



Giving Thanks and Giving Back: November Highlights

As November concludes and December unfolds here at SCRS, we are grateful for you, our wonderful community! Join us this month for a magical event – our upcoming Toy Giveaway. Stay in the loop with the latest from SCRS-IL by following us on our socials. Share your stories and suggestions for upcoming newsletters by **replying to this email** or filling out the survey [here](#). Your voice matters; together, let's make this holiday season one to remember!



Lyft's \$20,000 Gift Drives Change: Transforming Transit for Wheelchair Users in California

Hector Ochoa commends Lyft's effort to raise awareness of its wheelchair-accessible vehicles (WAV) service. In December, Lyft plans to allocate \$20,000 in ride credits to California nonprofits, such as SCRS-IL. These credits will be distributed among wheelchair users in San Francisco and Los Angeles counties.

[Discover Hector's insights! Click for more.](#)

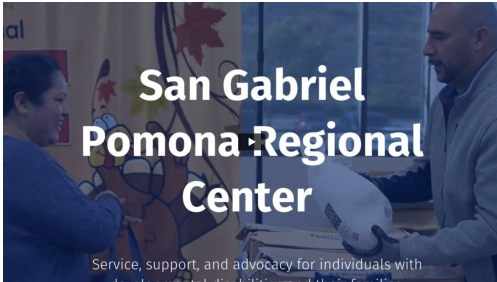
Program Happenings



Turkey Triumph in Our Communities

Over two days, in seven locations, our teams distributed 550 free turkeys, each accompanied by dry goods, resources, and COVID tests. Shoutout to local support, businesses, and stores for joining in the spirit of giving this season!

[View Video](#)



Take a closer look at our partnership with the San Gabriel Pomona Regional Center in providing 100 turkeys to regional center clients and their families. [View Photos](#)

To learn more about the SGPRC, [click here](#).



President's Hour at Cerritos College

This event provides a great opportunity for students to engage with their school's president, ask questions, and gain insights into campus matters.



Exploring Art & Culture

During a class trip to a museum, an EDGE student explores art and discovers exciting cultural experiences in the greater LA community.

Check out more museums in LA [here](#).



Family Day

Highlights from our recent Family Day in Downey's Employment Services program! Thanks to all who attended or supported afar; your commitment fosters meaningful employment and independence.

[View Photos](#)



New Opportunities Arise

Thriving for over 90 days, Mr. Quintanilla transitioned from an "OK" warehouse job to an Ambassador role at Metro, demonstrating leadership at \$23.50/hour. His compassionate approach aids diverse populations, supported by his dedicated Employment Specialist.

Southern California Resource Services
for
Independent Living
Presents



TOY
GIVEAWAY

December 16, 2023 | 10:00 am to 12:00 pm

Toys are available for those that RSVP ONLY: Ages 0-12

RSVP By December 12th:
(562) 862-6531

Location: SCRS-IL
7830 Quill Dr. ste D
Downey, CA 90242

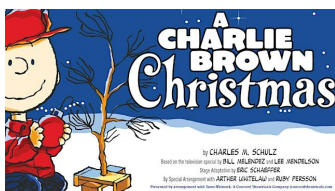
***Child Must Be Present to Receive Toy**

Santa's Early Visit to Downey

Our Toy Giveaway is just around the corner, and we're thrilled to invite you to join in the festive joy! Kindly RSVP by December 12th to ensure your spot in the merry celebration on *Saturday, December 16, from 10 am to 12 pm* in Downey.

Toys are exclusively available for those who RSVP: AGES 0-12. Remember, your child must be present to receive a toy. Contact our Downey office today to secure your spot! ☐ (562) 862-6531

Looking for more holiday fun?



A Charlie Brown



Sensory-Inclusive Zoo



A Christmas Carol:

Christmas
Sunday, December 17
La Habra, CA
A Sensory Friendly
Performance

[Visit Website](#)

Lights
Tuesday, December 5
Los Angeles, CA
A one night only, special
experience for all ages!

[Visit Website](#)

Relaxed Performance
Sunday, December 3
Pasadena, CA
A Sensory Friendly
Performance

[Visit Website](#)



The poster features a dark green background with a white circular graphic on the left containing a brain diagram. On the right, there is a colorful illustration of a human head with a glowing brain. The SCRS-IL logo is in the top right corner. The event details, including date, time, location, and speaker bios, are arranged in a clean, readable layout.

Summit for the Mind
JANUARY 20, 2024
2:00 PM to 7:00 PM
TBI SUMMIT

Location
Rio Hondo Event Center
10627 Old River School Road
Downey, CA 90241

Keynote Survivor:

 Eddie Torres - TBI Survivor ; Born in January of 1978 a time of political upheaval led to a civil war that forced drastic changes in the lives of many Salvadorians. Leaving the country was the only alternative for Eddie as he ended up in the United States in 1983 seeking Refugee status because of this bloody Civil War.

Keynote Presentation:

 Barry D. Jordan, MD, MPH, is the Chief Medical Officer of Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in Downey, California. He is a board certified neurologist with specialized experience and interests in sports neurology, Alzheimer's disease, and traumatic brain injury.

Panelist:

 Diana Owrey, PT ; graduated from Long Beach state with a Master's in Physical Therapy. Over the course of 19 years she has worked in a wide variety of settings with the specific focus in neurological rehabilitation.

 Joseph Louis Ponce, OT; graduated from USC and has been practicing for almost 3 decades. Currently focuses on Acute Rehabilitation, treating Spinal Cord Injury, stroke and TBI. He now focuses primarily on the treatment of TBI.

 Rebecca Friend, MA/CCC, SLP; has been working with acquired brain injury clients for over 12 years. She has worked in many different venues from acute care hospitals to post injury rehab as an instructor with the Coastline College ABI Program.

 Olivia Feagins is a Human Resources professional with over 20 years of experience. Leaves Management and empowering people of their employee rights is a passion of hers.

Learn More :
RSVP: 562-386-5402
Kumanzor@scrs-ilc.org
www.scrs-ilc.org/tbi

2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
(Keynote Speakers)

3:00 pm to 4:00 pm
(Dinner Service)

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm
(Panelist)

5:30 pm to 6:15 pm
(Q&A)

6:15 pm to 7:00 pm
(Resource Fair)

This event is completely FREE, Includes Giveaways & Resources

Jan 20

Summit for the Mind

Summit for the Mind – a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) summit uniting for awareness, support, and resources. Inspiring speakers, networking, and a free transformative experience await. Whether you're personally affected by a TBI or just want to make a difference, this event is for you. Don't miss out!

[Register](#)

Free

Employee Spotlight



A special shoutout to our remarkable SCRS team members as they celebrate their November work anniversaries!

Zeb Jenkins
Flora Moreno



Congratulations to our outstanding November 2023 employees for their exceptional efforts and going above and beyond!

Bavly Botrous
Denise Garcia

To nominate the next Employee of the Month, click [here](#).



Editor's Corner

Your experiences shape our community. Click [here](#) to share your stories, insights, and suggestions for our upcoming newsletters. Your voice is invaluable, and I'm here to listen!

Kimberly Umanzor | SCRS-IL Executive Assistant



SCRS-IL | 133 N. Altadena Avenue, #425, Pasadena, CA 91107

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