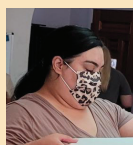
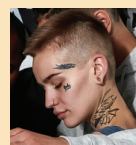




Executive Director Michael Koch reflects on the past year and where we go from here.
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Outreach Director Marianne Diaz on the changing ways we serve our community.
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Board Chair Margo Peck on SCCC's expanding efforts to address social equity
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Southern
California
Counseling
Center

Dialog

Summer 2021

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Resiliency and Recovery

Regaining our Footing in a Post-pandemic World



John Berndt, Clinical
Director

When the pandemic became a reality in early 2020 and we were faced with closing down the Counseling Center, one of the first things I thought was, "We can do this!" I thought this because I know our community, our counselors, our staff, our Board of Directors, and our clients. We are a resilient bunch. As counselors, we weather change, turmoil, and seemingly insurmountable issues daily alongside our clients in our therapy rooms. And I know our staff, who are a committed, forward-thinking, and collaborative group of people. I knew it would be hard, but I also knew we could do it.

As the pandemic continued and we faced challenge after challenge, I witnessed the resiliency of our clients and counselors as they shifted to online therapy sessions relatively smoothly, seeming to settle into our collective "This is how we do it now" attitude. Their fortitude fueled my drive to take SCCC's work in new and needed directions on behalf of the communities we serve. Because others stepped up and did their part, I was better able to build and sustain my own tenacity in moving forward and guiding the agency's clinical efforts.

As we look forward, our training programs, supervision, therapy sessions, and groups are shifting toward what we're calling a "hybrid" approach to delivering services. We seek to remain flexible and adaptable, working together and relying on one another as we continue to build and sustain long-term strength and stability within the organization. In fact, it strikes me, this is how we all recover with resiliency in the months ahead.



The Counseling Center returns to a hybrid of in-person and online services in August.

Dialog

A publication for supporters of the
Southern California Counseling Center

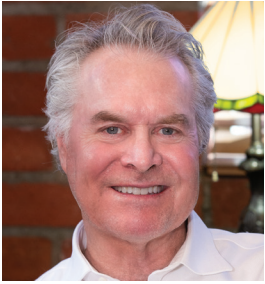
A Great Time for A Good Thing

Page 3

Supporters of SCCC came together to raise more than \$127,000 on behalf of affordable mental health services.

We Made It! Now What?

SCCC looks ahead to yet more change as we explore options for providing in-person and online services in the months ahead.



Michael Koch, Executive Director

The past year and then some has been marked by so much uncertainty and change. Yet each step of the way SCCC has been able to find its footing and project stability as we continued to provide counseling and psychiatric services throughout the pandemic. Remarkably, none of our programs was put on hold, though our services may have looked a little different on tablets and desktops. It has all continued to work, and work

well. SCCC's counselor training and supervision program continued full bore; in fact, we brought on our first all-online cohort of new counselors last fall. It was also one of our largest ever. We also graduated two groups of gifted paraprofessionals through our Community Counselor Certification course. We're immensely proud of these accomplishments.

That brings us to where we are today. We've proven our capacity to transition from in-person services to working remotely, and our flexibility as an organization to position us to meet the mental health needs of our clients regardless of location. **As of June, we are providing services at the levels we were prior to the shutdown.** We have also increased efficiency through the full implementation and integration of our new proprietary IT platform called LINK. For the first time, SCCC has become a fully digital environment—scheduling, recordkeeping, data tracking, remote services, and payment processing. Anyone with any history at SCCC knows what a huge accomplishment LINK represents. Kudos to SCCC's IT Master Nick Fisher for pulling this remarkable project together. We also must acknowledge the generous support of the Ahmanson Foundation, which has gone a long way to helping make LINK possible.

The pandemic did not stop our efforts to work to forge greater equity and social justice in the realm of mental health services. SCCC remains committed to its core values of dignity, fairness, respect, equity and inclusion. Board members, staff and counselors have come together to establish our Social Justice Committee, which is dedicated to advancing policies and practices that work to ensure that SCCC is a welcoming place for all, guided by the principles of racial justice and equity. And we have joined the Mayor's Gang Reduction Youth Development (GRYD) program to provide mental health services for youth serving probation.

