions of self-control, making better decision, self-esteem, spiritual strength, and serving people and your community.

After no longer being deployed and returning back to the area office and teleworking, I have returned on a monthly basis, visiting units Y, W, Z AND X to provide them books, writing paper, envelopes and to speak a few words of encouragement. I began to receive book donations from friends who love books, teachers, thrift shops and pastors from community churches.

We recently reached out to Barnes and Noble store in Valencia who are considering providing donations but also placed me in contact with Barnes and Noble customer/community services to inquire about a donation through the corporate office. I thank LACCEA for donating and supporting this program.

In short, we know that these youth who are detained for even the most serious offenses will most likely be released at the age of 25. We can help them seek information and knowledge. Provide a model of how to prepare to be productive young adult in the future, while being detained in the juvenile justice system.

It is hopeful to know that LACCEA will be in the forefront of Change for our Youth, Probation Officer's and Families.

DPO Robert Acuna

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHICANO EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION SUMMER SCHOLARSHIP & BOARD INSTALLATION 2021

Twice a year LACCEA offers educational scholarships to well-deserved students, referred by LACCEA members. Youth and adults are both open to applying for one of the five (5) \$1,000 scholarships offered in Summer and Winter. This Summer's Scholarship Presentation was held on Saturday, August 14th at Almansor Court in Alhambra.

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Stacey Joya, Julietta Huerta, Brianna Sandoval, Miranda Montes and Matthew Rodriguez, who were this Summer Scholarship Awardees.

In addition to awarding the scholarship checks, LACCEA swore in the organization's 2021-2022 Board of Directors. It was a privilege to have Los Angeles County Chief of Probation, Dr. Adolfo Gonzales officiate the installation. A great time was had by all! Keep checking the LACCEA website for more information on the Winter Scholarship program, www.lacountychicano.org.





MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ



JULIETTA HUERTA



MIRANDA MONTES



BRIANNA SANDOVAL



STACEY JOYA



BARRISTER BLOG

By Dion DiNome

"SHOULD I ASK FOR REPRESENTATION?"

I frequently represent members at various interviews and meetings at the County, State, and Federal levels. Some interviews involve serious allegations and can last for hours while others are short and uneventful. I'm often asked the question by our members, "Can you represent me at this meeting?" The short (and every attorney's favorite) answer is: it depends.

It depends on what the purpose of the interview is and whether the right of representation has attached. Some meetings, such as grievances and mediation, always involve the right to representation (and you should ensure you have representation!). Interviews where you are named the "Subject" of the interview also always involve the right to representation. When you are named the "Subject," you have been designated as the individual who has allegedly committed employee misconduct. Regardless of the allegations known to you (and there may be additional allegations you are unaware of), you should always seek representation. Some members report that they didn't believe they needed representation because the allegations were completely false, only to find that a seemingly harmless statement made by them led to discipline.

Some meetings don't provide the right of representation unless certain circumstances exist. Many members will call and request an attorney be present for a meeting with their supervisor. However, a meeting with a supervisor in which the supervisor is asking normal operational questions does not trigger the right to representation from an attorney (although you may have your Union steward present with you). The meeting must elevate to the point where you are being asked accusatory questions which you reasonably believe can lead to you being disciplined.

Affidavits should generally always be reviewed by a representative prior to submission. It is reasonable to request at least 24 hours to author an affidavit before being required to submit it. If you are required to author an affidavit in response to an accusatory statement or questions about your potential misconduct, then you certainly have a right to have a representative review your affidavit prior to submission.

If you are asked accusatory questions about your own conduct in which you reasonably believe your answers could subject you to discipline, you should respectfully ask to adjourn the meeting so that you can seek representation.

If in doubt, let us help you out! Give our office a call and speak to an attorney to determine whether you have the right to representation at the meeting or interview you're asked to attend.



NEW STAFF

ANASTASIA GRANT PARALEGAL

Anastasia Grant joined LACCEA's Legal Team August 2021. Her 5 years of paralegal experience will be a great benefit to our members. She has a substantial amount of experience in Worker's Compensation as a Paralegal/Hearing Representative. Having a bachelor's degree in Psychology has helped her to connect with clients on a different level. She not only zealously advocates for her clients but has a keen sense of negotiation and interpersonal skills. Mrs. Grant decided to take her education in the legal field a step further and graduated from Whittier Law School in 2019. She has obtained her Juris Doctorate with a concentration in criminal law and has received an award for her outstanding academics. During her time in law school, she had the privilege of externing at the Orange County District Attorney's Office, Edelman's Children's Court, the Legal Aid Society of Orange County and has studied abroad in Israel learning Israeli law. Mrs. Grant is enthusiastically dedicated in ensuring our members are treated equally and provided with the opportunity to be heard. She also is a wholeheartedly dedicated wife and mother to their amazingly intelligent 2 year-old daughter. Mrs. Grant always strives to be a good representation and role model for her family and takes pride in being a mom!



