

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS (LACCOA)



*“Don’t let your age control your life.
Let your life control your age”*

Anthony Douglas Williams - Inside the Divine Pattern

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

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LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA) would like to thank the Board of Supervisors for their ongoing support and its mission in advocating for issues that are confronting the older adult population in Los Angeles County. In these tough economic times with cutbacks to valuable programs and an increase in homelessness among the older adult population, we were able to work with the Board of Supervisors to let our voices be heard at the state and federal level. With the continued support from the Board of Supervisors, LACCOA is ready to take the lead in efforts to enhance the lives of every older adult in Los Angeles County.



Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor, First District



Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor, Second District



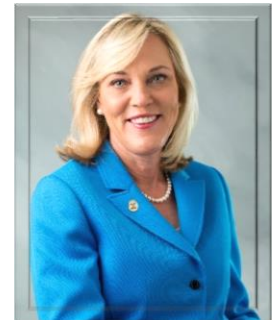
Sheila Kuehl
Supervisor, Third District

Board Deputies



Janice Hahn
Supervisor, Fourth District

James Blunt, First District
Taylor Dudley, First District
Emily Williams, Second District
Rosaline George, Third District
Genethia Hudley-Hayes, Third District
Kevin Driscoll, Fourth District
Michelle Vega, Fifth District



Kathryn Barger
Supervisor, Fifth District



A MESSAGE FROM LINDA YAMAUCHI, LACCOA PRESIDENT



This year serving as President of the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA) continued to be exciting, challenging, and rewarding.

As my second term as president comes to a close, I am proud of what we have accomplished this past year. The Commission is healthier and running more efficiently than ever. A stronger partnership was developed with Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS), the City, and other County departments as LACCOA Commissioners actively participated in the First Annual Older Adult Summit, the Purposeful Aging Initiative, and the Bringing our Loved Ones Home Task Force.

I was honored to represent LACCOA at the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) in Los Angeles, California, as well as several other conferences including: the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) Conference in San Diego, California; the American Society on Aging (ASA) Conference in Chicago, Illinois; The Housing Rights Summit at the California Endowment Center; and the Senior Rally Day in Sacramento, California.

The highlight of the year was the Older American Recognition Day (OARD) event on May 31, 2017, which was much larger this year, as one luncheon was held to recognize outstanding older adults from all five (5) Supervisorial Districts. Over 400 guests were hosted at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion Music Center to celebrate the many accomplishments of the 114 honorees.

My thanks and appreciation to my fellow Commissioners, the LACCOA Executive Board, and Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) staff for their support and encouragement this past year.

I feel confident that LACCOA is poised and positioned to accomplish even greater things this coming year.

Linda Yamauchi

Linda Yamauchi

2016-2017 LACCOA President

A MESSAGE FROM CYNTHIA D. BANKS, WDACS DIRECTOR



As the Director of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS), it is an honor to share with you the hard work that the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA) is doing to address the issues affecting the quality of life of the older adult population in Los Angeles County. The accomplishments in this Annual Report would not have been possible without the dedication and hard work of the LACCOA Commissioners.

LACCOA continued to be at the forefront in Los Angeles County with its purpose to promote the overall well-being of the older adult population living in Los Angeles County.

LACCOA should be applauded for its coordination of the Annual Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD) event on May 31, 2017. The 52nd Annual OARD event honored 114 older adults for their immeasurable contributions to the communities they live and work in. LACCOA, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, WDACS, local elected officials from 88 cities, and senior center directors from across Los Angeles County recognized each honoree for their unwavering effort to “Age Out Loud.”

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate LACCOA on its accomplishments during 2016-2017 and thank all Commissioners for providing advocacy to enhance the lives of all older adults in Los Angeles County.

Cynthia D. Banks

Cynthia D. Banks, Director
Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services

MISSION

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

To accomplish this mission, LACCOA:

- Assists Los Angeles County in preparing for expected growth within the older adult population.
- Networks and collaborates with other partners who are interested in and concerned regarding issues affecting older adults.
- Develops methods of communications which enhance and provide outreach and education to older adults in Los Angeles County.
- Advocates for the needs and well-being of older adults in Los Angeles County.

GOALS

- **Advises** the Board of Supervisors regarding needs of the older adult population in Los Angeles County.
- **Recognizes** outstanding voluntary efforts and community service by older adults living in Los Angeles County.
- **Enhances** the distribution of LACCOA information and findings to the community at large and to appropriate Los Angeles County Departments.
- **Maintains** efforts to assist the older adult population with information regarding transportation.