It's truly due to the generosity of supporters and donors like you that the work of the Counseling Center is possible. We particularly wish to acknowledge the generosity of the Weingart Foundation and the Ballmer Group, both of which have made significant investments in our efforts at SCCC-Watts. We have also received vital support from the **Green Foundation, QueensCare Charitable Division, the Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation of California, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, and the California Wellness Foundation**, which has provided new multi-year grant to support our efforts in Watts.

Where We Go From Here

- SCCC returns in August to providing services in-person at our Pico and Watts locations. Services will then evolve as a hybrid of in-person and telemental health sessions enabling us to maintain progress made as a dependable deliverer of online services and support.
- More in-person sessions will be phased in over time, particularly as a new cohort of approximately 40 counselors join us in September.



- Our new digital system LINK will enable us to better manage the transition back to working onsite by increasing workflow, streamlining scheduling, improving client and counselor communication, and payments.
- We will begin our planned Social Equity Audit to identify areas within the organization where changes can be made to help further overcome unconscious bias,

racism, and practices that make it difficult for all to feel included and comfortable. We also look to implement strategies that further increase diversity among our staff, counselors and supervisors.

- SCCC is cultivating community partnerships to increase community access to mental health services. These partnerships include FEAST, United Friends of the Children, and Abode Communities.
- Post-pandemic, we seek to more strongly position ourselves to address arising and long-established impacts on mental health, such as stress due to economy crises, residual and persistent anxiety and depression due to the emergence of new Covid variants and climate change, and losses families have suffered.

All of these efforts will require ongoing focus, guidance and support. Yes, we all deserve to acknowledge our successes over these many months, but there is still much to do. Our commitment to resiliency and adaptability will continue to serve us and our clients well.

Celebrating SCCC in 2021

A virtual gathering for fun, inspiration and connection to promote mental health services

Not to let a pandemic recovery stop us from marking yet another year of enabling individuals and families to receive the quality mental health services they deserve and need, the SCCC community gathered on Saturday evening, May 22nd, to celebrate together (virtually) at SCCC's Annual Spring Bash with this year's theme, Celebrating Resiliency.

More than 100 guests joined over Zoom for a night of fun surprises. There was a compelling silent auction, celebrity appearances, and touching stories hosted once again by long-time Board member Saul Janson. Public figures including Michael Vartan, Alison Arnglim, Casey Burke, David Frank, and SCCC's dear friend and supporter Patricia Arquette, who all spoke out about the importance of mental health and their deep support of SCCC's belief that mental health care is a right, not a privilege. Board Chair Margo Peck shared touching words on how SCCC met last year's challenges head-on, demonstrating remarkable adaptability, compassion, and creativity through our steadfast commitment to serving our community. We heard powerful testimonies from two former clients who became paraprofessionals, Lili and Michael, as they took us through their journeys at SCCC working with clients and the changes they have made in their lives.

Most important were the generous contributions we received from so many attendees and donors who help strengthen our capacity to provide affordable, high quality mental health services. We're pleased to let you know that we blew past our goal of raising \$100,000, reaching \$127,000 before the night was through. To all who gave, you have our deepest gratitude and appreciation. We continue to accept donations via our website or by contacting Advancement Manager Alyssa Johnson at ajohnson@sccc-la.org. We look forward to seeing you all next year!!



Award-winning actor Patricia Arquette lent her voice and support in celebration of SCCC at the 2021 Spring Bash.

Community Update

SCCC's Outreach to Watts Grows Stronger

With all that 2020 brought to the table, SCCC-Watts has managed to grow stronger and even more engaged through our various collaborations. Most recently, we have connected with the Mayor's Gang Reduction Youth Development Program (GYRD) through our collaborative agency WLCAC in Watts. These efforts bring SCCC counselors to provide Teen Empowerment Groups for youth living in detention at area probation camps. So far we have graduated two Healing Circles at the camps; it's been gratifying to see teens' enthusiastic responses. New groups have started early in July and for now continue to be conducted virtually. We will also be holding a backpack and food drive in collaboration with CleanSlate and the GO Campaign to provide 20 families in Watts/South L.A. with needed food and school supplies in early August. The GO Campaign helped CleanSlate secure \$4,000 in supplies for families hard hit during the pandemic.

