



Los Angeles County

Commission on Human Relations

1184 Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, California, 90012

(213) 974-7611

HUMAN RELATIONS RESOURCES FOR SCHOOLS

LOS ANGELES COUNTY COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS (LACCHR)

320 West Temple Street, Suite 1184, Los Angeles, CA 90012 **website:** lahumanrelations.org

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Email: rmatsuda@hrc.co.la.ca.us; Mary Louise Longoria, Teacher Training Coordinator: (213)

974-7621 Email: molongori@hrc.co.la.ca.us

The Commission has been working to combat hate crimes, avert intergroup tensions and increase respect for diversity for over 60 years. The Commission's **Youth Initiative** includes:

- Zerohour Anti-Discrimination Campaign
 - **Public Service Announcements with Lesson Plans** that engage youth in questioning, and taking action against, discriminatory attitudes and behaviors.
 - **Website** that educates young people about different forms of discrimination and provides opportunities for them to get involved in local programs to eradicate bias and discrimination within themselves and among their peers. See, LAHumanrelations.org.
 - **Anti-Discrimination "Wild Postings" and Bus Bench Ads** that are posted around school communities.
 - **Posters, Pens, Pins** and other youth friendly materials that convey anti-discriminatory messages to youth.
 - **Campus Action Teams (CATs)**: The Commission works with schools to set up human relations student groups that train and empower students themselves to conduct campus environment on campus in which students and adults respect the identities and diversity of all members of the school population. **CATs** can be existing student clubs that wish to incorporate respect for diversity as part of their mission. To set up a **CAT** on your campus, please contact Riku Matsuda: (213) 974-7622.
- **Youth Advisory Council Team (Youth ACT)**: This program brings together young people from throughout L.A. County who are committed to playing a leadership role in creating multicultural, inter-religious Los Angeles where people's different identities are accepted and respected. Members engage in workshops that deepen their understanding of bias, inequities, and differences as well as advise the Commission on its youth programs and policies.
- **Teacher Trainings**: The Commission has partnered with such organizations as Facing History and Ourselves (see below) to conduct trainings for teachers that provide them with vital skills in facilitating, within the context of standards-based history and social science curricula, dialogue on differences and similarities between different identity groups thereby

promoting respect, tolerance and acceptance among students. If you are interested in being added to our mailing list for our next Teacher Training, please contact Mary Louise Longoria: (213) 974-7621, mlongori@hrc.co.la.ca.us; or Riku Matsuda: (213) 974-7622, rmatsuda@hrc.co.la.ca.us.

- **School Intergroup Conflict Initiative (SICI)** seeks to create positive learning environments for students and their educators by reducing violence and conflict associated with intergroup tensions. SICI intervenes in the initial school crisis and works for lasting systematic change by building the human relations capacity of schools through the development of community collaboratives with school administrators, teachers, parents, students, law enforcement, and dispute resolution services. Please contact SICI coordinator Gustavo Guerra for more information: (213) 974-7626 or gguerra@hrc.co.la.ca.us.

The Commission supports and collaborates, both formally and informally, with a host of local organizations that provide valuable programs for students, administrators, teachers and parents that can help create a more respectful, learning conducive school campus:

ANTI-BULLYING CAMPAIGN

***NO NAME-CALLING WEEK 2005**

During the week of January 24-28, 2005, hundreds of middle schools from across the country took part in the second annual week of educational activities aimed at ending name-calling and verbal bullying of all kinds. The project is organized by the No Name-Calling Week coalition, created by GLSEN and Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, and consisting of over 40 national partner organizations. According to participant surveys from the 2004 No Name-Calling Week, an overwhelming majority of participants in No Name-Calling Week noticed a significant decrease in the amount of bullying and harassment after taking part in the activities. Educators can purchase a resource guide with lesson plans, a video for classroom use and other promotional materials to assist in facilitating the week's activities. The materials are primarily aimed at middle school students but may be modified for older students. For more information, please visit www.nonamecallingweek.org.

ANTI-DEFAMATION LEAGUE (ADL)

10495 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025-5031
(310) 446-8000, Email: los-angeles@adl.org, www.adl.org.

The Anti-Defamation League (ADL) is a national civil rights and human relations organization dedicated to fighting hatred, prejudice, and bigotry. Their "A World of Difference" and "Stop the Hate" programs help school administrators, teachers, parents, and students break the cycle of bias, hatred, distrust and violence by fostering skills and strategies to combat bias and create a respectful learning community. Each of the trainings listed below accommodates 10-50 participants and are either half-day (2-4 hours), costing approximately \$ 1,000.00, or full-day, costing approximately \$1,500.00. Contact agency for exact costs.

*** A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE: PEER TRAINING** is a program of the "A World of Difference Institute" and addresses diversity issues in pre-kindergarten through 12th grade school communities focusing on anti-bias curriculum. In Peer Training, students learn how to work with their peers, distinguish personal freedom and develop leadership skills. High school students selected from among the school's formal and informal leaders are trained by experienced facilitators in collaboration with a school-based coordinator.

*** A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE: STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARENESS WORKSHOP** aims to create awareness of diversity issues among youth. Students engage in activities that allow them to examine themselves, the environment they live in, and how both are affected by prejudice and discrimination. Programs and materials are also available in Spanish.

* A CLASSROOM OF DIFFERENCE: PARENT AND COMMUNITY EDUCATION is a half day-workshop in which participants gain a better understanding of prejudice, discrimination and the harms they inflict upon individuals and communities. Participants take personal responsibility for combating prejudice and discrimination and acquire strategies to combat it. This program and its materials are also available in Spanish.

