

# LACMC CONNECT



2022 Breakfast with the Chair

Volume 4 | Issue 2 | MAY 2022

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## MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Many thanks to all of you who attended the Breakfast with the Chair, featuring Chair Holly J. Mitchell. This was the largest turnout we've ever had for this event, and it was wonderful to see you in person. Please keep an eye out for other upcoming LACMC events and join us – you won't be disappointed!

We are a quarter of the way through 2022 and there are now discussions about how to accept the presence of COVID-19 as an endemic virus and establish what this means for working, socializing, and engaging in the community.

Part of what we have discovered in the workforce over the past two years was the importance of a work-life balance. People who were able to telecommute realized that their pre-pandemic work-life balance was, in fact, unbalanced and made an intentional change to refocus their priorities. This resulted in the Great Resignation where many people close to retirement age, or secondary earners who stayed home to take care of children, chose not to return to the workplace. Others not yet able to retire sought out opportunities to continue remote working or even moved to new areas where they could achieve a better balanced life. It also kicked off the Great Renegotiation where workers became more thoughtful about where and how they would like to work, leaving jobs for new opportunities that provided more intrinsic value to their lives.

What does that tell us as leaders? We must recognize our team members' desires for meaningful work with a sense of purpose. They should be given the opportunity to provide input into the successful



outcomes of their responsibilities. Focusing on diversity and inclusion, employee well-being, and employee engagement are great ways to energize our work environments.

Every department in Los Angeles County elevates the quality of life for our residents. Every person in each department contributes to those accomplishments. Celebrating our shared purpose through meaningful work brings intrinsic rewards in knowing we make a difference every day. Los Angeles County Management Council is here to provide training, resources, networking, and other opportunities for you to make the most of your County leadership career.

-Marcia Mayeda, LACMC President

# LACMC

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

"CREATING AND STRENGTHENING LEADERS"



### Are you a County Manager in need of a professional business network?

Approved by the Board of Supervisors in 1962, Los Angeles County Management Council (LACMC) serves as a professional organization designed to provide professional support to County Managers and promote effective management and leadership skills within County operations.

Join LACMC today and receive the following member benefits:



#### Trainings & Conferences

Monthly seminars and bi-annual conferences align managers with educational opportunities to build skills and promote knowledge.



#### Networking

Develops relationships, establish credibility, share information and knowledge which leads to enhanced professional opportunities.



#### Mentorship

Fundamentals of this formal mentor/mentee experience are the three A's: Active listening, Availability and Analysis which leads to mutual growth in your professional development.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Roberto Curiel, DPSS  
Delia Barreto, DMH  
Marilyn Smith, DPH  
Lori Willis, DMH  
Jasmin Velazquez, CSSD  
Kristina Paulo, DCFS  
Jeremy Gray, RRCC  
Monnica Thelen, PD  
Justin Guzman, AC&C  
Sarah McNair, DCFS  
Cristina Morales, DCFS  
Dana Wilson, DCFS  
Lawrence Murata-Shih, Assessor  
Kimberly Canter, PD  
Aparna Voleti, PD  
Jackie Contreras, DPSS  
Delfino Neira, DPSS  
Philip Lin, DPSS  
Jamal Jones, DCFS  
Melva Carrillo, WDAC  
Deryl Trotter, AC  
Grigor Arzumanyan, DPSS  
Nilaja Bush, DCFS  
Jerron Jackson, DPSS  
Marcus Huntley, PD  
Byran Lopez, WDAC  
Carlos Molina, DPSS  
Matthew Bukirin, CEO  
Heather Jue Northover, CEO  
Lateef Littleton, CSSD  
Mark Newkirk, Assessor  
Lillian Russell, CEO  
Jacques Cain, PD  
Kris McFarren, PD  
Amanda Meere, CEO  
Kelly O'Brien, PD  
Heather Rigby, Arts & Culture  
Gregory McCambridge, PD  
Robert Rodgers, DPSS

Visit <https://managementcouncil.lacounty.gov/> to learn more and sign up

# Testimonials

## See What Members Are Saying About LACMC:

"...I have supported the Los Angeles County Management Council which serves as an important resource for its members. For those of us who still remember a time when it seemed like that proverbial glass ceiling would never shatter, we know how important it is to have good mentors. The Management Council provides the wisdom and experience of those who have walked that same professional path and access to training and resources that can shape L.A. County's next great managers and executives."

~ Sachi Hamai (Former CEO)

"I joined LACMC for several reasons, to assist me in becoming a better manager by having access to classes, seminars and information to facilitate my love for lifelong learning".

~ Floyd Willis, ISD

"I joined LACMC for the networking and training opportunities and to aid in my growth as a manager and division leader. It was an incredible oversight on my part that I didn't sign up sooner".

