To: Students in UEP 310/311 for Fall 2011
From: Peter Dreier
Date: April 2011
Re: Community Internships/Summer Reading

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Fall Internships

This is a memo for students who will be enrolled in UEP 310 and UEP 311 next fall. UEP 310 (which meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-11:25 am) is a seminar on leadership and community organizing. The companion course, UEP 311, is a community internship. Each student will arrange the days and times for her/his internship with the organization. In addition to the seminar and the internship, we will have a number of lunch meetings (immediately after class) with organizers and activists from the Los Angeles area. Please arrange your schedule so that you can attend these lunch meetings, which last until 12:45 pm.

As part of your internship, you are expected to spend 12 hours a week working with a community organization, union, human rights, or environmental group in the LA area. You will pick one of the groups listed below and work with it during the entire semester. You will attend meetings and public events, work in the office, meet the staff and members, and undertake research that will help the organization achieve its goals.

These groups are involved in organizing (mobilizing people around issues and building grassroots organizations to gain power and influence) and advocacy (which involves working on behalf of disenfranchised people without necessarily mobilizing them to speak for themselves). Some groups also provide services (i.e. counseling or child care or legal assistance).

You should call (or email) at least two of the groups on the list to discuss the internship possibilities. Some groups may want to meet with you in person, which is preferable, in order for you to learn more about the group and vice versa. Each group can decide whether they want to work with a particular student, based on its own criteria and needs. If a group says "no" to you, don't take it personally. It may simply be that your schedule doesn't fit with the group's needs. Or they may need someone who speaks Spanish or Korean, or someone who has a car, or who is willing to work nights and weekends. That is one reason that we want you to talk with at least two different groups.

I am attaching, separately, a list of the students who took the course last year along with the organizations they interned with. If you want to know more about these groups, ask last year's students as well as look on the organizations’ websites.

Also, we do not want more than two students working for any one organization, so if five students contact the same organization, we've asked the organization to take no more than two students as interns. That's a good reason to arrange your interviews as soon as possible.

The contact people on the list are very busy and may not call you back right away. Be persistent in trying to reach them.

Although you will be tempted to select an organization that works on an issue that you care about, the purpose of this course is to teach you about organizing. The same skills can be applied to any issue. Moreover, we have selected organizations that have a track record of success and have the capacity to supervise students so they get the most out of their internships, and also make a positive contribution to the groups they are working with. You should have decided which organization you'll be working with by the end of June Once you have set up your internship, please let me know right away. I need to keep track of who is working where.
You will be expected to write a short paper (about 15 typed pages) describing and analyzing your internship and the organization you worked with. This will be due at the end of the semester.

Although some students in the class may decide to become organizers (or do other kind of social justice work), the skills you will learn in the course will be useful to you in other aspects of your life, especially if you do some kind of volunteer work at some point in your life, or try to get people together to achieve something you can’t do on your own.

**Summer Reading**

I would also like each student to read one of the following books over the summer. Each is available in paperback.

Taylor Branch, *Parting the Waters* – a history of the civil rights movement that describes the process of grassroots organizing in exciting detail.

Sanford Horwitt, *Let Them Call Me Rebel* -- a biography of Saul Alinsky, the "father" of community organizing.

Barbara Ramsey, *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom movement* – a biography of Ella Baker, one of the most important organizers of the civil rights movement

I would also recommend, in addition, Howard Zinn’s wonderful book, *A People’s History of the United States*. If you haven’t read this book yet, you should read it this summer. It examines the nation’s history from the “bottom up,” focusing on grassroots movements for social change.

**Useful Web Sites**

You might want to check out the following web site: *Comm Org* is a web site devoted to community organizing. It includes descriptions of organizing projects, papers on the theory and practice of organizing, job listings, and links to lots of interesting sites on grassroots movements, public policy, and related issues. Find it at: [http://comm-org.wisc.edu](http://comm-org.wisc.edu)

In addition, here are some interesting websites for national organizations and publications that focus on different areas of public policy and activism:

