



1433 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90035

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
BEVERLY HILLS, CA
PERMIT NO. 5609

Address Correction Requested



A 501 (c) (3) Nonprofit Organization

News and Events About Alcott Center

Summer 2017

Alcott Matters

1433 S. Robertson Blvd. | Los Angeles, CA 90035 (310) 785-2121 | fax (310) 553-6052 | www.alcottcenter.org

Letter from the Executive Director

IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 1**
Letter from the Executive Director
- Page 2**
Community News
- Page 3**
Pico Robertson Health Neighborhood Board News
- Insert**
Supporters



It's been several months since my last newsletter update where I used the metaphor of an oak tree putting down deep roots and taking in the nutrients of the community soil - growing slow and

steady. Like that tree, Alcott continues its steady growth. Since 2015 we have increased the number of clients served by more than 55%! We have modified our internal processes aiding efficiency and added new staff - and our plans for the balance of 2017 into 2018 are to continue to hire.

On June 11th our 'groundbreaking' fundraiser event was held at our new, adjacent sites honoring Rabbi Kanefsky and the B'nai David-Judea Congregation because of the warm support they have extended to us and the clients we serve. Councilmember Paul Koretz cut the ribbon and recognized and commended the Rabbi and Alcott Center with scrolls from the City of Los Angeles. With any luck, it looks like we will have completed remodeling the new spaces by November. Watch for notice of fall art event at our new and improved gallery space.

At the same time we continue to grow our array of program services. The Pico-Robertson Health Neighborhood is thriving. Eight local agencies participated in the June 4th South Robertson

(SoRo) festival. Collaborations between member agencies, the SoRo Neighborhood Council and Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health have resulted in exceptional quality of care for vulnerable community members. And we're optimistic that this will result in a new funding for Alcott. We've been awarded a new Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LASHA) contract and will soon be assisting 15 of the most vulnerable, homeless individuals find housing. The addition of Drug Medi-Cal services remains on our horizon.

Somehow, I find myself thinking of a turn of phrase in Robert Heinlein's sci-fi novel 'Stranger in a Strange Land'. The phrase is 'Waiting is' - Sometimes I feel like Sisyphus. That is Sisyphus of Greek mythology who was forced by the gods to roll an immense boulder up a hill only so watch it roll down to hit him over and over and over again. Personifying the absurdity of human life - one must imagine Sisyphus happy - 'the struggle itself towards the heights is enough to fill a man's heart' - Camus

My heart is full - but I'm anxious to move ahead. Much like the rest of life, we push through challenges and continue to work hard toward our goal of serving our clients. As we continue our expansion this year, we hope that you will be there with us!

Penny

Penny Mehra, Executive Director

Watch for more information on upcoming gallery exhibitions!



NEWS AND EVENTS

The Annual “Summer in the City” fundraising event was great success



Pictured (L-R) Penny Mehra, Executive Director, Council member District 5, Paus Koretz, Alcott Board Chair Mark Rothman, Rabbi Yosef Kanefsky of B'nai David-Judea Congregation, Special Honoree.



Artist Steve Revius and his photographs at the opening of Alcott's new gallery.



Alcott fundraiser attendees enjoying themselves.

Alcott staffers – slightly incognito - at the Santa Monica Lawn Bowls Club for a long day of lawn bowling for a great cause. The event benefited the Westside Coalition which is an alliance of 45 organizations, public agencies and faith communities committed to working collaboratively on issues of housing, hunger and health through service coordination, public education and advocacy.



Alcott's popular “SORO” Booth helps educate the community

Alcott Center recently participated in South Robertson District's local “SORO Festival.” A wide range of community members and all ages attended the festive event and it was an opportunity to inform and educate the public on our mental health services via a fun raffle. Associate Director Nick Maiorino and Clinical Case Manager Anna Levy, LCSW, are pictured along with local community members.



Pico Robertson “Health Neighborhood” Builds Momentum

The Alcott Center for Mental Health Services is engaged in a ‘health neighborhood’ pilot project with several other established and committed organizations whose common purpose is to identify community needs, increase awareness and educate individuals in order to improve health and quality of life in the Pico-Robertson area.