~ Wendy Crutcher, Library

"Even when I first joined, I could tell that the real value of LACMC is its members. There are several County organizations, but none have the talent and star power as LACMC does with its Executive Officers and Committee Members".

~ Devyne Dawson (Management Fellow - ISD)

### Executive Council Officers:

Marcia Mayeda, ACC  
President

Kashari S. Jones, CEO  
Vice President

Rita Tufenkjian, WDACS  
Secretary

Arlene Barrera, Auditor  
Treasurer

### Executive Council:

Jim Allen, ISD

Erika Anzoategui, APD

Maria Ayala, DPSS

Shannon Denby, DPSS

Norma E. Garcia, Parks

Ricardo D. Garcia, PD

Lisa M. Garrett, DHR

Jackie Guevarra, BOS  
(Education Chair)

Kathy Hanks, DHS  
(Retired)

McKandy Leger, DHR

Jonathan Lucas, Coroner

Ruben Marquez, PD

David Turla, CEO

John Wicker, Parks  
(Retired)

## FAREWELL TO COUNTY SERVICE

Adrine Stephanian, DPSS  
Constance Hall, DCFS  
Kenneth Bennett, RRCC  
Manuel Hernandez, ISD  
Cynthia Schmidt, DPSS  
Guadalupe Gamez, DPSS  
Barbara Castro, DPSS  
Tony Kwok, DPSS  
Janice Teramura, Superior Court  
Zenaida Espanola, Assessor  
Francisca Campell, DPSS  
Ruth Wong, M & VA  
Brian Stiger, DCBA  
David Wesolik, ISD  
Phil Doudar, DPW  
Carolyn Gray, PD  
John Farrell, DCFS  
Cecilia Ochoa, DHR  
Dean Lehman, CEO  
Edgar Tom, P & R  
Marie Nunez, ISD  
Winston Peters, PD  
Xiomara Flores-Holguin, DCFS  
Elaine Boyd, AC  
Dawna Lawrence, Fire  
Carolyn Govan, Superior Court  
Margarita Reinoso, Superior Court  
Khanh Vu, DPSS  
Kerry Silverstrom, B & H  
Jack Sims, Probation  
Mark Carlson, ISD  
Ronda Jacobs, DCFS  
Alex Ramos, DPSS  
Rosie Badajos, DPSS  
Monique Nollner, DPSS  
Vicki Smith, DPSS  
Richard Franco, WDAC  
David Richardson Jr., Fire  
Steven Nyblom, CEO  
Joseph Peavy Jr., PD  
Miguel Quintero, Fire

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## 2022 LACMC Spring Conference



**MEET AN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBER**  
**Jackie T. Guevarra, CPA**  
Executive Director, Quality and Productivity Commission  
LACMC Education Committee Chair



Jackie began her County career in February 1997 and just celebrated her 25 years in public service with the County! She first joined the Department of Auditor-Controller's Audit Division as an Accountant-Auditor. In 2007, she joined the Special Projects Division (Red Team) and worked on unique projects like County sewage spills, indigent defense and investigating a drug treatment center. After thirteen years auditing, she joined the Department's Accounting Division, where she coordinated the compilation of the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report—the County's audited financial statements.

In 2018, she joined the Executive Office of the Board of Supervisors as the Executive Director of the Quality and Productivity Commission (QPC). The Commission was formed to promote innovation, quality, efficiency, and effectiveness of County services. She manages the day-to-day operations of the Commission, works with seventeen Commissioners on various programs/events (e.g., Leadership Conference, Productivity and Quality Awards, Department Visits) and manages the Productivity Investment Fund (PIF), which funds pilot and innovative ideas, and projects that enhance productivity and efficiency. She is proud to partner with County departments on innovative ideas and projects that enhance services and improve operations. Recently, a PIF project—Mobile Recreation Play Program: Park On The Move—by the Department of Parks and Recreation was recognized by the NFL at a Super Bowl LVI Legacy ribbon cutting ceremony in Inglewood. The NFL has a tradition of supporting community projects in the Super Bowl host City.

Jackie has a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration with a concentration in Accounting from California State University, Northridge. Go Matadors! Fun facts: Jackie was born in Honolulu, Hawaii—her parents lived and worked in Molokai, Hawaii and worked in the pineapple fields—grew up in the Philippines, speaks Ilocano (moderately), and is a long-time Lakers fan! She has two sons, 6 and 6.4 feet tall, which makes her the shorty in the family!



**LACMC INTERVIEWS**  
**Carlos Molina**  
Department of Public Social Services



**Q1) Why did you join LACMC?**

The pandemic has taught us many life lessons. Life is too short to be operating on cruise control. In 2022, I made a commitment to myself to participate more in all aspects of my personal and professional life. Joining LACMC is part of that commitment.