- Campaign for America’s Future - [http://www.ourfuture.org](http://www.ourfuture.org)
- Center for Community Change – [http://www.communitychange.org](http://www.communitychange.org)
- United for Peace and Justice – [http://www.unitedforpeace.org](http://www.unitedforpeace.org)
- American Civil Liberties Union – [http://www.aclu.org](http://www.aclu.org)
- Catholic Worker – [http://www.catholicworker.org](http://www.catholicworker.org)
Environmental Working Group – http://www.ewg.org
Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting – http://www.fair.org
Global Exchange – www.globalexchange.org
Greenpeace – http://www.greenpeaceusa.org
Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund – http://www.lambdalegal.org
Labor Notes – http://www.labornotes.org
MoveOn.org – http://www.moveon.org
NAACP – http://www.naacp.org
National Labor Committee – http://www.nlcn.org
National Low Income Housing Coalition – http://www.nlihc.org
National Priorities Project – http://www.nationalpriorities.org
Oxfam America – http://www.oxfamamerica.org
PICO National Network – http://www.piconetwork.org
Public Campaign – http://www.publiccampaign.org
Public Citizen – http://www.citizen.org
Rainforest Action Network – http://www.ran.org
Right to the City Alliance - http://www.righttothecity.org/
Sierra Club – http://www.sierraclub.org
Sojourners – http://www.sojo.net
Human Rights Campaign – http://www.hrc.org
United for a Fair Economy – http://www.ufenet.org
United Students Against Sweatshops - http://www.studentsagainstsweatshops.org
Future Majority – http://www.futuremajority.com
Campus Progress - http://www.campusprogress.org
Center for American Progress – http://www.americanprogress.org
GenerationalAlliance - http://generationalalliance.org
Wellstone Action – http://www.wellstone.org
Advocacy Institute – http://www.advocacy.org
Center on Budget and Policy Priorities – http://www.cbpp.org
Common Dreams – http://www.commondreams.org
AlterNet – http://www.alternet.org
The Nation – http://www.thenation.com
Mother Jones – http://www.motherjones.org
American Prospect – http://www.prospect.org
TruthOut – http://www.truthout.org
Moving Ideas -- http://www.movingideas.org
Media Matters – http://mediamatters.org
In These Times – http://www.inthetimes.com
The Progressive – http://www.theprogressive.org
TalkingPointsMemo - http://www.talkingpointsmemo.com
Tikkun – [http://www.tikkun.org](http://www.tikkun.org)
WireTap - [http://www.wiretapmag.org](http://www.wiretapmag.org)
Commonweal – [http://www.commonwealmagazine.org](http://www.commonwealmagazine.org)
Idealist.org (jobs in non-profits) – [http://www.ideal.org](http://www.ideal.org)
Non-Profit Career Network – [http://www.nonprofitcareer.com](http://www.nonprofitcareer.com)
California is at the epicenter of our nation’s foreclosure crisis. In addition to the devastation currently experienced by thousands of long-time working-class homeowners being forced to move, bad bank policy is costing our communities an estimated $35,000 per property in lost revenue and additional services. ACCE is a statewide community organization working in eleven counties. ACCE uses a model of community organizing to build political power and develop leadership in low-income and working class neighborhoods across California, and runs strategic policy campaigns in the areas of foreclosures & bank policy, education reform, affordable housing, and environmental justice. Interns with the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) will participate in an aggressive statewide campaign to organize homeowners who are facing foreclosure and tenants facing eviction from foreclosed properties, to build support for policies that require banks to compensate communities for costs related to foreclosure, and to negotiate permanent loan modifications.

AGENDA (Action for Grassroots Empowerment & Neighborhood Development Alternatives) was established after the 1992 civil unrest in Los Angeles to address problems of poverty and underdevelopment in the inner city communities of South Los Angeles. AGENDA is a membership based organization that seeks to reverse the trend of declining civic participation in poor, disadvantaged, and largely people of color communities through community organizing, public policy education, grassroots leadership development, and community advocacy. Over the past several years, AGENDA has evolved into a multi-dimensional community institution called SCOPE that integrates direct community organizing with strategic research and analysis, alliance building, capacity building and electoral organizing. SCOPE is the convener of the Los Angeles Apollo Alliance, a new regional alliance of community organizations, environmental groups, and building trade unions. LA-Apollo’s mission is to shape an equitable, sustainable clean energy economy in Los Angeles that delivers 1000s of union green jobs to poor and working communities. SCOPE & the LA Apollo Alliance recently won a two-year campaign that calls on LA City to retrofit public buildings, such as park and recreation centers, libraries and office buildings, with energy and water efficient practices and technologies to reduce carbon emissions, save energy and water, and create jobs and a training pipeline for South LA and other inner city communities. SCOPE is looking for two organizers for AGENDA, their community organizing effort in South LA.
The California Nurses Association (CNA) represents more than 47,000 registered nurses in more than 150 facilities in the state. As a union, it has not only helped improve the pay and working conditions of RNs through collective bargaining and political/legislative action in Sacramento, it has also worked to improve patient care and challenge the increasing corporatization of the health care industry. With CNA, California nurses have led the nation in ground-breaking patient advocacy legislation such as staffing ratios and whistle-blower protection. Several years ago, it helped lead the campaign to challenge Gov. Schwarzenegger’s ballot initiatives. It has played a key role in mobilizing people around universal health insurance and campaign finance reform.

