



The Gailen and Cathy Reeves Center
For Community Empowerment

OCTOBER *newsletter*

DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Celebrating 25 Years of Service, Compassion, and Community

October invites us to pause, reflect, and celebrate the warmth of community—and this year, it holds even greater meaning as GCRC marks 25 years of service. For a quarter century, GCRC has stood alongside children, families, adults and seniors throughout South Los Angeles, turning compassion into action, building lasting partnerships, and creating opportunities that strengthen lives and uplift our community.

Through our programs, we continue to demonstrate that community empowerment extends beyond meeting immediate needs. It means restoring hope, honoring dignity, and creating pathways to healthier, more stable, and fulfilling lives.

As we look forward to our 25th Anniversary Celebration on December 5, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated board members, staff, volunteers, community partners, and supporters who make this journey possible.

Together, we are celebrating not only 25 years of service but also 25 years of making a difference, one life at a time.

YOUR VOICE. YOUR VOTE. YOUR CHOICE!

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2026!

Voting is one of the most important ways to participate in our democracy and help shape the future of our communities. As we approach the 2026 Midterm Election, GCRC encourages everyone to become informed about the candidates and issues on the ballot and exercise their right to vote. Whether you vote early, by mail, or in person on Election Day, make your voice heard. Every voice matters, every vote counts, and the choice is yours!

Be informed. Be engaged. Make your voice count!



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PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

. Introducing CIVIC ROOTS: Growing Tomorrow's Community Leaders

We are excited to introduce the **CIVIC ROOTS** learning lab, our new youth civic education and leadership program designed to inspire and empower middle and high school students throughout South Los Angeles. Through engaging workshops, interactive activities, and hands-on learning experiences, students will explore how local government works, understand the importance of civic participation, and discover the power of their voices in shaping their communities.

CIVIC ROOTS will encourage young people to think critically, develop leadership skills, and become active participants in creating positive change. By planting the seeds of civic responsibility today, GCRC is cultivating the informed, confident, and engaged community leaders of tomorrow.

UPCOMING EVENTS

TOY DRIVE

BRING AN UNWRAPPED TOY

OCTOBER - NOVEMBER
2026

BALLOON LAUNCH

CELEBRATING CANCER SURVIVORS, PATIENTS, & CAREGIVERS

OCTOBER 25 2026 - 12:30 P.M.

TRUNK OR TREAT
OCTOBER 31, 2026
4:00 PM - 6:30 P.M.

The poster for the AI in Medicine Community Symposium features logos for The Gailen and Cathy Reeves Center, CelebrateLife Cancer Ministry, and Healthy Lungs California. It includes a list of panelists: Dr. Bino Varghese, Damien Halliburton, Dr. Anton Bilchik, Karen Busa, and Patricia Williams. The event is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2026, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Lincoln Memorial Congregational Church. It is free admission with registration required. The poster also includes a QR code and contact information for Pastor Rhonda at CelebrateLifeCM.org.

AI in Medicine Community Symposium
A Community Conversation About Artificial Intelligence, Health, and Hope

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Dr. Bino Varghese

PANELISTS
Damien Halliburton, Dr. Anton Bilchik, Karen Busa, Patricia Williams

Everyone is invited!
General community, Cancer survivors, Caregivers, Health professionals, Seniors & young adults, Church members

Free Admission • Registration Required
Registration: <https://tinyurl.com/2026aimedicinesymposium>

Questions? We're here to help!
PastorRhonda@CelebrateLifeCM.org 424-258-5433

FAITH • COMMUNITY • HEALTH • HOPE



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SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT



For Jason Farmer, a 2023 GCRC Ford Reynolds Star Scholarship recipient, attending Morehouse College has been a journey of academic achievement, personal growth, and self-discovery. Now in his third year, Jason has embraced the challenges of college life, developing greater discipline, independence, and confidence. With encouragement from family, mentors, and professors, he continues to grow as a scholar and future leader.

Jason credits the Ford Reynolds Star Scholarship with easing financial burdens and reminding him that others believe in his potential. “Your generosity has done more than help fund my education—it has given me the opportunity to grow into the leader, scholar, and servant that Morehouse College strives to cultivate.”

As GCRC celebrates 25 years of service, Jason’s journey reflects the lasting impact of investing in young people and helping them achieve their dreams. Dream Big, Jason!



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25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

GCRC
The Gailen and Cathy Reeves Center
FOR COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

25TH
ANNIVERSARY

*Join us for an afternoon Celebrating 25 Years
of Excellence, Empowerment, and Service*

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2026

VIP RECEPTION
 | The Hotel Topgolf Swing Suite
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM

ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON
12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

WESTIN HOTEL LAX
5400 W. Century Blvd.
Los Angeles, California

RSVP BY: November 21, 2026



GET YOUR TICKETS HERE
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/46HTEI](https://bit.ly/46HTEI)