

JUNE 2024

VOLUME 2 • ISSUE 12



ACCESS

Newsletter

INLAND REGIONAL CENTER



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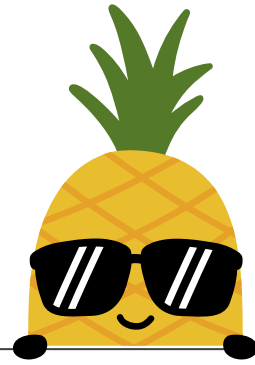


SERVICE

ACCESS

EQUITY

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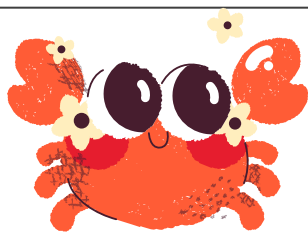
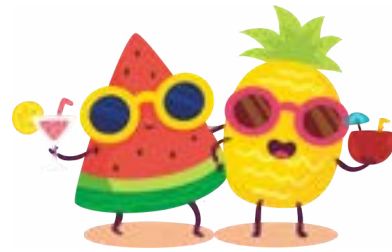


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SUMMER

Meet the Community Engagement Team



Monica Munguia

Manager - Community Engagement

✉ community@inlandrc.org



Ruth Armstead

Manager - Service Access and Equity



Maria Isabel (Mari) Rodriguez

Cultural Specialist



Marquis Quinton

Emergency Services Coordinator (ESC)

Meet the Community Engagement Team



Ismeth Estrada

Consumer Support Technician I (CST I)



Gregory Harrison

Consumer Advocate



Estefania (Fania) Pena

Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing Cultural Specialist



Taniale Sanchez

Events Developer Outreach Specialist



George Gonzalez

Consumer Support Technician IV (CST IV)

Meet the Community Engagement Team



Martín Morales

Language Access and Cultural Competency (LACC) Specialist



Janera Valdez

LACC Bi-Lingual Consumer Service Technician (CST) III



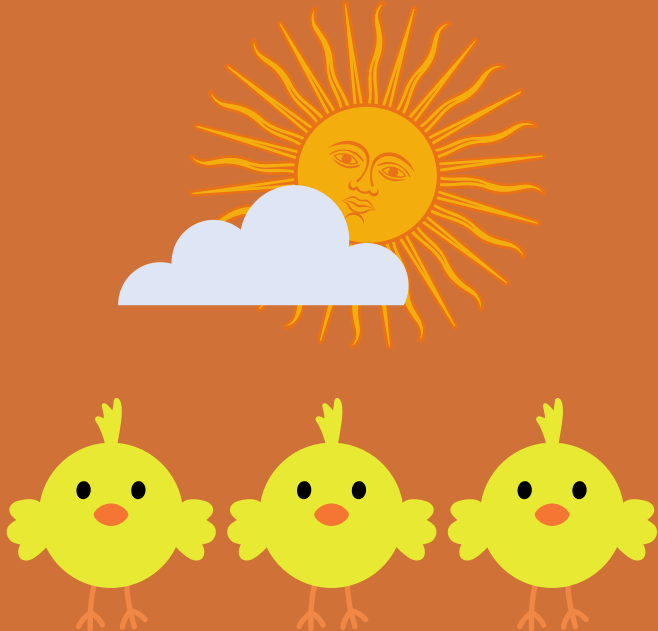
Amalia Barcelo-Huizar

LACC Parent Ambassador – Spanish Riverside County



Steven Serrano Yopez

Community Relations Specialist



Editor's Note

Community Partnership

By Community Engagement

Dear IRC Community,

As Thomas Carlyle reminds us, "Long stormy springtime, wet contentious April, winter chilling the lap of very May; but at length the season of summer does come." With summer's arrival, we embrace the warmth and promise of brighter days.

In this month's newsletter, we focus on enhancing safety, well-being, and engagement within our community:

Summer Safety: Stay informed with tips on hydration, sun protection, and pool safety.

Summer Activities: Explore exciting activities for all ages and abilities, from outdoor adventures to creative workshops.

Advocacy: Learn about ongoing advocacy efforts and how you can contribute to positive change.

Enhancing Client Services: Discover the role of Coordinated Family Support (CFS) Service.

Service Access Equity Conference: Recap of our recent conference addressing crucial topics in service, access, and equity.

For questions, concerns, or more information about IRC events and resources, email us at community@inlandrc.org. We're here to support you every step of the way.

Wishing you a safe, joyful, and unforgettable summer season!



Inland Regional Center proudly announces Ruth Armstead as their new Manager of Service Access and Equity!