The Coalition for Clean & Safe Ports is an alliance of environmental, labor, faith-based, community and public-health organizations (listed on the website) working to promote sustainable trade, a clean environment, and good jobs at the Los Angeles and Long Beach Ports. The Campaign for Clean and Safe Ports is one of the most exciting organizing efforts in the country. The Teamsters union is organizing the truck drivers who bring goods to and from the two ports, often in old, dangerous, and polluting trucks. They want to organize the drivers into a union while working with the environmental, faith-based, and other organizations (including LAANE) to fight for cleaner and safer trucks that won’t pollute the immediate area around the ports (home to tens of thousands of families, with a very high asthma rate among children and respiratory problems among adults) and the larger LA area. The campaign has already won some important victories, which you can read about on the website. Most of the truck drivers are Latino, so it would help (but isn’t absolutely necessary) for interns to speak Spanish. If you have a car, the Teamsters will help pay for your gas and mileage.
Founded in 1973, the Coalition for Economic Survival (CES) has organized tenants and low-income people throughout Los Angeles to gain greater control over the economic forces that govern their lives. CES’s mission is to educate tenants (especially low-income tenants) about their rights to affordable, decent and safe housing, to train and empower them to take action to protect and advocate for their rights, and to build powerful, participatory tenant organizations of low income and working class people to work together toward these goals. CES’ significant accomplishments include: Winning rent control for the cities of Los Angeles and West Hollywood; incorporating the City of West Hollywood and electing CES members to the West Hollywood City Council; assisting four low income tenant associations to purchase their HUD subsidized housing complexes and preserve them as permanent affordable housing, combating slum housing but getting the city to strengthen its code enforcement; and organizing thousands of renters to stop unjust evictions and rent increases. CES is currently working on a campaign to restrict the demolition of affordable rental housing and the conversion of affordable apartments to expensive condominiums.

**Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)**
Whelma Cabanawan, Intern Coordinator
2533 W. Third St, Los Angeles, CA 90057
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Website: [http://www.chirla.org](http://www.chirla.org)

CHIRLA was founded in 1986 in response to the federal Immigration Act (IRCA), and to advance the human and civil rights of immigrants and refugees in Los Angeles and to empower immigrants and their allies to build a more just and humane society. CHIRLA combines community organizing with a wide range of social service, advocacy, policy, and education strategies to focus on Workers Rights and Immigration Access. They are involved in the Day Laborers Project, the Domestic Worker's Organizing and Advocacy Project and Multiethnic Immigrant Workers Organizing Network. It was one of the key organizations mobilizing around the immigrant rights’ marches in April and May of 2006. It is currently one of the key organizations in the country building a movement for federal immigration reform. To further its mission, CHIRLA participates in national, state, and local advocacy to shape public policy on topics that impact immigrant welfare, organizes immigrants around social issues that affect the immigrant community, provides a support network for the immigrant and refugee community, educates community members about issues that affect immigrants and refugees, and works to improve racial and ethnic relations in Los Angeles and throughout Southern California.

**Coalition for a Safe Environment**
Jesse Marquez, Executive Director
Address: 1601 N. Wilmington Blvd. Wilmington, CA 90744
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Email: jmmarquez@prodigy.net
Website: [http://hydra.usc.edu/scehsc/web/welcome/CFASE.html](http://hydra.usc.edu/scehsc/web/welcome/CFASE.html)
The Coalition For A Safe Environment (CFASE) is a nonprofit community-based organization based in Wilmington, CA that seeks to improve environmental health and justice in the Harbor communities near the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. CFASE is involved in policy issues at all levels of government. CFASE works to mitigate, reduce and eliminate public exposure and public health impacts caused by air, land and water pollution generated by the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, international cargo & cruise ships, the petroleum industry, energy sources and the goods movement transportation industry. In addition to its role in the Trade, Health and Environment (THE) Impact Project, CFASE is leads work of the Clean Up Green Up campaign (along with Communities for a Better Environment, Union de Vecinos, and Pacoima Beautiful – see individual descriptions for these groups). The citywide campaign The Clean Up Green Up campaign aims to transform Los Angeles communities most impacted by industrial pollution into vibrant and healthy places. The campaign proposes to create “green zones” in the City of Los Angeles that will: 1) protect public health by using planning tools to mitigate pollution in these heavily impacted communities; 2) invest in economic development with financial and planning incentives to retain jobs and create new, green enterprises; 3) reduce existing environmental hazards through streamlined inspection and enforcement; and, 4) expand public-private partnerships to leverage outside resources for revitalization and greening efforts within the green zones. See www.cleanupgreenupla.org.

