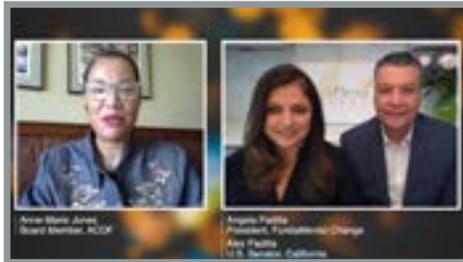


# In The House

## ACOF Hosts Virtual *Beyond Perceptions* Awards Celebration

We hope that you all were able to join us for our first-ever Virtual *Beyond Perceptions* Awards Celebration on June 16th! Honorees included U.S. Senator Alex Padilla, FundaMental Change President Angela Padilla, and ACOF Tenant Kevin Frierson.

Special thank you to ACOF staff who joined us during the event and made a donation to help make this event a success! If you missed the event, you can view the event by clicking [here](#). Thank you to ACOF's new Director of Fund Development, Alex Couri, who joined ACOF in May 2021, and jumped in immediately to put together a successful silent auction raising nearly \$10,000.00!



## ACOF is requesting proposals for a public art installation for our Lorena Plaza project in Boyle Heights!



Help us spread the word and let us know if you know of any artists who may be interested! It is very important that the artwork is sensitive to the surrounding community, history, and culture of Boyle Heights and future tenants of Lorena Plaza. We are really excited about this project and cannot wait to start reviewing submissions. Proposals are due by August 5, 2021. Please email Anna Kobara (Housing Team) at [akobara@acof.org](mailto:akobara@acof.org) for more information. View the RFP by clicking [here](#).

### Office Closures

**Labor Day**  
Monday, September 6, 2021

### Upcoming Events & Important Dates

**Quarterly All Staff Meeting**  
Wednesday, October 6, 2021  
8:30 am to 11:30 am.

**Next Learning Journeys:**  
Wednesday, August 4, 2021  
10 am to 11:30 am.

Wednesday, September 1, 2021  
10 am to 11:30 am.

Wednesday, October 6, 2021  
10 am to 11:30 am.

**Firestone Phoenix Grand Opening:**  
Thursday, August 12, 2021

# ACOF Staff Meetings and Engagement



Thank you for joining us Wednesday, April 14th, for our Quarterly All Staff Meeting. The meeting was kicked-off with departmental updates, including the completion of Firestone Phoenix and updates on three additional projects in pre-development. Congratulations to Maxwell Albrecht (Housing Team) for all of his hard work on the start of construction of West Terrace! Additional updates included the successful transition of the Family & Children Services program from in-person to virtual and COVID-19 safety office procedures.

The meeting continued with a very special presentation from Dhakshike Wickrema, Senior Deputy for Homelessness and Housing for the Office of LA City Councilmember Mark Ridley-Thomas. Dhakshike shared data regarding homelessness in Los Angeles, the various reasons as to why people become homeless, the history of affordable housing in Los Angeles, and more. This sparked a conversation regarding affordable housing and the impact ACOF has on ending homelessness through the provision of permanent supportive housing.



## Join The Employee Engagement Committee Today!



It's a **BINGO BONANZA!** EEC is doing it AGAIN! Come and enjoy an engaging game of bingo over lunch. EEC is so excited to host Lunchtime Bingo once again.

In order to create the appropriate number of Bingo cards participants are being asked to RSVP no later than Wednesday, July 28th at 8 AM.

RSVP by clicking [here](#).

Interested in getting more involved and making positive changes at ACOF?

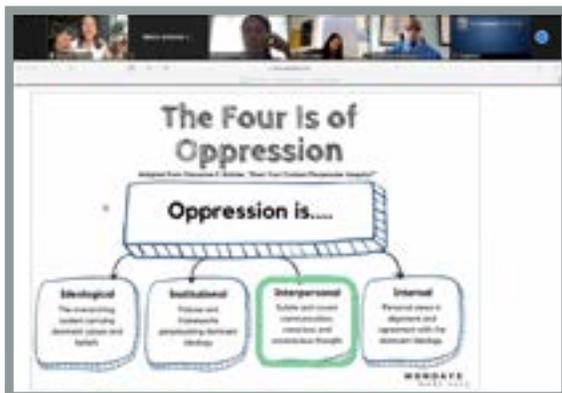
Join your teammates as part of the Employee Engagement Committee (EEC) today! EEC is committed to actively promoting awareness of ACOF's mission and goals, empower and provide a voice to staff, and offer networking opportunities.

