

Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center 2016 Community Report



50 years of supporting people with developmental
disabilities in the community



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Eastern Los Angeles Regional is committed to serving individuals with developmental disabilities and their families by promoting partnerships which empower them to achieve meaningful and fulfilling lifestyles in their communities.



Partnerships

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Eastern Los Angeles Regional Center Board of Directors is committed to ensuring that the mission of the agency is carried out. The Board is made up of volunteers from our community, parents, consumers, professionals, and others with specific skills and knowledge who provide guidance and leaderships for the agency.

CONSUMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The ELARC Consumer Advisory Committee exists to advocate, advise, empower, lead, plan, inform, and educate so that consumers may understand their rights under the Lanterman Act and achieve their goals.

VENDOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Vendor Advisory Committee provides recommendations, guidance, and technical assistance to ELARC's Board of Directors. They meet to review and discuss both agency and state issues that impact service providers in our community.

Celebrating 50 Years

“People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities have the same basic legal, civil and human rights as other citizens. They may need accommodation, protection and support to enable them to exercise these rights. Their rights should never be limited or restricted without due process.”

(“Rights.” *The Arc | Rights for Persons with Disabilities*. Web. 20 Dec. 2016).

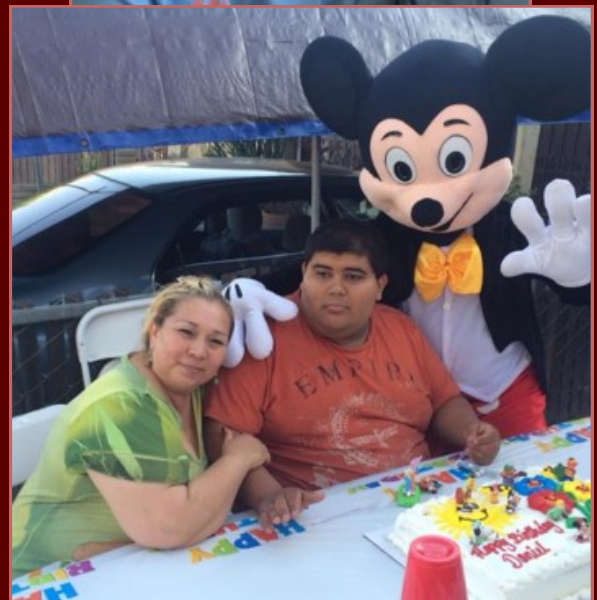
Before the Lanterman Act, families did not have many options when they were faced with their child’s diagnosis. The future looked uncertain, as these children and adults did not have basic rights. Fortunately, a group of parents knew that there had to be a better way. They fought for the rights of their children. They were heard by Assemblyman Frank D. Lanterman and the rest is history.



We are celebrating 50 years later by focusing on people that are experiencing freedom, infinite opportunities, and a hope for the future because of the Lanterman Act.

The Nieves Family

Josefina is a Parent Coordinator for Fiesta Educativa. Fiesta Educativa was founded in California in 1978 to inform and assist Latino families in obtaining services and in caring for their children with special needs. Josefina has two sons who have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and they are both served by ELARC. She explains that her sons were the first in her family to be diagnosed with ASD. She did not know much about the diagnosis or what to do. Josefina is so thankful for the Lanterman Act and the difference it has made in her life and in the lives of her sons.



The Nieves Family

When asked what the Lanterman Act means to her, Josefina states, "It opens the possibilities. Nestor is driving now. He received driver's training funded by ELARC. He graduated from CSUN. He is currently taking 2 classes in order to get to USC. He wants to be an occupational therapist and eventually wants to continue until he gets his Ph.D. Danny loves to paint; he enjoys it. and has a passion for it. Their schools were very helpful, but what marked the difference was the services they received at home. The therapists that came to our home made a big difference. Social skills groups made a big difference. I learned a lot from the therapies. Without those services, I do not know where we would be right now. Without those therapies, I would be doing everything wrong. We are so blessed in California because of the Lanterman Act." The goals for



Danny are to enroll in art classes. Josefina hopes to open a website for him so he could start his own business. He is going to stay home to work on weight loss and concentrate on his art for at least 3 years.