By Community Engagement Unit

Ruth Armstead brings a wealth of experience and a passionate commitment to fostering equity and access for all individuals in the field of human services. With a remarkable journey spanning 15 years at the Inland Regional Center (IRC), Ruth has progressed through various roles, from her beginnings as a Consumer Services Coordinator to her most recent appointment as the Program Manager of the Service Access and Equity Team.

Driven by a fervent pursuit of knowledge and a profound desire to effect meaningful change, Ruth pursued her academic endeavors with distinction, earning both a Bachelor's and a Master's Degree in Human Services. These academic achievements have equipped her with both the theoretical foundation and practical skills needed to navigate the complexities of the human services landscape with confidence and compassion.



Throughout her tenure at IRC, Ruth has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to advancing equity and inclusion, both within the organization and the broader communities it serves. As a Consumer Services Coordinator, she worked tirelessly to ensure that individuals with developmental disabilities received the support and services essential for leading fulfilling lives. Her dedication to person-centered care and her adept navigation of complex systems earned her recognition as a trusted advocate and ally.

Transitioning into the role of Senior Training Specialist, Ruth expanded her impact by promoting cultural proficiency and humility among staff members. Recognizing the significance of understanding and addressing the unique needs of diverse populations, she spearheaded initiatives aimed at fostering a culture of inclusion within IRC and beyond.

Ruth's career is characterized by her steadfast belief in the inherent worth and dignity of every individual. She stands as a tireless advocate for social justice, equity, and inclusion, driven by a profound sense of compassion and empathy. Her journey exemplifies the transformative power of advocacy and underscores the significant impact one person can have in shaping a more just and equitable society.

In her new role as Program Manager of the Service Access and Equity Team, Ruth pledges to lead with unwavering dedication, compassion, and a steadfast commitment to IRC's mission. With a vision to inspire positive change and make a lasting impact on the lives of those she serves, Ruth embodies the values of leadership and service excellence.



Healthy Summer Reminders

By Amalia Barcelo-Huizar

Let's Move!

Let's try walking, swimming, dancing, planning an outing to the park or the breeze at the beach. Summer is a great time to reconnect with nature, Outdoors or indoors physical activity helps in getting better sleep, reducing anxiety, building muscles, improving memory, and strengthens your heart among many other benefits.

When possible, choose activities that increase your heart rate. Examples, yard work, walk fast, and swimming. Start slowly and gradually work towards 30-60 minutes of physical activity a few days a week.

We have a nice array of outdoor parks in the Inland Empire: California Citrus State Historic Park, Living Desert Zoo and Gardens, Chino Hills State Park, Big Bear Discovery Center, Mount San Jacinto State Park and Wilderness, Glen Helen Regional Park, Toms Farm, 123 Farm, San Bernardino National Forest and many others. So take advantage of these wonderful parks available in our own backyard!



Drink Water

An obvious tip, but one that often gets overlooked. Try to create a habit of drinking a glass of water every morning when you wake up, then keep a water bottle with you all day long.

Benefits of drinking water in Summer are: hydration, prevents sunburn and headaches, glowing skin, enhances muscle performance, speeds up metabolism, just to name a few. You can also try water with slices of fruit for a low-calorie drink!

Use Sunscreen and Insect Repellent

Sunlight is an excellent source of vitamin D, and people need a small amount of sun exposure every day to stay healthy. Nevertheless, too much UV light from the sun can be hazardous, contributing to skin damage and cancer risk.

Use sunscreen with at least SPF 15 for sun protection, use shade, wide-brimmed hats, clothing that covers. Reapply sunscreen after 2 hours and after swimming, sweating, or drying off.

To prevent bites from mosquitos, ticks and other insects, you may need to use insect repellent, wear long-sleeved shirts and maybe even pants. A good tip is to apply sunscreen before insect repellent.

Keep Cool in Extreme Heat

If you have air conditioning, set it between 75°F and 80°F. If not, try to take cool showers a couple times a day or visit public air-conditioned facilities.

Check on high-risk Individuals: elderly neighbors, family members without air conditioning, infants, children and outdoor workers since they are at higher risk of heatstroke. Monitor their well-being.

Stay informed about excessive heat warnings for the Inland Empire. Check weather apps, stay tuned-in with local news, be on the county emergency system, it's crucial for your families safety.



Nutrition and Sleep

Summer offers an abundance of delicious fruits and vegetables. Incorporate them into your diet by adding veggies to salads or making vegetable kabobs. This classic combo supports muscles, strengthens bones, and boosts immunity.