To learn more about EEC, contact EEC at [engagementcmte@acof.org](mailto:engagementcmte@acof.org)

To volunteer to join the EEC, contact Dora Leong Gallo at [dgallo@acof.org](mailto:dgallo@acof.org)

All Bingo cards will be emailed to participants on Wednesday, July 28th by 10 AM.

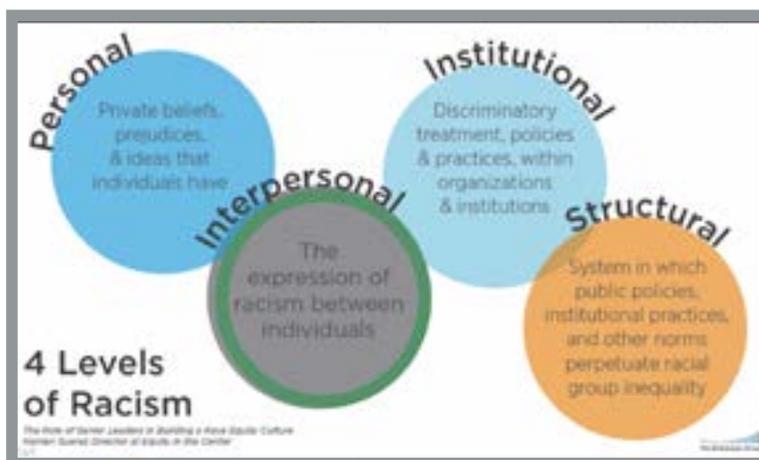
# ACOF Hosts Learning Journey Workshops



We hope that you have been a part of ACOF's *Learning Journey* sessions in an effort to promote and address racial equity, diversity and inclusion within ACOF. During the last three months, ACOF has discussed various topics, including, Internalized Oppression and Dominance, the Four I's of Oppression, Interpersonal Oppression, the Four Levels of Racism, Racial-Ethnic Identity Development and more.

Additionally, ACOF has created Affinity Group workshops which are designated "safe spaces," where everyone in that group shares a particular identity. The affinity groups provides space to dive deeper into the training content with colleagues who identify as your same racial identity.

We are looking forward to engaging with everyone during our upcoming *Learning Journey* taking place Wednesday, August 4th at 10:00 AM.



# Finance Team Leads Virtual Training



Congratulations to Marlene Hyer (Finance Team) for leading yet another successful virtual training on April 15th, titled "Preparing Check Requests" for the Services Team as part of a Finance Training series.

Marlene's training focused on guidelines for properly completing a check request in compliance with ACOF's policy and regulations. Together they reviewed a few common check request examples with instructions on how to complete a check request process. Staff learned about guidelines for

conducting modified life skills instruction and providing incentives during the COVID-19 pandemic.

# Staff Activities, Recipes, Resources and More!

## Make a Restaurant Style Dish From the Comfort of Your Own Home!



Years ago, Ronda Noel (Finance Team) stumbled across a small restaurant in Westwood that was known for their Chinese Chicken Salad. Ronda immediately fell in love with the dish and eventually was able to find the dressing used for this dish at various retailers.

### INGREDIENTS

- 1/3 cup Feast From The East's Sesame Dressing (Purchase at Amazon, Sam's Club, Costco or at their Westwood restaurant location)
- 8 cups sliced Romaine Lettuce
- 1 1/2 cups cooked shredded chicken (boiled chicken breast with salt and pepper only). (Can substitute with tofu).
- 4 tbs chopped green onions
- 1 1/2 tbs natural sesame seeds (unhulled)
- 3 tbs sliced natural almonds
- 2 cups fried Wonton Strips (packaged ones work great)

### INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place romaine lettuce in a salad bowl.
2. Top with chicken (or tofu), Wonton Strips, green onions, almonds, seeds.
3. Pour Sesame Dressing over salad and toss well.