* A CAMPUS OF DIFFERENCE helps college administrators, faculty members and students learn to examine stereotypes, expand cultural awareness, explore the value of diversity and combat racism and all forms of bigotry. The program is designed by human relations specialists with professional experience on college and university campuses. It prepares students, often from homogeneous schools and communities, for living together with people of the opposite sex, other races, ethnic groups, religions and sexual orientation.

* STOP THE HATE is a comprehensive, multi-pronged program designed to combat hate-motivated acts in schools and communities. The program informs administrators of the danger of stereotyping and provides strategies with which parents and the community may address hate incidents. It trains teachers to effectively respond to instances of prejudice and discrimination. Lastly, it prepares students confronting prejudice daily to become leaders who can actively spread the campaign to their own friends and peers.

* RESOURCES FOR THE CLASSROOM AND COMMUNITY CATALOG features award-winning books, videos, curriculum guides, posters and magazines used in thousands of classrooms, communities, organizations and corporations across the nation. The catalogue can be ordered via phone or through the web: www.adl.org

THE ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN LEGAL CENTER

1145 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90017

(213) 977-7500; Fax (213) 977-7545

Contact Aileen Almeria: aalmeria@apalc.org or alouie@apalc.org

www.apalc.org

*LEADERSHIP IN INTERETHNIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (LDIR) is a leadership development training program in which up to 35 students meet regularly on campus to gain skills and working opportunities to proactively address race relations issues and develop long-term human relations plans on campus. LDIR also trains high schools that wish to establish an on-going LDIR class for youth as school personnel works to develop long-term human relations plans on campus.

HATE CRIME VICTIM ASSISTANCE. APALC provides direct victim assistance to those affected by hate violence; provides trainings for law enforcement, service providers or community members on identifying bias, discrimination or hate crimes in different settings; and provides community outreach materials in over 15 languages on these topics.

ENCOMPASS

517 S. Myrtle Ave. # 200

Monrovia, CA 91016

(626) 358-3442

Contact Lori Nelson, Executive Director

Jenna M. Delgado, Arts Program Manager

www.encompass.org; email: lorinelson@encompass.org

A new youth development organization, with a particular emphasis on inclusion and respect for differences. Encompass offers "compassion plays" to high schools as a means of introducing current topics in human relations. Each program consists of one 35 minute theatrical presentation, acted by talented equity actors, a 45 minute post-show discussion, facilitated by some of the most skillful facilitators on issues of race and difference in Los Angeles, and curriculum materials that may be used by teachers to increase student understanding of the topic addressed in the play. Each 90 minute program accommodates up to 100 students and costs \$450.00. Currently, three programs are available:

- "KICK" explores discrimination through a personally moving story about the use of Native American mascots in schools;
- "WHEELS" explores the plight of a student immigrant obtaining a coveted driver's license; and
- "HORIZON LINE" is a personal story exploring how white supremacists recruit members.

FACING HISTORY AND OURSELVES, LOS ANGELES REGION

1276 East Colorado Blvd., Ste 207, Pasadena, CA 91106

Contact Dan Alba, Director: (626) 744-1177 Ext. 24

info_losangeles@facing.org; www.facing.org

A national educational and professional development organization, whose mission is to engage teachers and students of diverse backgrounds in an examination of racism and prejudice, in order to promote the development of a more humane and informed citizenry.

For History and Social Science Educators there are WEEKLONG PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTES train teachers to educate students in historical development and lessons of collective violence thereby helping students make essential connections between history and the moral choices they confront in their own lives in ways that encourage critical thinking and moral behavior. These institutes cater to teachers who understand that their student's academic and emotional growth depends to a large degree on their own commitment to growth and learning. Professional development for educators includes individualized follow-up support and classroom resources. In addition, the organization engages in research and development of new curricular materials and enhanced technology. The professional development institute has recently become available in an interactive, online format for educators everywhere in the United States. For more information and the online application, go to <http://www.facinghistory.org/spring05registration>.

FRINGE BENEFITS

530 N. West Knoll Drive, Suite 1, Los Angeles, CA 90048

(310) 657-8149 or (310) 657-8149, ext. 51

Fringe Benefits is a coalition of theatre activists dedicated to building bridges between LGBT youth and their straight peers, teachers and families. Their age-appropriate plays provide early hate crime prevention, and have been performed and acclaimed at elementary and middle schools throughout California and nationwide. Programs support the Theater for Social Justice, creating plays that link civil rights history with present-day realities and performing those plays at schools throughout Southern California.

Fringe Benefits produced Cootie Shots: Theatrical Inoculations Against Bigotry for Kids, Parents and Teachers is a unique collection of plays, songs and poems for K-6 audiences. Cootie Shots provides a fun and constructive way to promote tolerance and celebrate diversity by presenting role models of many different races, cultures, genders, sexual identities, abilities, religions and appearances. Editors Norma Bowles and Mark E. Rosenthal, the founders of Fringe Benefits, spent two years collaborating with more than 500 elementary school teachers, parents, therapists, administrators, theater artists, visual artists and youth to create the richly illustrated

paperback. Cootie Shots contains 50 pieces lasting 2 to 15 minutes, which may be used in the classroom. The book can be ordered from Theatre Communications Group by calling (212) 697-5230 or visiting the online bookstore at www.tcg.org.

