



PRESS RELEASE

September 27, 2017

South Bay Workforce Investment Board
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South Bay Workforce Investment Board hosts Inglewood Teen Center’s 4th Anniversary

INGLEWOOD – The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) hosted Inglewood Teen Center’s 4th Anniversary on Thursday, September 14th, 2017 at the Inglewood Teen Center. In attendance to celebrate were students, staff and community civic leaders.

Present to commemorate Inglewood Teen Center’s achievements were: Mayor James T. Butts Jr., Councilmen Ralph Franklin and George Dotson; Captain Edward Ridens Jr, Inglewood PD; Sergeant Reginald Blaylock, Inglewood PD; Executive Director of Student Supportive Services, Dr. Reginald Sirls and SBWIB’s Executive Director, Jan Vogel. Some agencies present included AADAP, LACOE and CYS.

The event consisted of speeches by community leaders, presentations, survey reports from students and award acknowledgements. Awardees this year were: Jaylen Gilchrist for Member of the Year Award; Jose Haro, Rising Star Award; Jayla Williams, Teen Center Ambassador Award and Jo’Nyia, Hart for Workshop Standout Award.

Member of the Year recipient Jaylen Gilchrist opened up about his experience into the Teen Center, “Since seventh grade, when I came to this area, I didn’t know anybody. I wasn’t talkative. Somehow I found out about the Teen Center and started to meet people.”

Students partook in a survey to reflect on why the Teen Center is important to them and during the event their answers were read anonymously. Students responded with, “the teen center gives me a place to go after school so I can do homework and play games” also, “the teen center is important to me because it provides a safe environment for me to hang out with my peers, get homework help, and connect to the internet. It is a great opportunity to uplift the inner city youth community.” To end the celebration an annual ping pong tournament took place and refreshments were served.

The Inglewood Teen Center, operated by the SBWIB, is open Monday through Thursday from 3-6 p.m. It is free to students and provides a safe environment for teens to get homework help, use computers, get counseling and socialize with their peers. It encourages students and teaches the importance of career preparation, including college exploration and workshops. For more information on the Teen Center services, visit sbwib.org or call (310) 970-7700.

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Photo caption: The South Bay Workforce Investment Board (SBWIB) hosts and commemorates with students, staff and community civic leaders at the Inglewood Teen Center's 4th Anniversary on Thursday, September 14th, 2017 at the Inglewood Teen Center. Left to right: SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel; Member of the Year recipient Jaylen Gilchrist and Inglewood City Councilmember Ralph Franklin.