Increased daylight in summer can disrupt sleep patterns. To maintain a regular sleep schedule, get morning sunlight to help you feel tired in the evening. Avoid artificial light from screens and indoor lighting at night, as it can shift your sleep pattern and make it harder to fall asleep.

Seasonal Changes

Seasonal transitions can be challenging. Adjusting to changes in routine, schedules, wardrobes, and activities requires planning. Discuss these changes with your family, use social stories if needed, and take small steps to transition smoothly.

Be Creative

Set goals for a variety of summer activities. Here are some ideas:

- Plant a garden or flowers.
- Play yard games.
- Visit a new place like a coffee shop, smoothie bar, or Farmers Market.
- Try Yoga or Tai Chi.
- Experiment with new recipes like grilled veggie kabobs or a granola-fruit parfait.
- Engage in art activities like painting, making a Summer wreath, or creating a dried flower bouquet.
- Wash your car as a family.
- Use sidewalk chalk for hopscotch, tic tac toe, or a chessboard.
- Enjoy a matinee movie at a local park.

We hope you have an awesome Summer!



Benefits of Water

By National Water Safety Month

MAY IS NATIONAL WATER SAFETY MONTH!

When school is out for the summer and the weather heats up across the country, poolside recreation is in. American backyards are where children can enjoy aquatic playgrounds, others get in their daily exercise of lap swimming, and many kick back, relax, and unwind to the tranquil sounds and sights of trickling, glistening water.

That's why May is the perfect time to observe safer water practices with National Water Safety Month! This summer, pools, hot tubs, and spas will continue to have an overwhelmingly positive impact on our lives. And there's a lot to celebrate!

Water Boosts Physical Health

Swimming is one of the best exercises because it provides all of the benefits with none of the negative impacts on the body.

Swimming may not come with weights, but this full-body workout moves all your muscles from head to toe against the water's resistance. Swimming builds cardiovascular fitness, endurance, and strength, helping you maintain a healthy heart and lungs. In fact, 30 minutes in a pool is worth 45 minutes of the same activity on land. And you get the benefit of vitamin D from the sunshine. As a result, swimming is one of the best and most efficient ways to lose weight. It can burn more than 200 calories in just half an hour—more than double that of walking.



Water Improves Mental Health

Throw a healthy diet into your life, in addition to your 30-minute-a-day, three-times-a-week swimming routine, and you'll stay fit and healthy, as well as maintain positive mental well-being. Why is water so good for us mentally? Did you know that from birth we are connected to water? Babies' bodies are 75 percent water. As we age, we are still made up of a majority of 60 percent water—our brains are three-fourths water and our bones are nearly one-third water.

So we have a natural connection to water. No wonder just the presence of water soothes us. A Happiness study shows that people are happier when they are outside. But add water to the picture and they are 5.2 percent happier. Regular swimming can reduce stress, improve mood, boost optimism, and enable better sleep. In fact, 1.4 million adults believe swimming has significantly reduced their anxiety and depression symptoms, a Swim England survey says. All of these benefits can add years to your life. Those with active lifestyles and positive mental health increase their life expectancies by almost 10 years.

Swimming's Popularity Soars, and So Does the Need for Water Safety

There are 10.4 million residential and 309,000 public swimming pools, and an additional 7.3 million hot tubs operating in the U.S. California tops the list of most sales and installations for above-ground pools, in-ground pools, and hot tub sales. Texas and Florida are second and third in above-ground pool and hot tub sales, and they flip places for in-ground pool sales. Ohio and Illinois finish out the top five in above-ground pool sales. Illinois also makes the list of most hot tub sales, followed by New York in fifth place. And Arizona and New York are fourth and fifth, respectively, on the list of most in-ground pool installations.



No wonder swimming is the fourth most popular sport or activity in the U.S., according to the U.S. Census Bureau. For children and teens between the ages of 7 and 17, swimming rises to the No. 1 most popular recreational activity. In fact, 36 percent of children ages 7 to 17, and 15 percent of adults go swimming at least six times annually.

That's why learning how to swim is so important. The Red Cross says more than 50 percent of Americans either can't swim or don't know basic water competency skills. With eight out of 10 Americans planning to swim in a pool this summer, that's why swim lessons are so important.

The goal of swim lessons is to make children and adults safer in and around water, says the USA Swimming Foundation. Swimming lessons from a certified instruction, school, or organization reduce the chance of drowning by 88 percent.

Pool, Spa & Hot Tub Maintenance is Essential to Water Safety

There are no doubts that a properly maintained and operated pool, spa, or hot tub is rewarding for its users by bringing hours of water fun and recreation. For a safe experience, these water spaces should provide clean, clear water and have effective, properly operating equipment and effective operation.