COMPOSITION

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

- More than 50 percent of older adults, including minority older adults who are participants or who are eligible to participate in Area Agency on Aging (AAA) programs;
- Representatives of older adults;
- 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.

2016-2017 LACCOA EXECUTIVE BOARD

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 elected 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. The Executive Board Meetings are held every third Monday of each month from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. If there is a holiday on Monday, the meetings are held on Tuesday.

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.



2016-2017 Executive Board: Charles Mitchell, Second Vice President; Kyo (Paul) Jhin, First Vice President; Linda Yamauchi, President; Diana Love, Fiscal Officer; and Arlene Okamoto, Secretary



VISION: Los Angeles County will be one of the best communities for older adults in the nation.

MISSION: The mission of Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA) shall be to advocate, advise, and make recommendations regarding the needs and welfare of Los Angeles County older adults 60 years of age and older, to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, departments of County government, and other entities that provide services to older adults regarding their needs, health, well-being, and rights.

LACCOA developed the following Strategies and Objectives to guide its efforts in realizing its vision and mission in the period July 2016 – June 2020.

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

Objective 1:

By August of each year (2016-2020), standing committees will be formed, chairpersons selected, and goals developed for the coming year. Committees will meet monthly as necessary.

Objective 2:

Additional committees may be formed, as needed, to address immediate issues, pressing issues, or long-term needs.

STRATEGY 2: Advise Area Agency on Aging (AAA) 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 Area Plan Updates each year (2016-2020).

Objective 1:

By July of each year (2016-2020), the Area Plan Committee will be formed to assist AAA staff at Public Hearings for input into the Area Plan Update.

Objective 2:

By January of each year (2017-2020), participate in Public Hearings for the Area Plan Update by encouraging attendance and community participation in the Public Hearings, attending and observing the hearings, and serving as Hearing Officers at the hearings as needed.

Objective 3:

Review the Area Plan Update each year (2017-2020).

STRATEGY 3: Advocate and increase awareness in the community regarding programs and services affecting older adults.

Objective 1:

The Speakers Bureau, composed of trained LACCOA Commissioners, will conduct presentations throughout Los Angeles County to increase the awareness of programs and services available to the older adult and disabled population.

Objective 2:

Develop a LACCOA video and make it available to the Speakers Bureau for use at their speaking engagements.

Objective 3:

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

Objective 4:

The Speakers Bureau will participate in speaking engagements that will cover all five (5) Supervisorial Districts.

Objective 5:

Develop a flyer that provides information regarding the Speakers Bureau for distribution throughout Los Angeles County.

STRATEGY 4: Celebrate and acknowledge the contributions that older adults make in their respective communities.

Objective 1:

Work with the Board of Supervisors and Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) to host annual events to celebrate and acknowledge the contributions that older adults make in their communities.

During FY 2016-2017, LACCOA Commissioners visited over 30 senior and community centers throughout Los Angeles County, wrote letters of support, and traveled to the State Capitol to advocate on behalf of older adults in Los Angeles County.

In August 2016, commissioners served as moderators for the Vaccination Workshop presented by Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) staff. The workshop was presented to over 150 seniors at seven (7) senior centers: Montebello Senior Center, Potrero Heights, Triangle Square, Downey Community Senior Center, Antelope Valley Senior Center, Las Palmas Park, and East Rancho Dominguez Service Center. Commissioners also used their time visiting senior and community seniors to outreach and advocate by participating in town hall meetings, meeting with representatives from their local Supervisorial Districts, and the Board of Supervisors office.

In March 2017, LACCOA wrote a letter opposing the decision of Governor Jerry Brown to eliminate the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI) and In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Maintenance of Effort (MOE). Eliminating these programs would mean that Los Angeles County will incur an additional cost of \$220 million for FY 2017-18. LACCOA believes these cuts from the state budget and moving the costs to Los Angeles County is an unjust action that will negatively impact the lives of older adults in Los Angeles County.

In March 2017, 200 elderly residents residing at 947 South Tiverton Avenue in Westwood, California were facing eviction as a result of the purchase of the property where they reside. In collaboration with WDACS staff, LACCOA drafted a letter expressing how the loss of housing would adversely affect the health and welfare of the older adult residents given the scarcity of suitable replacement housing available in Los Angeles County. The letter of support was sent to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, the Director of City Planning for the City of Los Angeles, and Los Angeles City Attorney Mike Feuer.

On May 11, 2017, the Commission participated in Senior Rally Day in Sacramento, California. Senior Rally Day attracted over 500 seniors and advocates from around California. The aging community, advocates, and supporters converged at the State Capitol to urge the State Legislature to maintain adequate services and lobby for the rights of older adults in California.

