

## PANEL II - COMMUNITY FUNDERS FORUM

### **Rosa Benitez – California Community Foundation ([www.calfund.org](http://www.calfund.org))**

Rosa Benitez is a program associate at the California Community Foundation, specializing in the areas of arts and human development and neighborhood revitalization. In addition to reviewing grant proposals in these areas, she staffs a variety of special initiatives, including the Visual Arts Initiative, the Thelma Pearl Howard Foundation, the Dolphin Change Fund and the Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association Fund, a historic preservation initiative for that community. Prior to joining the community foundation in 2004, Ms. Benitez was a project coordinator for the City of Ontario Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Agency, where she administered a multi-million dollar federal grant benefiting emergency shelters and community development in that city. Ms. Benitez received her master's degree in public administration in 2001 and her bachelor's degree in political science in 1999 from California State University, Los Angeles.

### **Alicia Dixon – The California Endowment ([www.calendow.org](http://www.calendow.org))**

Alicia Dixon, M.P.H., has a breadth of experience and expertise in the areas of women's health, violence prevention, youth, community development, and environmental health. As a program officer at The California Endowment since 2001, Alicia conducts outreach to community organizations to increase their awareness of funding opportunities; reviews health-related grant proposals from community-based organizations; helps to develop programs to assist underserved communities; and monitors foundation grants in the Greater Los Angeles Region. Ms. Dixon, a Long Beach resident, was a founding member of the state of California, Department of Health Services, Office of Women's Health, Women's Health Council, and is an advisory committee member of the Women's Health Collaborative. Ms. Dixon was also recently elected to the Board of Funders Concerned About AIDS. She holds a bachelor's degree in Microbiology from University of California, San Diego, and a master's degree in Public Health from UCLA.

### **Margarita Ramirez – Liberty Hill Foundation ([www.libertyhill.org](http://www.libertyhill.org))**

Margarita Ramirez is Senior Program Officer of the Liberty Hill Foundation, with whom she has been connected since 1980. As the foundation's Senior Program Officer, Margarita provides experienced leadership to program development, management, and assessment monitoring of the Liberty Hill Foundation's five funding programs, targeted to grassroots organizations working to implement social change strategies around economic, racial and criminal justice in Los Angeles County. Margarita is a member of the Steering Committee for Hispanics in Philanthropy, Southern California; an Advisory Committee member for California Fund for Youth Organizing; and participates as an institutional member of Grantmakers Concerned with Immigrant Rights and Southern California Grantmakers.

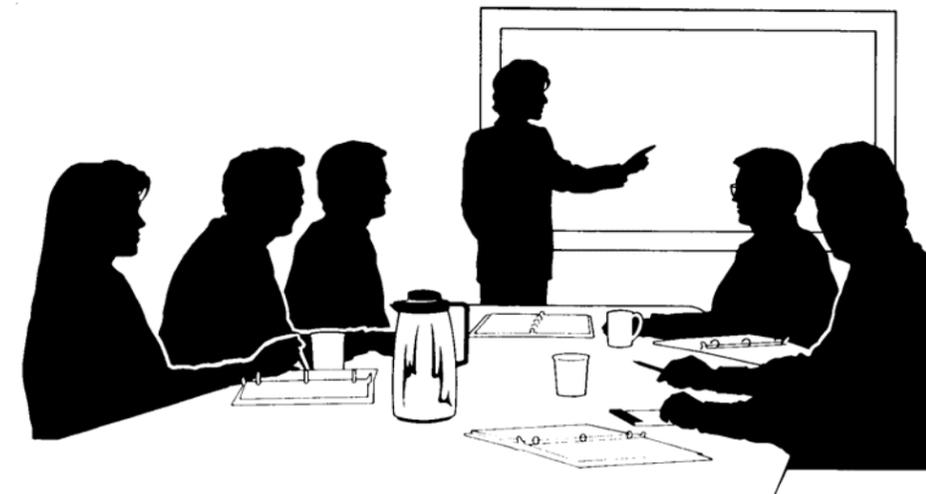
### **Jonathan Weedman – Wells Fargo Foundation ([www.wellsfargo.com](http://www.wellsfargo.com))**

Born and raised in Los Angeles, Jonathan Weedman has served as Regional Vice President for the Wells Fargo Foundation since September 1996. He is responsible for managing the charitable contributions of the nation's 4th largest financial services company for Los Angeles, Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties, and oversees an annual contributions budget in excess of \$10 million, which ranks Wells Fargo as the largest corporate donor to charity in the region. Mr. Weedman attended both the University of Southern California and the University of California at Los Angeles where he was awarded his Bachelor's degree in History in 1983. He formerly served on the Board of Directors for Project Angel Food in Los Angeles as Vice Chairman, and currently serves on the Board of Directors for The Los Angeles Urban Funders, The American Heart Association, The Young Musicians Foundation, The Henry Mancini Institute and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

CONGRESSWOMAN LINDA SÁNCHEZ

PRESENTS

# “STRATEGIES FOR DEVELOPING NONPROFITS AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO GRANTS”



BATEMAN HALL  
SEPTEMBER 19, 2005

## A MESSAGE FROM CONGRESSWOMAN LINDA SÁNCHEZ



I am the United States Congresswoman for the 39th Congressional District of California. It is my job to represent you in the U.S. Congress in our nation's capital in Washington, D.C. There, I have made it one of my highest priorities to fight for the interests of working people, and to bring home federal funding to help our local communities, including in the areas of youth and education-related programs, transportation improvements, and environmental improvements to enhance our local quality of life.

