

# IMPACT REPORT

## SOUTH CENTRAL LAMP 2018-2019

### OUR FOUNDING CONGREGATIONS

- ◆ The Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary
- ◆ California Province of Holy Faith
- ◆ Sisters of St. Louis (Monaghan)
- ◆ Sisters of St. Joseph in California
- ◆ Sisters of the Holy Family
- ◆ Society of the Holy Child Jesus
- ◆ US–Ontario Province of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary
- ◆ Sisters of Social Service of Los Angeles

### OUR SUPPORTING CONGREGATIONS

- ◆ Daughters of Charity
- ◆ Sisters of Mercy
- ◆ Sisters of Notre Dame
- ◆ Sisters of Providence
- ◆ Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange

### OUR MISSION

*South Central LAMP provides a supportive, nurturing environment for economically poor women and their families. We do this by offering programs that empower women and their families reach their full potential, build self-esteem, utilize resources and strengthen mutual interdependent relations.*



South Central Los Angeles Ministry Project (South Central LAMP) was founded in response to the 1992 civil unrest in Los Angeles by a collaboration of congregations of Catholic women religious. They walked through the devastated neighborhood and asked how they could better support the community and its families.

The Sisters heard a strong desire from mothers to enhance their parenting skills, improve their English literacy, and prepare their children for school and later success in life. In dialogue with the local community, the founders developed family-centered programming that has grown to include: English as a Second Language (ESL) courses; parenting classes; early childhood education programs and other initiatives that support family needs in the community.

# ADULT LEARNING PROGRAMS

All of South Central LAMP's programs are offered at no cost to the families.

## Parent-Child Interactive Literacy Activities (PCILA)

Mothers join their children in the classroom three times weekly for one-hour sessions to engage in meaningful and stimulating literacy activities together. PCILA involves mothers as partners in the learning and development of their children, encourages them to spend time sharing the joy of literacy with their children, and fosters positive parent-child interaction.



## Family Advocacy

Our Family Advocacy Program is designed to help parents develop personal and family goals, identify and address obstacles, and provides support, information, and referrals to vital community resources, food pantries, physical and mental health resources and other information and service and faith based programs. Our onsite Family Advocate offers highly individualized and integrated support through home and in office visits in order to establish a trusting positive relationship and to identify and coordinate referral needs.

## English as a Second Language

Our three levels of ESL classes focus on equipping mothers with the language proficiency necessary for personal, vocational, academic and citizenship goals so they may participate fully in society and support and advocate for their children. Classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays, 8:30am-10:30am, and Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:30am-12pm.

## Parenting Education

Our parenting classes help mothers create a healthy home environment, prepare their children for kindergarten, and develop their leadership and advocacy skills. Our classes help mothers recognize that a parent is a child's first teacher. Mothers understand that they are partners in their child's education and learning happens in the every day moments they share with their children. Classes are held on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:00am-12pm and on Fridays from 8:30am-12pm.

*"South Central LAMP has taught me that I'm valuable, therefore, I will always remember there is no limit to what we, as women, can accomplish."*  
~ South Central LAMP Graduate

# ADULT LEARNING OUTCOMES

## IMPROVED PARENTING.

**Thirty-eight (38) mothers participated in our parenting and PCILA classes.**

Pre- and post-program surveys revealed improvements in mothers' support of learning at home and engagement in activities that promote parent-child attachment, including:

- ⇒ Reading to Children 5+ Times Weekly: 40% pre – 81% post;
- ⇒ Visiting the Library at least Once Monthly: 37% pre – 84% post;
- ⇒ Frequently Asking Children Questions while Reading: 29% pre – 78% post;
- ⇒ Telling Children a Story: 34% pre – 53% post;
- ⇒ Having Children Play with a Writing Instrument: 54% pre – 72% post;
- ⇒ Understanding of Public School Systems: 66% pre – 88% post;
- ⇒ Participation in Parent Committee Meetings: 26% pre – 47% post; and
- ⇒ Talking with Children about the World around them: 69% pre – 91% post.

