

Dialog



Southern
California
Counseling
Center

Summer 2024

We change lives and strengthen communities by providing affordable mental health care to people in need.

In this issue...

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS

SPECIAL FEATURE: WATTS

DONOR IMPACT

DONOR HONOR ROLL

COUNSELORS and SUPERVISORS

IN KIND DONATIONS

INNOVATION, TRANSFORMATION, COLLABORATION

Michael Koch, Executive Director

When I joined the Southern California Counseling Center in December 2019, our counseling services were primarily conducted in person. Rooms were in high demand, and clients filled the welcoming spaces at Pico and Watts. However, just two months later, everything changed. The pandemic presented challenges we never could have anticipated. We were tasked with transforming a 50-year-old, in-person, talk therapy model into a virtual platform and organization.



Over the past four years, our journey has been nothing short of extraordinary. I've been deeply inspired by how we have faced numerous challenges with flexibility, resilience, courage, and a compassionate heart. I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the board, staff, volunteers, alumni, and donors who have played a crucial role in our transformation and success.

Together, we have addressed the mental health and social determinants of health needs of our clients, increased diversity within our organization and the mental health care workforce, expanded access to services, and maintained a relentless pursuit of innovation, collaboration, and quality client care. I am immensely thankful to each one of you and incredibly proud of the tremendous progress we have achieved together.

As we look to the future, we are prepared for growth and several transformative changes. Our focus will remain on achieving excellence, efficiency, and effectiveness in all our endeavors. Together, we will continue to lead the way in providing the highest quality mental health care and wellness services to our clients and the communities we serve.

Our vision for the future is ambitious. I am deeply grateful to all of you who are committed to this journey with us. I look forward to continuing our work together as we create a future that aligns with our core purpose and advances our mission.

Looking Ahead We Will...

Leverage technology to expand access and meet growing demand for mental health care services.

Transition from a volunteer-based business model to one that is equitable offering compensation to Associates and Supervisors.

Strengthen our partnerships to enhance mental health care access and service delivery across the state.

Continue to promote and foster a culture of inclusivity and diversity, where individual perspectives are valued, and everyone feels respected.



SCCC Welcomes New Board Members

Each of our new Board Members brings unique experiences and expertise to the team and we look forward to seeing their valuable contributions as we move forward to advance SCCC's mission.

Angela Yee

Angela is honored to be a board member at the Southern California Counseling Center. She works with underserved communities through other community organizations in Southern California and has been trained as a coach and mentor herself. Professionally, Angela is a product management leader in technology, and a former architect and has experience across a breadth of industries, most recently at tech industry startups and corporations. She supports leaders as they navigate common challenges across various stages of business growth, and we look forward to her expertise in these areas.



spans fundraising, donor engagement, and program development, all tailored to amplify the reach and effectiveness of non-profit missions.

Rosalie Villapando

Rosalie grew up in East Los Angeles as a first generation American from the Philippines. With a BA from UCLA and an MBA from the University of Michigan, she has spent her career in the Entertainment Media and Technology sectors leading strategy, operations, and finance teams at Fortune 500 companies. Rosalie views her SCCC Board membership as a wonderful opportunity to expand access to mental health services for communities in which she grew up.



Martin Pettis

With more than twenty years of experience as a mental health professional, DEI specialist, and community engagement advocate, Martin is dedicated to bridging access gaps for underserved communities. As the Executive Director of CARE Mental Health, Martin spearheads efforts to provide low to no-cost mental health services for individuals experiencing homelessness, community violence, or transitioning from incarceration. In the philanthropic and non-profit sectors, Martin collaborates with a diverse array of foundations and social impact organizations, guiding them through strategic growth and addressing operational challenges. His expertise



Stevon Lewis

Stevon is a speaker, author, psychotherapist, and podcast host. He is a trusted expert in his field where he focuses on empowering high achievers to overcome Impostor Syndrome by helping them shift their thinking so that they can develop a deeper connection with their achievements. Stevon has been featured on television and media platforms, such as the Oprah Winfrey Network, and the Boston Globe and he's facilitated workshops on Impostor Syndrome and related topics for a variety of organizations. In his spare time, he is an avid cyclist.■



SCCC-Watts Counseling Center Experiencing Exciting Year

SCCC-WATTS is having a very exciting year. In addition to our ongoing programs, such as FSC and GRYD, we continue to collaborate with schools through Green Dot Charters to provide counseling services. We have also renewed our partnership with Heart of Los Angeles to support neurodivergent youth through healing circles and one-on-one counseling.