Each year during the month of June, the California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) seeks to bring awareness to elder and dependent adult abuse by launching a month-long education and resource campaign. In June 2017, LACCOA sent letters to each Los Angeles County Senior Center Director requesting their support and participation in educating Californians regarding how to recognize different types of abuse and how to report abuse to the appropriate local Adult Protective Services (APS) agency.

In June 2017, LACCOA and its Commissioners wrote a letter to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors (BOS) urging them to amend their approval of the 2016 Homeless Initiative (HI). Of the 47 Strategies included in the HI to combat homelessness, none include age specific strategies for the near elderly or elderly population, which makes up 24% of Los Angeles County's homeless population. In order to determine the impact of the HI on Los Angeles County's elderly and near elderly homeless population, outcome data is necessary. Therefore, LACCOA requested that the HI include an age specific strategy to target individuals 55 years of age and older.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS

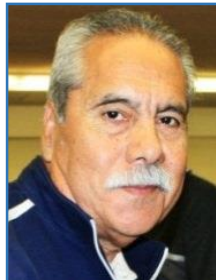
First Supervisorial District



Ruth Gonzales



Angelina Jauregui



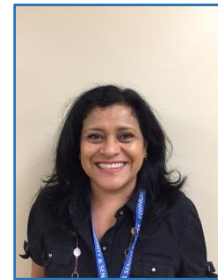
Robert Jimenez



Denise Menchaca



Helen
Romero-Shaw



Elvia Torres



Charles Treviño

Second Supervisorial District



Estella
Beaver-Thomas



Marva C. Bell



Alice Craft



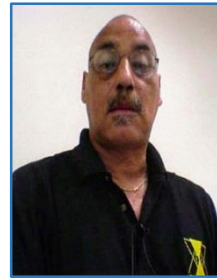
Ron Jackson



Charles Mitchell



Lonnie McNamee



Michael Neely



Elizabeth Payne



Arvis Spriggs



Lavada Theus



Richard Wolfe



MEET THE COMMISSIONERS

Third Supervisorial District



Robert Boller



Oleeta Igar



Kyo (Paul) Jhin



Peter Mezza



Anna Swett



Sheila Moore

Fourth Supervisorial District



Jerry Gaines



Raymond Hall



Carmen Reyes



Julia Rosenberg



Mary Alice
Sedillo



Patricia Stanyo



Tanya Witt



Candace Yee

Fifth Supervisorial District



Margaret Belton



Diana Love



Peter McGrath



Gayle McKinney



Arlene Okamoto



Dancingwater
Taylor



Linda Yamauchi

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



ESTELLA BEAVER-THOMAS

Commissioner Estella "ET" Beaver-Thomas has volunteered and is a member of the Congress of California Seniors, the California Senior Legislature, the California Association of Retired Americans, the Service Employees International Union 721 Senior Committee, and the City of Los Angeles Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Council. Commissioner Estella Beaver-Thomas joined LACCOA in May 2014.



MARGARET "MAGGIE" BELTON

Commissioner Margaret "Maggie" Belton is a retired Registered Nurse and Clinical Social Worker. She worked for the Personal Assistance Services Council from 2000-2005, and for St. Joseph's Hospital from 1975-1980. She is currently an In-Home Supportive Services Stakeholder Advisory Committee Member. Commissioner Margaret Belton joined LACCOA in December 2013.



ROBERT BOLLER

Commissioner Robert Boller is the Director of Project Angel Food, a non-profit organization that delivers food to residents of Los Angeles County that are unable to shop or cook for themselves. He is currently a member of Hunger Action Los Angeles (HALA). HALA works to end hunger and promotes healthy eating through advocacy, direct service, and organizing. Commissioner Robert Boller joined LACCOA in February 2016.



MARVA COOPER BELL

Commissioner Marva Cooper Bell is a retired Human Services Manager. Since retiring, Commissioner Bell with more than 35 years of experience provides human resource management support to non-profit organizations, universities, and corporations. She also spends time volunteering at Jenesse Center, a domestic violence intervention program. Commissioner Marva Cooper Bell joined LACCOA in March 2016.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



ALICE CRAFT

Commissioner Alice Craft is a retired Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Special Education Assistant, and has over 10 years of experience serving as a caregiver for older adults. She received numerous awards from organizations such as Boy Scouts of America, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, LAUSD, and Service Employees International Union. Commissioner Alice Craft joined LACCOA in March 2016.