LACCEA HIKE

FOCUS AND RECHARGE

Looking to focus on what makes you feel good? Taking time for YOU is more than ok! Take advantage of the benefits of being outdoors, improve your mood, lower stress levels, enhance mental wellbeing and just feel good!

SATURDAY
OCTOBER
16TH & 20TH
NOVEMBER
6TH & 20TH

GROUP HIKE
8AM-10AM

SCHABARUM PARK
17250 COLIMA RD
ROWLAND HEIGHTS
2 HOUR ROUTE



TO RSVP AND FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL - 626.365.1591
EMAIL - INFO@LACOUNTYCHICANO.ORG



LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHICANO EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
1848 N. ALLEN AVE., PASADENA, CA 91104



Baby Announcement!

Welcome

TAYLA MARIE DINOME!

Proud Mama & Dad, Stephanie & Dion DiNome are overjoyed with their beautiful bundle of joy!



LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHICANO EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

15% Tuition Reduction for LA County Chicano Employees Association



Earn a Degree that Gives Your Career a Boost

National University has partnered with the Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association to bring a 15% tuition reduction scholarship* to employees and members looking to expand their knowledge and skills for professional and personal growth. Additionally, spouses and dependents also qualify for a 10% tuition reduction scholarship*. Tuition reduction can be applied to most associates, bachelor's and master's degree programs.

Why Choose National University?

- **Adult Focused for 50 Years:** National University has been dedicated to providing accessible, achievable higher education to hard-working adults since 1971.
- **Flexible 4-Week Classes:** Start sooner and finish faster with four-week classes, monthly start dates, and year-round enrollment.
- **75+ Degree Programs:** Choose from career-focused programs designed to help you pursue your purpose and make an impact in your community.
- **Online and On Campus:** Study options designed to fit into your busy schedule.
- **Regionally Accredited:** WASC Senior College and University Commission (WSCUC) accreditation means your education meets high standards and is transferable.
- **Veteran-Founded Nonprofit:** National University is proud to be San Diego's largest private nonprofit university.

About National University

National University, a veteran-founded nonprofit, has been dedicated to meeting the needs of hard-working adults by providing accessible, affordable, achievable higher education opportunities since 1971. As San Diego's largest private nonprofit university, NU offers over 75 online and on-campus programs and flexible four-week classes designed to help students reach their goals while balancing busy lives. Since its founding, the NU community has grown to over 25,000 students and 180,000 alumni around the globe, many of whom serve in helping industries such as business, education, health care, cybersecurity, and law and criminal justice.

CONTACT US:

Jessica Godinez, Account Specialist

Email: WESCorp@nu.edu

Phone: 855.773.9444

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT



*Pre-licensure nursing programs, radiation therapy, and doctoral programs are not eligible for this program. Other offer restrictions may apply. For questions, please contact National University.



NATIONAL
UNIVERSITY

Veteran Founded. Nonprofit.

NU.edu

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WE APPRECIATE YOUR REFERRALS!

If you refer five or more new members to the Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021, you will receive a gift card for your loyal support and dedication to our association.

DETAILS

- If you have referred 5-10 new members by December 31, 2021, you will receive a LACCEA Jacket and a **\$50 Target gift card**.
- If you have referred 11-15 new members by December 31, 2021, you will receive a LACCEA Jacket, LACCEA T-shirt and a **\$75 Target gift card**.
- If you have referred 16-20 new members by December 31, 2021, you will receive a LACCEA Jacket, LACCEA T-shirt, LACCEA Hat, and a **\$100 Target gift card**.
- If you have referred twenty-one (21) or more new members by December 31, 2021, you will receive a LACCEA Jacket, LACCEA T-shirt, LACCEA Hat, and a **\$250 Target gift card!**

These thank you gifts are for LACCEA members only.

Questions? Call us at (626) 365-1591.