LOS ANGELES CITY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION

200 N. Spring Street, Room 1625, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Contact: Arturo Pina, Deputy Field Director

(213) 978-1660 Fax: (213) 978-1668 www.ci.la.ca.us/hra

Founded in the wake of the Watts Riots of 1965, the Human Relations Commission confronts and surmounts the causes of group conflict in the City of Los Angeles. The Commission's work is proactive and ongoing. Our Field Team monitors the status of inter-group relations in the City's Departments and Neighborhoods, and the Commission advises the Mayor and the City Council on all items that may or may not adversely affect the ability of people to live and work together in harmony in the City. In some neighborhoods, tensions between adults simmer just beneath the surface, only to find expression in open conflict between ethnically divided students in the City's **Middle and High Schools**. Requests for the HRC to mitigate inter-group conflicts on campuses are on the rise, as changing demographics have created a need for Field Team members to facilitate proactive discussions between students, parents, administrators, instructors and community stakeholders at several city schools. **Current Youth-Related Projects:**

- The City HRC partners with the County HRC to offer crises response to schools with intergroup conflict, providing crises mediation, crises assessments and long term programs to promote safe inclusive learning environments.
- Field Team member and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Specialist Victoria Minetta has been successful in advancing the City's and the Commission's policy of understanding and acceptance in this area, particularly in the City schools. This year she co-chaired the LGBT Advisory Council to the LAUSD School Board. There she oversaw the design and publication of a Transgender School Policy Guide, monitored AB537 training in all high and middle schools, and formed focus groups to better gauge LGBT students sense of safety and to teach them how to assert their rights as students. She was also instrumental in the publication of a new book, "Transforming a Nation" written by an African American Lesbian.
- The HRC worked with the Mayor's Office to develop a dynamic gang prevention summit. Convened on June 17, 2005, the conference was attended by well over 300 people representing law enforcement, the City and Neighborhood Councils, community activists and social service personnel. The City HRC is currently seeking opportunities to collaborate with others on similar human relations-themed events.

MUSEUM OF TOLERANCE

9786 W. Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA,

(310) 553-8403

www.museumoftolerance.org

The only museum of its kind in the world, the Museum of Tolerance is the educational arm of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, an internationally renowned human rights organization dedicated to preserving the memory of the Holocaust and to fostering tolerance through community involvement, educational outreach and social action. A key program of the museum is ToleranCenter which includes exhibits as:

- New Face of Hate which exposes how today's hate mongers target their enemies and recruit new followers.
- Confronting Hate in America. Reveals the human cost of hate and bigotry for families, communities and the nation.
- Civil Rights. Highlights the American Civil Rights Movement and the work of the Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. through historical film footage.
- 20th Century Crimes Against Humanity. Summarizes events and impacts of major genocides of the past century, including the Armenian Genocide.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR COMMUNITY AND JUSTICE-SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

444 West Ocean Blvd, Suite 940, Long Beach, CA 90802

Contact Margaux Kohut, Executive Director: (562) 435-8184

Email: longbeach@nccj.org; www.nccjlongbeach.org

The NCCJ works to fight bias, bigotry and racism through their award-winning programs that are models for addressing sensitive and potentially volatile bias-related issues in a non-violent manner. Some programs of interest to educators are:

- HUMAN RELATIONS RETREATS FOR STUDENTS: For over 50 years, NCCJ has offered an excellent weeklong camp each summer called the Building Bridges Camp where young people from throughout Los Angeles County come together to engage in experiential learning activities and dialogue sessions designed to increase their understanding of human relations issues and their own responsibility in creating multicultural, interracial, inter-religious communities. Please contact NCCJ if you would like to send a young person to this program. The cost is about \$350 per student. Many young people who have experienced this program have emerged diversity and equity leaders on their school campuses and in their larger community.
- DIVERSITY AT WORK FOR EDUCATORS TRAINING: Teachers, administrators and school staff engage in experiential exercises to examine how bias and stereotypes affect their effectiveness as educators in a diverse community. Designed to improve educators' skills and awareness so that improved student achievement, reduced violence and increased feelings of connectedness to the school, can be achieved.
- TALKING IN CLASS: This human relations multi-week program, offered in a class setting provides a safe avenue for youth to discuss differences, similarities and provides opportunities for youth to bond and work toward positive human relations on their campuses.
- HUMAN RELATIONS EDUCATION AND FACILITATOR TRAINING: Train-the-trainer program for youth leaders, educators and community leaders to become facilitators and advocates among their peers. Participants gain practical group facilitation skills as well as in-depth discussion on human relations.
- COMMUNITY AS ONE: Parents, law enforcement, city leadership, faith leaders and neighborhood leaders come together for three sessions to address community problems and increase mutual understanding through guided dialogues and action planning.

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER'S (SPLC) "MIX IT UP" PROGRAM

400 Washington Avenue, Montgomery, AL 36104
(334) 956-8200 www.splcenter.org

SPLC is a nonprofit organization that combats hate, intolerance and discrimination through education and litigation. Programs include:

* MIX IT UP is an annual day in which millions of students at thousands of schools across the country meet someone new in their lunchroom and begin breaking down social boundaries in their schools. The Mix It Up program follows up the Mix It Up at Lunch Day with dialogue groups and a grants program designed to help youth activists change their communities. In 2003, more than 2 million students at almost 7,000 schools swapped seats in their cafeterias and lunch areas, stepped out of their comfort zones and connected with new people. This program comes in response to a national student poll that revealed that 70% of students named the cafeteria as the place where social boundaries are most clearly drawn at school. Mix It Up Grants provide up to \$500 for youth-directed projects aimed at addressing school climate and boundaries. Students wanting to participate in Mix It Up at Lunch Day can check out frequently asked questions on the website listed above and download free posters, stickers, and T-shirt iron-ons.