JERRY GAINES

Commissioner Jerry Gaines is a U.S. Navy Veteran who retired from the Palos Verdes Peninsula Unified School District – Secondary Education. He was recognized as the Los Angeles County Teacher of the Year and awarded the U.S. Congress Award for serving as Chair of the Military Reuse Committee. Commissioner Jerry Gaines joined LACCOA in October 2015.



RUTH E. GONZALES

Commissioner Ruth Gonzales is a retired teacher, accounting clerk, and receptionist. In 2002, West Covina Elementary School recognized her as Teacher of the Year. The 58th Assembly District declared her Woman of the Year in 2012. Since her retirement in 2005, she volunteers at the South El Monte Senior Center's Bingo Night every Tuesday. Commissioner Ruth Gonzales joined LACCOA in September 2015.



RAYMOND HALL

Commissioner Raymond Hall is a U.S. Marine Corps Veteran who has extensive knowledge of the issues Veterans face and founded A Senior Salute, Inc. A Senior Salute was developed to recognize senior Veterans for their life service. He volunteers for the California Senior Legislature and the American Legion Post 109. Commissioner Raymond Hall joined LACCOA in October 2016.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



OLEETA IGAR

Commissioner Oleeta Igar has 21 years of experience working in Social Services. She currently works as a manager for Community Partnership, at the Personal Assistance Services Council (PASC). PASC is the public authority for In-Home Supportive Services in Los Angeles County. Commissioner Oleeta Igar joined LACCOA in July 2015.



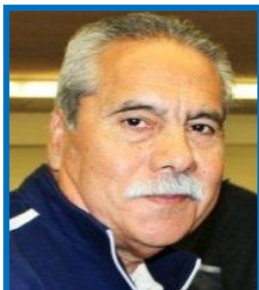
ANGELINA JAUREGUI

Commissioner Angelina Jauregui is a retired Information Systems Analyst for Los Angeles County. She is currently serving a third term as President of VIP Senior Club in Montebello, California. She spends time volunteering with the Lutheran Women Missionary League, where she was nominated National Chairman of the Heart to Heart Program. Commissioner Angelina Jauregui joined LACCOA in January 2016.



KYO (PAUL) JHIN, 1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Commissioner Paul Jhin retired from the U.S. Peace Corps in 2009, where he served as Director for the Office of Planning, Policy, and Analysis. He spends time volunteering with the California Postsecondary Education Commission and the Los Angeles County Citizen's Economic and Efficiency Commission. In 2015, he was the recipient of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor. He joined LACCOA in July 2014.



ROBERT JIMENEZ

Commissioner Robert Jimenez is a retired auto industry worker. He proudly served in the Vietnam War from 1965-1967. Commissioner Jimenez served as an Elected Official of the United States Workers Union, President of the Board of Directors for the Congress of California Seniors, and Area Counsel Vice President for the United Auto Workers Retirees Council. Commissioner Robert Jimenez joined LACCOA in January 2012.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



DIANA LOVE, FISCAL OFFICER

Commissioner Diana Love is a retired Field Representative for the California State Assembly. She currently serves as Board President for the House of Deliverance for Battered Women, an organization dedicated to alleviating domestic violence in Antelope Valley and the surrounding communities. In 2013, she was the recipient of the Outstanding Volunteer Service to Children Award from the Court Appointed Special Advocate for Children. She joined LACCOA in April 2015.



PETER MCGRATH

Commissioner Peter McGrath, Veteran of the United States Navy, is a retiree of the industrial industry. He spent many years as manager in sales and production. Commissioner McGrath is a member of the Burbank Board of Education, Burbank Noon Rotary, Burbank Housing Corporation, and the California Senior Legislature. The City of Burbank recognized his service to the community on several occasions. Commissioner Peter McGrath joined LACCOA in January 2016.



GAYLE MCKINNEY

Commissioner Gayle McKinney is a retired Medical Equipment Store Manager. She serves on the Board of the Alhambra Family Guidance Center, San Gabriel Valley YMCA, and the Alhambra Case Management Board. In 2015, she was honored by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and LACCOA, at the 50th Annual Older Americans Recognition Day Awards. Commissioner Gayle McKinney joined LACCOA in May 2015.