*"I am leaving here knowing that now I am not afraid to face new challenges."*

*South Central LAMP Graduate*

## ADULT LITERACY GAINS.

**We provided ESL classes for 43 mothers (38 currently in the Family Literacy Program and 5 past participants).**

To measure gains, we administered CASAS, the most widely used system for assessing adult English language and literacy skills. Eighty-three percent (83%) of the 36 students demonstrated measurable gains from the pre- to post-test. Eighty-six percent (86%) of those students met or surpassed their goals. In addition, students expressed that they felt more capable and comfortable communicating in English.

By the end of the program year, 71% of first-year students reported feeling comfortable talking with their children's teachers and confident in their ability to use English to find work. One hundred percent of all students reported practicing English with their children as compared to 64% at the program's start. In June, seven women graduated from the Family Literacy Program. After being in the program for three years, they completed an average of 1,313 hours of ESL, 541 hours of parenting classes, and 421 hours of PCILA, while their children received 1,824 hours of early childhood education.

*"It is a huge relief to be able to speak English." ~ South Central LAMP Graduate*

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE) FOR CHILDREN AGES 0 TO 5

All of South Central LAMP's programs are offered at no cost to the families.

While their mothers are in class, children attend a licensed ECE program based on The Creative Curriculum, which shows early childhood educators how to intentionally infuse literacy practices into their classroom and use the environment as a natural source to create literacy-related experiences. We are especially proud of our kids language and literacy skills, as most are English Language Learners.



## CAMP LAMP

CAMP LAMP is unique in that it invites both mother and child to participate. This program is particularly important because most of our families do not have access to transportation, limiting their opportunities to explore outside of their community. We want our kids and families to realize all the opportunities out there for them. Field trips and activities focus on providing experiences in the arts and sciences, two very important areas that do not always get promoted in the children's schools. Field trips of this kind can have a tremendous impact on children. They not only create memories, but also allow them to dream outside of their circumstances.

*"If a family is strong, the kids will be strong. If a mother is strong, her kids will have strength."*  
~ South Central LAMP Graduate

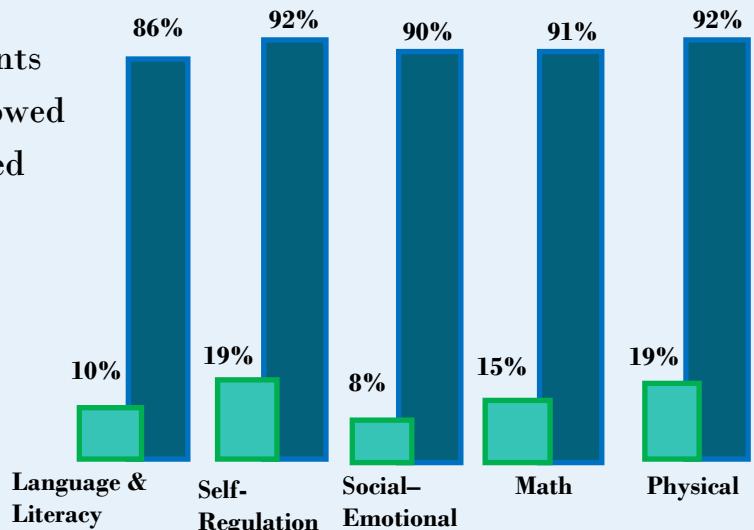
In the summer, 109 children and 43 mothers participated in Camp LAMP, which included onsite activities and field trips to Seaside Lagoon, Underwood Family Farms, and the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History.

## EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (ECE) OUTCOMES

### CHILD DEVELOPMENT GAINS.

***We provided ECE classes for 90 children (77 Pre-School/Pre-K and 13 infants).***

Results of pre- and post-program assessments (DRDP) revealed that children ages 3-5 showed significant developmental gains, as measured by their advancement to the top three (out of 9) developmental levels in each domain:



The children are all English Language Learners and showed major gains in English language development, with the percentage in the top two (out of 6) levels of this domain rising from 12% to 79%.