The Pico-Robertson health neighborhood consists of strong collaborative relationships with providers of mental health, physical health, substance use, homeless and social services and over the last year, has touched the lives of nearly 500 community members.

We're excited that our core health neighborhood partners include:

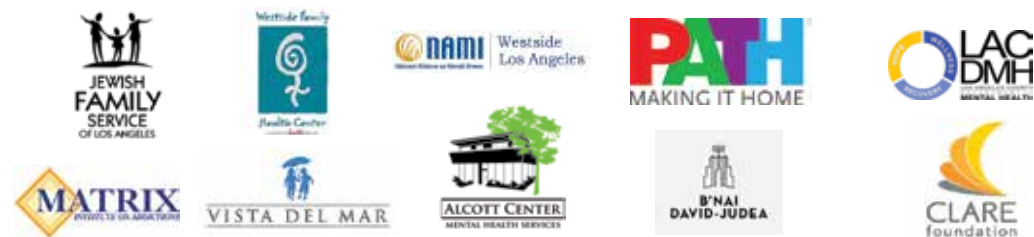
- Alcott Center for Mental Health Services
- Westside Family Health Center (WFHC)
- Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (JFS)
- People Assisting the Homeless (PATH)
- The Los Angeles Department of Mental Health (DMH) Edelman Westside Clinic
- MATRIX Institute on Addictions
- B'nai David-Judea Congregation

- The CLARE Foundation
- Vista Del Mar (VDM)

We meet monthly to discuss reciprocal referrals, access to services while promoting awareness to reduce the stigma associated with many health conditions. At this point, partners are referring approximately 40 individuals monthly, to and from each other, assisting in connecting community members to needed services. As the lead entity for the project, Alcott has secured grant funding through Cedars-Sinai and Kaiser and, with its partners, plans to seek long-term, on-going funding this year.

Recently, Alcott and its partners attended the 20th Annual SoRo Festival as a large part of a ‘health village’ Providers were present to talk about their services with the community, to provide free health screenings and, to conduct a survey of the health needs specific to community members. The results of this survey will help us create an action plan for the community to address the identified needs.

Stay tuned!



Michael Welch joins Alcott Board of Directors



We're pleased to announce that Michael Welch was recently elected to the Board of Directors. Michael has been working in the behavioral health field since 2001. His wealth of experience in both the for-profit and non-profit sectors has been instrumental to his ability to simultaneously provide superlative client care and successfully build thriving businesses. Michael has founded nine healthcare companies, creating over 200 jobs and successfully treating thousands of pa-

tients. To provide an example, Attila, a healthcare management company that Michael founded, operates hospitals, substance use facilities, medication assisted programs, employee training programs, and billing services nationwide. His current passion is utilizing data mining to better serve individuals with mental health issues and substance abuse disorders. The scientific community has provided the tools, but these tools have not been effectively applied to treat behavioral health disorders. Michael hopes to change the landscape, with the ultimate goal of improving patient outcomes across the country.

Alcott Matters is a publication of the Alcott Center for Mental Health Services.

2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mark Rothman
CHAIR
Principal, MAR Consulting

Clayton Coleman
TREASURER
Vice President & Branch Manager, Union Bank

William McKenna
Financial Executive (retired)

Lee Milman
Director of Housing,
A Community of Friends (retired)

Michael Welch
Managing Partner
Attila Management

David Sall
Operations Manager
Chrysalis Agency

Marjorie E. Rothman
Peer Advocate, Step Up on Second

EXECUTIVE STAFF

Penny Mehra
Executive Director

Nick Maiorino
Associate Director

Kristi Rangel, LCSW
Director of Programs

Bill Moreno
Development and Studio
Arts Director

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR CLIENTS!