Anthony Reyes

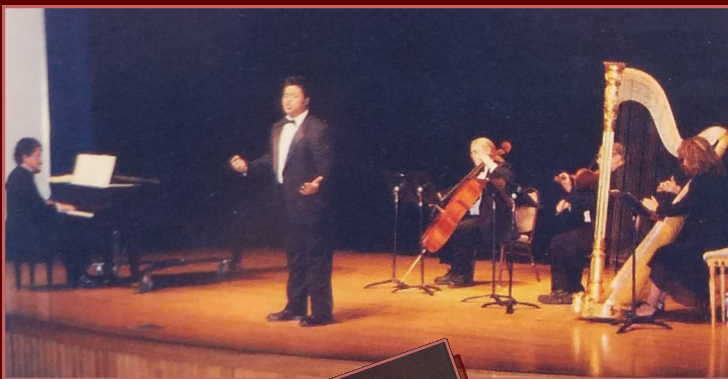
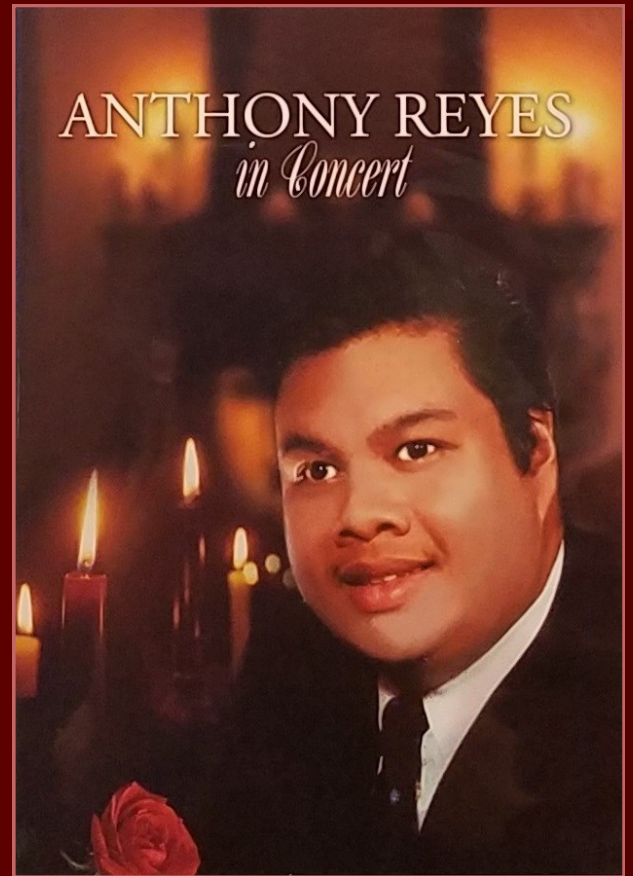
Anthony Reyes has been with the Regional Center since he was 4 years old. Anthony is a man of many talents. He sings Opera & Gospel, plays the guitar, and DJ's. His parents enrolled him at the Los Angeles Music and Art School in East Los Angeles. He then transferred to Rio Hondo College where he continued to study music. Anthony's passion for music has led him to record CD's and a concert DVD. His favorite singers are Celine Dion and Amy Grant. And when it comes to Gospel, he loves Jaci Velasquez. "Music touches me; it soothes me" Anthony states. Anthony is very grateful that his parents involved him with music



from a young age. He is also extremely grateful for his mother, who passed away a few years ago. Anthony states, "My mother always taught me to care for others and to be involved in my community." Not only is Anthony involved in ELARC's Consumer Advisory Committee meetings, but he also volunteers wherever he can. In November he worked as a poll worker during the elections. He finds fulfilment and self-confidence being a part of something and helping those around him.

Anthony Reyes

Anthony was asked what it is that inspires him to work with his community and to be so involved. Anthony stated, "While I was at Rio Hondo I took a class relating to disabilities. In one of the text books it listed celebrities that had disabilities. I was blown away by that list! It had Whoopi Goldberg and Tom Cruise. I also realized that Ray Charles was completely blind, but he was so talented. A few years later, while watching Extreme Home Makeover, I saw the story of a man who was completely blind, but played the piano so beautifully. It made me realize that if they could overcome their disabilities to achieve great things, I could too. These stories inspire me."



