

# SOUTH CENTRAL LAMP

IMPACT REPORT

2021.2022

South Central LAMP's mission is to provide programs that empower women and their families to reach their full potential in a supportive, nurturing environment through education, building self-esteem, and strengthening community relationships.

## 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 Carondelet
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange

892 E. 48th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90011

Tax Id No. 95-4571388



# FINDING INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS IN UNCERTAIN TIMES

Winston Churchill said, “Never let a good crisis go to waste.” He made this statement at the end of WWII and it echoes through to today as a reminder that every situation, no matter how dire, is an opportunity to find **innovative** solutions. It is one of my favorite quotes, as it speaks to human resilience and the genius that can come out of necessity.

You will notice in this impact report that some pictures show the children, mothers and staff of South Central LAMP with face coverings while others do not. It’s a salient example of the challenges of the past year. Just as we thought we were getting out of the pandemic, there would be a spike in COVID cases. Every time we felt safe to remove facial coverings, a family member, a neighbor, a work colleague, or a student would test positive.

While this was a challenging time for us, it **was** also an opportunity to be **innovative**. In fact, we thrived as a team during the pandemic. We worked on procedures and then practiced and edited them as needed, based on feedback from the team. It was important for us to keep our doors open and so we made sure we did.

LAMP is an acronym for Los Angeles Ministry Project, but to us, it is a light that burns so our families, and anyone who needs us, can find their way. LAUSD statistics prove just how crucial our services are. Only 43% of elementary students



Diana Z. Pinto  
Executive Director, South Central LAMP

tested at or above the proficient level for reading, 36% tested at or above that level for math, minority enrollment is 90%, and 60% of students are economically disadvantaged. This is why we needed to stay open, especially during a pandemic.

So, what else did we do that was **innovative**? For the first time we spoke to our community about what we offer at LAMP and they learned we are far more than just a Family Literacy program. The community learned about our comprehensive health workshops on COVID, and child and adult mental health. We shared how our child developmental support system is inclusive of the entire family, how we connect families to crucial resources, and how our weekly food distribution has impacted the community.

It became apparent that we were no longer the same agency that started almost 30 years ago as a Family Literacy program. We became an agency seeking to create equity for those we serve with programs to improve every aspect of our community's health - including services that can mean the difference between staying housed or unhoused. This new understanding of what we do for the community obtained us three new major grants, totaling over \$300,000, to not only continue doing what we were doing but to do more.

In the end, when things seemed unfair, doomed, and almost hopeless, we did not let crisis limit us in how we could be of service. It helped us go beyond what we were doing, and it could not have been done without all our staff, our Board and committee members, our community partners, our donors, and funders. On behalf of the South Central LAMP team and the families we serve, thank you so very much for your ongoing support. I hope we made you proud with how **innovative** we were in administering your donations during these incredibly challenging times.

Sincerely,

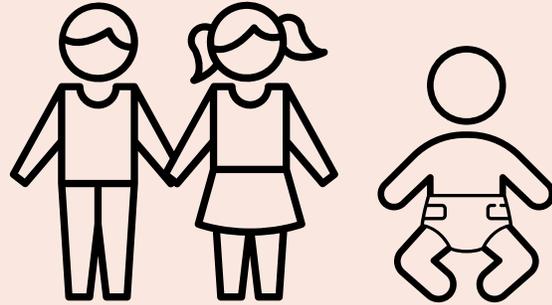
Diana Z. Pinto  
Executive Director

# Program Snapshots

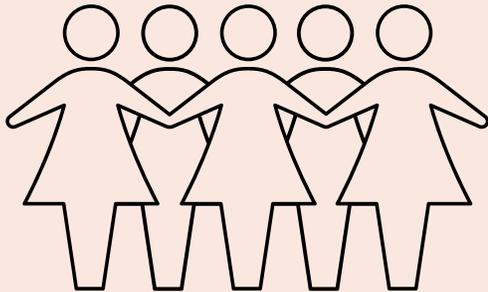
---

## 61 LITTLE LEARNERS

Children (ages 0-5 ) participated in virtual early childhood education, making educational and developmental gains that are crucial for Dual Language Learners



## AMAZING WOMEN 24



Despite the challenges of the pandemic and the additional challenges facing our community, mothers actively participated in parenting and ESL classes, complemented by family advocacy services and linkage to additional resources

## 406 RESILIENT FAMILIES

Due to the pandemic, we expanded our weekly community food program in partnership with St. Francis Center, reaching 1,623 unduplicated individuals



## CAMP LAMP 58



Children and 28 mothers participated in onsite activities focused on social-emotional and physical development, as well as field trips to Eaton Canyon and Underwood Family Farms.