* In addition to Mix it Up, SPLC offers TEACHING TOLERANCE, a national education project dedicated to helping teachers foster equity, respect and understanding in the classroom and beyond. Teaching Tolerance serves as a clearinghouse of information about anti-bias programs and activities being implemented in schools across the country: www.teachingtolerance.org.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, COMMUNITY RELATIONS SERVICES

Western Regional Office (Region IX) (AZ, CA, GU, HI, NV)

Community Relations Service, 888 S. Figueroa Street, #1880, Los Angeles, CA 90017
Contact: Ron Wakabayashi, Region IX Director
(213) 894-2941; Fax: (213) 894-2880, www.usdoj.gov/crs/.

The Community Relations Service is the Department's "peacemaker" for community conflicts and tensions arising from differences of race, color, and national origin. Created by the Civil Rights Act of 1964, CRS is the only Federal agency dedicated to assist State and local units of government, private and public organizations, and community groups with preventing and resolving racial and ethnic tensions, incidents, and civil disorders, and in restoring racial stability and harmony. CRS facilitates the development of viable, mutual understandings and agreements as alternatives to coercion, violence, or litigation. It also assists communities in developing local mechanisms, conducting training, and other proactive measures to prevent or reduce racial/ethnic tension. CRS does not take sides among disputing parties and, in promoting the principles and ideals of non-discrimination, applies skills that allow parties to come to their own agreement. In performing this mission, CRS deploys highly skilled professional conciliators, who are able to assist people of diverse racial and cultural backgrounds. For more than 35 years, CRS has worked with schools across the nation. Many school systems have experienced major demographic changes. At times, tensions and disruptions will accompany the process of inclusion and assimilation. CRS has helped schools to build strategies to improve lines of communication, establish programs to eliminate racial and ethnic misconceptions, and develop plans to prevent conflict and improve intergroup relations among students, faculty, staff, parents and community groups. Student Problem Identification and Resolution of Issues Together (SPRIRIT) is one such CRS program. SPIRIT brings students, administrators, teachers, and parents together to identify issues, develop solutions, and take action on conflicts within their schools.

PEER MEDIATION & CONFLICT RESOLUTION

ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN DISPUTE RESOLUTION CENTER (APADRC)

1145 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 100, Los Angeles, CA 90017

Contact Charles Chang, Executive Director

(213) 250-8190 or charles.chang@apadrc.org.

APADRC works improve human and race relations in Greater Los Angeles by addressing complex, cross-cultural community conflicts and their root causes in collaboration with community partners through education, training, and development of new models. Some program they offer of interest to schools and educators include:

- **YOUTH MEDIATORS UNITED (YMU)**, a youth-based peer mediation/conflict management program that trains, for class credit, student peer mediators, and establishes a long-term peer mediation program on campus that is part of the school's disciplinary system. APADRC piloted this peer mediation program at Foshay Learning Center and has since grown the program to other local middle and high schools in Los Angeles County, including Camino Nuevo Charter Academy, King Drew Medical Magnet High School, and Le Conte Middle School. Some of the services that YMU provides are: Training for students, staff, and teachers in the areas of peer mediation, conflict management, and cross cultural competency; ongoing technical assistance after a peer mediation program has been established; and opportunities for youth mediators to utilize their mediation skills in conferences, trainings, and speaking engagements. Contact Charles Chang to explore the possibility of establishing this program at your school.

L.A. COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION DISPUTE RESOLUTION SERVICES, INC. (DRS)

261 S. Figueroa St. Suite 310 Los Angeles, CA 90012

(213) 896-6533, drs@lacba.org; www.lacba.org.

DRS Youth Services provides conflict resolution, bias awareness and violence prevention training services that assist youth and their families in finding peaceful and collaborative methods of resolving disputes. Youth Services offers four programs: (1) student peer mediation; (2) cooperative conflict resolution curriculum; (3) parent education seminars; and (4) teacher and faculty training.

LOYOLA LAW SCHOOL CENTER FOR CONFLICT RESOLUTION

919 Albany St. Los Angeles, CA 90015-1211.

(213) 736-1000; Fax: (213) 380-3769

The Conflict Resolution Center: (213) 736-1145, Email: info@lls.edu.

The Loyola Law School Center for Conflict Resolution provides mediation, conciliation and facilitation services, and conflict resolution training to the communities throughout Los Angeles County (particularly those adjacent to the Law School), and to students, faculty and staff at Loyola. These services are provided in English, Spanish and Armenian. The Center's services are confidential.

The Disability Mediation Center (DMC) is an on-campus community-based mediation program serving persons with disabilities or those whose conflicts involve persons with disabilities. The DMC accepts all types of cases, many of which involve allegations of disability discrimination. Cases mediated at the DMC are frequently complex multi-party disputes referred by outside agencies, including the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the United States Department of Justice and the courts, as well as those that are community or self referrals.

WESTERN JUSTICE CENTER

55 South Grand Ave., Pasadena, CA 91105

(626) 584-7494, Fax: (626) 568-8223

E-mail: info@westernjustice.org; www.westernjustice.org

The mission of the WJC is: Working with Children, Communities, Schools, Governments and Courts to assure peaceful conflict resolution and improve access to justice. WJCF develops its mission through a strategic mix of activity that blends provision of direct services with advocacy, education, research and public policy development. Programs include:

- Children's Workshop, an interactive learning environment where elementary school children can safely investigate and master their responses to conflict. Features the animated character, Ouch the Egg. WJCF will host 200-300 students in the 2005 year. Please contact WJCF directly for further information on workshops and field trips. WJCF partnered with design matters of the Arts Center College of Design to develop toys for children based on the Workshop in 2004.
- Peer Mediation Invitational, an annual event involving teams of children and youth from schools throughout LA County. WJCF hosted 130 students from over 30 schools in November 2004, with representatives of major law firms and corporations coaching children through conflict resolution scenarios. WJCF partnered with Asian Pacific American Dispute Resolution Center, Centinela Youth Services, Dispute Resolution Services of the Los Angeles County Bar Association and the West Angeles Community Mediation Center.
- Creative Classroom Management: Training for K-6 teachers to infuse conflict resolution education throughout the curriculum and to maximize child-centered problem solving. WJCF is training the full staff and faculty of Cleveland Elementary in 2005. In 2003 WJCF trained teachers representing ten Pasadena Unified elementary schools.
- Project Peaceful Schools: WJCF trained 200 students and 50 faculty members at six San Gabriel Valley Schools in conflict management for students in collaboration with volunteer mediators from the Southern California Mediation Association. Educators can also access the WJCF website for further information, discussion and resources on conflict resolution. See the "Teachers Tools for Conflict Resolution."