SCCC-Watts just received our new subcontract with WLCAC-Family Services Center to continue providing men's and women's anger management groups, as well as parenting and survivors groups. We have added the new outreach options to better serve foster youth in transition who urgently need support for making the key transition to adulthood. We hope to expand these efforts through our partner agencies. Foster youth can often have critical needs and trauma histories that if left unaddressed may result in long-term poor adjustment and legal issues as they navigate an unsupportive culture. I am so proud of all the work our counselors and staff have done in Watts/South L.A. and Compton and how much we have grown in size, collaborative relationships and vision. Thanks to our donors for helping make a real difference in the South L.A. community!



Outreach Director Marianne Diaz reflects on the ever-expanding impacts of SCCC-Watts.

By The Numbers SCCC 2020 Annual Report



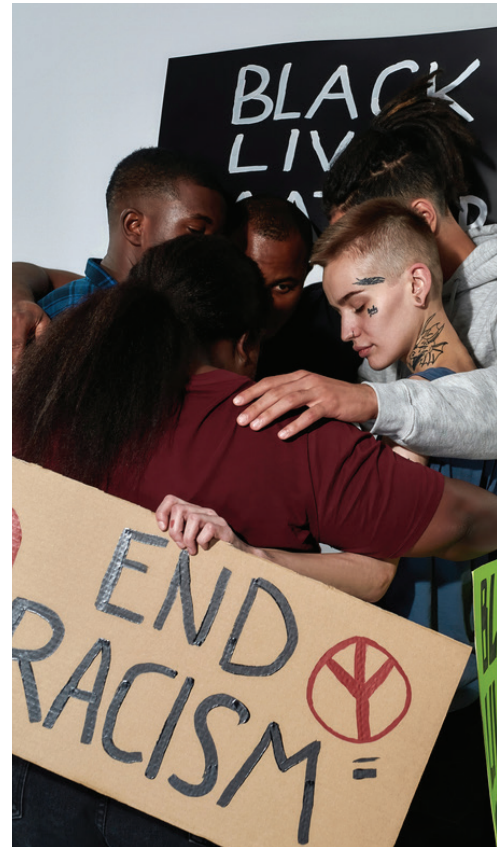
Margo Peck, Board Chair

It has been a remarkable year in so many ways since our last Report to the SCCC community. While so much of 2020 focused on ways to maintain services and programs despite the pandemic, which we are so pleased to report were successful, 2021 has been a time of shifting gears into what might be called a new normal. As an organization, we are examining the nature of our organization and exploring new opportunities for expanding services in the communities we serve.

A big part of these efforts addresses the critical importance of diversity, equality and inclusion in all aspects of SCCC and the work we do. To oversee these efforts, the Board has created a Social Justice

Committee that includes counselors and supervisors as well as members of the Board. We hired an expert in this area, Kelli Poole of Talent Poole, to conduct an audit and provide an in-depth picture of SCCC's strengths and weaknesses with regard to social justice and equity. In the coming year, we will work diligently to increase representation by people of color among our counselors and supervisors as a key means of understanding and better serving communities most in need. We look forward to reporting the results of this work back to our donors in future newsletters.

We continue to expand our Board of Directors and wish to welcome our most newest members in this Annual Report—Jamico Elder who is Executive Director of Avalon-Carter Community Center in Watts; he joined in December 2020. Kristen Finney, Vice President for the Walt Disney Company, joined in May 2021, and Jennifer Kim Zeller, an attorney and community advocate, joined in September 2020. SCCC has also formed a Community Engagement Committee which seeks to connect SCCC with a broader range of nonprofits and community needs to facilitate greater availability of mental health services and social services. Current community engagement collaborations have been established with FEAST, which addresses hunger, United Friends of the Children, which serves the needs of foster youth, and Abode Communities, which provides service-enhanced affordable housing. We look forward to making progress on all these fronts in months and years ahead.