Thank you Ronda for this recipe!

## Marlene's Yoga Tip for Sleep



Having trouble sleeping? Yoga could provide you with the solution you need!

Practicing restorative yoga before bed, can help you fall asleep faster and improve the quality of your sleep. Unlike various types of yoga, such as hot yoga, restorative yoga will not stress your body.

To learn more about restorative yoga, click [here](#).



Marlene Hyer (Finance Team) has practiced yoga for over 30 years and was certified to teach. Contact Marlene for more helpful yoga tips.

## Angelina Welcomes New Family Member!

On Tuesday, May 18, Maggie Ip (Finance Team) put together a very special virtual baby shower for Angelina Leung (Finance Team).

Angelina was provided with many helpful tips as a new mom such as resting as much as possible and staying hydrated.



Congratulations to Angelina and her family for the newest bundle of joy! Mya Nidia Tsang was born strong and healthy on Sunday, June 13, 2021.

Angelina states, "she is the first of many; firstborn child, first grandchild and first great-grandchild. Our family is very excited for this blessing."

Angelina recommends that all new mommies sleep as much as they can and to "remember to also take care of yourself."

Congratulations Angelina!

# New Staff, Promotions, Anniversaries & Birthdays

## New Staff (April - June)

**Kristie Campbell**  
ICMS Case Manager 1  
Woodland Terrace

**Alex Couri**  
Director of Fund Development

**Sharon Ghalchi**  
Housing Intern

**Jeff Mitchell**  
Property Management Supervisor

**Samiha Yusof**  
Accounting Intern

**Deborah Walker**  
Firestone Phoenix

## Promotions (April - June)

**Marisol Castorena**  
Tenant Services  
Supervisor-I

**Deirdre Anderson**  
Tenant Services  
Specialist

**Nancy Gonzales**  
Tenant Services  
Specialist

## Anniversaries (April - June)

**One Year**  
Timothy Byrd  
Hilda Dubon-Barroso  
Adriana Quiquívix

**Two Years cont.**  
Marlene Hyer  
Virginia Ortiz-Peres  
Angela McMahon

**Eleven Years**  
Ronnie Prince  
Sergio Negrete

**Two Years**  
Carina Hernandez  
Anna Kobara  
Frances Jennings  
Kimberly Garibaldi

**Four Years**  
Crystal Navarro

**Fourteen Years**  
Dinde Patrick

**Six Years**  
Veronica Cervantes

**Seventeen Years**  
Deirdre Anderson

## Birthdays (July - September)

**Crystal Navarro**  
July 14

**Cynthia Lara**  
August 18

**Darrika Tripp**  
September 8

**Sandra Ruiz**  
July 16

**William Robinson**  
August 29

**Bri Brinkley**  
September 11

**Kristin Johnson**  
July 19

**Aristeo Castaneda**  
September 3

**Anna Kobara**  
September 13

**Judely Cruz Castaneda**  
July 24

**Brisa Felix**  
September 4

**Kristie Campbell**  
September 15

**Veronica Cervantes**  
August 4

**Nicole Anderson-Harrigan**  
September 7

**Timothy Byrd**  
September 17

**Angela McMahon**  
August 4

**Nelson Artiga**  
September 18



RESOURCE PORTAL

Help us spread the word about our resource portal to our tenants!

**ACOF's** Resource Center provides a bounty of upcoming local events, health and wellness tips, and recent news for all to enjoy! Click the image or link below to learn more.

<https://www.acof.org/portal/>

## Give While You Shop

Click on the images below or follow the links below each logo to register/renew your rewards card to Food4Less/Ralphs Community Contribution Program or use **ACOF's** phone number (213) 480-0809 at check-out.



<http://bit.ly/2L9A03T>



<http://bit.ly/32dr2bG>

## Amazon Smile



Support **ACOF** by registering **A Community of Friends** as your charitable organization of choice through smile.amazon.com Make sure you are shopping on AMAZONSMILE for **ACOF** to receive credit.

## Follow Us on Social Media!

Click the social media icons to follow ACOF



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Tips From the CDC to Help Prevent the Spread of COVID-19  
Click Any Image to Learn More