We recently expanded our services to provide mental health and wellness services at the MLK Healing Center for the youth and adult LGBTQI++ communities.

SCCC-Watts has developed and implemented an emergency response crisis team to provide trauma-informed services in response to crisis calls from community-based organizations in LA County.

Over the summer, we organized healing circles at Avalon Carver Community Center, launched our Outdoor Equity Project, and in partnership with the Academy Project hosted drum circles and art events for foster youth. In the coming weeks we will continue our partnership and provide after-school healing circles.

SCCC-Watts has been approved by CalMHSA as a Peer Support Specialist certificate training site. We have trained more than 85 individuals with lived experience, to include a partnership with iFoster to train 50 transition-aged and foster youth.

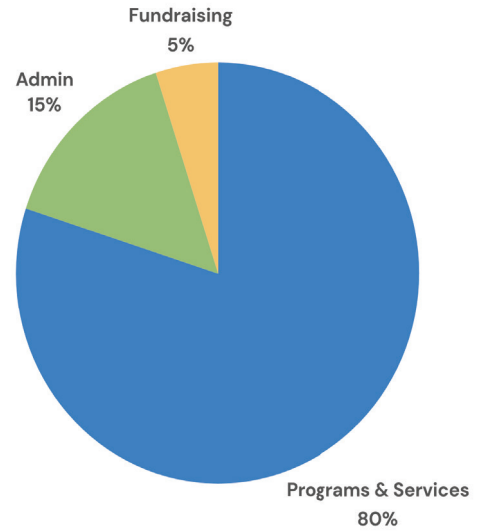
Our virtual Community Counselor Certificate Program continues to make a significant impact in the community. Recently, we had a participant join from Iran, demonstrating our global reach.

SCCC-Watts is proud to provide access to quality mental health and well-being services. We remain committed to engaging with the community and addressing the needs of the communities we serve.■

2023 By the Numbers

2023 REVENUE (unaudited)

Donated Services	\$ 2,010,375
Program Revenue	836,978
Contributions	200,161
Grants	387,300
Government Grants	453,403
Special Events	122,471
TOTAL	\$ 4,010,688



2023 EXPENSE (unaudited)

Programs & Services	\$ 3,195,705
Admin	594,435
Fundraising	215,734
TOTAL	\$ 4,005,874

Donor Impact By the Numbers

80%

of every dollar raised supports counseling services for clients in need

2,200

clients served in 2023
(1,650 individuals, 300 couples/families, 250 clients attended groups)

\$2 million

in donated mental health services provided by our volunteer counselors

30,000

number of counseling + group hours/sessions attended

SCCC Service Locations:

MID-CITY

WATTS

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ONLINE





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California
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Center

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Avery Liu, Front Desk Support
Amy Black, Medi-Cal Program Manager
Jason Capelane, Maintenance
Tina Espinosa, Office Manager, Watts
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Ben Hall, LMFT, Training Coordinator/GRYD Coordinator
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Vivian Lu, Accounting Manager
Josie Parra, Clinical Director Assistant
Marisa Rios, Office Manager/ Front Office Manager
Tamara Satterwhite, Administrative Coordinator
Maxine Sevilla, Client Contact Coordinator
Kristen Welke, LMFT, Outreach Program Manager, Clinical Training Coordinator
Amber Bowers, Peer Support Specialist
Jayce Geesey, SCCC Watts Clinical Support
Mike Manzo, SCCC Watts Clinical Support
Kusema Thomas, SCCC Watts Clinical Support

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Gregory C. Scott
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**SAVE
THE
DATE**

**SPRING BASH
SATURDAY
MAY 10, 2025**



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With gratitude and recognition for your support and generosity.



\$100,000 or more

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If there is an error, please let us know. Contact us
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