

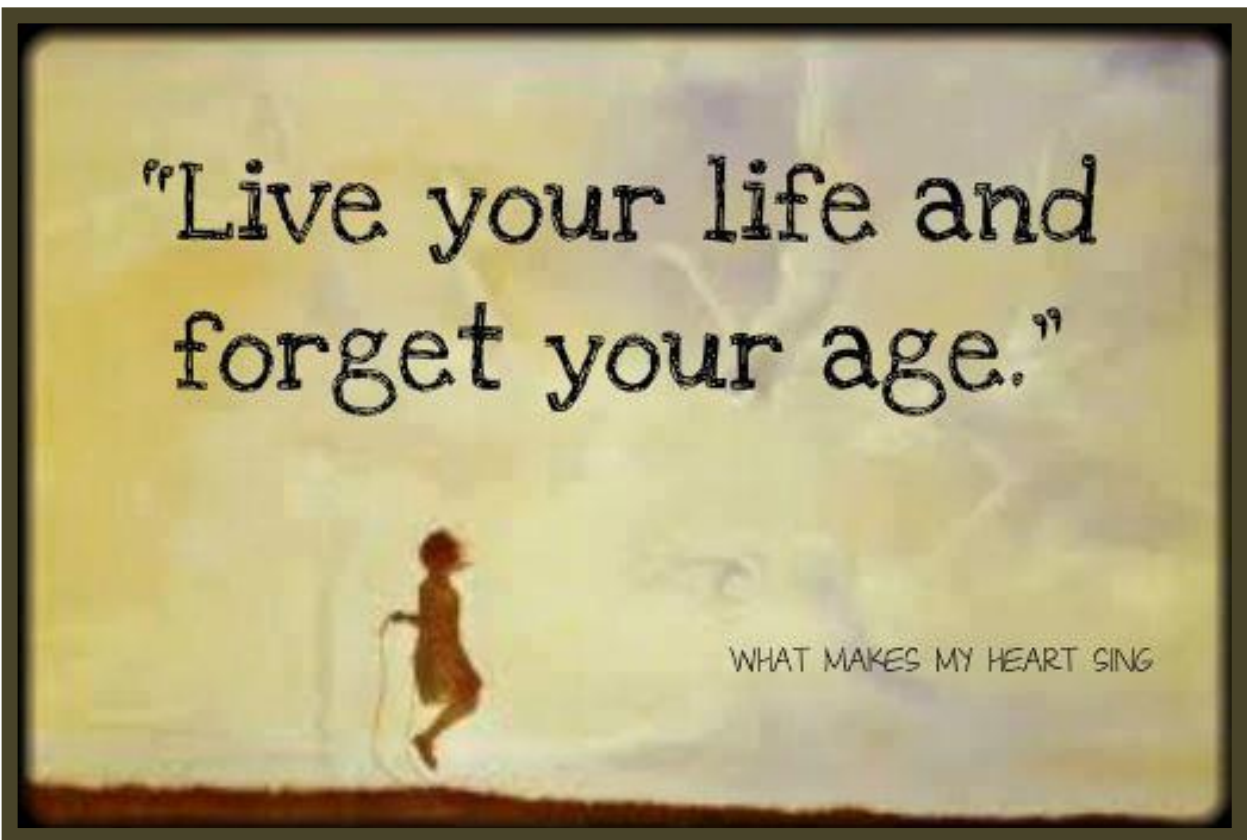
Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults



LACCOA



2013 – 2014 Annual Report



Visit us at: <http://css.lacounty.gov/laccoa.aspx>

LACCOA advocates for the needs and well-being of older adults in Los Angeles County

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Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA) would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their support of LACCOA and LACCOA's mission in advocating for issues that are affecting the senior population. The senior population is the fastest growing age group in the country. The Commission looks forward to working with the Board of Supervisors to ensure that the health, well-being, and overall quality of life of seniors in Los Angeles County continue to thrive.



