

2008 Diversity Award

The Multicultural Diversity awards recognize County Departments for their efforts to promote understanding of cultural differences within the community and the County workforce. Nominations were evaluated on tangible results: Transferability, Innovation, Leadership and Involvement. A panel reviewed the applications using the above criteria. Awardees are honored at the annual conference.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENTS:

County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department
Sheriff Leroy D. Baca
Project Title: Jail Chaplaincy Program

For their **Jail Chaplaincy Program**, the Religious and Volunteer Services Office coordinates all religious and spiritual activity within the county jail system. This program ensures that, when possible, inmates have access to ministers of their own faith. The program has grown to include 200 chaplains and 1,200 religious volunteers representing eight major faith groups and numerous sects within those groups.

County of Los Angeles Public Works Department
Dean D. Efstathiou
Project Title: Value Management Program

For their **Values Management Program**, this comprehensive program began in 2005 with a long-term commitment to a process of culture change. The first step in this process was a large scale cultural assessment. Convinced that the end result of valuing, understanding, and leveraging diversity is a workforce that is experienced by employees as safe, fair and empowering, the Department of Public Works created a process for long-term change within their department.

All the entries provided very impressive submissions. The high level of quality and innovative programs throughout the County continues to build upon and transcend the work we do to support each other and the community we serve. This tremendous work takes us all into the future that this conference encapsulates. These high quality programs that deserve high recognition include:

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department - African American Outreach Recruitment Program

In 2005 the Sheriff's Department launched a recruitment campaign unique within the law enforcement community to broaden its ethnic diversity by building partnerships with local African-American community leaders and organizations.

Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department - Muslim Community Outreach Program

Sheriff Leroy D. Baca and several leaders of the Muslim Community created the Muslim American Homeland Security Congress (MAHSC). MAHSC is comprised of leaders from the Muslim Community and Sheriff's Department who work together to promote understanding and harmony between the law enforcement officers and the community.

Los Angeles County Children and Family Services - Eliminating Racial Disparity and Disproportionality

In May of 2004, the Pomona office began its work by adapting the Family-to-Family Child Welfare Reform initiative and focusing its efforts on eliminating Racial Disproportionality and Disparity.

Los Angeles County Children and Family Services - American Indian Units

In 1989 this program was created to especially address the unique needs of Native American Children.

Los Angeles County Children and Family Services - Asian Pacific Project

In 1989, the Asian Pacific Project was created with just three workers to attempt to address some of these difficult issues. There are currently six units that comprise the Asian Pacific Project (APP).

Los Angeles County District Attorney Office - District Attorney Hiring Program

Steve Cooley creates a totally revised hiring program with increased outreach efforts and an emphasis on inclusivity. The new procedures have brought about the recruitment, identification and hiring of 279 highly qualified, diverse and multi-talented prosecutors.

Los Angeles County Health Services - LAC+USC Healthcare Network People Focused Steering Committee

Employees committed to workforce unity and cultural diversity awareness.

Los Angeles County Department of Agriculture Commissioner / Weights and Measures - Global Voices of Experience

We have twenty employees from five of the seven continents in the world. With such an impressive group of workers, we decided that we needed to celebrate our differences in order to unite our community.