Controlling water quality is necessary to prevent the transmission of infectious diseases, according to the World Health Organization. Proper operation, maintenance, and disinfection (e.g., with chlorine and bromine) of pools, spas, and hot tubs should remove or inactivate viruses and bacteria.

LISTOS CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TIPS



STAY SAFE IN EXTREME HEAT

Extreme heat is very dangerous for your health, especially when high heat lasts two or more days and nights. Make sure you find ways to stay cool and help others stay cool.



Watch for Signs of Heat Illness

Extreme heat puts a lot of stress on your body and can be deadly. The California Department of Public Health recommends learning the signs and how to help someone with heat illness:

- **Heat stroke:** is when your body can no longer control its temperature. Look out for fever of 103 degrees F or higher, confusion, or loss of consciousness. Call 9-1-1.
- **Heat exhaustion:** can happen if your body loses too much water and salt through sweat. Look out for heavy sweating, weakness, dizziness, nausea, and headache. Take breaks and stay hydrated.



Keep Cool

When temperatures are very high, make sure to:

- Stay hydrated. Don't wait until you are thirsty to drink. Sip water throughout the day and consider supplementing with sports drinks.
- Wear loose, lightweight, light-colored clothing and a hat outdoors.
- Wear sunscreen and limit time in the sun.
- Slow down and avoid exercise during the hottest parts of the day.

Stay in air-conditioned buildings as much as possible.

- At home, keep blinds and curtains closed.
- If you do not have A/C at home or there is a power outage, visit a library, shopping mall, or a community center to cool down.
- Call your county to find locations of cooling centers.

If you work outside:

- Take breaks to cool down.
- Use the buddy system to check on each other for signs of heat-related illness.



Look out for Others

- For people who are 65 or older, heat can be especially dangerous. Make a plan with a friend, relative, or neighbor who will call or come check on you twice a day while it is hot outside.
- Bring pets inside. Make sure they have plenty of fresh water.
- Make sure everyone is out of the car whenever you park. Never leave a child, adult, or animal alone inside a parked vehicle.



Enhancing Client Services: Inland Regional Center's Recent Early Start and Lanterman Eligibility Webinar

By Community Engagement

On May 22, 2024, Inland Regional Center (IRC) hosted a crucial training session for 150 medical doctors, psychologists, social workers, and office staff. This comprehensive training focused on the eligibility process, emphasizing the importance of accurate information and streamlined procedures to ensure clients receive the services they need without unnecessary delays. Giuseppe Ancona, IRC's San Bernardino County Intake Manager, led the session for the attendees.

This training follows five virtual sessions that engaged school districts throughout San Bernardino and Riverside Counties. The Language Access and Cultural Competency team (LACC) spearheaded these sessions to address linguistic and cultural concerns when introducing parents to the Regional Center System of Care.



The Role of Community Agencies in the Eligibility Process

IRC community partners play a pivotal role in the eligibility determination process. Their assessments and documentation provide the foundational information that IRC relies on to decide if a client qualifies for services under the Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC). By attending the eligibility training, attendees gained a deeper understanding of the specific criteria, application process, and documentation required by IRC.

This knowledge is essential for several reasons. Firstly, it facilitates accurate assessments as attendees now understand IRC's requirements under WIC and can effectively guide parents through the proper processes and assist with the necessary documentation. Additionally, they have a better understanding of the timelines involved and how missing documentation can negatively impact the client and the family as they seek assistance from IRC.

The Impact of Misinformation

Misinformation or incomplete information can significantly delay services for clients. When IRC receives incomplete or incorrect documentation, several issues may arise. Firstly, there can be delays in service provision because incomplete or inaccurate information requires additional follow-ups and corrections, which can delay the approval of services.

This means clients may not receive the support they need in a timely manner, impacting their overall well-being. Secondly, increased stress for families may occur as they navigate the complexities of caring for a loved one with special needs, compounded by delays and misunderstandings about the eligibility process. Finally, resource wastage is another concern, as time and resources spent on correcting documentation could be better utilized in providing direct services to clients.



Conclusion

The recent eligibility training provided by Inland Regional Center highlights the interconnected roles of doctors, social workers, and office staff in ensuring a smooth and efficient eligibility determination process. By fully understanding and adhering to IRC's requirements, these professionals can significantly reduce delays and improve the accuracy of the information provided. This, in turn, ensures that clients receive the necessary services promptly, reducing stress for families and optimizing the use of resources. Accurate and timely information is the cornerstone of effective service delivery, and training sessions like these are invaluable in achieving that goal.