When asked what does the Lanterman Act mean to him, he replied, "Freedom! Nobody can control me or tell me what to do with my life. I also feel confident in speaking up and voicing my concerns or problems." In regards to future goals, Anthony has many! He only provided his 2017 goals, because he stated that his lifelong goals are just too many to list. He is hoping to audition for 2017 "America's Got Talent" and "The Voice." Additionally, he is currently writing an autobiography.

MDH Network



MDH Network has been working with individuals with disabilities for over 30 years providing Community Integration, Residential Placement, Independent Living Services, and more. Lupe McClintock is the Assistant Program Director and Diana Perez is a Supervisor. Together they explain that what inspires them to do what they do, are the individuals themselves. Diana states, “When we are able to share with them those small achievements; when their family members are able to see it and we can witness it; that is what it is all about. Those achievements, big or small, make us so excited and it inspires us to continue to do our work.” Lupe states, “We want to make a difference. MDH is dedicated to improving the lives of others and we focus on the individuality.” Diana adds that they love a good challenge when it comes to helping someone achieve their goals. She states, “We have a client who (uses a wheelchair), but wanted to go to the beach. We were able to find a beach chair and were able to wheel him on the sand and get him near the water. That was the first time he was in front of the ocean, and it was amazing to witness.”

MDH Network

MDH Network is one of many programs that have assisted consumers in transitioning out of Developmental Centers and into the community. Diana serves approximately 39 individuals that have come from these centers. Diana and Lupe state that some of the individuals that have left these centers are having new experiences; having their own bedroom for example, or exploring their new neighborhoods. Lupe goes on to say that the Lanterman Act is a great piece of legislation and they are so thankful for it. "Our company exists because of it. We are very appreciative of the partnership and support we have with ELARC. It allows for the clients to have something to look forward to. Our clients expect to go out in the community daily and they thrive with the structure that is provided. Those that have come out of developmental centers have never had these experiences before. Family members tear up when they see them form friendships."



Nathan Chan

Nathan's mother explained what the Lanterman Act means to her with one word: "Life-saving." Nathan is now 12 and thriving, but when he was first diagnosed with ASD, his mother described life as being difficult. She was constantly worried and scared about how he would react to those around him in the community. She could rarely take him to family functions due to Nathan running away from her and/or her family. With all the services and supports he has received in these last few years, his mother can see a significant difference and she could not be prouder of her son. She feels comfortable including him in family get-togethers and he's learning more and more how to interact with his peers in positive ways. With the help of his therapies, he is now learning how to perceive other people's feelings and interests in order to form meaningful conversations and ultimately friendships. His mother states that his future goals are to attend college and find a career that interests him. She also hopes that someday he could have a family of his own.



These pictures depict Nathan's interests and who is he at this time in his life. He loves to build with Legos and made these models by himself. He is also fascinated with the Titanic.



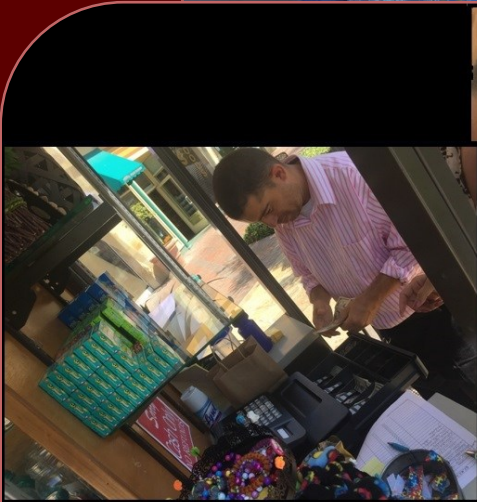
Lissethe Scholfield

Lissethe has been a Service Coordinator with ELARC for approximately 8 years. She did 7 years of coordination with home-based services, and for the last year has been working with individuals living in residential facilities. She loves her work and stated that her favorite aspect of working at ELARC is the fact that as a Service Coordinator, you are always learning. She says, “the field is so broad and so individualized and everything is on a case-by-case basis, that you are constantly learning. There is always another level to something you think you have mastered.” Lissethe states that the Lanterman Act is so important because, “it gives a voice to those with developmental disabilities. They



have the opportunity to live the life that they see themselves living. It gives them hope and helps them to see beyond barriers.” She goes on to say that the Lanterman Act is inspiring in the sense that “it does not look at age, gender, economic or legal status.” Lissethe is very happy to have found a home in ELARC. She feels that she is amongst family and all the principles and values she learns through her work, she can carry out in her day-to-day life as well.