LONNIE MCNAMEE

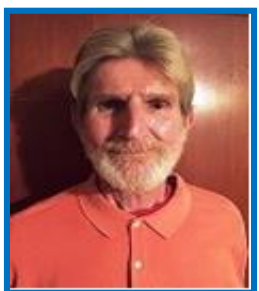
Commissioner Lonnie McNamee is a Veteran of the United States Military. He is the founding Pastor of Do Right Christian Church and cofounder of Life Worth Saving. Life Worth Saving is an organization that offers support and resources to women and their families. He is an advocate for older adults in the City of Inglewood. Commissioner Lonnie McNamee joined LACCOA in January 2016.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



DENISE MENCHACA

Commissioner Denise Menchaca is a retired Accountant and Tax Consultant. She currently serves as Director of the San Gabriel Kiwanis Club. Commissioner Menchaca is also an active member of the National Women's Political Caucus of the Greater Pasadena Area and the San Gabriel Women's Division. She was the recipient of the City of San Gabriel 2014 Woman of Distinction Award. Commissioner Denise Menchaca joined LACCOA in June 2015.



PETER MEZZA

Commissioner Peter Mezza is a retired Housing Authority Administrator for the City of Santa Monica. He worked over 25 years in Social Services and Community Corrections. Currently, Commissioner Mezza serves on the Board of Teen Line, an organization that focuses on adolescent suicide prevention. His academic studies earned him multiple degrees in Government, Urban Studies, and Public Administration. Commissioner Peter Mezza joined LACCOA in February 2016.



CHARLES MITCHELL, 2nd VICE PRESIDENT

Commissioner Charles Mitchell is a Veteran of the United States Marine Corps and a retired Microbiologist. He has 25 years of legislative experience. That experience led him to serve as Vice President of Legal and Public Affairs for Blue Cross and Blue Shield. He currently volunteers with the California Senior Legislature, AAA Council for the City of Los Angeles, and Veterans of West Los Angeles. He joined LACCOA in September 2014.



SHEILA MOORE

Commissioner Sheila Moore, Licensed Clinical Social Worker, is the Senior Director of Comprehensive Older Adult Services for Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles. She worked with older adults and their families facilitating support groups for caregivers for 30 years. She is an active public speaker, educator, and clinician. Commissioner Sheila Moore joined LACCOA in July 2016.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



ARLENE OKAMOTO, SECRETARY

Commissioner Arlene Okamoto is a retired Senior Services Coordinator for Methodist Hospital of Southern California. She served on the Board of Directors for the Red Cross, American Cancer Association, and Wellness Community Board. In support of her husband, she enjoys advocating on behalf of Veteran issues. Commissioner Arlene Okamoto joined LACCOA in July 2015.



ELIZABETH PAYNE

Commissioner Elizabeth Payne is a retired Activity Director for the City of Inglewood. She worked with older adults for over 40 years. She currently volunteers with the California Senior Legislature, the California Senior Leadership Alliance, and Relay for Life. Commissioner Elizabeth Payne joined LACCOA in March 2015.



CARMEN REYES

Commissioner Carmen Reyes currently works as Director of Community Relations and Outreach at the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA), David Geffen School of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics, Los Angeles Community Academic Partnership in Research in Aging (L.A. CAPRA). She serves as Commissioner on the State of California Commission on Aging, and is a member of the Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition (LAAAC). Commissioner Carmen Reyes joined LACCOA in April 2017.



JULIA ROSENBERG

Commissioner Julia Rosenberg is a retired Personnel Director. Her enthusiasm for advocating on behalf of older adults led her to become a Senior Assembly Member, Los Angeles County Commissioner, and Legislative Director of the Women's Club of California. Commissioner Julia Rosenberg joined LACCOA in June 2012.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



MARY ALICE SEDILLO

Commissioner Mary Alice Sedillo is a retired Real Estate Broker. She currently serves as Chair for the Long Beach Senior Citizens Advisory Commission and Treasurer of the Gray Panthers. Her memberships include California Alliance for Retired Americans, Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, and Congress of California Seniors. She joined LACCOA in November 2016.



HELEN ROMERO-SHAW

Commissioner Helen Romero-Shaw currently works as a Public Affairs Manager. She is a member of United Latino, Rosemead Chamber Board of Directors, Alhambra Chamber Board of Directors, and East Los Angeles College Foundation Board of Directors. She was awarded the Breaking Glass Ceiling Award by the Latina Golfers Association and the Women of Distinction Award given by Business Life Magazine. She joined LACCOA in June 2015.



ARVIS SPRIGGS

Commissioner Arvis Spriggs is a retired Operational Network Technician. She dedicates her time serving the older adults in Inglewood, California, rotating between four senior centers. Commissioner Spriggs is also a member of the City of Inglewood Senior Advisory Committee and Senior Project Advisory Council. In 2007 she received the Older American Recognition Day Award in recognition of her outstanding volunteer service. She joined LACCOA in January 2016.