### KINDERGARDEN READINESS.

By year's end, children demonstrated increased skills demonstrating kindergarten readiness, including:

- ⇒ Understanding Quantity (i.e., most, fewest): 66% pre – 96% post;
- ⇒ Writing their Own Name: 15% pre – 64% post;
- ⇒ Writing All Letters: 0% pre – 47% post;
- ⇒ Counting to 30: 6% pre – 59% post; and
- ⇒ Using Scissors : 65% pre – 96% post.

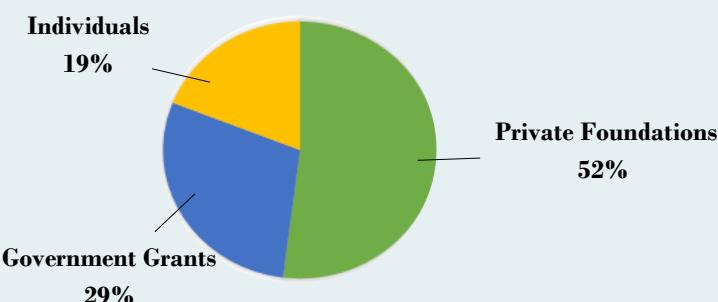
Children who participate in our early childhood education programs are Kinder Ready by age 5. Principals at the local schools have stated that incoming students who have attended South Central LAMP are better prepared for kinder and their families are more active in their classrooms and at school.

## ADDITIONAL SERVICES

South Central LAMP also offers the following Free, Onsite Services:

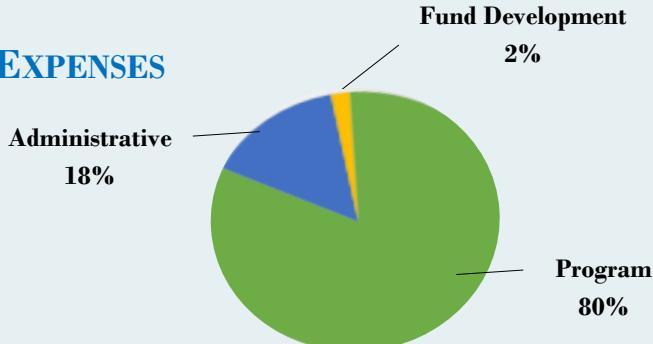
- ⇒ Ongoing workshops, in collaboration with our community partners, on Immigration Laws, Financial Literacy, Leadership, School Choices, Development Disabilities, Nutrition, Vaping, and Women's Empowerment;
- ⇒ Home Visits from our Family Advocate, assessing families' progress towards their personalized goals and linking them to community resources.
- ⇒ Field Trips to the local library, with 71 children obtaining their first library card;
- ⇒ Weekly Food Distribution in partnership with St. Francis Center;
- ⇒ STEAM Day, in partnerships with Junior League of Los Angeles, to instill a love for Science, Technology, Arts, Engineering and Math;
- ⇒ Trick or Treating for Books event, Holiday Food and Toy Drives in the Fall;
- ⇒ UCLA's Mobile Eye Clinic conducted vision screenings for 66 children (11 failed and received free glasses);
- ⇒ USC's Ostrow School of Dentistry provided dental screenings for 72 children;
- ⇒ South Central Los Angeles Regional Center screened 84 children for developmental disabilities;
- ⇒ Altamed conducted an HIV screening (+workshop) for 23 mothers; and
- ⇒ HEAR Center provided hearing screenings for 76 children and 32 mothers (14 failed and were offered a free, full-scale evaluation).

### INCOME



South Central LAMP relies on generous contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations that are committed to empowering children and women in South Central Los Angeles.

### EXPENSES



To learn more about South Central LAMP, please visit [www.southcentrallamp.org](http://www.southcentrallamp.org) or call (323) 234-1471 for more on how you can help.

Tax Id No. 95-4571388.