Communities for a Better Environment
Yuki Kidokoro, Southern California Program Director
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Communities for a Better Environment (CBE) is an environmental health and justice non-profit organization, promoting clean air, clean water and the development of toxin-free communities. CBE's three-part strategy includes grassroots activism, environmental research and legal assistance within underserved urban communities. In Southern California, CBE works at the local and regional level to organize community residents, students, public officials, academics and allies to wage campaigns to fight for pollution prevention and reductions. The local work is focused in the LA County communities of Huntington Park, South Gate and Wilmington. These communities are some of the most overburdened communities when it comes to environmental pollution, hit by both stationary (refineries, power plants, etc) and mobile (diesel trucks, freeways, etc) sources of pollution. This translates into higher exposure to chemicals that cause illnesses such as asthma, cancer, reduced lung function, reproductive harm among others. CBE has worked on many campaigns, including one to clean up the pollution from oil refineries, to stop the construction of a polluting power plant, and one to stop the expansion of the 710 freeway into residential neighborhoods.

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**Community Coalition**

Joanne Kim  
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Website: [http://www.ccsapt.org](http://www.ccsapt.org)

The Community Coalition is a grassroots community based organization working to build a powerful voice in South Los Angeles to create, influence and change public policy. In November 2004, Community Coalition Co-Founder and Executive Director Karen Bass was elected to the state Assembly. The Coalition’s South Central Youth Empowered Thru Action (SC YEA) organizing project pressured the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to reopen repair and construction contracts granted by a $2.4 billion school bond, “Proposition Better Buildings” (Prop BB) and add $153 million dollars for additional school repairs previously overlooked for South LA and other inner city schools in the Los Angeles Unified School District. Among its most successful campaigns have been dealing with the disproportionate number of liquor stores in South LA and getting LAUSD to target more funds for the repair of school buildings in inner-city neighborhoods.

**East LA Community Corporation**

Lydia Avila (Oxy grad), Organizer  
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Website: [http://www.elacc.org](http://www.elacc.org)

Since 1996 ELACC has been dedicated to harnessing housing and other community development resources for the benefit of low income residents of Boyle Heights and the unincorporated East Los Angeles area. ELACC’s mission is to advocate for economic and social justice in Boyle Heights and Unincorporated East Los Angeles by building, affordable housing, grassroots leadership, self-sufficiency and access to economic development opportunities for low and moderate income families. Through the Neighbors Building Neighborhoods program (NBN), ELACC focuses on land-use, planning, and housing issues as a means of engaging, training and supporting community residents to build power, promote social equity and empower our communities. Spanish preferred.

**East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice**

Isella Ramirez, Co Director  
2317 Atlantic Blvd., Commerce, CA 90040  
Phone: (323) 263-2113; Fax: (323) 263-2114  
Email: iramirez@eycej.org
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice is a community-based non-profit organization located in Commerce, CA. We work to organize community members of Commerce, unincorporated East Los Angeles and West Long Beach. We work in these communities because families are disproportionately suffering from the negative health impacts of industrial pollution. We strive to facilitate leadership development by offering workshops & trainings, quarterly community meetings and conducting door-to-door and phone banking activities. Our goal is to provide community members the necessary tools to become self-advocates as they become active participants in decision-making that impacts their health and environment.

**Esperanza Community Housing Corporation**
Nancy Ibrahim
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Website: [http://www.esperanzacommunityhousing.org](http://www.esperanzacommunityhousing.org)

Esperanza Community Housing Corporation (Esperanza) was founded in 1989 as a result of a four-year organizing effort by community residents. Based on the area in which those residents lived -- the Figueroa Corridor -- Esperanza's target neighborhood was established. Esperanza remains rooted in and focused on this area to this day. Esperanza Community Housing Corporation addresses the needs of our community comprehensively through five core program areas: housing, health, economic development, education, and arts & science. Today, Esperanza serves 80,000 individuals per year. In all of its activities, Esperanza strives to build hope with community.

**UNITE/HERE Local 11**
Noel Rodriguez, Organizer
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Website: [http://www.herelocal11.org](http://www.herelocal11.org)

UNITEHERE Local 11 is a progressive, fighting, organizing Union for workers in the hotel, gaming, and food-service industries. Since 1989, Local 11 has transformed itself into a strong voice for working people. It is involved in several organizing campaigns.

The LAX Corridor Campaign is a multiple hotel union organizing drive of immigrant service workers near LAX that involves politics, legal and corporate research, boycott, community, student, and worker organizing, and direct militant action. Interns would play a direct role in the organizing, actions, and boycott. Interns could also be assigned to the legal team. The Citywide Hotel Campaign is a fight to improve the standards for low paid immigrant service workers in hotels and to incorporate growth of unionization at the same time. This "Bargain to Organize" technique reflects a long term investment of workers in class struggle by using the collective power of the already unionized workers to win the union in all new hotel projects of their respective employers. The union is ramping up pieces of its comprehensive campaign including boycott, research, community organizing, legal, and militant worker action.
Interns would be assigned directly to the team and would play a direct role in organizing workers and running actions. Interns could also be assigned to the legal team.