Mark Ridley-Thomas

Gloria Molina

Don Knabe

Zev Yaroslavsky

Michael D. Antonovich

Board Deputies

Megan Moret, 1st District; **Brenda Robinson**, 2nd District; **Lisa Mandel** and **Flora Gil Krisiloff**, 3rd District; **Nick Ippolito**, 4th District; **Michelle Vega**, 5th District

Message from the President



First, it is a privilege and an honor to serve as your President. Thanks for your vote of confidence. It has been quite a year. A year in which we had the following accomplishments and some struggles:

The Area Plan Committee, chaired by Commissioner Nneenah Frazier, in their support of the Area Agency Area Plan, conducted and reported their findings on seven community hearings.

The Communications Committee, chaired by Commissioner Barbara Meltzer, completed the LACCOA PowerPoint Presentation and conducted two Speakers Bureau Workshops.

The Health, Nutrition, and Long-Term Care Committee, arranged various presentations to LACCOA on the subjects of Health and Long-Term Care and in the dissemination of information. The Committee also supported Community and Senior Services (CSS) staff in the evaluation of nutritional centers.

The Legislative Committee informed the General Assembly to senior bills in process and/or about to be voted on by the Legislature. I personally had the opportunity to testify at a Long-Term Care Hearing, chaired by Assemblywoman Mariko Yamada. The Committee sent an advocacy letter to our Legislature and decision making public servants.

The Membership Committee considered all matters pertaining to LACCOA membership. They worked diligently in processing new applicants.

The Housing and Transportation Committees supported Metro in new programs for our senior population and continued their advocacy regarding housing for the seniors of Los Angeles County.

We acknowledge our lead Commissioners' support as liaisons with their respective Supervisorial Districts.

Our Ad Hoc Committees did their share of support to LACCOA efforts, which included LACCOA Bylaws amendments, the California Senior Legislature (CSL), LACCOA elections, and two Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD) events in which over 100 Los Angeles County seniors were honored for their volunteer work.

This year, many of our LACCOA members participated and reported on various senior related conferences, symposiums, and workshops.

And last, but not least, kudos to our Executive Board, whose members provided leadership and guidance to LACCOA.

Also, many thanks to CSS staff who support LACCOA. You are very valuable members of our team and we appreciate your efforts.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Aida M. Villalobos".

2013-2014 LACCOA President

Message from Cynthia D. Banks, CSS Director



As the Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Community and Senior Services (CSS), it is an honor to share with you the hard work that LACCOA is doing to address the issues that are affecting the quality of life of our aging population. The accomplishments stated in this annual report are a testament of the hard work and dedication of the LACCOA Commissioners.

LACCOA has continued to be at the forefront in Los Angeles County with its purpose to promote the overall well-being of the senior population living in Los Angeles County. LACCOA took the lead in the successful Annual Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD) celebrations. The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, in association with LACCOA, CSS, local elected officials from the 88 cities, and senior citizens' organizations, honored 100 older adults who volunteered countless hours to enrich their communities.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate LACCOA on its accomplishments during the 2013-2014 fiscal year, and thank all Commissioners for providing services to enhancing the lives of all older adults in Los Angeles County.

Cynthia D. Banks

Cynthia D. Banks, Director
Community and Senior Services

LACCOA Mission and Goals

MISSION

The mission of LACCOA is to advocate, advise and make recommendations regarding the needs and welfare of Los Angeles County seniors, age 60 and older, to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, departments of County government, and other entities that provide services to seniors regarding their needs, health, well-being, and rights.

To accomplish this mission, LACCOA:

- Assists the County in preparing for the significant increase expected in the senior population.
- Networks and collaborates with other partners who are interested in and concerned about issues affecting seniors.
- Develops methods of communications which enhance and provides outreach and education to seniors in Los Angeles County.
- Advocates for the needs and well-being of older adults in Los Angeles County.

