



# Chair's Challenge



Dear Friends,

When I assumed my role as Chair of the Board, I announced 2020 would be the Year of the Youth. As I took the gavel, I tasked all of our county departments to think up new, creative ideas and programs in service of the growth and well-being of the next generation. Though this year didn't play out as we'd planned, Los Angeles County still made our children a priority.

As we near the end of my term as Chair next week, I was honored to award our third and final Chair's challenge winner with a piece of art from [Tierra del Sol](#). Our [Auditor-Controller](#) (right), [Treasurer and Tax Collector](#) (left), and Director of the [Department of Children and Family Services](#) (center) put together a fantastic financial literacy program to serve transitional-age foster youth. As our young people prepare for adulthood, being fiscally responsible will help them create good saving and spending habits, avoid debt, and plan for their futures. You can watch a short video about the program [here](#).

One transitional age youth named Jazzmyn said, "Financial literacy is important because it provides us with the necessary skills and knowledge needed to make the best financial decisions." We couldn't agree more! She said learning more about money management has helped her to save, pay her bills, build good credit, and become self-sufficient.

I hope to further expand this program for more youth across Los Angeles County to prepare them for a future where they can be mindful managers of their finances. When we equip the next generation with education, they thrive into adulthood.

To learn more about our other Chair's Challenge winners, [click here](#).

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathryn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'K' being particularly large and stylized.

Kathryn Barger  
Supervisor, Fifth District

# Testing at Home



Los Angeles County launched a new COVID-19 home test collection program, which allows residents to access free testing from the comfort of home. The program will run from now through Jan. 15, 2021. This innovative effort aims to address the current surge in demand for testing and reduce the spread of COVID-19 during the holiday season. You can have a testing kit mailed to your home if you have COVID-19 symptoms, were recently in close contact with someone who has COVID-19 or is suspected of having it, or are a senior or person with disabilities who feels you were exposed to COVID-19 but are unable to go to a testing site. The week before Thanksgiving, nearly half a million regular tests were performed in Los Angeles County. We hope this new testing format provides convenient, quick responses for our communities.

[Sign up for an at-home test.](#)

# Food for Families



With the holiday season underway, we know many families could use a little extra support. There are food distribution events across Los Angeles County to ensure everyone's pantry is full. My office will be partnering with the Los Angeles Regional Food bank to host grocery giveaways at **Citrus College on Tuesday, Dec. 8** and **Castaic Lake on Friday, Dec. 18**. Both events are from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Additionally, on **Friday, Dec. 11**, the **YMCA of Glendale** will host a food drive from 12 to 2 p.m. Plus, restaurant workers in the Antelope Valley are invited to access free food giveaways on **Dec. 9 and 16 at Grace Resource Center** from 1 to 3 p.m. Please share these dates with your neighbors in need.

[Find food or volunteer.](#)

# Bobcat Fire Support



If you were impacted by the Bobcat Fire, you have two weeks left to register for aid from FEMA. Eligible residents will receive financial support for rent, home repairs, medical and dental costs, and other disaster-related expenses. You should contact your insurance provider and file a claim prior to registering with FEMA. Please connect with FEMA by the Dec. 16 deadline to receive assistance.

Also, you can apply for legal assistance for no-cost referrals to nonprofit legal organizations. When you call (888) 382-3406, you'll receive assistance with insurance claims, repair contracts, and counseling for mortgage, foreclosure, or landlord issues.

Additionally, the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works is offering appointments to share rebuilding help and information on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. from now through January.

[Register with FEMA.](#)

Receive legal assistance.

Rebuild with Public Works.

# Toy Giveaway



The Spark of Love toy drive is the reason we can provide the foster youth in L.A. County with Christmas cheer every year and is made possible by the generosity of our communities. If you're able, please donate a toy to this collaborative effort between the Los Angeles County Fire Department, Department of Public Social Services, and ABC7. With your help, we can make the holiday season merry and bright for

Give a gift to a child in need.

# Sharpen Your Skills



Join the L.A. County Library's Work Ready program to find a job, sharpen your skills, or seek out new career opportunities. Beginning Dec. 7, participants can borrow a laptop and wireless hotspot kit and attend six-week virtual sessions covering career-related topics. This is a fantastic resource to take the next step in your career!

Get ready to work.



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