I search continually for additional funds to help our community. I can't guarantee success all the time, but I can guarantee to work as hard as I possibly can for our region. If your community group or city would like help, please contact my District Office's Grants Coordinator, Romulo Rivera at (562) 429-8499, or visit the grants section on my web site: <http://www.lindasanchez.gov/grants>

Today, I am hosting "Strategies for Developing Nonprofits and Improving Access to Grants," an event geared to help informal community-based organizations make the transition into more formal non-profit entities. At the same time this workshop will focus on building capacity, building a sustainable organization and attaining greater exposure with community funders. Through the different panels in the program, information and resources will be provided that can help build and strengthen your non-profit organization and make grants a more attainable funding resource for all.

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### EVENT SCHEDULE

9:00 - 9:45 AM	Registration and Networking Continental Breakfast
9:45 - 10:00 AM	Opening remarks by Congresswoman Linda Sánchez
10:00 - 11:15 AM	Panel I: Strategies for Improving and Developing a Nonprofit
11:15 - 11:20 AM	Break
11:20 - 12:30 PM	Panel II: Community Funders Forum

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### SPECIAL THANKS TO THE GROUPS THAT MADE THIS EVENT POSSIBLE:

- California Community Foundation
- The California Endowment
- California Department of Education
- Center for Nonprofit Management
- Community Partners
- Liberty Hill Foundation
- Long Beach Nonprofit Partnership
- City of Lynwood
- Public Counsel
- Wells Fargo Foundation

## PANEL I - STRATEGIES FOR IMPROVING AND DEVELOPING A NONPROFIT

### John Glaza – Long Beach Nonprofit Partnership ([www.lbnp.org](http://www.lbnp.org))

John Glaza, the newest member of the LBNP staff, serves as the organization's Consulting Services Director. A nonprofit professional for more than two decades, Mr. Glaza is a graduate of Western Michigan University where he received his Masters in Social Work. John administers and manages the consulting services program at the Partnership and work closely with nonprofit organizations, partners and affiliate consultants. John was most recently the Interim Executive Director of The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Greater Long Beach. Prior to his tenure at The Center, John worked in health technology and specialty pharmacy services, where he collaborated with community-based organizations, public health jurisdictions and managed care organizations. Previous to his time in the private sector, John spent nearly fifteen years with Planned Parenthood, most recently as Executive Director of Planned Parenthood of Idaho and five years in state government.

### Shashi Hanuman – Public Counsel ([www.publiccounsel.org](http://www.publiccounsel.org))

Shashi Hanuman is a Staff Attorney with Public Counsel, the largest pro bono law office in the nation. Ms. Hanuman specializes in tax-exempt and corporate law, with an emphasis on nonprofit incorporation and governance. Her work in the Community Development Project supports community-based organizations and businesses that strengthen low-income and underserved Los Angeles neighborhoods. Ms. Hanuman currently serves as Chair of the Exempt Organizations Committee of the Los Angeles County Bar Association's Taxation Section. Within the Los Angeles community, Ms. Hanuman periodically speaks on nonprofit incorporation and governance issues. Ms. Hanuman attended Georgetown University Law Center, receiving her JD, cum laude, in 1998. Ms. Hanuman went on to practice corporate law for three years as an associate at the law firm of Gibson, Dunn & Crutcher in Los Angeles. Ms. Hanuman is a member of the state bar of California.

### Eric Medina – Community Partners ([www.communitypartners.org](http://www.communitypartners.org))

Eric Medina is a Senior Program Associate at Community Partners, a nonprofit organization established in 1992 to support social entrepreneurs and accelerate their ideas into action for the public good. As an incubator, project manager, facilitator and intermediary, Community Partners has sponsored and supported more than 500 community projects and initiatives, and has worked closely with community, civic and business leaders, public sector service providers, and funders in diverse, multicultural communities across California. Mr. Medina works in the Incubator Services Program by assisting social entrepreneurs with their non-profit endeavors by conducting workshops on program development, board development, and fundraising. Mr. Medina also works individually with Project Leaders on specific program planning, development and management issues. Mr. Medina holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the University of California Santa Barbara.

### Marcia Schmitz – The Center for Nonprofit Management ([www.cnmsocal.org](http://www.cnmsocal.org))

Marcia Schmitz is the Director of Information Services for the Center for Nonprofit Management. She plans and provides resource and reference service through the Nonprofit Resource Library, conducts research, and develops information management systems. Ms. Schmitz has provided virtual reference service for the Los Angeles Metropolitan Cooperative Library Service's 24/7 Project, the Congressional Research Service of the Library of Congress, and UCLA's Department of Information Studies, and has been a Web page designer and researcher. Ms. Schmitz has a Master's degree in Library and Information Science from the University of California, Los Angeles.