Navigating Service Access and Equity: A Recap of IRC 2024 Conference

By Community Engagement

On May 4, 2024, the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside, California, buzzed with energy and anticipation as it hosted the much-anticipated Inland Regional Center (IRC) 2024 Service Access and Equity (SAE) Conference. Under the fitting theme “May the Advocacy Be with You,” attendees from diverse backgrounds and sectors converged to explore strategies, share insights, and chart a course toward a more equitable future.

The IRC 2024 Service Access and Equity Conference was made possible through the generous support of Language Access and Cultural Competency (LACC) funding in collaboration with the Department of Developmental Services (DDS).

Unlike traditional conferences with resource booths, the IRC 2024 SAE Conference took a unique approach to engagement. In lieu of resource booths, the conference collaborated with In-Roads Creative Programs, Inc. to showcase a client art show. This innovative partnership allowed attendees to experience the creativity and talent of individuals served by the program, offering a powerful reminder of the importance of artistic expression in fostering inclusion and empowerment within the community.



We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the IRC Community Engagement Team, In-Road Creative Programs, and 24 Hour Home Care for their invaluable contributions to the success of the conference.

“Thank you to the incredible planning committee for your dedication, creativity, and hard work in making our event a resounding success. Your collaborative efforts and tireless commitment have made a difference. I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to work alongside such an amazing team.” – Tania Sanchez, IRC Event Developer.

Note: Clients from Options for All, an IRC Vendor, captured the conference on video, and the footage will be edited and uploaded to inlandrc.org for those who couldn’t attend this remarkable event.





Setting the Stage: The Power of Advocacy

The conference theme, inspired by the iconic line from Star Wars, “May the Force Be with You,” underscored the pivotal role of advocacy in driving positive change and fostering inclusivity. Like the Force, advocacy empowers individuals and communities to challenge systemic barriers, amplify marginalized voices, and champion equitable access to essential services.

“The IRC SAE Conference brings different people together to share new ideas and work towards fairness. It’s not just a meeting; it’s a way to improve things, where we can share ideas, make friends, and start making real changes in our community.” – Dr. CJ Cook.





Keynote Addresses and Thought-Provoking Sessions

The day began with engaging keynote speeches from esteemed experts in service access and equity. Stephen Garrett, Director of Clinical Services, and Virgo Garrett, Program Manager of Social and Behavioral Supports, from Nasaba Family Counseling, provided valuable insights into advocacy for Black, Indigenous, and other People of Color (BIPOC) within our communities. Additionally, Robin Ferguson, IRC Early Start Program Manager, shared her expertise as a co-keynote speaker, highlighting innovative advocacy strategies for Early Start. These insightful presentations sparked thought-provoking discussions and inspired attendees to take impactful steps toward fostering inclusivity and equity in service provision.





The conference concluded with a presentation from Dr. CJ Cook, DBA, Program Administrator overseeing Service Access and Equity, Community Engagement, Emergency Services, and Training and Development at IRC. CJ delivered an insightful talk on the transformative power of communication, highlighting its pivotal role in fostering service access, equity, and community empowerment. His presentation shed light on the importance of effective communication strategies in building inclusive environments and driving positive change within organizations and communities.

“The speakers and what they talked about got a big thumbs-up from everyone there. They knew their stuff and greatly cared about making things fair for everyone. Their talks got people talking and made them want to do something about it. It was awesome to see how much their words meant to everyone in the room.” – Martin Morales, IRC LACC Specialist.





Spotlight on Talent

The Client art show was open throughout the day and was enjoyed by all who attended. IRC Client musical talent Evan De La Fuente performed at the opening performance. During lunchtime, attendees enjoyed Fernando Preciado's music. The conference came to a close with a performance by Josuah Diaz. Additionally, the 501st Legion Service was present in full Star Wars attire, and there was a photo booth for everyone to enjoy.

“The clients from IRC showcased their talents with grace and enthusiasm, reminding us of our community’s incredible diversity and creativity. Their performances and artwork were a true testament to the power of inclusion and the boundless potential within every one of us.”—Betsy Cook, Victor Elementary School District Special Education Teacher.

Networking and Collaboration

One of the highlights of the conference was the opportunity for attendees to network, forge new connections, and cultivate collaborations. From informal coffee breaks to structured sessions, participants exchanged ideas, best practices, and contact information, laying the groundwork for future partnerships and collective advocacy efforts.

“Attending IRC conferences is like opening a door to new opportunities. It’s where we come together, learn from each other, and grow stronger as a community.” – Monica Munguia, IRC Community Engagement Manager.