SUPPORT FOR YOUTH WITH DISABILITIES

WESTERN LAW CENTER FOR DISABILITY RIGHTS

919 S. Albany Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015

(213) 736-1031 (voice) or (213) 736-8310 (TDD).

Disability Mediation Center (213) 736-8104

Education Advocacy Project (213) 736-1031

Education and Outreach Project (213) 736-8365

Provides a range of alternative dispute resolution services in matters that involve persons with disabilities or disability issues, with the goal of helping all the parties to understand their conflict better and assisting them toward finding their own mutually agreeable resolution. Our services include face-to-face mediation, telephone conciliation, group facilitation, and trainings in conflict resolution and disability mediation.

Dispute resolution through the DMC is voluntary, neutral, confidential and affordable. Funded in part by the Los Angeles County Dispute Resolution Program. Because of this funding, DMC charges a \$25 one-time administrative fee to each party to open a case, and fee waivers are available for those who cannot afford the fee.

Current Youth Projects: The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires schools to identify, assess, and provide special education services to children with learning disabilities. In order to receive these services, parents must advocate for their children against very resistant school districts. Low-income, minority, and non-English-speaking parents are typically not in a position to advocate for their children's education- they don't have the time (working), they don't have the energy, they don't have the knowledge, and they don't have the skills.

The Education Advocacy Project provides 3 main services for low income and minority parents of kids with learning disabilities:

- Education Advocacy Manual walks parents through the special education processes (cost: \$10)
- Education Advocacy Workshops teach parents about special education laws and procedures, train parents in advocacy skills, and answer specific questions (no charge)
- Education Advocacy represents parents and students in IEP meetings, mediations, and due process hearings (no charge).

Special Focuses:

- Kids in the Juvenile Justice system - an advocate works with the Assistant District Attorneys to identify learning disabilities among students in juvenile court and advocate for special education services (so when the kids get out, they'll get the services they need to stay in school and out of trouble)
- Kids in the Dependency system - an advocate works with attorneys and judges in the Dependency Court to identify learning disabilities among children in the dependency system and advocate for special education.

SUPPORT FOR IMMIGRANT YOUTH COMMUNITY & YOUTH OF COLOR:

COALITION FOR HUMANE IMMIGRANT RIGHTS OF LOS ANGELES (CHIRLA) WISE UP!

1521 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90017

(213) 353-1333, chirla@earthlink.net

CHIRLA works to advance the human and civil rights of immigrants and refugees and to foster an environment of positive human relations in Los Angeles.

- WISE-UP is a youth led project in which young people from different communities around Los Angeles work in defense of immigrant rights and to aid youth of color access higher education.

KHMER GIRLS IN ACTION

1355 Redondo Ave. Suite 9, Long Beach, CA 90804

(562) 986-9415, (562) 986-9416 fax

KGAyellowlounge@yahoo.com

The Khmer Justice Program works with high school members on social justice issues and promotes positive self-image while building a strong sisterhood alliance among each other. The trainings are design to get members to analyze the oppressive systems by talking about issues such as: race, gender, sexuality, sexual orientation, power, and privilege. The trainings are held weekly after school.

- **Cultural Programming-** KGA has a long history of collaborating with community writers, performance and visual artists, and academics to explore, create, and disseminate cultural works that document and give voice to Khmer young women and their community whose stories are markedly absent in their school's history books and dominant media. KGA's most recent publication is Her Turn To Talk, an anthology of writing produced in the last 6 years of writing workshops for Khmer young women.
- **Current Campaign** - The KGA current campaign is against deportation. The issue was identified in the summer of 2002 after three of KGA youth staff attended an anti-deportation training in New York, hosted by CAAAV (Organizing Asian Communities). KGA took part in creating national grassroots Southeast Asian led network against deportation, now known as the Southeast Asian Freedom Network. KGA is one of the few organizations in Long Beach that speaks out against deportation by doing community education and offering deportation trainings to other organizations.

KOREAN IMMIGRANT WORKERS ADVOCATES

3465 W. 8TH St. 2d. Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90005

(213) 738-9050, (213) 738-9199 fax

www.kiwa.org

KIWA's mission is to empower low wage immigrant workers and to develop a progressive constituency and leadership amongst low wage immigrant workers in Los Angeles that can join the struggle in solidarity with other underrepresented communities for social change and justice.

- The Summer Activist Training (SAT) Program provides young activists and community organizers an opportunity to gain valuable skills in direct-action organizing. SAT has made a mark on the Asian Pacific Islander (API) Community by helping create a community of young organizers, many of whom go onto work in various community-based organizations and unions. SAT began in 1993 when KIWA brought together young Korean American activists from Los Angeles, New York and the Bay Area to give them the skills to organize a campaign. Now, SAT has grown and become more diverse. For the past five years, SAT has been sponsored by Nikkei for Civil Rights and Redress (NCRR), the Pilipino Workers Center (PWC), Thai Community Development Center (TCDC), along with KIWA. This year, the Garment Workers Center (GWC) has been added as a sponsor as well. If you would like more information, please contact Cindy Cho at choys@kiwa.org or call (213) 738-9050.