Note: In addition to the rewards mentioned above, you will continue to receive \$25 for each new member that you recruit, after member's 90-day application period.



LACCEA 2021

HOLIDAY PARTY & TOY DRIVE



FREE WITH UNWRAPPED TOY! (\$20 VALUE)
MUSIC, FUN & SANTA!

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2
6:00 P.M.
LOCATION PENDING



ALL TOYS AND PROCEEDS FROM THIS EVENT WILL BENEFIT LOW INCOME AND NEEDY CHILDREN.

RSVP by calling (626)365-1591 or email info@lacountychicano.org

NEW VOLUNTARY BENEFITS OFFER



Atlas Voluntary Benefits has partnered with the top insurance companies to provide competitive pricing for all of LA County employees.

- ✓ All Plans Deducted through Payroll
- ✓ Wholesale Pricing
- ✓ Guaranteed Issue for Employee, Spouse and Children (No Medical Questions)
- ✓ Portable at Retirement
- ✓ Maternity Coverage



See Our Great Reviews and Amazing Products

AtlasVoluntaryBenefits.com

Short-term Disability



LA County employees do not pay into State Disability Insurance, leaving you uninsured in the event of any off the job incident.

Critical Illness Protection

A critical diagnosis can be terrifying, not just for medical reasons but can also cause major financial stress. This plan will help you shift your focus on your health rather than your finances.

Long Term Care*

Long-term care is very expensive and is not covered by medical insurance or Medicare. A lot of people deplete their life savings or lose their homes paying for long-term care.

* Medical underwriting required

Hospital



This plan will help cover the basics like deductible and copays, and will also assist in the cost of missing work and daily living expenses.

Accident Protection

When you suffer an injury, your medical insurer will never send you a check. But that's exactly what our accident coverage will do.

Life Insurance*

It's very important that you have life insurance that is not contingent on your employment—LA County employees have a policy that is not portable at retirement.



177 E. Colorado Blvd., Suite 200, Pasadena, CA, 91105
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PetFirst Pet Insurance

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Los Angeles City, Los Angeles County,
and California State Club Members

Great pet insurance coverage for cats and dogs as low as \$24 a month.
Premiums vary by the plan you select and can be payroll deducted.

A Peace of Mind for Your Furry Family Member

Help take the worry out of covering the cost of an unexpected veterinary visit for your dog or cat with pet insurance offered through the Employees Club of California.

Just like health insurance for you and your family, pet insurance can cover up to 90% of the veterinary care expenses from any licensed veterinarian, specialist, or emergency clinic across the U.S.

How PetFirst Pet Insurance Works



Take your pet to the Vet

Visit any licensed vet, emergency clinic, or specialist in the US. There's no network of providers to worry about.



Submit your claim

Pay your bill at the vet, then send in your claims to PetFirst along with vet records and an invoice from the visit.*



Get money back

PetFirst will follow-up with your vet for any missing info. Claims are processed in less than 2 weeks.

Coverages Your Pets Can Count On

- accidental injury & illnesses
- surgeries
- exam fees
- medications
- hospital stays
- X-Rays & Ultrasounds
- diagnostic tests
- hip dysplasia
- hereditary conditions
- congenital conditions
- holistic care
- chronic conditions
- alternative therapies
- and much more!

Employees Club of California
For Questions about PetFirst Pet Insurance, please contact a Member Services Counselor
info@employeesclub.com | (800) 464-0452



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Establish your own Complete Living Trust

Starting at: \$449

Notary fees and property filing fee separate

Enter discount code: **CHICANO** for a \$50 member discount

Estate Binder included

Complete the online application at:
www.EasyLivingTrust.com
(626) 441-2284

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LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE



Villa La Paz
National Chavez Foundation
29700 Woodford-Tehachapi Rd, Keene, CA 93531

Proceeds will benefit students through the LACCEA scholarship program.



For additional information
Email: info@lacountychicano.org
Call: (626) 365-1591

www.lacountychicano.org



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Pasadena, CA 91104
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED.
PLEASE DO NOT FORWARD.

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

In order to better represent you, it is important that all of your member information is accurate and up to date.

Please note that the County will not forward your contact information to LACCEA. You may update your mailing address and telephone numbers by sending us a notice by email, fax, or telephone.

Please include your full name, employee number, and department, along with the updated information.

Thank you.

Los Angeles County Chicano Employees Association's

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