SCCC has strengthened and expanded its commitment to the values of social justice and equity.

In 2020, SCCC served **4,757** clients.

Our volunteers delivered more than **\$2 million** in donated mental health services in 2020.

85% of every dollar we raise supports direct services for clients in need.

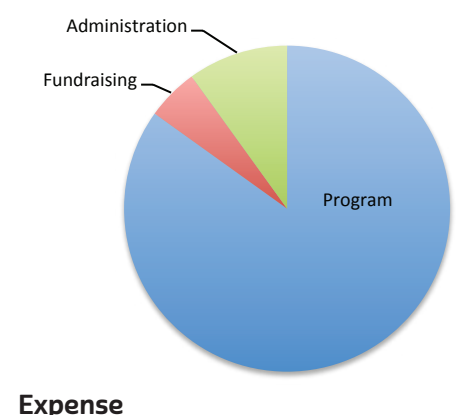
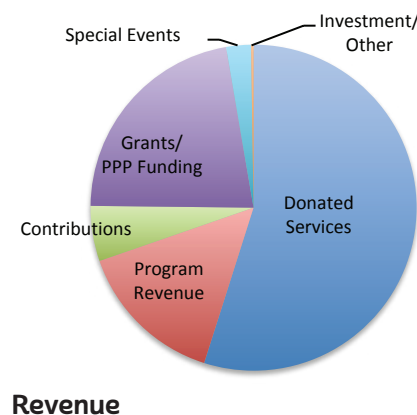
Mid-City • Watts • Koreatown • Public Schools • Online

Public Support and Revenue

Donated Services	\$2,234,925
Program Revenue	602,291
Contributions	222,887
Grants/PPP Funding	900,250
Special Events	100,151
Investment/Other	9,990
Total Public Support and Revenue	\$4,070,494

Expenditures

Program	\$3,443,053
Fundraising	208,029
Administration	403,839
Total Expense	\$4,054,921



Deepest Thanks to Our Dedicated Team of Volunteers, Counselors, Paraprofessionals and Supervisors!

SCCC Supervisors

Massi Abadi
Kathie Adams
Angela Albert
Jasmine Anvar
Brandi Bakewell
Darlene Basch
Lin Benedek
John Berndt
Nick Bognar
Sandra Braun
Syreeta Butler
Kimberly Bye
Jamie Carruth
Tali Catz
Laura Collura
Kim Cookson
Katie Corrigan
Clay Crosby
Marianne Diaz
Michael Dishon
Melanie Drane
Randi Dressler
Barbara Dreyfus
Mojgan Farazian
Estelle Fisher
Jonathan Flier
Linda Franco
Stefanie Funke
Gabriel Garcia
Doug Hales
Diana Harlin
Carrie Helgeson
Hilary Henson
Kathryn Heymann
Jim Holland
Marisa Ice
Karala Jenkins-Turner
Saman Khazani
Abby Krom
Marlene White Lenard
Gene Lichtenstein
Stephanie Macadaan
Alyssa Mass
Maureen McGlynn
Treza Mirakhor
Chuck Moshontz
Alicia Murray
Catherine Musicant

Jake Myers
Sherry Nafeh
Margo Peck
Jeanette Raymond
Sherri Rose-McCashin
Janis Rosenberg
Mary Ann Rosenfeld
Lindsey Rosenthal
Laurence Rosenthal
Lea Roussos
Allison Rudnick
Savannah Sanfield
Robert Santos
Seth Schulweis
Michelle Seely
Maggie Shelton Shelton
Jessa Sherman
Sheila Siegel
Leda Siskind
Jennifer Sleeper
Barrie Sueskind
Marcia Teichman
Martha Uhl
Gail Walpert
Kristen Welke
Mark Winitsky
Cheryl Woodruff
Andrea Zuckerman

