

Project Fatherhood Now at the Allen House

In 1996, to address the problem of absentee fathers, **Children's Institute, Inc.**, created a men's support group and named it *Project Fatherhood*. Its primary objective was to re-engage fathers in the care and upbringing of their children. Through therapy, support, parenting education and other services, fathers learn to be more loving, responsible parents and active participants in their children's lives. Over the years the group has proved useful not just for fathers, but for other men in caregiving roles such as stepfathers, uncles and grandfathers.

In 2012, Project Fatherhood was implemented at L.A. CADA's Downtown Los Angeles facility—the first time ever offered in a substance abuse treatment setting. In 2014, the program was started at L.A. CADA's Santa Fe Springs facility.

More recently, **Robert Brown**, a counselor at the **Allen House**, helped implement Project Fatherhood at L.A. CADA's residential treatment program, the Allen House. The men meet every Saturday, often in conjunction with family visitations, and it is a huge success! L.A. CADA is proud to collaborate with Children's Institute, Inc., in bringing this important program to our clients.

Recognizing the Finest of the Fine

As its 45th year of establishment comes to a near close, the Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol and Drug Abuse (L.A. CADA) hosted a **Special Recognition Brunch** to honor its founders, **Dr. Ethan and Alice Allen**. The event was held on October 23, 2016 at the beautiful Friendly Hills Country Club in the City of Whittier on a fine autumn Sunday, and hosted over 100 attendees who enjoyed a splendid afternoon of brunch, coffee, pastries, and the pleasant sounds of pianist, Michael Le Van.



Whimsical pumpkin centerpieces were perfectly painted by L.A. CADA's Custody to Community Transitional Reentry Program (CCTRP) staff and residents and included heartfelt messages of thankfulness.

Dr. Ethan and Alice Allen were personally honored for their unwavering faith in serving those with substance use disorders, and also received much deserved proclamations from Congresswoman Linda Sanchez, Assemblyman Ian Calderon, L.A. County Supervisor Don Knabe, and the City of Whittier. Juan Navarro, L.A. CADA Executive Director, also received a proclamation from L.A. County Supervisor Don Knabe.

In 1971, concerned about the dramatic rise in drug use in their community and the surrounding area, the Allen's took a leadership role to develop a local drug abuse coalition, inviting others from the local Council of Churches to join them. Through their efforts, the organization survived and prospered, adding important programs, attracting talented individuals, and securing the necessary facilities to help more individuals. As the agency's Medical Director, Dr. Allen has spent one day a week at L.A. CADA's Allen House Residential Treatment facility for over thirty years, providing physical exams and medical treatment to new residents. Dr. Allen served as Board President for 44 years of the last 45 years, with Mrs. Allen by his side as secretary. Both remain on the board of directors.

Without these two wonderful humanitarians, L.A. CADA's mission to save lives, unite families, and protect the community would not have become a reality nor grown to its current scope. We are forever grateful for their vision and continued devotion to the work of L.A. CADA, its staff, and those the agency serves.