MUSLIM PUBLIC AFFAIRS COUNCIL

3010 Wilshire Blvd #217

Los Angeles, CA 90010

(213) 383-3443 Fax: (213) 383-9674

Hate crime reporting line: (800) 898-3558

The Mission of MPAC encompasses promoting an American Muslim identity, fostering an effective grassroots organization, and training a future generation of men and women to share our vision. MPAC also works to promote an accurate portrayal of Islam and Muslims in mass media and popular culture, educating the American public (both Muslim and non-Muslim) about Islam, building alliances with diverse communities and cultivating relationships with opinion- and decision-makers.

The Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC) facilitates numerous workshops & programs that seek to educate, empower and activate youth. Workshops cover topics such as exploring the American Muslim identity, understanding hate crimes & hate incidents & their roots, acquiring skills for effective communication, deconstructing media messages, & clarifying misconceptions about Islam & Muslims. The arts, primarily in the form of poetry, spoken word, theater, have been used to empower students using creativity to cultivate their activism. MPAC also strives to guide youth politically and protect their rights via programs such as the Muslim American Project, where college youth are involved in protecting the country and disassociating themselves from terrorism. Major events, including MPAC's Annual Conventions & MPAC's Leadership Retreat, also incorporate youth programs and youth topics as a means to bridge the gap between youth and adult issues. Through MPAC's ongoing internship program, youth have an opportunity to gain skills & experience in project management, public advocacy, victim assistance, researching policies & issues that affect Muslims, and organizing forums in efforts to advance the rights and status of the American Muslim community.

SOUTH ASIAN NETWORK

18173 S. Pioneer Blvd., Suite I, 2nd Floor, Artesia, CA 90701

(562) 403-0488 | Fax: (562) 403-0487

Email: saninfo@southasiannetwork.org

South Asian Network was founded in 1990 to provide an open forum where individuals of South Asian origin could gather to discuss social, economic, and political issues affecting the community, with the goal of raising awareness, active involvement and advocacy among community members leading to an informed and empowered community. Current projects include: **Outreach:** SAN's outreach efforts are a tool that allows us to build solidarity amongst the various South Asian communities. **Anti-Violence:** advocates provide a comprehensive spectrum of culturally and linguistically specific intervention and prevention services to the empowerment of survivors of violence. **Anti Discrimination / Hate Crimes:** Offers culturally sensitive support and assistance to survivors of hate crimes and discrimination through case management, counseling, and advocacy. **Immigration:** SAN has engaged in broad based community outreach and education, engaged in immigration policy advocacy, organized legal clinics and provided community members with appropriate legal referrals. **Activism:** Envisioning a community that is empowered and prepared to respond to issues such as economic injustices, the denial of equal access to health care and education, police brutality, and the curtailment of civil liberties, SAN is committed to translating the deeply rooted political consciousness of South Asians in Southern California into local activism. **Gender, Sexual Orientation and Identity in the South Asian Community:** Through a series of events and forums, SAN has led discussions on gender, sexual orientation, and other identity issues within the community. **Community Workshops and Training:** In response to the prejudice exhibited towards community members in the aftermath of 9/11 and the unfamiliarity of most mainstream service providers and law enforcement with the cultural and linguistic nuances of the South Asian community, SAN has developed a cultural awareness and sensitivity training module to assist service providers in better serving the South Asian community. **Youth Programs:** SAN has conducted several Civil Rights workshops for youth between the ages of 15-25 in order to facilitate critical dialogues about race and racism, sexism, homophobia and classism. The goal of these workshops is to help youth examine their own fears and stereotypes as well as their own identities within the social, political and economic context.

SWEATSHOP WATCH

1250 So. Los Angeles Street, Suite 214, Los Angeles CA 90015
(213) 748-5945, email: sweatinfo@sweatshopwatch.org

Sweatshop Watch serves low-wage workers nationally and globally, with a focus on eliminating sweatshop exploitation in California's garment industry. We believe that workers should earn a living wage in a safe, decent work environment, and that those responsible for the exploitation of sweatshop workers must be held accountable.

Current Projects: **No Sweatshops: Information and Action Kit.** The kit, which is geared toward students, teachers, consumers and activists, includes over a dozen fact sheets on sweatshops and campaign materials. \$10 plus shipping.

SUPPORT FOR THE LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER (LGBT) SCHOOL COMMUNITY:

GAY STRAIGHT ALLIANCE NETWORK (GSAN)

P.O. Box 741063 Los Angeles, CA 90004
(213) 388-4222
info@gsanetwork.org; www.gsanetwork.org

GSAN is a youth-led organization that connects school-based Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) to each other and community resources. Through peer support, leadership development, and training, GSA Network supports young people in starting, strengthening, and sustaining GSAs and builds their capacity to: create safe environments in schools for students to support each other and learn about homophobia and other oppressions; educate the school community about homophobia, gender identity, and sexual orientation issues, and; fight discrimination, harassment, and violence in schools. A Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) is a student-run club, typically in a high school, which provides a safe place for students to meet, support each other, talk about issues related to sexual orientation, and work to end homophobia. Many GSAs function as a support group and provide safety and confidentiality to students who are struggling with their identity as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or questioning. In addition to support, some GSAs work on educating themselves and the broader school community about sexual orientation and gender identity issues.

