

Lifesaving Change



Dear Friends,

This week marked a meaningful milestone for the [veteran community](#). On Thursday, the Los Angeles County [Veteran Suicide Review Team](#) hosted its kickoff meeting, making it the first of its kind in the State of California. As the result of a [motion](#) I coauthored, and with the commitment of a lot of community organizations and government partners, we will begin to closely track suicide data among veterans in order to better understand underlying issues. Ultimately, this will help us intervene for other veterans to [save their lives](#).

Heartbreakingly, the suicide statistics show the risk is up to four times higher for veterans than civilians. We cannot allow these men and women to risk their lives for our country only to fail them when they return home. Los Angeles County is home to the largest concentration of veterans in the nation, so we have a lot of people locally who are impacted by this issue.

Once we've understood how this data tells the stories of our veteran community, we'll be able to expand it to other vulnerable populations to prevent suicides countywide. At this week's Board of Supervisors meeting, [I declared](#) September as [Suicide Prevention Awareness Month](#) in Los Angeles County. I'm proud we are able to have these open, honest, and difficult conversations so we can dispel stigmas and create meaningful, lifesaving change in our communities.

If you or a loved one are facing a mental health emergency, call 9-8-8 or (800) 854-7771, or text "LA" to 741741. Access more mental health resources on the Department of Mental Health's [website](#).

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

Pets of the Week



Cassie



Winnie



Meet these perfect pups! This is Cassie, a seven-year-old English Bulldog, and Winnie, a five-month-old German Shepherd mix. They are both staying at the Palmdale Animal Care Center and are looking for loving homes. If you'd like to meet them, you can stop by the center between 2 and 5 p.m. any day, 2 to 7 p.m. on Wednesdays, or make a morning appointment online.

[Pick your perfect pet.](#)

Get Boosted

UPDATED COVID-19 BOOSTERS now available in LA County

Get boosted today. To find a location near you, visit [VaccinateLACounty.com](https://www.vaccinateLACounty.com)



COVID-19 booster shots are now available for everyone 12 and older in L.A. County! The new booster is tailormade to combat the most dominant variants. Many local pharmacies are offering the new doses with walk-in availability. Check the link below for more information on booster shots and to find a location near you.

[Learn more about boosters.](#)

Property Owner Support



During Tuesday's Board meeting, my colleagues introduced a motion to expand eviction defense services for tenants in Los Angeles County. I was proud to propose an amendment that ensured property owners would also be able to access County resources through feedback sessions and educational outreach. It's crucial that in our eviction defense plans and programs, we ensure both tenants and property owners have access to the support they need.

[Access rent resources.](#)

[Check out the Board agenda.](#)

Instagram Q&A



Ask about our L.A. County
budget:

Type something....

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, our Board of Supervisors will vote to approve [Los Angeles County's supplemental budget](#). I want to make sure residents fully understand how their tax dollars are being spent. To break down the budget, I'm hosting a Q&A on my Instagram story on Tuesday to connect with constituents about this important issue. Follow me on Instagram [@supervisorkathrynbarger](#) and submit your questions!

[Follow me on IG.](#)

Search and Rescue



Thank you to the Montrose Search and Rescue Team for 75 years of lifesaving volunteerism! Their members have answered more than 1,000 calls for help with compassion and bravery. They are now the world's largest search and rescue team and we are immensely proud of their work in Los Angeles County.

[Volunteer or learn more.](#)

Take Action with ANCA



In Los Angeles County, we stand with the Armenian community. It was a privilege to gather with so many friends and partners to celebrate the important advocacy underway through the Armenia National Committee of America Western Region at their gala last Sunday.

[Advocate with ANCA.](#)

Moonlight Sonata



Music enriches our lives and unites our community. It was an honor to join The Pasadena Symphony and POPS for their Moonlight Sonata last Saturday to celebrate our neighbors' incredible investment in the arts.

Enjoy the symphony.

Representing Labor



Unions keep our County running. I'm proud to partner with SEIU 721, which represents 95,000 public sector employees in hospitals, foster care, mental health, courts, law enforcement, libraries, street services, beach maintenance, sanitation, water treatment, parks services, and watershed management. It was a pleasure to connect with their leadership on Wednesday to talk about their priorities and our shared commitment to our L.A. County workforce.

[Connect with SEIU.](#)

Stand with Artsakh



Los Angeles County stands in solidarity with the Republic of Artsakh and the Armenian people against unprovoked military attacks by Azerbaijan that have taken so many innocent lives. At this week's Board of Supervisors meeting, the Board approved my motion to condemn Azerbaijan's attacks on the Armenian people. Thank you to Artsakh's Foreign Minister David Babayan for meeting with me on Monday to strengthen the County's relationship with Artsakh. We're pictured above at the Armenian Genocide Memorial in Grand Park.

[Watch a short video presentation of our meeting.](#)

Share Your Perspective

Have ideas for addressing homelessness?

The Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative wants to hear from you! Join one of 8 virtual community listening sessions to share your thoughts.

To register, visit

<https://homeless.lacounty.gov/news/listening-sessions-we-want-to-hear-from-you/>



Share your thoughts!



The Homeless Initiative is hosting a series of virtual community listening sessions so residents can hear about updated strategies for addressing and preventing homelessness and then share their feedback. The session for the San Gabriel Valley will be on Wednesday, Oct. 12 and the session for the Antelope Valley will be on Wednesday, Oct. 19. Please join to lend your voice to this important conversation.

[Tune in for a session.](#)

Coaches Needed



YOU MIGHT BE THE ONE WE NEED!

**VOLUNTEER
COACHES NEEDED!
FALL & WINTER SPORTS!**



Would you like to invest in the next generation? The L.A. County Department of Parks and Recreation is looking for volunteer coaches at Stephen Sorensen Park! They are recruiting coaches for flag football and girls' lacrosse for the fall and youth and girls' basketball for the winter. Coaches must be at least 16 years old. Call (661) 219-1128 for more information. Thank you for supporting local youth!

[Play with Parks.](#)

Girls Conference

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION



GIRLS EMPOWERMENT CONFERENCE

October 1, 2022
FREE Event For Girls Ages 12-18
Register at: parks.lacounty.gov/gec2022



EAST LOS ANGELES COLLEGE | 1301 AVENIDA CESAR CHAVEZ, MONTEREY PARK, CA 91754 |

Sign up your teen for the Girls Empowerment Conference! This special all-day event will inspire girls ages 12 to 18 with fun-filled workshops hosted by successful women innovators, connect them to peers, and allow them to exercise their girl power with a dance party. The event is from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. tomorrow, Saturday, Oct. 1 at East Los Angeles College. Free transportation will be provided from across the County from your local park, including Crescenta Valley, Loma Alta in Altadena, Jackie Robinson in Littlerock, and George Lane in Quartz Hill.

[Register here.](https://parks.lacounty.gov/gec2022)



Downtown:

500 W. Temple St. #869
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-5555

Antelope Valley:

42455 10th Street West, Suite 104
Lancaster, CA 93534
(661) 726-3600

East San Gabriel Valley:

615 E. Foothill Bl. Suite A
San Dimas, CA 91773
(909) 394-2264

Santa Clarita Valley:

27441 Tourney Rd. Suite 120
Santa Clarita, CA 91355
(661) 287-3657

San Gabriel Valley:

215 N. Marengo Ave. Suite 120
Pasadena, CA 91101
(626) 356-5407

San Fernando Valley:

21943 Plummer St.
Chatsworth, CA 91311
(818) 993-5170