GOALS

Advise Board of Supervisors regarding needs of the older population in Los Angeles County. Recognize outstanding voluntary efforts and community service by seniors living in Los Angeles County. Enhance distribution of LACCOA information and findings to the community at large and to appropriate Los Angeles County Departments. Maintain efforts to assist the older population with information regarding transportation.

COMPOSITION

The Commission shall include individuals and representatives of community organizations. The Commission shall be made up of:

- More than 50 percent older individuals, including minority individuals who are participants or who are eligible to participate in Area Agency on Aging (AAA) programs;
- Representatives of older persons;
- Representatives of health care provider organizations;
- Representatives of supportive services provider organizations;
- Persons with leadership experience in the private and voluntary sectors;

- Local elected officials; and
- The general public.

Ethnic distribution should be representative of the population served, and LACCOA members must be residents of Los Angeles County.

The Commission is comprised of 50 members: 25 appointed by the Board of Supervisors and 25 selected by LACCOA. Each vacancy will be filled accordingly.

The LACCOA general meetings are held every first Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., unless there is a holiday; then the meeting is rescheduled to meet on Tuesday. The Executive Board meetings are held every third Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

The Commission structure includes an Executive Board and six standing committees: Area Plan; Communications; Health, Nutrition, and Long-Term Care; Housing and Transportation; Legislative and Advocacy; and Membership.



Board Deputy Brenda Robinson (left) from 2nd District installing the 2013-2014 LACCOA Executive Board (left to right): Aida Villalobos, President; Gloria Duran, 1st Vice President; Linda Yamauchi, 2nd Vice President; Barbara Sinclair, Secretary; William Jackson, Fiscal Officer; and Marilyn Fried, Past President

LACCOA Strategic Plan Update (July 2013 – June 2016)

LACCOA has developed the following Strategies and Objectives to guide its efforts in realizing its vision and mission throughout the period of July 2013 – June 2016.

STRATEGY 1: Standing committees will continue to address immediate and long-term issues affecting older adults in Los Angeles County and to facilitate the operation of LACCOA.

Objective 1:

By July of each year (2013-2015), standing committees will meet regularly to address issues pertaining to older and functionally disabled adults.

Objective 2:

Form additional committees, as needed, to meet immediate and long-term needs.

STRATEGY 2: Advise Area Agency on Aging staff on all matters relating to the needs and welfare of Los Angeles County older adults including the planning process for Public Hearings on the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 Area Plan Updates.

Objective 1:

By July 1, 2013, form an Area Plan Committee to advise AAA staff on Public Hearings for the annual update for the 2014-2015 Area Plan Update.

Objective 2:

By July 1, 2014, form an Area Plan Committee to advise AAA staff on Public Hearings for the update of the annual update for the 2015-2016 Area Plan Update.

Objective 3:

By January 2014, participate in Public Hearings for the 2014-2015 Area Plan Update by encouraging attendance and community participation in the hearings, ensuring that translators are available for non-English speaking attendees; attending and observing the hearings; and serving as Hearing Officers at the hearings as needed.

Objective 4:

By January 2015, participate in Public Hearings for the 2015-2016 Area Plan Update by encouraging attendance and community participation in the hearings, ensuring that translators are available for non-English speaking attendees; attending and observing the hearings; and serving as Hearing Officers at the hearings as needed.

Objective 5:

Review the 2014-2015 Area Plan Update to ensure that it reflects public comments from the Public Hearings.

Objective 6:

Review the 2015-2016 Area Plan Update to ensure that it reflects public comments from the Public Hearings.

STRATEGY 3: Increase advocacy and awareness in the community regarding programs and services affecting older adults.

Objective 1:

Develop a Speakers Bureau that will work with CSS to increase the awareness of the older population of the services available. Commissioners will go through a training program before making any speaking engagements.

Objective 2:

Update LACCOA video and then have Speakers Bureau play it at their speaking engagements.

Objective 3:

Update the LACCOA Outreach Scorecard on a continuous basis, demonstrating the community activity of LACCOA members.

Objective 4:

Assign the Speakers Bureau speaking engagements that will cover all five Supervisorial Districts.

