



NEWS

Centinela Youth Services, Inc.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Centinela Youth Services to be honored at first-ever Nonprofits Day Celebration Awards, state leaders will honor "Nonprofits of the Year" at Sacramento event June 22

HAWTHORNE – On Wednesday, June 22, 2016, *Centinela Youth Services (CYS)* will be honored as a Nonprofit of the Year at a celebration of California Nonprofits Day at the State Capitol in Sacramento.

Assemblymember Autumn Burke, who represents the 62nd California Assembly District, selected *CYS* as an exceptional nonprofit organization in her community. *CYS* will join other nonprofit leaders from across the state being honored at this inaugural California Nonprofits Day event.

CYS strives to strengthen families and communities by empowering Los Angeles area youth (7-21 years of age) to resolve conflicts and overcome obstacles in order to become successful students and contributing adults. *CYS* is a 501c3 non-profit community-based agency established in 1975 by the cities of Hawthorne, Lawndale, Inglewood, Gardena and the County of Los Angeles.

CYS partners with the South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB), local school districts, Los Angeles County Probation Department, Juvenile Court, law enforcement agencies, and numerous community-based agencies to help create safe communities and safe schools that are conducive to learning and positive youth development. Services include the Everychild Restorative Justice Center, which seeks to reduce the number of vulnerable, high-needs youth attached to the juvenile system by providing highly-effective rehabilitative services while also meeting the needs of crime victims. Other *CYS* services include Restorative Justice training for school districts, parent-teen conflict resolution, training student peer mediators in schools and connecting families to mental health and substance abuse treatment.

Jan Vogel, *CYS* Official and CEO of the South Bay Workforce Investment Board, stated "CYS is in the business of mending and strengthening relationships. A nationally-recognized leader in Restorative Justice, youth responsible for committing crimes meet with their victims to repair the harm caused by their behavior. In these heartfelt meetings, victims and the community are active participants in the restorative process. He added, "This honor is a testament to the essential work that is being done."

The award recipients will visit the Assembly Floor and then will be honored at a luncheon at Sacramento's Sheraton Grand Hotel, with presentations from former Senate President Pro Tempore *[and Sacramento Mayor-Elect]* Darrell Steinberg, Assemblymember Rich Gordon, and Jan Masaoka, CEO of the California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits).

"Nonprofit organizations are vitally important to the economy and well-being of California. But too often nonprofits are 'hidden in plain sight.' We are thrilled that the State Assembly has passed a resolution putting the spotlight on nonprofits as an economic power that uses that power for the common good. We congratulate all of the award recipients on being honored for the great work they do every day to make California a better place," said Jan Masaoka, CEO of California Association of Nonprofits (CalNonprofits), a statewide alliance of over 10,000 organizations, representing and promoting California's growing nonprofit sector and working to bring the full power of nonprofits to strengthening communities.

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