Celebrating 50 Years



Snapshots of ELARC consumers living meaningful lives, as they participate in recreational activities, employment, and fulfilling aspirations like competing in triathlons.

Celebrating 50 Years



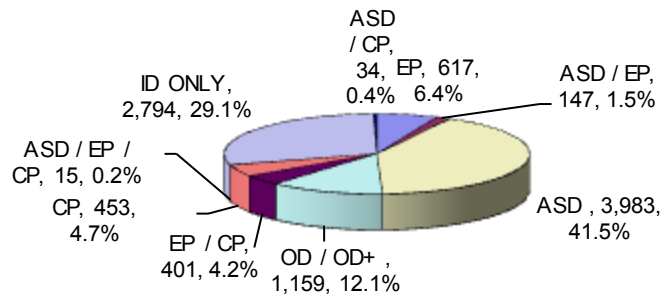
Photo courtesy of:
@GoShiggyGo Photography on FB

2016 Demographics

Diagnosis

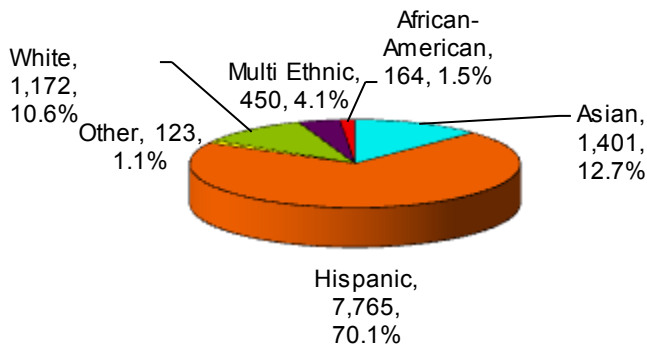
Epilepsy	EP	617	6.4%
ASD & Epilepsy	ASD / EP	147	1.5%
Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD)	ASD	3,983	41.5%
Other Developmental Disorder	OD / OD+	1,159	12.1%
Epilepsy & Cerebral Palsy	EP / CP	401	4.2%
Cerebral Palsy	CP	453	4.7%
ASD & Epilepsy & Cerebral Palsy	ASD / EP / CP	15	0.2%
Intellectual Disability Only	ID ONLY	2,794	29.1%
ASD & Cerebral Palsy	ASD / CP	34	0.4%
	Total	9,603	100.0%

ELARC Consumers by Diagnosis



■ EP ■ ASD / EP ■ ASD ■ OD / OD+ ■ EP / CP

ELARC Consumers by Ethnicity

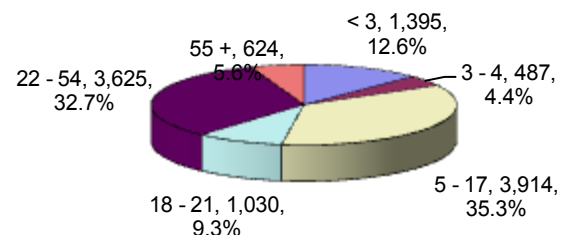


■ Asian ■ Hispanic

Ethnicity	Cases	Percentage
Asian	1,284	12.5%
Hispanic	7,154	69.6%
Other	397	3.9%
White	1,049	10.2%
Multi Ethnic	243	2.4%
African-American	147	1.4%
Total	10,274	100.0%

Ages	Cases	Percentage
< 3	1,395	12.6%
3 - 4	487	4.4%
5 - 17	3,914	35.3%
18 - 21	1,030	9.3%
22 - 54	3,625	32.7%
55 +	624	5.6%
	11,075	100.0%