Objective 5:

In 2014-2015, have at least five speaking engagements in each Supervisorial District and complete Outreach Scorecard.

Objective 6:

In 2015-2016, have at least five speaking engagements in each Supervisorial District and complete Outreach Scorecard.

STRATEGY 4: Celebrate and acknowledging the contributions of Older Adults in their respective communities.

Objective 1:

Work with Board of Supervisors and Community and Senior Services to host an annual event to acknowledge the contributions of older adults in their communities.



Meet the Commissioners

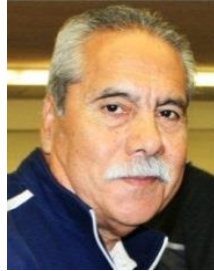
First Supervisorial District



Mary Helen Cruz



William Givens



Robert Jimenez



Samuel Park



David Siegrist



Vicente Zapata

Second Supervisorial District



ET Beaver-Thomas



Mattye Fegan-Perry



Zelda Hutcherson



William Jackson



Lonnie McNamee



Wilma Pinder



Nate Riddick



Theresa Rotter



Lavada Theus



Aida M. Villalobos

Third Supervisorial District



Krishan Bhalla



Sol Fingold



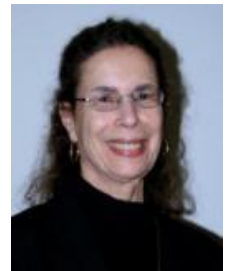
Marilyn Fried



Peter Getzoff



Oleeta Igar



Barbara Meltzer



Bernard Weintraub



Elizabeth Wilson

Fourth Supervisorial District



Aziz Amiri



Gloria Duran



Ralph Flores



Irene Griffith



William Ha



Raymond Hall



Hedy Harrison



Jung Kim



James Polk



Julia Rosenberg



Cindy Skovgard

Fifth Supervisorial District



Natalie Ambrose



Margaret Belton



Nneenah Frazier



Peter McGrath



Arlene Okamoto



Olga Sarabia



Marvin Schachter



Barbara Sinclair



Linda Yamauchi

LACCOA Committees in Action

Area Plan Committee

The **Area Plan Committee** worked with CSS staff in reviewing the Area Plan Update and preparing for Public Hearings. Commissioners attended the hearings and served as Hearing Officers.

Issues addressed and brought to General Membership:

- Scam Alerts targeting Seniors;
- Elder Abuse Stats;
- Member participated in Elder Financial Protection Network Summit;
- Information regarding benefits for long-term care for veterans Assisted Living;
- Homelessness Issues affecting Veterans;
- Senior Employment (Title V) status;
- Discrimination by age of employers; and
- Assisted in Public Hearings for the 2014-2015 Area Plan update, with five being in conjunction with the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging

Committee Chair: Nneenah Frazier

Committee Members: Frank Calderon, William Givens (Co-chair/Coordinator Senior Employment), Raymond Hall (Coordinator—Veterans Issues, Julia Rosenberg (Coordinator—Elder Abuse), Theresa Rotter

Communications Committee

The **Communication Committee** focused on taking all necessary steps to launch the LACCOA Speakers Bureau (SB). To that end we:

- Created a Speakers Bureau Team that included:
Barbara Meltzer, Chair
Barbara Sinclair
Hedy Harrison
Linda Yamauchi
- Finalized the creation of a PowerPoint Presentation that is available in hard copy and on a DVD.
- Developed a team of Commissioners who are members of the Speakers Bureau. They include:

Gloria Duran	Sam Park
Ralph Flores	Olga Sarabia
Nneenah Frazier	David Siegrist

William Ha
Zelda Hutcherson
Jung Kim
Barbara Meltzer
Arlene Okamoto

Barbara Sinclair
Aida Villalobos
Bernie Weintraub
Linda Yamauchi
Vicente Zapata

- Wrote a letter to all senior/community directors introducing the new Speakers Bureau.
- Wrote a press release to be sent with the letter and to be distributed to media outlets.
- Held three Speakers Bureau Training Workshops for Commissioners.
- Held a technical PowerPoint demonstration for interested Commissioners.
- A presentation was given by Commissioner Linda Yamauchi to the California Alliance for Retired Americans (CARA) Senior Advisory Group in Glendora.