PATRICIA STANYO

Commissioner Patricia Stanyo is a retired teacher. She served as Chairman for United Teachers of Los Angeles (UTLA) Harbor Area and Long Beach Gray Panthers. She also served as Vice President for the California Alliance of Retired Americans. She is a member of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party Committee and the California Democratic Party Executive Board. Commissioner Patricia Stanyo joined LACCOA in March 2015.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



ANNA SWETT

Commissioner Anna Swett is a retired Paralegal and Legal Secretary. For 34 years, she volunteered as a Peer Advocate with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health. She received recognition for her volunteer service from Los Angeles County Supervisor Michael Antonovich, 5th Supervisorial District, Senator Barbara Boxer, Mayor James Hahn, and Congresswoman Yvonne Burke. Commissioner Anna Swett joined LACCOA in September 2014.



LAVADA THEUS

Commissioner Lavada Theus is a retired school administrator. Her desire to assist in making the lives of older adults easier led her to volunteer with the California Senior Legislature, where she currently serves as Chairperson. She is also Co-chair of the 2nd Supervisorial District Senior Services Committee for Empowerment Congress. Commissioner Lavada Theus joined LACCOA in January 2017.



ELVIA TORRES

Commissioner Elvia Torres is a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist. Her organizational memberships include California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, Oversight Board Member for the City of La Puente, and Board Member of the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Programs Executives. In 2015, she was recognized as Woman of the Year by Assemblyman Roger Hernandez. Commissioner Elvia Torres joined LACCOA in March 2015.



CHARLES TREVIÑO

Commissioner Charles Treviño is a retired Public Affairs Representative, teacher for the Los Angeles Unified School District, Director for the Metropolitan Water District, and former Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Commission for the City of South Pasadena. He received multiple awards of recognition from the California State Legislature, State Board of Equalization, Los Angeles Board of Education, and the Los Angeles Board of Supervisors. He joined LACCOA in August 2014.

MEET THE COMMISSIONERS



TANYA WITT

Commissioner Tanya Witt, a retired vocalist, is the Manager of Residential Services at the Los Angeles LGBT Senior Services Center. She is Director of the One Voice Senior Chorale, member of the American Society on Aging, the Community Emergency Response Team for the City of Long Beach, and Committee Member for the 360 Women's Health Fair. Commissioner Tanya Witt joined LACCOA in April 2016.



RICHARD WOLFE

Commissioner Richard Wolfe is a retiree of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services/Health Facilities. He holds a PhD in Health Care Administration. Commissioner Wolfe was recognized for his service from the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging. Commissioner Richard Wolfe joined LACCOA in July 2014.



LINDA YAMAUCHI, PRESIDENT

Commissioner Linda Yamauchi is a retired Manager of Consumer Affairs, Southern California Edison Company. She is on the Executive Board of the Little Tokyo Service and Center of Asian Pacific American Women. President Yamauchi was the recipient of the LINK award from LACCOA, Asian Pacific American Leadership Institute Fellow, Greater Los Angeles YWCA Outstanding Woman, and County of Los Angeles Commission on Status of Women. She joined LACCOA in May 2012.



CANDACE YEE

Commissioner Candace Yee is a retired Special Education Home School Teacher. She was nominated Teacher of the Year for the Los Angeles Unified School District in 1984 and ABC Adult School Student of the Year in Tai Chi in 2014. She spent many years volunteering in classrooms and libraries throughout Los Angeles County. Commissioner Candace Yee joined LACCOA in August 2015.

Zelda P. Hutcherson



Sunset: January 21, 2017

After moving to Southern California in 1973 to care for her ailing mother and brother, Zelda Hutcherson developed a passion for advocacy. She began to seek out volunteer opportunities with organizations where she could advocate for older adult issues. She spent numerous years volunteering in the City of Lynwood. Zelda petitioned to have a senior center built in the city. She would be proud to know that in April 2017, the Lynwood Senior Center opened its doors to serve the community.

Zelda served as a member of the California Senior Legislature for 17 years. She also served 14 years on the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging Council, where she served two terms as Vice Chair and two terms as President. Her leadership was instrumental in the 2010 merger of the Los Angeles County Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council and the Los Angeles County Commission on Aging. The merger created the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults.

We honor Zelda Hutcherson for her efforts over the many years. She will truly be missed.

Area Plan Committee

The **Area Plan Committee** identified methods to increase participation and attendance at the Public Hearings based on the demographic representation within the communities where the Public Hearings were held. The committee encouraged Commissioners to participate in the Public Hearings by being Hearing Officers. The committee worked closely with Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) staff to ensure that locations selected to host future Public Hearings will increase diversity and participation.