Embracing Diversity and Inclusion

The SAE conference was about embracing diversity, fairness, and togetherness. The organizers worked hard to ensure that everyone, no matter who they were, could join in. They thought of everything, from having American Sign Language (ASL) and Spanish interpreters to making sure the food catered to everyone's tastes. Every little thing was planned carefully to ensure that everyone felt welcome and included.

“At IRC, we believe that by embracing diversity, we can unlock limitless potential and pave the way for a brighter future for all.” – Lavinia Johnson, IRC Executive Director.

Looking Ahead: A Call to Action

As the day drew to a close, attendees left the conference energized, inspired, and equipped with the tools and knowledge to continue their advocacy work. The IRC 2024 SAE Conference served as a catalyst for change, igniting a collective commitment to advancing service access and equity in communities around the world.

In the words of Yoda, another iconic figure from the Star Wars saga, “Do or do not. There is no try.” Armed with the spirit of advocacy and solidarity, participants departed with a renewed sense of purpose, ready to confront challenges, dismantle barriers, and build a future where access to essential services is truly equitable for all. May the advocacy be with us, today and always.

In keeping with our commitment to inclusivity and community engagement, we're excited to announce that the 2025 conference will be held in San Bernardino County. Stay tuned for dates and times to be announced in December 2024.

“As we look ahead, let's not merely consider change but actively pursue it. Each of us has a role to play in shaping a more inclusive and equitable future.”—Vince Toms, IRC Director of Community Services.



Celebrating Tony Garcia: May's Cultural Proficiency Employee Recognition Award Winner

In recognition of his outstanding contributions to the lives of IRC clients, Tony Garcia has been honored with the Cultural Proficiency Employee Recognition Award for the month of May 2024. This prestigious award celebrates those who make a significant difference in the lives of our clients through their dedication, compassion, and unwavering commitment.

Tony Garcia joined the Inland Regional Center (IRC) in February and has quickly made a lasting impact. Before joining IRC, Tony gained extensive experience working as an SLS worker and para-educator, always in close contact with clients. His roles have spanned working with individuals of all ages, from toddlers to seniors, and his passion for helping others has been evident in every position he has held.

Tony's journey to IRC was fueled by his desire to work as a service coordinator, a goal he found challenging to achieve in Los Angeles but realized upon moving to the Inland Empire. His vast experience with consumers and his genuine desire to help have made him a perfect fit for the IRC team. A hallmark of Tony's approach is his unwavering commitment to putting others before himself.

He derives immense joy from seeing the happiness in others, particularly our clients, whose genuine smiles and gratitude deeply resonate with him. Tony strives to bring positivity and happiness to every interaction, even on his toughest days, ensuring that each client feels valued and understood.



When asked about his philosophy on serving clients, Tony emphasized the importance of building genuine connections. He believes in approaching clients as friends, engaging in meaningful conversations about shared interests, and always seeing them as individuals rather than just consumers. His advice to others in similar roles is to foster these connections and approach their work with a mindset of inclusion and understanding.

Receiving the Cultural Proficiency Employee Recognition Award has been a meaningful affirmation for Tony, reassuring him that his efforts are making a real difference. It serves as a reminder that even in challenging times, his work positively impacts the lives of those he serves.

Tony Garcia's dedication and heartfelt approach embody the spirit of the Cultural Proficiency Employee Recognition Award. His efforts not only enhance the lives of IRC clients but also inspire his colleagues to strive for excellence in their roles. Congratulations to Tony Garcia for this well-deserved honor.





Highlighting Leonardo Singleton and SoCal Behavior Therapy's Role in the CFS Pilot Program

SoCal Behavior Therapy is led by Leonardo Singleton, who has become a vital vendor for the Coordinated Family Services (CFS) Pilot Program at the Inland Regional Center (IRC). This program is designed to provide comprehensive support to families and individuals with developmental disabilities, addressing a broad range of needs through a coordinated approach.

The CFS Pilot Program is a strategic initiative aimed at enhancing the quality of life for clients by integrating various services. It emphasizes a holistic approach, ensuring that families receive not only direct care but also access to essential community resources. This initiative covers a wide spectrum of services, from behavioral support to training and community integration, helping families navigate and utilize available resources effectively.

Leonardo Singleton and his team at SoCal Behavior Therapy play a crucial role in this program. Their involvement ensures that the behavioral component is seamlessly integrated into the CFS model. Although the CFS Pilot Program itself is not solely focused on behavioral issues, the reality is that many families require assistance in managing such challenges. Singleton's expertise and dedication to providing behavioral assessments and interventions are invaluable in this context.