**Inner City Struggle**
Maria Brenes
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Website: [http://www.innercitystruggle.org](http://www.innercitystruggle.org)

Founded in 1994, InnerCity Struggle’s (ICS) mission is to organize youth and families to build power toward social, economic and educational justice in East Los Angeles and promote healthy, safe and non-violent communities. InnerCity Struggle became an independent center to meet the Eastside’s long-standing need for a permanent organization with its own 501(c)(3) through which the community could demand public resources, equity, and justice. InnerCity Struggle organizes both Eastside adults and students, respectively, through its two components, Familias Unidas (FaU) and United Students (US). ICS coordinates United Students campus-based clubs at six high schools and two middle schools, where student members are engaged in efforts to educate the student bodies to build student power for educational justice. The core work of ICS is developing engaged and informed youth and parent leaders who can act as agents for creating quality schools and improving not just their community, but all the communities served by the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD).

**KIWA (Koreatown Immigrant Workers Alliance)**
Eileen Ma, Campaign Director
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KIWA was founded in 1992 and started with the mission to address the worker exploitation rampant in the Koreatown community among both Korean and Latino workers, and committed to struggling in solidarity with other communities for a more just Los Angeles. KIWA is one of the nation’s most established workers centers and one of the few community groups organizing both Korean and Latino workers in the country. KIWA brings together workers from targeted local low-wage industries with community members and students in a broad, multi-ethnic vision for social justice. Our strategies include grassroots organizing and leadership development, strategic industry-based campaigns that target employers directly, advocacy, and multi-ethnic coalition building. In Koreatown, service sector industries and businesses like supermarkets, restaurants, carwashes, and garment factories dominate the local economy, providing over 50% of the jobs. The majority of residents in Koreatown are immigrants from Asia and Latin America and working poor. In 1997 KIWA helped win over $2 million for workers from retailers and manufacturers connected with the now infamous El Monte "slave shop" operators. KIWA organized Latino garment workers and was a part of the legal team that eventually won this landmark case that exposed Southern California’s modern-day sweatshops to the general public. KIWA has focused on organizing workers in the restaurant industry and supermarket industries to fight for dignity and respect. In 2007, KIWA won a multi-year campaign at Assi Market, which resulted in a $1.475 million settlement for workers affected
by discrimination and unfair labor practices. KIWA’s current focus is on its “Reclaiming Koreatown” campaign to address affordable housing and gentrification in Koreatown. KIWA is building a community union, a democratic organization of workers and residents that has the power to change and set standards for our community. KIWA welcomes all interns; Spanish or Korean language skills preferred.

**Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy**

Tim Bowler, executive assistant  
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Email: tbowler@laane.org  
website: [http://www.laane.org](http://www.laane.org)

Founded in 1993, LAANE utilizes organizing, research and policy strategies to focus on issues facing working poor families and their communities. It is currently working on a number of issue campaigns involving community, environmental, and labor groups. These include campaigns around waste and recycling, energy efficiency, grocery stores, hospitality (tourism, hotels, etc), and construction careers, in addition to the clean ports campaign, listed elsewhere on this memo. Tim Bowler, the assistant to the executive director, will direct you to the coordinator for the campaign you want to work with.

You can learn more about each campaign on LAANE’s website. LAANE came to prominence by leading the effort to pass one of the country's first living wage laws, raising wages for 15,000 workers. Following the living wage victory, LAANE joined with a coalition of unions and clergy to form Respect at LAX, dramatically improving wages and working conditions for thousands of airport employees. In 2001, LAANE launched its Accountable Development program, winning landmark agreements to ensure that developers provide quality jobs and community benefits in exchange for public subsidies. In 2004, LAANE took a leading role in defeating Wal Mart's $1.5 million initiative campaign in Inglewood and helped pass the groundbreaking Los Angeles Superstore Ordinance, giving communities more control over the construction of big box stores. In December 2004, The LAX Coalition for Economic, Environmental, and Educational Justice, led by LAANE, won a landmark $500 million community benefits agreement, negotiated with the City of L.A. and Los Angeles World Airports securing community benefits in the expansion of LAX.

**LA Community Action Network (LA CAN)**

Becky Dennison, co-director  
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web page: [http://www.cangress.org](http://www.cangress.org)

The Los Angeles Community Action Network (LA CAN) is a grassroots organization working in the Central City East community of downtown Los Angeles, commonly known as Skid Row. Central City East is home to about 13,000 homeless people and extremely low-income tenants. LA CAN is comprised almost solely of homeless and low-income residents working to improve our community, as well as fight the pressures of gentrification working to push poor people out of downtown Los Angeles. LA CAN uses five integrated strategies to advance its campaigns around housing, community economic development, civil and human
rights, and health: 1) Community organizing and leadership development; 2) Community education; 3) Individual legal representation; 4) Impact litigation; and 5) Grassroots public policy advocacy. It recently won a victory -- getting the City Council to enact a one-year moratorium on the conversion or demolition of residential hotel units, which are currently at-risk of being demolished or converted to higher income housing, and prevent increased homelessness from the loss of this housing.