ELARC Consumers by Age Group



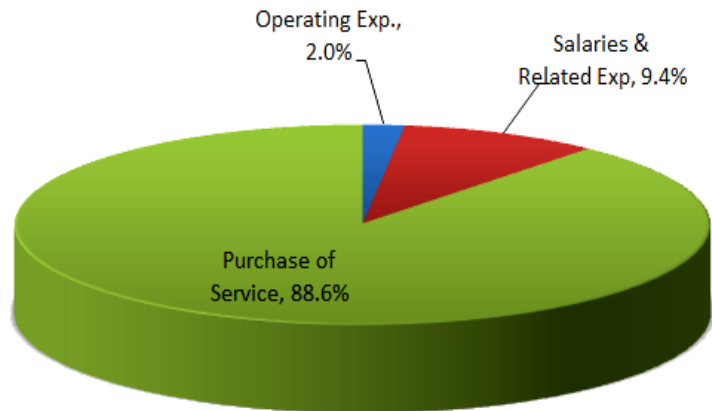
■ < 3 ■ 3 - 4 ■ 5 - 17 ■ 18 - 21 ■ 22 - 54 ■ 55 +

2016 Fiscal Report

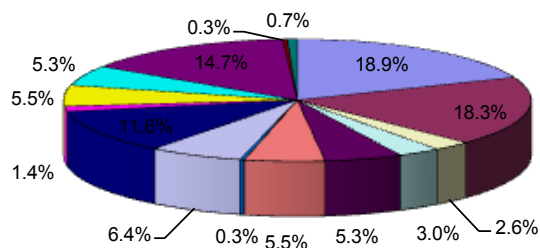
Total Overall Expenditures - FY 2015/16 - As of 12/22/2016

Operating Exp.	3,797,059	2.0%
Salaries & Related Exp	18,195,667	9.4%
Purchase of Service	171,698,451	88.6%
TOTAL	193,691,177	100.0%

ELARC YTD Exp. FY 2015-16



ELARC YTD POS Expenditures - FY 15/16



■ CCF & ICF	■ Adult Day Programs	■ Habilitation Programs
■ Transportation	■ Prevention	■ Behavior Mgmt Consultant
■ In-Home Respite Services (parents)	■ In-Home Respite Services (agency)	■ Supported Living Services
■ Medical Care	■ Adaptive Skills Trainer	■ Community Integration Services
■ Other Services	■ Com. Placement Plan	■ self Determination

YTD POS Expenditures - FY 2015/16

Category	Paid	Percentage
CCF & ICF	32,485,674	18.9%
Adult Day Programs	31,420,042	18.3%
Habilitation Programs	4,441,995	2.6%
Transportation	5,095,051	3.0%
Prevention	9,157,247	5.3%
Behavior Mgmt Consultant	9,477,028	5.5%
In-Home Respite Services	553,618	0.3%
In-Home Respite Services	11,066,495	6.4%
Supported Living Services	19,885,532	11.6%
Medical Care	2,423,574	1.4%
Adaptive Skills Trainer	9,520,010	5.5%
Community Integration Ser-	9,167,134	5.3%
Other Services	25,276,394	14.7%
Com. Placement Plan	557,612	0.3%
self Determination	1,171,046	0.7%
Total	171,698,452	100.00%

Celebrating 50 Years

The Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act, (Welfare and Institutions Code) outlines the rights and responsibilities of persons with developmental disabilities as well as created the Regional Centers as central points of contact for persons with developmental disabilities and their families.

The Lanterman Act establishes an entitlement to services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities. This entitlement means that individuals with developmental disabilities have ***the right*** to receive services and supports which enable them to make ***decisions and choices*** about how, and with whom, they want to live their lives; achieve the highest self-sufficiency possible; and ***lead productive, independent and satisfying lives.***

The Lanterman Act declares that persons with developmental disabilities have the ***same legal rights and responsibilities*** guaranteed all other persons by federal and state constitutions and laws, and charges the Regional Center with advocacy for, and protection of, these rights.

Management Team

Gloria Wong, Executive Director

Felipe Hernandez, Chief of Consumer Services

Patricia Alvarez, Chief of Administrative Services

Carmen Vasquez, Manager of Early Intervention Services

Elin Nozaki, Manager of Assessment & Special Services

Frances Jacobs, Manager of Community Services

Jesse Valdez, Manager of Federal Programs

Mary Maynard, Manager of Human Resources



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