

Community and Senior Services



Throughout her career, Supervisor Solis has worked to provide seniors with greater access to quality, affordable health care and prescription drugs. In Congress, she served on the Democratic Caucus Health and Medicare Task Force and fought against cuts to vital Medicare programs and access to prescription drug plans.

Supervisor Solis believes that Los Angeles County must provide important services to our seniors. From adult protective programs, which aid elder adults and dependent adults who are unable to meet their own needs, or are victims of abuse, neglect or exploitation, to in-home meal delivery, the County provides many essential programs that help our seniors maintain independent lives.

She supports the services and activities currently overseen by the Department of Community and Senior Services (CSS), and the Seamless Senior Services (S3) program. Supervisor Solis applauds the Department of Consumer and Business Affairs for their efforts in identifying and investigating elder financial abuse. Being a strong advocate for Los Angeles County seniors, and the issues that affect their daily lives, is a top priority for her.

Earlier this year CSS was awarded a \$7,000 federal grant to provide up to 28,000 meals at various senior and community centers throughout the county. There are an estimated 12,836 First District residents who could benefit from these free meals. Many First District individuals and families are struggling to put food on the table. Solis is striving to help these hard-working families that need a nourishing meal.

Supervisor Solis has also promoted Summer Youth Employment Program, which is administered by CSS. The Board approved a plan to spend up to \$6.5 million to subsidize jobs for disadvantaged teens year round. More than 7,000 youth between the ages of 14 and 24 will participate this year. The County already has a summer jobs program for youth and put nearly 9,500 teens to work in summer jobs last year. Through this program, youth – with little or no work experience – earn about \$1,000 as they gain meaningful on-the-job training. It's a win-win. The young people placed at jobs gain meaningful experiences, while the County strengthens its ties with the private sector. This underscores the fact that County government works proactively to help low-income youth gain meaningful employment skills, as they earn a paycheck.

CSS also administers Workforce Innovation and Opportunities Act (WIOA). While with the federal government, Supervisor Solis was a strong advocate of job training programs. In 2003 when Congress passed the (then Workforce Investment Act) reauthorization, Supervisor Solis felt it didn't meet the needs of Latinos. So she authored her own bill H.R. 1992, the Expand Access to Training for English Language Learners Act. This bill proposed modest changes that would ensure meaningful impact and increased access for limited-English-proficient (LEP) persons. Supervisor Solis' bill brought to light the concerns and needs of many Latino workers facing language barriers.

As Supervisor, she is utilizing her experience working at the federal, state and local level to expand L.A. County's economic recovery. She is working closely with L.A. County Workforce Investment Board, the L.A. County Small Business Commission, the Community Development Commission/Housing Authority, and the Citizen's Economy and Efficiency Commission to focus efforts on growing the base of quality jobs in L.A. County. While on the Board, Supervisor Solis authored a motion to create a registry for the County to utilize Workforce Investment Board participants and community college students when needing temporary services.