

— A COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER OF WISE & HEALTHY AGING —

# WISE News

ADVOCACY, LEADERSHIP & INNOVATIVE SERVICES FOR OLDER ADULTS & CAREGIVERS

WISE News is designed to provide you with brief updates about what's happening at WISE & Healthy Aging. We hope you find it informative! If you have feedback, or any news or information that you'd like to share, please email us at [info@wiseandhealthyaging.org](mailto:info@wiseandhealthyaging.org).



## Adult Day Service Center Back In-Person on Westside!

WISE & Healthy Aging Adult Day Services started phasing back in-person programming last summer, welcoming new and former clients! With a fully vaccinated staff and protocols strictly enforced to keep clients safe, we offer supportive, enjoyable and stimulating activities for loved ones that are customized to meet their needs. Spanish speakers get the same level of support through our Somos Amigos program as well.

Online programming through Zoom is also offered to engage loved ones at home! Whether in-person or online, all are welcome, regardless of geographical location. If you are caring for a loved one who is elderly and frail, or has Alzheimer's Disease or another form of dementia, Parkinson's Disease, or the remnants of dealing with a stroke, we are here to help (a Veterans benefit). Please call us for more information at: 310-394-9871, ext. 482.

[Learn More](#)

## Senior Leader Joins Coalition to Promote Brain Health

As an organization that has provided meaningful services and support to individuals living with dementia, Alzheimer's Disease and their caregivers for nearly 50 years, we are excited to announce that WISE & Healthy Aging's Executive Vice President, **Molly Davies, LCSW**, (pictured right) has joined the Advisory Council of the newly formed Healthy Brain LA Coalition.



Led by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health in partnership with the Los Angeles County Dept. of Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services, the coalition's primary goal is to facilitate the development of a strategic plan to improve the lives of people living with Alzheimer's Disease and related dementias, their caregivers, and families in L.A. County.

The Healthy Brain LA Coalition is sponsored by the Los Angeles County BOLD Initiative (LA BOLD), a 3-year effort (2021-2023) funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Building our Largest Dementia Public Health Program.

[Learn More](#)

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## Welcoming Two New Board Directors



WISE & Healthy Aging welcomes **Laura Mosqueda, MD** and **Justin Joe, MPH** as the newest members of its Board of Directors. Their combined wealth of experience in community service and advocacy on behalf of older adults will be invaluable as WISE & Healthy Aging works to address the needs of this growing population.

Dr. Laura Mosqueda is Professor of Family Medicine and Geriatrics and Professor of Gerontology at the USC Leonard Davis School of Gerontology. She is a widely respected authority on geriatric and family medicine, elder abuse and care of the elderly and underserved. Justin Joe is Director for Community Health Investment for three Providence Los Angeles Hospitals: Saint John's Health Center, Little Company of Mary Medical Center Torrance and Little Company of Mary Medical Center San Pedro. He brings extensive experience leading community benefit programs and developing partnerships with local agencies that address needs in underserved neighborhoods.

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## Advocating for the Rights of Residents in Long-Term Care



**WISE & Healthy Aging is the sole Administrator of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Services in Los Angeles County with Offices in Pasadena, Santa Monica, Montebello, Van Nuys, Long Beach, Torrance and Palmdale.**

After some troubling high-profile cases involving the abuse of elders and dependent adults living in long-term care facilities in Pasadena, our WISE & Healthy Aging Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program joined forces with various agencies in Pasadena to create the Pasadena Elderly and Dependent Adult Liaisons (PEDAL) team.

PEDAL was recently announced by the City of Pasadena with a video focusing on the role of the ombudsman. WISE & Healthy Aging Long-Term Care Ombudsman Administrative Program Director **Rachel Tate, MSW** in Pasadena and **Allison Virtue, MSW** our Regional Manager in Montebello were featured and explain the critical work of the ombudsman to help improve care.

PEDAL is a cross-departmental working group that includes representation from WISE & Healthy Aging, the Pasadena City Manager's Office, Public Health, Fire, Police, City Prosecutor's Office, Planning and Community Development and Huntington Hospital. Its mission is to improve the quality of life for elders and dependent adults residing in long-term care facilities through education, community outreach, code enforcement and prosecution.

As part of these efforts, the PEDAL team is developing outreach strategies, training videos, as well as conducting visits to long-term care facilities.

[Learn More](#)



WISE & Healthy Aging, a non-profit, community-based social service organization, advances the dignity and quality of life of older adults through leadership, advocacy and high-quality, innovative services.

