

Congressman Brad Sherman Visits Winnetka Clinic



Winnetka Clinic Manager Silvia Sandhu, President/CEO Corinne Sánchez, Congressman Brad Sherman, Government Relations Manager Nancy Hodges-Jimenez, Chief Information Officer Juan Delgado (from left).



Dental Supervisor Candelaria Gonzalez, Winnetka Clinic Manager Silvia Sandhu, Congressman Brad Sherman, President/CEO Corinne Sánchez, and Dentist Shraddha (from left).

Congressman Brad Sherman, representing California's 32nd Congressional District, visited our Winnetka Clinic to demonstrate his ongoing commitment to community health initiatives that benefit the diverse communities in his district.

Congressman Sherman has been a dedicated advocate for El Proyecto for many years. His unwavering support reflects his commitment to the community and his belief in the mission of El Proyecto to empower and uplift residents by providing quality healthcare, social services and training and employment services. As part of his visit, Congressman Sherman took the time to tour several key areas of the clinic, including the Dental Clinic.



Congressman Brad Sherman and CEO Corinne Sánchez.

This part of the tour allowed him to see firsthand the vital services provided to patients and the dedicated efforts of the staff. Through this visit, he reaffirmed his commitment to supporting healthcare initiatives.

Congressman Sherman was welcomed by Corinne Sánchez, Esq. the President/CEO of El Proyecto del Barrio, who expressed her gratitude for his continuous support. She highlighted the need for ongoing advocacy and collaboration to ensure that essential services remain available to the community, especially during these uncertain times.

At El Proyecto, we prioritize building strong relationships with our elected officials, as their support is vital to our work in the communities we serve. Our Government Relations Manager, Ms. Nancy Hodges-Jimenez, and her team are dedicated to keeping officials informed about the services El Proyecto provides. By providing timely news and information, we ensure that our elected representatives understand the impact of our work in their districts.



El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.

HOPE • COMMITMENT • EXCELLENCE

Meeting with House Minority Leader Hakeem Jeffries



L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Efren Manjarrez, Congressman Hakeem Jeffries, El Proyecto President/CEO Corinne Sánchez, and JWCH Institute President/CEO Al Ballesteros (from left).

El Proyecto President/CEO Corinne Sánchez attended an important event featuring Congressman Hakeem Jeffries hosted by Congresswoman Laura Friedman. As the House Minority Leader in the United States Congress, Congressman Jeffries is the highest-ranking Democrat in the House of Representatives. Ms. Sánchez's participation in this event highlighted her commitment to civic engagement and her advocacy for underserved communities.

By attending, she reinforced El Proyecto's dedication to engaging in federal policy discussions that focus on critical issues such as health equity, workforce development, and social services. These are areas that Congressman Jeffries has actively championed throughout his career, making him a key ally for those working to promote equity and access. Ms. Sánchez recognizes the importance of cultivating and maintaining high-level connections like those fostered between El Proyecto and influential leaders such as Congressman Jeffries.

California Community Foundation Visits El Proyecto del Barrio, Inc.

Mr. Luis Rodriguez, the Community Investment and Engagement Officer at the California Community Foundation (CCF), visited and toured various facilities of El Proyecto.

His visit to El Proyecto underscores a strategic commitment to supporting organizations that deliver comprehensive care to underserved communities. By touring the Arleta Dental and Arleta Family Health Clinic, and the corporate office, Mr. Rodriguez aimed to witness firsthand how integrated services—spanning primary care, behavioral health, dental care, and social support—are transforming lives.

Such visits help the CCF assess impact, strengthen partnerships, and identify opportunities for deeper investment in models that prioritize equity, cultural responsiveness, and community trust. El Proyecto's work aligns with the CCF's mission to close health gaps and empower families through accessible, comprehensive care.



Above: Corinne Sánchez, El Proyecto President/CEO; Luis Rodriguez, Community Investment and Engagement Officer, California Community Foundation; Juan Delgado, El Proyecto Chief Information Officer; Silvia Sandhu, Winnetka Clinic Manager; and Ricky Garcia, Azusa Clinic Manager (from left).

Left: El Proyecto Dental Director Stanislav Spasov, DDS shares information with the California Community Foundation's Luis Rodriguez and El Proyecto's Corinne Sánchez and Silvia Sandhu (from left).