Committee Chair: Robert Boller

Committee Members: Kyo (Paul) Jhin, Denise Menchaca, Arlene Okamoto, Elvia Torres, and Candace Yee

Communications Committee

The **Communications Committee** discussed ways of improving attendance at this year's Public Hearings, as well as worked closely with the Area Plan Committee to develop flyers. The committee also revised the narrative of the Speakers Bureau presentation and updated the LACCOA brochure.

Committee Chair: Angelina Jauregui

Committee Members: Diana Love and Linda Yamauchi

Health, Nutrition, and Long-Term Care Committee

The **Health, Nutrition, and Long-Term Care Committee** took the lead in developing and implementing an ongoing Fall Prevention program at four (4) senior centers in Los Angeles County. The committee also provided LACCOA with Fall Prevention flyers and articles for Fall Prevention Month in September 2016, as well as flyers and handout materials for National Nutrition Month in March 2017.

Committee Chair: Tanya Witt

Committee Members: Ruth Gonzales, Arvis Spriggs, Anna Swett, and Richard Wolfe

Housing and Transportation Committee

The **Housing and Transportation Committee** took the lead in preparing a letter of support for approximately 150 elderly residents evicted from their homes in Westwood, California. The letter was sent to Councilmember Paul Koretz, City of Los Angeles; Director Vince Bertoni, City of Los Angeles Planning Department; and Attorney Mike Feuer, City of Los Angeles.

The committee also took the liberty of taking an in-depth analysis of the 2016 Homeless Count. The results of their analysis showed that the elderly make up nearly 24% of the County's 47,000 homeless population.

Committee Chair: Gayle McKinney

Committee Members: Alice Craft, Ron Jackson, Robert Jimenez, and Peter Mezza

Legislative and Advocacy Committee

The **Legislative and Advocacy Committee** set out to identify and monitor bills and legislative proposals that align with the goals and mission of LACCOA and Los Angeles County. The committee was instrumental in providing LACCOA Commissioners with the contact information for their local elected officials. They also attended local town hall Meetings and met with staff from the Board of Supervisors to discuss service needs for older adults in Los Angeles County. The committee worked closely with the Housing and Transportation Committee to prepare a letter of support for the elderly residents who were evicted from their homes in Westwood, California.

Committee Chair: Jerry Gaines

Committee Members: Marva Bell, Carmen Reyes, Helen Romero-Shaw, Mary Alice Sedillo, Patricia Stanyo, Dancingwater Taylor, and Lavada Theus

Membership Committee

The **Membership Committee** welcomed nine (9) new Commissioners in FY 2016-2017: Raymond Hall, Sheila Moore, Michael Neely, Carmen Reyes, Mary Alice Sedillo, Lavada Theus, Tanya Witt, Candace Yee, and Sylvia Gonzales Youngblood. The committee successfully completed the updated LACCOA membership application. At the recommendation of the Membership Committee, the first ever Emeritus status honor was awarded to Commissioner Bernard Weintraub. The committee continually monitors the attendance records of all members to ensure they meet the attendance requirements as stated in the LACCOA Bylaws.

Committee Chair: Charles Treviño

Committee Members: Margaret Belton, Oleeta Igar, Peter McGrath, Lonnie McNamee, Charles Mitchell, and Elizabeth Payne

COMMISSIONER SPOTLIGHT



Kyo (Paul) Jhin

On April 12, 2017, Commissioner Kyo (Paul) Jhin was awarded the Outstanding Alumni Award by the Auburn University College of Education. The award is presented annually to graduates of the college who have made outstanding contributions to their profession or the college.

Congratulations to Commissioner Kyo (Paul) Jhin!

COMMISSIONERS IN ACTION

This past year LACCOA Commissioners participated in local and out-of-state conferences and summits.

Date	Conference/Summit	Location
July 25-28, 2016	National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) Conference	San Diego, California
September 15-16, 2016	University of Southern California Judith D. Tamkin Symposium on Elder Abuse	Los Angeles, California
November 15-17, 2016	California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A) Conference	Los Angeles, California
February 16, 2017	LA's First Technology and Aging Conference	Los Angeles, California
March 20-24, 2017	Annual Conference of the American Society on Aging (ASA) Conference	Chicago, Illinois
April 12, 2017	Los Angeles' First Annual Older Adult Summit	Los Angeles, California
April 20, 2017	18 th Annual Housing Rights Summit	Los Angeles, California
April 22, 2017	Conference on Healthy Aging	Pasadena, California
May 11, 2017	Senior Rally Day	Sacramento, California
May 25, 2017	15 th Annual Leadership Conference	Los Angeles, California
May 31, 2017	52 nd Annual Older Adult Recognition Day (OARD) Event	Los Angeles, California
June 2, 2017	8 th Annual Los Angeles Aging Advocacy Coalition (LAAAC) Summit on Aging	Los Angeles, California

