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More Health Care Reform News

- www.healthcare.gov
- www.CuidadoDeSalud.gov
- www.calendow.org/healthreform
- www.themodernhousecall.com

More Immigration News

- <http://www.chirla.org/>
- <http://www.usimmigrationsupport.org/visa-u.html>

Contact Us

www.greaterlongbeachico.org
info@greaterlongbeachico.org
 5600 North Linden Avenue
 Long Beach, CA 90805
 (562) 984-2727

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tom@greaterlongbeachico.org

ICO Joins Local Health Providers in Health Reform Education Effort



ICO leaders joined with representatives from Long Beach Health Department, The Children's Clinic and Families In Good Health/ St. Mary's Medical Center in a health reform education effort targeting individuals and families who had come to Long Beach City College to get wristbands enabling them to attend an upcoming free health care clinic.

More than 2400 people had gathered at Long Beach City College on Sunday, Oct. 17, for the wristband distribution. The wristbands were required for admittance to the free health, dental and vision clinic offered at California State University Long Beach on Oct. 22-24 as part of The Modern House Call for Women. Some had been waiting since 6:00am for the wristband distribution, which began shortly before 1:00pm.



ICO leaders and our partners distributed a variety of information about the recent health care reform legislation and what it means for local families. As detailed in the information, as of September 23 under this historic legislation:

- Insurers cannot discriminate against children with pre-existing conditions;
- Insurance companies cannot drop coverage just because you get sick, and cannot set lifetime limits on coverage;
- Young adults can stay on their parents' plans until they turn 26 years old;
- Insurance now covers preventive services, such as annual check-ups, immunizations for children, mammograms and cancer screenings;
- Seniors now qualify for prescription drug relief when they hit the Medicare Part D prescription coverage donut hole; and,
- A \$15 billion fund has been established to fund prevention programs

targeting obesity and other issues.

In addition to the printed material provided by The California Endowment and others, those waiting in line also were able to view a short animated video produced by the Kaiser Family Foundation also explaining the content of the health care reform legislation.

According to event organizers, all 2400 wristbands were distributed and almost all people who showed up were accommodated. Attendees also appreciated receiving information on the health reform legislation and what it means for them. More information about the Health Care Law is available at www.healthcare.gov (English), www.CuidadoDeSalud.gov (Spanish), or, in Los Angeles County, at (800) 896-3203.

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St. Athanasius Sponsors Know-Your-Rights Forum



ICO leaders from St. Athanasius Church joined the Long Beach Immigrant Rights Coalition to conduct a Know-Your-Rights forum for immigrant families.

Legal experts led the forum and presented information on the rights of immigrants when dealing with local police and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents.

ICO leaders collaborate with other immigrant rights activists on a variety of efforts in Long Beach, including: English-As-a-Second-Language and Citizenship classes; meetings with the Long Beach Police Department on car-towing at random traffic checks; and local efforts to support national comprehensive immigration reform. Several leaders will be traveling to Chicago in November for the Justice for Immigrants conference convened the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

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Liberty Hill Funds West Long Beach Air Quality Organizing Effort

The Liberty Hill Foundation recently awarded ICO a one-year, \$25,000 grant for continued community organizing and grassroots leadership development to confront threats to local air quality and quality-of-life in West Long Beach.



Liberty Hill has been a longtime funder of ICO. The current grant – part of Liberty Hill's 2010 Fund for Change – will be used to support organizing efforts at West Side and Downtown Long Beach schools and faith institutions affected by goods movement activity at the Port of Long Beach, near-neighborhood rail transfer yards, and along the 710 Freeway. Residents of neighborhoods impacted by goods movement activity suffer from higher than normal rates of asthma and respiratory and cardio-vascular disease. Past Liberty Hill support has enabled ICO to develop a significant local grassroots voice confronting port and rail transfer yard expansion projects.

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