Committee Chair: Barbara Meltzer

Committee Members: Aziz Amiri, Hedy Harrison, Linda Yamauchi

Health, Nutrition and Long-Term Care Committee

The **Health, Nutrition, and Long-Term Care Committee** worked with CSS staff to select outstanding nutrition sites. They formed a relationship with Dr. Tony Kuo, Director of Senior Health of the Department of Public Health and arranged for him to speak at the April 2013 LACCOA meeting. They gathered information on the benefits of walking to use in the “LA Seniors WALK” brochure.

- Activity to Commission:
 - Distributed Walking and Cal Fresh flyers every month throughout the year.
 - Provided supporting information for suspended Walking project
- Activity in Cooperation with Department of Senior Public Health:
 - Provided info on less salt program.
 - Provided senior mental health information and resources.
- Activity for Commission:
 - Provided expert information on fall prevention, caregiving needs and support to commission
 - Provided ongoing information on budget cuts and effects, Older American Act progress and call to action.
 - Provided legislative information on increasing scope of practice for nurse [practitioners].
 - Provided information on Davita free program to test and treat liver disease.
 - More than eleven nutrition sites visited to assess for Silver Thermometer Award.
 - Affordable Care Act (ACA) presentation on dual-eligibles.
 - Information provided on eligibility for the ACA to the Committee by Commissioner Oleeta Igar

- Presentation to Commission, January 6, 2014 by CANHR rep Michael Connors: Reform of Residential

Committee Chair: Irene Griffith

Committee Members: Mattye Fegan-Perry, Peter Getzoff, William Ha, Oleeta Igar, Arlene Okamoto, and Vicente Zapata

Housing and Transportation Committee

The **Housing and Transportation Committee** studied and discussed housing issues in local communities throughout Los Angeles County. They worked with Metro to implement “On the Move Riders Club” and to simplify the use of TAP cards for seniors at Metro Vending Machines. Commissioners Mary Helen Cruz and Robert Jimenez continued to be instrumental in working with Metro.

Committee Chair: James Polk

Committee Members: Mary Helen Cruz, Robert Jimenez, Jung Kim, Olga Sarabia

Legislative and Advocacy Committee

The **Legislative and Advocacy Committee** drafted a letter to Senator Mariko Yamada, Chair, Assembly Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, regarding the Adult Protective Services Program: Support for Training and State Staffing.

A letter was also sent to Los Angeles County Senior Center Councils to encourage its members to write letters to their City, State and/or Federal representatives in support of the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act.

Committee Chair: Gloria Duran

Committee Members: Sol Fingold, Samuel Park, Marvin Schachter, Elizabeth Wilson

Membership Committee

The **Membership Committee** welcomed three new Commissioners in in 2013-2014: ET Beaver-Thomas, Margaret Belton, and Wilma Pinder. The Committee has also continued to recruit new members.

Committee Chair: Lavada Theus

Committee Members: Ralph Flores, Peter McGrath, Lonnie McNamee, Bernard Weintraub

Commissioners in Action

Commissioner Gloria Duran was selected as a Whittier Daily News' Hero of Christmas on December 10, 2013.

Commissioner Marvin Schachter was the subject of a cover story on the Pasadena Weekly on his "accidental life" as a liberal icon.