SoCal Behavior Therapy's participation in the CFS Pilot Program reflects their commitment to supporting families in a comprehensive manner. By offering specialized services and combining them with the broader goals of the CFS initiative, they help ensure that families receive the nuanced care and support they need. This partnership underscores the importance of having skilled providers like SoCal Behavior Therapy involved in innovative programs that aim to make a significant impact on the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

For more detailed information about the CFS Pilot Program, you can refer to the Inland Regional Center's official announcement <https://www.inlandrc.org/2024/03/06/cfs-pilot-program/> .



Do you have a public event, conference, or resource you wish to reach a broader audience?

Send it our way and it may be featured in our digital calendar of events!



Check Out Our **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

1

Requests by outside agencies must be relevant to IRC

IRC's digital communications' primary function is to promote IRC's mission, message, and brand. Events or resources must be deemed relevant by IRC's Web Team and have approval from the Community Engagement Manager.

2

Send requests 30 days prior to the event

To ensure sufficient time for review, approval, and distribution, we only accept requests at least 30 days prior to the event's date.

3

Requests must be sent to community@inlandrc.org only

We only accept post requests through our Community Engagement Unit's email contact. Any requests sent through social media channels will not be accepted.

4

Make sure to include all details of the event/conference

Please make sure to include all relevant details of the event such as date, time, location, and contact information.

5

Send graphic/flyers in both English and Spanish

We ask for Spanish and English materials. All marketing material should be culturally sensitive and must promote inclusion of all ethnicities, race, and gender.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUR DIGITAL COMMUNICATION POLICY AT:

<https://www.inlandrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/IRC-Digital-Communications-Policy-Update-2023.pdf>



UPCOMING EVENTS



DO YOU WANT TO STAY INFORMED ABOUT
UPCOMING EVENTS?

CHECK OUR DIGITAL CALENDAR!

www.inlandrc.org/calendar

IRC Parent Orientation 2024



Join us for an informative session tailored to families eligible for Regional Center services. Whether you're new to IRC or seeking a refresher, this training is designed to empower you with essential knowledge.



Contact Information:

For questions or if you need accommodations, please email IRCTraining@inlandrc.org with 14 days' notice to make arrangements.

Location:

June 24, 2024 / 5PM - 7PM
Zoom Meeting ID:
826 4407 0465
Passcode:
391986

Crafts and Chats 2024 Schedule

Come and create fun, educational materials and learn more about IRC! For IRC Parents and Clients. **All ages welcome!**



July 23, 2024

August 20, 2024

September 24, 2024

October 15, 2024

November 19, 2024

December 17, 2024



10:00 AM - 12:00 PM



Located at:

IRC Conference Center

1425 S. Waterman Ave.

San Bernardino, CA 92408



Please contact Amalia Barcelo-Huizar at:
ahuizar@inlandrc.org or (909) 890-3278



IRC BOARD OF TRUSTEES HYBRID MEETING



This meeting will be hybrid (in person and online). In person location:

IRC Conference Building Boardroom
1425 South Waterman Avenue
San Bernardino, CA, 92408

The live session can be found at:

inlandrc.org/live



Everyone is welcome to attend IRC board meetings. They are held on the second Monday of every odd month. Public comments may be submitted prior to the event, using this online form

<https://inlandrc.seamlessdocs.com/f/BoardComment>

Monday, July 8, 2024

5 PM - 6 PM

Spanish and ASL Interpretation will be provided. If you need additional accommodations, please contact us through community@inlandrc.org at least 14 days prior to the meeting.



Organized by IRC Board of Trustees



IRC★CAC
ICE CREAM
SOCIAL

Indulge in a delightful experience of flavors, fun, and frozen treats at our Ice Cream Social event!

Ages 16
And Older

Monday July 15th, 2024
5:30pm - 7:30pm

COFFEE-N-MORE COFFEE SHOP

1425 S Waterman Ave, San Bernardino, CA 92408



The Client Advisory Committee (CAC) is a social and advocacy group for IRC clients ages 16 and older.



We are Hiring an Consumer Advocate

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO SHINE !

Under the supervision of the Program Manager of Community Engagement, you can create and support the self-advocacy of all Inland Regional Center consumers by providing an avenue for consumers to voice their questions and concerns to the Agency. Work to resolve problems identified in a professional and collaborative manner. Employees in this position will work no more than 20 hours per week and for no more than 8 hours per day

Requirements : 

- ▶ **Must be a person with developmental or intellectual disability**
- ▶ **Have an Open case with Inland Regional Center (IRC)**
- ▶ **Must possess the ability to secure transportation on a daily basis to access the community independently.**
- ▶ **Be a Team Player**

APPLY NOW AT:

www.inlandrc.org/careers/





Locally Developed Public Policy Measure Listening Sessions

IRC aims to establish an **Equitable Crisis Intervention Program** with additional safeguards and strengthened community partnerships to ensure fair and just treatment for all individuals during crises. We will meet with **clients, parents, caregivers, and community partners** six times over the next fiscal year to share our findings and gather feedback.