GAY LESBIAN AND STRAIGHT EDUCATION NETWORK OF LOS ANGELES (GLSEN-LA)

1125 McCadden Place, #150, Los Angeles, CA 90038
(323) 460-4573, glsenla@glsenla.org; www.glsenla.org

GLSEN provides support to high school gay-straight alliances, produces annual conferences for the education community, creates and distributes LGBT-related curricular materials for classroom use, and helps instigate state and local public policy initiatives aimed at ending anti-gay bias in schools.

GAYS AND LESBIANS INITIATING DIALOGUE FOR EQUALITY (GLIDE)

Post Office Box 931714, Los Angeles, CA 90093 (310) 358-5165
Email: info@socal-glide.org

The mission of GLIDE is to eliminate homophobia by providing the general public with factual information and diverse personal experiences about homosexuality. GLIDE accomplishes this through live, interactive presentations tailored to specific audiences. GLIDE targets educational, business, civic, social, political and religious groups in every ethnic and cultural population. The thought provoking presentations attempt to change behavior and to think about how educators and others talk to children. Participants learn that just a few words make a difference.

PROJECT 10 COALITION

115 W. California Blvd., #116, Pasadena, CA 91105
(626) 577-4553, E-mail: project10@hotmail.com; www.project10.org

Begun in 1984 at Fairfax High School in the Los Angeles Unified School District, Project 10 is the nation's first public school program dedicated to providing on-site educational support services to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth. The Project 10 website, above, was developed in order to give teachers, counselors and administrators assistance in providing similar services in their own schools or school districts.

PARENTS, FAMILIES & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS (PFLAG)

P.O. Box 24565 Los Angeles, CA 90024
(310) 472-8952 www.pflagla.org

PFLAG offers support group meetings, community education and advocacy opportunities to parents, families and friends of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered persons in an effort to celebrate a diverse society that embraces everyone, including those of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities.

* FROM OUR HOUSE TO THE SCHOOL HOUSE: A RECIPE FOR SAFE SCHOOLS represents the next step in PFLAG's ongoing nationwide commitment to creating safe schools for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender students, teachers and staff. The multi-year campaign unites PFLAG chapters, representatives and state councils in creating a wave of safe schools activities across the country. It offers tools for PFLAG activists to initiate or expand safe schools work and to form strong coalitions with other local groups committed to safe schools.

LOS ANGELES GAY & LESBIAN CENTER

1625 Schrader Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90038
(323) 993-7671
Contact: Nohelia Canales, ncanales@laglc.org; www.laglc.org

Among an array of comprehensive services, The Gay & Lesbian Center provides youth services such as counseling, housing, medical care, employment training and placement services, cultural arts programming, computer training, HIV prevention and education programs, and extensive HIV/AIDS related services. The Center also provides Hate Crime Victim Assistance, including direct case work, trainings to the community, educators or youth on what constitutes a hate crime and public education material in English and different languages.

SAFE SCHOOL RESOURCES

LOS ANGELES COMMISSION ON ASSAULTS AGAINST WOMEN (LACAAW)

605 W. Olympic Blvd., Suite 400, Los Angeles, CA 90015
Contact Leah Aldridge: (213) 955-9090
info@lacaaw.org; www.lacaaw.org

LACAAW is a non-profit, multi-cultural, community-based volunteer organization working toward the elimination of violence against women and children. LACAAW provides Intervention services for Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, Prevention services in schools and juvenile halls to educate people while they are still young, and self-defense training.

* IN TOUCH WITH TEENS VIOLENCE PREVENTION PROGRAM was developed in response to the growing awareness of violence in teen relationships. The purpose of the ITWT program is to prevent the tragedy of relationship violence through education, advocacy and organizing. In order to achieve this goal to help teens create violence-free relationships, ITWT has been implementing

Teen Relationship Violence Prevention curriculum since 1991 in junior high and high schools, juvenile detention centers, and other community based youth organizations.

COMMUNITY WELLNESS PARTNERSHIP

640 S. Garey Street, Pomona, CA 01766
909-469-2299 cwp@tstonramp.com

CWP is a community-based organization implementing a youth violence prevention project in collaboration with adult and youth residents and the community-based agencies that serve them. Community Wellness Partnership seeks to positively impact the community by empowering youth in the following ways: providing a platform to voice their opinions; educating youth on issues relevant to their experiences; and creating an awareness of the resources available to youth in order to facilitate change in institutions by making them sensitive to the needs of youth.

HOMIES UNIDOS VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM

1625 W. Olympic Blvd. Suite 706, Los Angeles, CA 90015
(213) 383-7484 www.homiesunidos.org; homiesunidos@yahoo.com

Homies Unidos is a non-profit gang violence prevention and intervention organization committed to developing creative alternatives to violence and drugs through access to alternative education and leadership development. By providing long-term support and opportunities to learn, members and peer counselors of this program serve as positive role models that effectively change the gang mentality from violence to an understanding of human rights and human potential. The organization was founded in 1996 in San Salvador and formally began organizing in the United States in 1997.

YOUTH ORGANIZING:

COMMUNITY COALITION SOUTH CENTRAL YOUTH EMPOWERED THRU ACTION (SC-YEA)

8101 S. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles ,CA 90044
(323) 750-9087 webmaster@ccsapt.org; www.ccsapt.org

The Community Coalition is an alliance of volunteer individuals and organizations who are committed to organizing South Los Angeles neighborhoods, youth, and social service agencies in order to address drug and alcohol problems. The agency recruits and trains high school student activists to develop the "next generation of leaders." The youth organize their peers, articulate their concerns, develop strategies, and advocate solutions to the problems which affect South LA teens. Their lasted campaign has focused on educational equity including advocating for greater access to Advanced Placement classes necessary for college entry for youth in schools in South Central Los Angeles.