LACCOA Says Goodbye to a Friend

Nate Riddick
1921-2013



Born January 25, 1921, in Norfolk, Virginia, "Nate" (as everyone fondly knew him by) was a man who had several fulfilling careers during his lifetime. He was a U.S. Navy as well as a U.S. Army veteran, having served his country almost 30 years during WWII, the Korean Conflict and into the Vietnam era. He was the last living US Army Band Master. Nate also served as a Korean translator while stationed in Korea. He was also Assistant Director of the CSULB campus police department. A Carson resident since 1967, he served on the Carson Citywide Advisory Committee, as the Chairman of the Senior Citizens Housing Committee and as a Parks and Recreation Commissioner since 1993. Also, he served on the California Senior Legislature as Speaker of the House for the State Assembly. A member of the National Association of Negro Musicians, the Friends of Taiwan, Nate was also a member of the Prince Hall Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons. He also served on the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging, Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council, and the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults.

49th Annual Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD)

Every year, May is recognized as Older Americans Recognition Month and encourages all Americans to acknowledge, honor, and celebrate seniors who have made a positive impact in their cities and communities. LACCOA, along with the Board of Supervisors and Community and Senior Services (CSS), hosted the 49th Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Events on May 8, 2014, and May 27, 2014, to honor older Americans in Los Angeles County. The 2014 theme was: ***'Safe Today. Healthy Tomorrow'.***



Proclamation of May 2014 as Older Americans Month
CSS Director Cynthia D. Banks, LACCOA President
Aida Villalobos, and Supervisor Don Knabe



Supervisor Don Knabe, Honoree Alan W. Wells,
and CSS Director Cynthia D. Banks

One hundred older adults were honored in 2014 by the Board of Supervisors for their dedication in making their communities a better place to live. Each honoree was accompanied by their elected officials, family, and friends on this special occasion to receive a special scroll from their respective Supervisor.

Commissioner Linda Yamauchi and Commissioner Cindy Skovgard along with CSS staff worked to organize two afternoons dedicated to celebrating some of Los Angeles County's finest older Americans.



President Villalobos, Honoree Tony Ransdell, and
AAA Program Manager Anna Avdalyan



President Villalobos, Honoree Mary Murillo, and
AAA Program Manager Anna Avdalyan



President Villalobos, Honoree Essie Edwards,
and AAA Program Manager Anna Avdalyan



Board Deputy Michelle Vega, 5th District; President Villalobos,
Honoree Lucille Brejcha; and CSS Director Cynthia D. Banks

Annual LACCOA Luncheon

Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults held its annual luncheon to celebrate the accomplishments for 2013-2014, to discuss plans for the future, and to swear in a new slate of officers.

Officers for the 2013-2014 fiscal year were sworn in by Stephanie Maxberry, Assistant Director, Ombudsman. The following were elected to office: Aida Villalobos, President; Gloria Duran, 1st Vice President; Linda Yamauchi, 2nd Vice President; Vicente Zapata, Secretary; and Raymond Hall, Fiscal Officer. Commissioner Linda Yamauchi was honored with the LINK Award for her contributions throughout this past year.



Incoming officers for 2013-2014: Vicente Zapata (Secretary), Aida Villalobos (President), Gloria Duran (First Vice President), Linda Yamauchi (Second Vice President), Marilyn Fried (Past President), and Raymond Hall (Fiscal Officer)



President Aida Villalobos (left) presenting 2nd Vice President Linda Yamauchi the LINK Award

LACCOA also said farewell to fourteen of our colleagues. You have dedicated many years of volunteer service as prior members of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council or as members of the prior Los Angeles County Commission on Aging. Your service was very valuable to LACCOA and our seniors.



President Villalobos and
Commissioner McGrath



Anna Avdalyan, CSS Program Manager;
President Villalobos, and Commissioner Fingold



Anna Avdalyan, CSS Program Manager,
President Villalobos, and Commissioner Igar



Anna Avdalyan, CSS Program Manager,
President Villalobos, and Commissioners Givens

Credits

Editors/Layout/Design.....	Lorenza C. Sánchez, Assistant Director Anna Avdalyan, Program Manager Corneitha Kirk, Human Services Administrator II Guillermo Medina, Executive Director LACCOA Amy Koo, Clerical Support
Photos.....	Benjie Uy, CSS Photographer



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