**L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center – Vote for Equality**

Jackson Darling, organizer  
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Website: www.lagaycenter.org

Vote for Equality is the community organizing department of the LA Gay & Lesbian Center, working to increase support for LGBT rights and reduce anti-LGBT prejudice by talking directly with voters. To effectively implement our voter contact strategy, our team of staff, interns and volunteers does community and campus outreach, volunteer recruitment, leadership training, data entry and analysis, videography and video editing, message development and research, and door-to-door canvassing. Interns will work closely with staff to learn and practice important elements of Vote for Equality’s community organizing and research strategy. Spanish and Mandarin speakers encouraged to apply. Driver’s license and access to a car required. Availability 2 Saturday’s per month requested.

**LA Voice**

Zachary Hoover, Executive Director  
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Phone: 323-497-6652 (cell)  213-385-7404 x14 (office)  
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Website: http://www.lavoicepico.org

LA Voice believes that every human is created with dignity. Often times, our institutions fail to reflect this truth. For this reason, LA Voice teaches people to speak, act, and engage in the public arena. It is our mission to transform Los Angeles into a city that reflects the human dignity of all communities, especially those in greatest need. We are an interfaith, community organization that unites people from diverse backgrounds to improve the quality of life of Los Angeles residents. Since 2000, LA Voice has developed a strong base of leaders or, community volunteers, that are striving to transform their neighborhoods. Each month, in Hollywood, South Los Angeles, West Los Angeles, and East Los Angeles, groups of leaders are meeting at their local congregations to learn political strategy, power analysis, and the power of relationships. With these skills, they are being developed into strong leaders that can hold city officials accountable and advocate for resources for their families. LA Voice has successfully worked to increase access to health care, make neighborhoods safer, improve public schools, build affordable housing, and mobilize infrequent voters in historically low-income communities. We work in 20 congregations throughout the city and continue to develop hundreds of leaders every year. We are part of the PICO National Network, which has developed leadership in 150 cities.
and 18 states. With more than one thousand religious congregations, schools, and neighborhood organizations, PICO is one of the largest grassroots community efforts in the United States.

**MoveLA**
Beth Steckler, Deputy Director
506 Santa Monica Boulevard, Suite 223, Santa Monica, CA 90401 (Move LA will have an office in downtown Los Angeles by this summer).
Phone: (310) 310-2390 (office) (323) 310-2390 (home office)
Email: sbsteckler@gmail.com
Website: [http://www.movela.org](http://www.movela.org)

Move LA is dedicated to building a countywide coalition that promotes a robust, clean and efficient transit program while championing strategies to accelerate its development throughout Los Angeles County. Move LA works to enhance the quality of life for all Los Angeles County residents by: relieving traffic congestion on roadways and expanding public transportation options; growing the economy and providing badly needed short- and long-term jobs; and reducing greenhouse gases and minimizing pollution for improved air quality and public health. Move LA played a pivotal role in getting Measure R on the ballot. A half cent sales tax, Measure R raises $40 billion over 30 years, three quarters of which is for transit construction and operations. Move LA is working at the federal level to accelerate the Measure R transit construction to 10 years through the "30-10 Plan." The basic idea of the "30-10 Plan" is that the federal government would loan the money and be paid back from future sales tax revenues. This will allow us to put more people to work to work now building the transit system we need. Executive Director Denny Zane is an Oxy grad.

**One LA**
Maribeth Larkin (to reach her, contact Cynthia Valenzuela, the office manager, who will arrange conversations/meetings with Ms. Larkin). Cynthia's email is [cvalenzuela@metroiaf.org](mailto:cvalenzuela@metroiaf.org) and the office phone is (213) 273-8420.
1545 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 328, Los Angeles, CA 90017
Phone: (213) 273-8420 (office); Fax: (213) 273-4727
Email: mlarkin@metroiaf.org
Website: [http://www.industrialareasfoundation.org](http://www.industrialareasfoundation.org)

One LA/IAF is a non-partisan organization of congregations, schools, unions and non-profits working to strengthen families, neighborhoods and institutions in Los Angeles. We build power for sustainable social and economic change through broad-based community organizing. We work with member institutions to train and develop leaders who are prepared to take public action on a multi-issue agenda that includes education equality and access, foreclosure prevention, health care reform, and protecting the rights of immigrants. One LA is affiliated with the Industrial Areas Foundation, the oldest and largest community organizing network in the U.S., founded by Saul David Alinsky in 1938 in Chicago's Back of the Yards neighborhoods. One LA had its founding convention in July, 2004 with 12,000 delegates representing 85 member institutions from the LA area.