SUPPORTERS

NOVEMBER 2016 – JUNE 2017

Amanda Anderson	William Goring
Cynthia Anderson-Barker and Tim Barker	Annette Gottlieb
Sylvia Aroth	Gil and Robin Graff In honor of Yosef Kanefsky
Leonard and Audrey Asher	Jane Grossman and Brad Rassler
Christopher Ayers & Thasja Hoffman	Joseph G. Grossman
Emily Bost-Baxter and Zackery C. Baxter	Cara Grossman & Zev Wainberg
Christina M. Benson and Kenneth Wells	In Honor of Rabbi Kanefsky
Dorothy Berndt	Theodore Hajjar and Carol Wells
Noel and Leila Brown	Joel and Betsy Handler
Erin Burke	Lawrence and Susan Handman
Andrea Cerda	Margaret and Charles Healy In honor of Elaine Healy
Mike and Judith Claman-Fantasia	Barbara Hohlt
Clayton and Caren Coleman	Joseph and Roberta Howard
Joanna and Mark Crawford	Christopher Howells
John and Arlene Cull	Stephen and Jillian Isaacs
In Honor of Arlene Cull's Birthday	Brenda Jacobs, M.D. In Honor of David Sall
Samuel Dekin	Janice and Pete Johnson
Sharon Dunas	In Memory of Pat & Ledo Belluomini
Joseph and Julie Fax In honor of	Juilet Johnson
Rabbi Kanefsky and Binai David-Judea	Catherine and William Kaiser
Fay Feeney	Joseph Kanefsky and Sari Abrams
Jeffrey Feuer and Orli Low	Barbara Kar
Jeffrey and Danielle Friedman	Robin Kay
Damon and Brooke Frier	Lynn Kirshbaum
Michael Gales, MD	Robert Kummer O.D., P.C.
Maure Gardner	Elizabeth Lawrence In honor of
Jamie Garelick	Michael Jerome Goldstein
Yolanda Gillis	Tienne Lee
Olushola Giwa	Nicole Lenchner
Daniel and Ivonne Goldberg	Mark and Barbara Lesser
In honor of Mark, Vickie and Margie Rothman	Laura Levin
Gordon Family Living Trust	Steven Mark Lowenstein
In Honor Of Gordon Family Trust	In Honor of Rabbi Yosef Kanefsky

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMITMENT TO OUR CLIENTS!

SUPPORTERS

NOVEMBER 2016 – JUNE 2017

Joseph and Mary kay Mahoney

Nicholas Maiorino Jr.

Timothy and Jane McCaffrey

Thomas McGuire

Penny Mehra

Eleonore Meline

Jonathan and Carina Miller

Jeffrey and Lee Milman

Tessa Milman

Jeanne and John Monaghan

Bill Moreno

Jeanette Moulthrop

Caitlyn and Michael O'Hara

Judy Pollner In memory of Melvin Pollner

Cecille, Robert and Stephen Polsky

Thomas and Debbie Pritchard

Brian and Courtney Procel

Jeffrey and Amy Rabin

Kristin and Louie Rangel

Rose Wolfe Trust In honor of Rabi Kanefsky

Ellen Roese

Mark and Vickie Rothman

Andrew Rotter and Caren Reitman

Bill and Alice Roy

David and Lisa Sall

Kenneth Sall In honor of David and Valery Sall

Joseph Schrank

Joseph & Marie Jose Serbaroli

In Honor of Christine Sicile

Linda Smith

Robert Smith

Sara Sobel

Michael Soter

Zachary Steel and Blair Melici

David and Sandra Stirling In honor of Scott Stirling

Eric Stoff

Sharon Stone

Motoko Suydam

Alissa Thomas

Thanks for partnering with B'Nai David and HN

Fred and Susie Toczek

In honor of Rabbi Kanefsky from the Toczek Family

Steve Tyler

Joan and Jim Verneti

Michael Welch

Marlene and Robert Werra

Gayle Whittemore In memory of Dr. Joseph B. Keller

Jean Wolff

Anonymous

Community & Institutional Supporters

AmazonSmile

Anonymous

Bank of America Gift Fund

Cedars-Sinai

Kaiser Permanente - West Los Angeles

Tarjan Center at UCLA

Team CFO

The Annenberg Foundation

The Sikand Foundation, Inc.

Union Bank

The Weingart Foundation