# Early Childhood Education Program



"The best part of being a teacher is that I am given the opportunity to build a foundation that forms life-long learners. This I see year after year when my shy, quiet child leaves South Central LAMP a social butterfly."

- Carla Silva, Pre-K Teacher



# Child Development Gains

Results of pre- and post-program assessments (DRDP) of children (ages 3-5) showed developmental gains, with the vast majority of participants advancing substantially to the higher developmental levels in each domain as follows:

	Percentage of children Pre-Program	Percentage of children Post-program
Social-Emotional:	13%	63%
Language and Literacy:	15%	61%
Math:	32%	76%
English-Language Development:	24%	68%
Writing Their Name:	22%	66%
Using Scissors:	54%	97%



International Women's Day 2022

## Adult Literacy Gains

To measure English language and literacy gains, we administered CASAS (Comprehensive Adult Student Assessment Systems). Of the 18 mothers with a pre- and post-test score, 89% made a gain. Of those who made a gain, 83% achieved significant gains by reaching their goal or beyond. By the end of the year, 94% of mothers also reported practicing English with their children, up from 83%.

## Other Supportive Services

- Home visits with a Family Advocate
- Workshops (including Autism, Cancer Awareness, COVID-19, Leadership, Library Resources, Medi-Cal, Renters Rights, School Choices and Transition to Kinder)
- Free Hearing and Vision Screenings
- Camp LAMP & STEAM Event
- Harvest Festival, Thanksgiving Food Drive & Holiday Gifts for Children

# Mother's Talk

---



**"I used to be very timid and would never speak English around people. Now, I feel more confident and my English has progressed so much."**

**"I have changed 100%. I used to not have a lot of patience with my kids and did not know how to educate them. I have learned how to communicate with them and have seen their growth firsthand."**



**"I have learned many things and they have helped me and my son in different ways. Thanks to South Central LAMP, we realized that my son needed a lot of help in his learning, and they informed me of the help available for him. I have learned a lot in English class and parenting classes. I am very grateful to have found the program."**



# Women's Program Highlights

---



## Family Literacy Program Statistics

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

- 100% of Mothers reported talking with their child's teacher about how to support learning at home
- 89% of Mothers also reported increased participation in school events
- 100% of Mothers reported confidence in their ability to help their child transition to kindergarten
- 88% of Mothers reported frequently having children play with a writing instrument
- 88% of Mothers reported talking with children about what they see or are doing
- 77% of Mothers reported taking books for their child on everyday activities

# Heartfelt Thank You's from our Mothers



"The program has helped me communicate with my children and have a better understanding of them. I used to let my emotions get the best of me and I would become reactive. The parenting classes taught me how to handle tricky situations. I like that both me and my child get to learn under the same roof. My child and I get to practice English together when I am helping them with homework, and we try to talk to each other in English as much as possible."

"The Family Literacy program has helped me as a mother, a woman, and a wife. It has helped me gain confidence to talk to other people in English, to teachers and to doctors. I can understand my daughter's homework and I can help her with it. I owe it all to the program. Thank you, LAMP."



# Financial Snapshot

---

**REVENUE** **\$ 1,478,034**

Grant revenue: **\$ 572,676**

Contributions and appeals: **\$ 390,615**

Federal and CA State Grants: **\$ 445,234**

In-kind revenue: **\$ 52,510**

Investment income: **\$ 7,706**

Other: **\$ 9,293**

**EXPENSES** **\$1,249,443**

Program services: **\$ 876,472**

Management and general: **\$ 256,097**

Fundraising: **\$ 116,874**

---

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We are truly grateful for the generous support we received in 2021-2022 from individuals, congregations, foundations, corporations and community partners. You have our commitment that we will be good stewards of your donations, as we continue to help our families strengthen their community collaborations, and we remain steadfast in providing essential services to the women and children of South Central Los Angeles.

# About Us

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.

To learn more about our programs and how you can make a difference in the lives of those we serve, please visit our website at:  
[www.southcentrallamp.org](http://www.southcentrallamp.org)

Or find us on social media:  
[www.facebook.com/southcentrallamp](http://www.facebook.com/southcentrallamp)  
[www.instagram.com/southcentrallamp](http://www.instagram.com/southcentrallamp)  
[www.youtube.com/southcentrallamp](http://www.youtube.com/southcentrallamp)



*South  
Central*  
**LAMP**

*Empowering families since 1993*

---

## CONTACT US

Diana Z Pinto, Executive Director  
[dpinto@southcentrallamp.org](mailto:dpinto@southcentrallamp.org)  
Tel: (323) 234 1471 x. 108

Nicole Burcham, Development Director  
[nburcham@southcentrallamp.org](mailto:nburcham@southcentrallamp.org)  
Tel: (323) 234 1471 x. 101