**Pacoima Beautiful**
Marcos Zamora-Sanchez, Community Organizer
11243 Glenoaks Blvd. Suite 1, Pacoima, CA 91331;
In the early 1990s, residents of Pacoima, a predominantly low-income part of the San Fernando Valley, came together to start Pacoima Beautiful. Partnering with local schools, Los Angeles Educational Partnership, the United Way, Cal State Northridge and UCLA faculty, neighbors created educational, health, environmental, and job training opportunities aimed at improving their quality of life. Neighborhood activists decided to set their own agenda of civic engagement, taking on issues of toxic dumping and pollution prevention through ongoing surveys and block-by-block education, monitoring, and clean-up efforts. Pacoima Beautiful also helps residents to become Community Inspectors working with Los Angeles city agencies to document and resolve local problems, e.g. graffiti, illegal dumping sites, noise generators, crack houses, and broken or missing street lighting. Through the neighbors' efforts, they are now taking on issues dealing with environmental health and environmental justice. Their efforts have produced greater accountability on the part of government officials.

Pacoima Beautiful leads work of the **Clean Up Green Up campaign** (along with Union de Vecinos, Coalition for a Safe Environment, and Communities for a Better Environment – see individual descriptions for these groups). The citywide campaign **The Clean Up Green Up campaign aims to transform Los Angeles communities most impacted by industrial pollution into vibrant and healthy places. The campaign proposes to create “green zones” in the City of Los Angeles that will: 1) protect public health by using planning tools to mitigate pollution in these heavily impacted communities; 2) invest in economic development with financial and planning incentives to retain jobs and create new, green enterprises; 3) reduce existing environmental hazards through streamlined inspection and enforcement; and, 4) expand public-private partnerships to leverage outside resources for revitalization and greening efforts within the green zones. See [www.cleanupgreenupla.org](http://www.cleanupgreenupla.org).**

**Planned Parenthood**

Phoebe Brauer, Public Affairs Manager
1045 N. Lake Ave., Pasadena, CA 91104
Phone: 626-794-5737 x 155 (office)  626-390-5401 (cell)
e-mail: pbrauer@pppsgv.org
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The mission of Planned Parenthood is to provide easy, affordable access to a full range of quality reproductive health care and sexual health information through patient services, education and advocacy. It engages in advocacy and education work to provide information and services people need to make conscientious, safe, and responsible decisions about sex and reproduction. It engages in advocacy work to protect reproductive freedom. The Planned Parenthood Action Network (PPAN) mobilizes people committed to defending and increasing access to family planning services, abortion services, and sexuality education. Planned Parenthood operates 22 health centers across Los Angeles County. Students will organize around and advocate for reproductive rights, comprehensive sexual health education, access to affordable basic health services, federal and state funding, STI/STD awareness, among other topics. This internship includes training and skill-building, on-campus grassroots organizing and community outreach, tracking and evaluation, and working closely with Planned Parenthood.
Students are expected to be self-motivated, able to work independently, organized, and creative.

**POWER (People Organized for Westside Renewal)**
Bill Przylucki, Organizer
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People Organized for Westside Renewal (POWER) is a community organizing group made up of hundreds of individual members and six member institutions. POWER was founded in 1999 to address systemic economic and social injustices facing low-income people in Westside Los Angeles. In 2010 POWER became a citywide organization. POWER leaders tackle tough issues and win improvements in the communities of Pacoima, San Pedro and Westside LA, and our victories have citywide, statewide and national impact. POWER has won over $100 million in new affordable housing, preserved 1,000s of units of Section 8 and public housing, and passed Cafeteria Reform Motion lowering the sugar, salt and trans-fat in over 700 LAUSD public school cafeterias. POWER is a dues-paying member of the National People’s Action (NPA) network, named “Most Valuable Grassroots Activism” in 2010 by The Nation magazine. In March 2010, the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy released a study that found POWER leverages $170 worth of positive community impact for every $1 invested in the organization. Interns will work with leaders in one or more low-income neighborhoods/public housing projects where we work, employing a community organizing strategy based on relationship building and direct action that will build on our track record of success and move people into direct action, which we believe allows leaders to exceed even their own expectations of themselves – truly transforming themselves and their communities.