SCCC Counselors

Alex Abramowicz
Christine Archer
Tammy Aronson
Niyosha Arthur
Ursula Baird
Jannell Banchik
Jesse Berkin
Jo Bloomer
Osha Brodsky
Tiffany Bushnell
Chris Calandra
Janis Cohen
Alegria Louise Demeestere
Alicia Dewell
Lou Frederick
Jack Fris
Jayce Geesey
Elijah Geiger
Grant Goodwin

Sandy Gordon
Spencer Goss
Owen Graham
Cynthia Greenburg-Dunlop
Arianne Groth
Melanie Handelsman
Thomas Henning
Rory Hunter
Judy Jason
Mary Kallaher
Hana Kornwasser
Leily Labuda
Jaclyn Lieber
Sandra Liu
Amir Lofti-Rezvani
Stacey Mackaman
Lincoln Madley
Connor McCabe
Megan McGuinness
Karly Meola
Kimberly Morgan
Ngoc O'Rourke
Jordan Petitt
Kathryn Phillips
Asya Rachitsky
Matt Reents
Alyssa Reid
Zury Ruiz
Stacey Sampo
Marjorie Schuetz
Meagan Sheehy
Kyle Shepard
Inka Sherman
Jamie Siegel
Philip Stark
Michael Steffes
Katie Szymanski
Evan Teitelbaum
Janet Upjohn
Lisa Walton
Allison Weiss
Caroline Wiita
Gail Wilburn

Outreach Counselors

Adam Ashkenazi
Damani Atiba
Monique Beltran
Sara Benowitz

Ajay Bhavsar
Megan Burford
Katherine Chan
Jacqui Clay
Sterling Cox
Maria Denardo
Vivan Dugre
Sara Estrada
Maria Gates
Joshua Gonzales
Benjamin Hall
Ali Babu Che Johnson
Eric Katende
Aurora Kaye
Katlyn Kwan
Ryan Levin
Jamilla Lightner-Cedeno
Lea Madda
Michael Manzo
Alexandra Mirsakova
Julie Mond
Aroldo Ochoa
Amita Padiyar
Hanh Perez
Jacqueline Quinonez
Willy Ren
Sophie Reiff
John Rosania
Fabiola Sandoval
Tara Steinke
Colin Takahashi
Kusema Thomas
Amarylis Viera
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Michael Koch, Executive Director
John Berndt, LMFT, Clinical Director
Taleene Armen, Client Contact Coordinator
Brandi Bakewell, LMFT, Director, School-Based Program and Clinical Lead
Tali Catz, LMFT, Director, Clinical Programs
Kim Cookson, PsyD, Director,
Trauma & Resiliency Training & Services
Kate Corrigan, LMFT, Trauma & Resiliency Coordinator
Clay Crosby, LMFT, Clinical Consultant
Marianne Diaz, Director, Outreach Services
Richard Dowaliby, Weekend Front Desk Manager
Tina Espinosa, Office Manager, SCCC-Watts
Moj Farazian, LMFT, Director, The Abuse Prevention Program
Danielle Feinerman, LMFT, Clinical Coordinator
Nick Fisher, Director, Communications & Technology
Christina Ford, MD, Consulting Psychiatrist

Joshua Gonzalez, Client Contact Coordinator, SCCC-Watts
Sharon Hanson, Supervising Accountant
Kathryn Heyman, LMFT, Weekend Clinical Coordinator
Christopher Ho, MD, Consulting Psychiatrist
Alyssa Johnson, Advancement Manager
Mallory Leitner, LMFT, Somatic Training Coordinator
Gene Lichtenstein, LMFT, Weekend Clinical Coordinator
Vivian Lu, Accounting Manager
Maureen McGlynn, TAPP Program Coordinator
Kathryn Phillips, Administrative Assistant
Marisa Rios, Office Manager
Tamara Satterwhite, Administrative Coordinator
Maxine Sevilla, Client Contact Coordinator
Julie Suhr, LMFT, Grants Consultant
Kristen Welke, LMFT, Outreach Program Coordinator
Arezou Yashoua, LMFT, Psychiatric Services Coordinator; Director, Parenting Program
Vadym Zhyrov, Client Contact Coordinator

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Jamico Elder
Kristen Finney
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