LOS ANGELES' FIRST ANNUAL OLDER ADULT SUMMIT

Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) joined the Los Angeles City Department of Aging and AARP to host the First Annual Older Adult Summit on April 12, 2017, at the Cathedral of Our Lady of Angels in Los Angeles, California. This summit was a collaborative effort of stakeholders from the aging and long-term care communities and was co-sponsored by Purposeful Aging, County of Los Angeles, City of Los Angeles, City of Los Angeles Department of Aging, and AARP. The diversity of participation and strong support among the aging and social network made this an exciting event. The summit was attended by over 400 older adults from Los Angeles County.

LACCOA Commissioners played a vital role in the success of the summit by greeting and assisting attendees at the registration table, moderating workshops, directing attendees to vendor booths, and assisting WDACS staff with distributing and collecting evaluations.



From left to right: Commissioner Raymond Hall, Commissioner Diana Love, Commissioner Lavada Theus, Commissioner Peter McGrath, President Linda Yamauchi, Commissioner Tanya Witt, Commissioner Jerry Gaines, Commissioner Candace Yee, and Commissioner Robert Boller

52ND ANNUAL OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION DAY

Each year in the month of May, the Administration for Community Living (ACL) leads the nation's celebration of Older Americans Month. The theme for 2017 was "Age Out Loud." This year's theme highlights the shift in what it means to age. More than ever before, older adults are living longer, working longer, being active, striving for independence, and advocating for themselves and others. Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA), the Board of Supervisors, and Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) hosted the 52nd Annual Older Americans Recognition Day (OARD) event on May 31, 2017. The 52nd Annual OARD event honored 114 older adults for their volunteer efforts and positive impact in the cities and communities they live in.



Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, First District

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



AGE OUT LOUD: MAY 2017

52ND ANNUAL OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION DAY



Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director



Commissioner Tanya Witt singing the National Anthem

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



AGE OUT LOUD: MAY 2017



Linda Yamauchi, LACCOA President; Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, First District; Sharon Rowe, First District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director



Linda Yamauchi, LACCOA President; Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, First District; James Sinnema, First District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director

52ND ANNUAL OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION DAY



Deputy Emily Williams, Second District; Juanita Miller, Second District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director



Deputy Emily Williams, Second District; Letha J. Kemper, Second District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



AGE OUT LOUD: MAY 2017



Deputy Genethia Hudley-Hayes, Third District; Mark S. Kaiserman, Third District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director



Deputy Genethia Hudley-Hayes, Third District; Elia and Carl Lindgron, Third District Honorees; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director

52ND ANNUAL OLDER AMERICANS RECOGNITION DAY



Nick Ippolito, Chief of Staff, Fourth District; Dave Vanoski, Fourth District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director; Linda Yamauchi, LACCOA President



Nick Ippolito, Chief of Staff, Fourth District; Waleen Robinson, Fourth District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director; Linda Yamauchi, LACCOA President

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH



AGE OUT LOUD: MAY 2017



Deputy Michelle Vega, Fifth District; Helen Redmond, Fifth District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director



Deputy Michelle Vega, Fifth District; Fred Feldheim, Fifth District Honoree; Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR 2017-2018



From left to right: Cynthia D. Banks, WDACS Director and Deputy Stephanie Cohen, Third Supervisorial District 2017-2018 Executive Board Members: Commissioner Kyo (Paul) Jhin, First Vice President; Commissioner Diana Love, President; Commissioner Charles Mitchell, Second Vice President; Commissioner Arlene Okamoto, Secretary; Commissioner Helen Romero-Shaw, Fiscal Officer; Commissioner Linda Yamauchi, Past President

On May 1, 2017, the Los Angeles County Commission for Older Adults (LACCOA) General Board members voted to elect the 2017-2018 Executive Board. On June 5, 2017, the new Executive Board was sworn in to office by Deputy Stephanie Cohen from the office of Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Third District. The 2017-2018 Executive Board will serve from July 1, 2017, until June 30, 2018.



CREDITS

Board of Supervisors.....	Hilda L. Solis, First District Mark Ridley-Thomas, Second District Sheila Kuehl, Third District Janice Hahn, Fourth District Kathryn Barger, Fifth District
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