Emergency Medical Services Training Initiative

Ms. Haimanot Fekadu, MBA is the Program Director for four (4) El Proyecto YouthSource Centers. She shared exciting news about the YouthSource Emergency Medical Services (EMS) training program recently launched in San Bernardino. This program equips community members with essential emergency response skills. The initiative began with a workshop titled “Stop the Bleed,” held at the new YouthSource facility. During this workshop, 20 participants learned critical techniques for controlling bleeding and providing aid in emergency situations. All workshop participants met the necessary requirements and have successfully transitioned into the official EMS Training Program. This comprehensive training includes hands-on instruction, allowing trainees to gain valuable experience in emergency medical response. Participants will receive a monthly stipend of up to \$1,500 throughout the training period, and they will be guaranteed job placement upon completion of the program. The program not only aims to develop skilled emergency responders but also seeks to foster a sense of community resilience and safety.



El Proyecto YouthSource Center is located at 1963 North E Street, San Bernardino, CA 92405. The center's telephone number is (909) 881-2427.

Introducing El Proyecto's Child Development Director Edna Barrera



Edna Barrera

Edna Barrera has 20 years of experience working with children and families, which is her passion. She has dedicated her professional career to enhancing the classroom experience for early learners. As the Director of El Proyecto Child Development Centers, Edna is responsible for the operations of three centers, supervising staff, and ensuring compliance with all licensing requirements. She is committed to creating a safe, healthy, and inviting learning environment for children, parents, and staff. Edna ensures that all contractual obligations are met and develops, plans, and implements program goals and activities. She reports on the activities and issues of the Child Development Centers to the Executive Management and the Board of Directors. Edna joined El Proyecto in 2009, initially serving as the Education Coordinator, where she managed several child services programs. Edna completed her Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood Development at California State University, Northridge (CSUN). She holds a Master of Arts degree in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College.

El Proyecto's Child Development Centers

El Proyecto Child Development Centers are licensed to serve 228 preschool children aged 2 to 5 years. Funded by the California Department of Education and the California Department of Social Services, our Child Development Program is dedicated to nurturing and inspiring each child's unique growth and creativity. We recognize that every child is different, and we thoughtfully consider their developmental stage, age, cultural background, and language during daily planning and interactions. Our approach ensures that learning is engaging and tailored to meet the diverse needs of every child, fostering a strong foundation for their future. With passionate educators and a commitment to excellence, we strive to make a lasting impact on the lives of the children we serve.



**El Proyecto
Child Development
Center Locations:**

Panorama City:
9140 Van Nuys Blvd., Suite 109
Panorama City, CA 91402
Telephone: (818) 891-8534

East Los Angeles:
4824 Civic Center Way
East Los Angeles, CA 90022
Telephone (323) 796-4200

San Fernando / Sylmar:
2100 Frank Modugno Drive
San Fernando, CA 91340
Telephone (818) 743-5200

PACE Celebrates 50th

Ms. Sánchez attended the 50th Anniversary Celebration of the Pacific Asian Consortium in Employment (PACE). El Proyecto and PACE have established a 40-year strong partnership, and both organizations have played crucial roles in workforce development throughout Los Angeles. Ms. Sánchez emphasized that our collaboration with PACE embodies a shared mission to empower underserved communities through employment, education, and support services. This partnership not only enhances job opportunities but fosters community growth and resilience. By working together, we strive to create a brighter future for those who need it most.



Kerry Doi, PACE President/CEO; L.A. County Supervisor Hilda Solis; Corinne Sanchez, El Proyecto President/CEO; and Magdalena Duran, El Proyecto WorkSource Administrator.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE from Corinne Sánchez

Standing Together During Uncertain Times in America

During these uncertain times, including a government shutdown, now more than ever we need to stand together and continue to provide much-needed services to the community.



In this newsletter, we highlight meetings with our Members of Congress. They are our voice in government. Meeting with our elected officials and sharing our concerns, they witness firsthand the need to address this shutdown and other key issues so that services are not disrupted. They assured us that they will continue to fight for us.

May the obstacles we are confronting make us stronger to support the most underserved. As health care continues to take the hardest hit, we truly need the help of our legislators. I will continue to meet with our elected officials and advocate for our patients and community.

Other important visits included Mr. Luis Rodriguez, Community Investment and Engagement Officer for the California Community Foundation (CCF). This visit allowed El Proyecto to highlight all our services, including Health and Dental Care, WorkSource and YouthSource Centers, Alcohol and Other Drug Program and Child Development. We look forward to a continued partnership with CCF.

I am proud to say that El Proyecto has provided quality services for over 54 years. We will continue to fight to be here for the community.