**Progressive Jewish Alliance**
Eric Greene
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The Progressive Jewish Alliance is a non-profit, non-denominational membership organization for those who are committed to social change. Its members include activists and academics, students and retirees, artists and businesspeople, agnostics and people of religious faith. It works on a range of issues, include: the fight against sweatshops and improving the condition of low-paid immigrant workers; creating dialogue between Jews and Muslims; improving the judicial system to bring together crime victims and offenders in a restorative (rather than a retributive) process and reforming the criminal justice system (including opposition to the death penalty); and providing support to the Israeli and Palestinian peace movements in the Middle East.

**Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH)**
Lisa Payne, Housing LA coordinator
3345 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 1005, Los Angeles, CA 90010
Phone: (213) 480-1249; Fax: (213) 480-1788
The Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing (SCANPH) is a roughly 400-member organization dedicated to the production, preservation and management of permanently affordable housing for low-income people. Housing LA is the advocacy and organizing arm of SCANPH. It is currently working on campaigns to get more affordable housing build in LA and to push for a comprehensive plan to link housing and public transportation. SCANPH members include non-profit developers, for profit businesses, local governments, lenders, social service agencies and individuals in Los Angeles, Orange, San Bernardino, Riverside, Ventura and Santa Barbara counties. Since 1987, its members have built over 60,000 units of permanently affordable housing throughout this region. SCANPH engages in advocacy for local and statewide policies that further affordable housing development. Housing LA is a broad coalition of housing, community, labor and faith-based groups. Its most recent campaign was to get the LA City Council and Mayor to adopt the three key parts of the coalition’s agenda: stronger tenant protections (including restrictions on condo conversions and demolitions), permanent funding for the city’s housing trust fund, and an “inclusionary housing” law to require all developers to provide affordable housing.

**Strategic Action for a Just Economy (SAJE)**

Jyotswaroop Bawa, associate director
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Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE) is an economic justice and popular education center that has been working in Los Angeles since 1996. SAJE works on a variety of issues, including housing, displacement, and economic development. It played a key role in organizing the Figueroa Corridor Coalition and in negotiating a “community benefits” package with the developers of Staples Center. SAJE’s other accomplishments include creating the nation's first welfare-to-work bank account. Under the umbrella of a strategy called Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighbors (BNSN), SAJE organizes community members, supports tenants rights and builds healthy homes in the Figueroa Corridor. This is also where its work in environmental justice, lead poisoning abatement, and asthma prevention is conducted. SAJE also does tenant organizing, especially in slum housing. Its high-profile campaign against the owners of the Morrison Hotel, a residential hotel, was a major victory. Spanish required.

**Union de Vecinos**

Leonardo Vilches
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Union de Vecinos is an organization dedicated to advancing the interests of low-income renters in the working-class, immigrant community of Boyle Heights in East LA. Union de Vecinos campaigns for tenants’ rights and affordability, as well as transportation and economic development programs that support micro-businesses owned by local residents (e.g., street
vendors). They are a member of the Right to the City Alliance and leads work of the **Clean Up Green Up campaign** (along with Communities for a Better Environment, Coalition for a Safe Environment, and Pacoima Beautiful – see individual descriptions for these groups). The citywide campaign The Clean Up Green Up campaign aims to transform Los Angeles communities most impacted by industrial pollution into vibrant and healthy places. The campaign proposes to create “green zones” in the City of Los Angeles that will: 1) protect public health by using planning tools to mitigate pollution in these heavily impacted communities; 2) invest in economic development with financial and planning incentives to retain jobs and create new, green enterprises; 3) reduce existing environmental hazards through streamlined inspection and enforcement; and, 4) expand public-private partnerships to leverage outside resources for revitalization and greening efforts within the green zones. See [www.cleanupgreenupla.org](http://www.cleanupgreenupla.org).

Spanish desirable but not necessary.

**United Food & Commercial Workers, Local 770**

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UFCW Local 770 represents workers in the retail food, meat, drug stores, packinghouses, food processing plants, pharmacies, laboratories, as well as barbers and beauticians. Originally chartered by the Retail Clerks Association, Local 770 has been representing the interests of retail workers in Los Angeles County for 60 years and has grown from a modest 200 individuals to a 30,000 member organization. Our Organizing Department focuses on growing union density in our core industries. Some of our current campaigns include, WalMart, Fresh and Easy, CVS, and Food Production in the Alameda Corridor. The Local has earned a reputation in Southern California for its contract negotiations, contract enforcement, grievance procedures and exceptional health care and pension benefits.

**WORKS** (Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge & Services)

Sua Iris Hernandez (Oxy grad)  
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Women Organizing Resources, Knowledge & Services (WORKS), is a nonprofit affordable housing developer. WORKS has launched four health based initiatives at five housing developments to increase access to healthy food for our residents. These programs include weekly farmer’s markets, cooking classes, an onsite community garden and edible landscaping program, and a comprehensive resident engagement and advocacy program to affect policies that limit access to healthy food.