Aug 29, 2024

Feb 22, 2025

Oct 17, 2024

Apr 24, 2025

Dec 12, 2024

Jun 26, 2025

Public Meetings to be held on **Zoom**.
All meetings from **5:30 to 7:00 PM**.

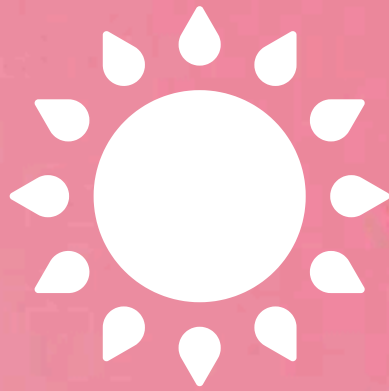
Join us at:

www.inlandrc.org/live

For language accommodations, including ASL,
please contact community@inlandrc.org
at least 14 days prior to event.



IRC★CAC



BINGO RAMA

SATURDAY AUGUST 3, 2024

TIME: 5:30PM - 7:30PM

**ENTRY FEE: \$5 PER PERSON
(CASH ONLY)**

**LOCATION: GONZALEZ CENTER, 670
COLTON AVE, COLTON, CA 92324**



**In-Roads
Creative Programs, Inc.**



**THE CLIENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) IS A SOCIAL AND ADVOCACY
GROUP FOR IRC CLIENTS AGES 16 AND OLDER.**

Inland Regional Center Wants to Hear From You!

LACC Interview Project

Your opinion is invaluable in helping us better serve our community. We're seeking input from clients and/or their family members and caretakers to understand your experiences and how we can improve.

Join us for a confidential interview and share:

- **What's working well for you?**
- **What could be improved?**
- **How can IRC better understand and serve your language and cultural needs?**

*Gas Cards Provided to Participants!

Interviews can be held **in person**, by **phone** or over **Zoom**.



To participate, or for more information, please contact **Martin Morales** at (909) 890-4777 or email us at **community@inlandrc.org**.



You may also register by scanning this QR code



BRIDGING
VOICES-
UNIENDO
VOCES
LLC

Language accommodations are available upon request for our clients/parents who speak/sign **Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, ASL, Vietnamese, and Arabic.**



Coffee n Chat:

Disaster Preparedness workshop

About Us

Join our Disaster Preparedness Coffee n Chat! Engage in discussions with experts to enhance your readiness for emergencies. Register through Eventbrite by scanning the QR code or visiting our linktree.

Guest Speakers:

Gregory Harrison

Consumer Advocate



Marquis Quinton

Emergency Services Coordinator



Schedule:

July 24, 2024
9:30 am - 11:30 am
1425 S Waterman Ave
San Bernardino, CA 92408



Accommodations can be arranged with 14 days' notice. Reach out to us at community@inlandrc.org to make any requests.



COORDINATED FAMILY SUPPORT (CFS)



Unlock valuable resources and insights today by exploring the CFS Pilot Program on our website! Visit www.inlandrc.org/cfs for informative fact sheets, helpful links, engaging videos, and more.



SCAN ME

Questions?
Email: community@inlandrc.org



www.inlandrc.org/clientsfamilies/#cfs

**DO YOU HAVE STORIES
TO SHARE WITH US?**

Contact us at community@inlandrc.org

INLAND REGIONAL CENTER, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



**WHAT'S
YOUR
STORY?**



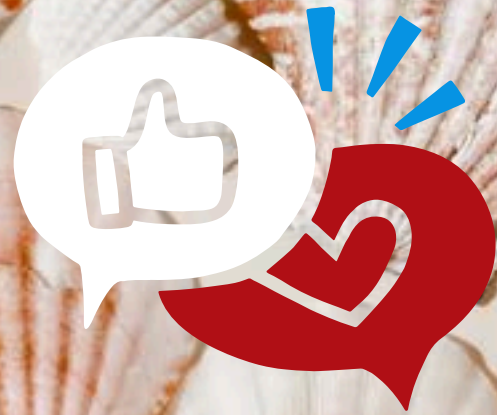


Inland Regional Center

www.inlandrc.org



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**Inland
Regional
Center**

1365 SOUTH WATERMAN AVENUE ·
SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408

www.inlandrc.org