**Q2) How long have you worked for the County of Los Angeles (County)?**

I walked into a DPSS office for the first time as an Eligibility Worker II in February of 2008.

**Q3) Was the County your dream job as a child? If so, why? If not, what was your dream as a child and how did you land with County?**

Growing up, I didn't have a dream job, but I know I wanted to work, improving the lives of others. Through various assignments, in several departments, I have and will continue to fulfill that dream.

Speaking of dream jobs, during recruitment efforts in a previous assignment, I repeatedly expressed to potential LA County applicants that working for the County is similar to winning the Lottery's "Set for Life" Scratchers. I reiterated, that if "Set for Life" means to you, the opportunity to develop personally/ professionally while having a good work-life balance then the County may be the right fit for you. However, the County requires in return, for you to provide a good work ethic, a positive attitude, and an enthusiasm to serve, and with that combination, you will be "Set for Life" working for the County.

**Q4) Are you a 1st-generation County employee? If no, tell us about it.**

Yes, I am a 1st generation County employee.

**Q5) How can LACMC improve on creating and developing its members?**

I believe communication is the skill that everyone could improve indefinitely. Being able to actively and enthusiastically engage your employees is key to ensuring results in your operation. I would like to see LACMC identify and promote "Communication" as that essential skill that we always continue to seek improving.



*2022 Breakfast with the Chair*

**LACMC INTERVIEWS**  
**Bijula Yusin**  
Department of Animal Care and Control



**Q1) Why did you join LACMC?**

I am what I call an “accidental manager”. I am a veterinarian with very little experience in leading or managing. My supervisor encouraged me to join LACMC. The County’s structure allows me plenty of leadership opportunities and I am looking forward to engaging with and learning from others with more experience.

**Q2) How long have you worked for the County of Los Angeles (County)?**

I have worked with Los Angeles County for about nine years now. I had to leave my position in 2020 due to a change in my family situation during the pandemic, but I was able to rejoin in 2021.

**Q3) Was the County your dream job as a child? If so, why? If not, what was your dream as a child and how did you land with County?**

As a child, I wanted to be a veterinarian and help animals. My current County position allows me to do that so yes, I am living my dream!

**Q4) Are you a 1st-generation County employee? If not, tell us about it.**

Yes, I am a first-generation County employee (as well as a first-generation American citizen).

**Q5) How can LACMC improve on creating and developing its members?**

The professional development opportunities offered by LACMC are wonderful. I am looking forward to taking advantage of the mentorship opportunities myself. If I were to make a suggestion, it would be to have occasional gatherings or informal luncheons that are closer geographically to the North County (Palmdale/ Lancaster) as well.

*2022 Breakfast with the Chair*



# LOS ANGELES COUNTY MANAGEMENT COUNCIL NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

As a member of LACMC, this is a Great Opportunity for you to showcase your talents and skills by joining one of the following interactive committees.

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## LACMC Membership Drive

Invite your colleagues to take a look at LACMC by sharing this newsletter with them.

More details to follow.....

If your colleagues want to join now, share the following link with them.

<https://managementcouncil.lacounty.gov/CreateAccount>

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## Communications Committee

We are looking for a member who has excellent writing, communication, computer and social media skills to join our exciting Communication team.

If the above describes you and you are ready to show your communication skills, please contact Jim Allen, Communication Committee Chair at [jallen@isd.lacounty.gov](mailto:jallen@isd.lacounty.gov)

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## Education Committee

We are looking for a tech savvy member, who can assist us with some of our IT functions, such as WebEx meetings and electronic equipment.

Are you ready to showcase your talents? If so, please contact Jackie Guevarra, Education Committee Chair at [jguevarra@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:jguevarra@bos.lacounty.gov)

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## Special Services Committee

We are looking for at least two members who have event planning skills to join our thriving Special Services Committee Team. Desired skills are managing conference and event logistics, vetting speakers, on-site and in-person registration, procurement of giveaways and raff e items, and daytime site visits to assess venue suitability. If this committee is right for you, please contact Kashari S. Jones, Special Services Committee Chair at [kjones@ceo.lacounty.gov](mailto:kjones@ceo.lacounty.gov).

## LET'S GET SOCIAL

Follow us on our social media accounts!

Twitter: [@LACMC](https://twitter.com/LACMC)

LinkedIn: [Los Angeles County Management Council](https://www.linkedin.com/company/los-angeles-county-management-council/)

We would like to hear your comments, thoughts, ideas and suggestions. Please contact the editors at the following email:

[LACMC.connect.editor@managementcouncil.lacounty.gov](mailto:LACMC.connect.editor@managementcouncil.lacounty.gov)