INNERCITY STRUGGLE' s YOUTH ORGANIZING COMMUNITIES (YOC)

P.O. Box 1482, Montebello, CA 90640
(323) 780-7606, icfyouth@aol.com; luis@schoolsnotjails.com; www.schoolsnotjails.org

Inner City Struggle provides community-based youth prevention projects in East Los Angeles. Through a resilient staff and committed volunteers uniquely comprised of barrio residents, the agency has forged a grassroots, resident-driven collaborative that connects and involves monolingual Latina mothers, at-risk youth, local businesses, gangs, schools, service providers, and government agencies.

* YOUTH ORGANIZING COMMUNITIES is a grassroots network of youth organizers who are simultaneously working to gain educational justice and equity and block the further implementation of California's burgeoning "Prison Industrial Complex". Y.O.C. began and developed with the recognition that any significant change in the existing social order must be forged and developed by those most directly affected by its negative impact: low-income youth of color.

YOUTH JUSTICE COALITION (YJC)

253 W. Martin Luther King Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90037
Contact Kim Magill or Noe Orgaz: (323) 240-1449
Email: Freelanow@yahoo.com

Organizing and educating against injustice to youth, the YJC was established in 2002 by young people and youth organizations dealing first-hand with what they describe as California's "undeclared war on youth" as seen in state legislation that increases the criminalization of vulnerable youth in a state that already sets records for youth incarceration. The Coalition is led by youth ages 8 to 24 who have been arrested, detained, incarcerated, on probation, or on parole. YJC is a key organizer in a local effort to challenge Gang Injunctions. YJC also conducts trainings for L.A. County D.A's to educate them about the real-life, damaging impact gang injunctions, the statewide gang database and Proposition 21 have had and will continue to have on the youth of L.A. Monthly Gang Profiling Work Group meetings address issues affecting LA youth and the prison system. The current "NO YOUTH IN ADULT JAILS!" campaign seeks to End the Detention and Incarceration of Youth with Adults by seeking to close the 42 Juvenile beds at men's central jail.

Southern Californians 4 Youth

2811 Whittier Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90023
(323)446-0363, (323) 780-7608 fax
info@socal4youth.org, www.socal4youth.org

Southern Californians for Youth is a network of social justice youth organizations working to build power among low-income youth of color in the Greater Los Angeles region. They work to transform conditions in communities by supporting existing and emerging youth organizing groups. Southern Californians for Youth formed in May of 1999 in Los Angeles to fight against the criminalization of youth of color and in particular with Proposition 21. SoCal for Youth became a very active coalition of youth organizations and community groups and succeeded in defeating the proposition in every area in which we actively organized. After the election, the coalition decided there was a need for a network to emerge that supported youth organizing efforts specifically for youth of color in low income communities. In the summer 2002, our Youth Board was formed and our network was launched. We support and build on the existing capacity of youth organizing projects by concentration on three areas, developing a network, coordinating skills and issue trainings, and providing assistance to existing and emerging youth organizing projects. Core projects include:

- Coordinates an annual Youth Organizing Convening (advance trainings and roundtable discussions)
- Coordinates a summer internship program for our member organizations that helps transition their core members to staff
- Partners with organizations to help them build a strong infrastructure and healthy supportive work culture
- Assists in the development of a support network for Asian Pacific youth organizing.

CALIFORNIANS FOR JUSTICE (LONG BEACH)

Californians for Justice - Long Beach
755 Pine Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90813
(562) 951-1015 ,Fax (562) 951-9444

www.caljustice.org

Contact: Jeremy Lahoud, Lead Organizer, Email: jeremy@caljustice.org

Californians for Justice is a grassroots organization of high-school age youth, parents and other adults fighting for educational and racial justice. We offer workshops for young people in organizing, political education, and leadership development and work on statewide and local educational justice campaigns with students from Cabrillo, Polytechnic, Wilson, Millikan, Renaissance, and Jordan High Schools in Long Beach. CFJ-Long Beach currently offers weekly youth organizing & leadership development workshops, bi-weekly movie nights, and other youth-led political and social activities. During the summer, we have an intensive six-week Summer Youth Leadership Academy for CFJ leaders from Long Beach. CFJ student leaders in Long Beach are researching issues to develop a local campaign this year. Some of the issues that have arisen include the lack of adequate textbooks, unclean facilities, the lack of positive student-teacher relationships, and the need for Ethnic Studies classes.

OTHER USEFUL YOUTH REFERRALS:

LOS ANGELES YOUTH SUPPORTIVE SERVICES, INC. (LAYSS)

24/7: (323) 951-0401 Toll Free: 1-877-GO LAYSS (465-2977)

<http://www.la-youth.org/corp.htm>

LAYSS is a non-profit agency that addresses the needs of endangered youth and youth living on the streets. The agency is committed to doing whatever is necessary to insure that the youth and young adults they serve will have all the professional support, guidance, life-skills, and education they need to successfully navigate through the minefield called adolescence and emerge as successful adults. Most clients are high risk and unattached youth and young adults. They are at high risk for dropping out of school, substance abuse and addiction and especially suicide. They are described as "unattached" because they have no attachments to responsible, caring adult role models and teachers. Many have been cast out of their families or left, out of self-protection. In having to fend for themselves, they are being robbed of their adolescence by being forced to become adults long before they have finished being kids. The agency believes that all youth should, unconditionally, have food, shelter and loving, supportive parents and elders so that they can concentrate on going to school, dating, having fun and learning the life-skill lessons necessary for later life. L.A. Youth Supportive Services is a new family for youth and young adults whose original families have not been able to provide the guidance, life teachings and support necessary for a successful transition into a responsible, mentally healthy and joyous adulthood. They act as caring mental health professionals and a surrogate family until youth get into a stable surrogate family environment.