

The Social Services Commission is an advisory body to the City Council that generally meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. The Commission may make recommendations to the City Council on Veterans affairs, homeless issues, adults with development disabilities, and children with special needs. All meetings are open to the public except for those portions that under law may be considered in closed session.

Staff reports are available for review at the Civic Center Main Library and the City Clerk's Office. Direct any other questions or concerns to the Social Services Commission liaison at 310.618.5880. Agendas are posted on the City of Torrance Home Page www.TorranceCA.Gov.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at (310) 618-5880. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. [28CFR35.102-35.104 ADA Title II]

TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION AGENDA
FEBRUARY 26, 2026
REGULAR MEETING
6:00 P.M. WEST ANNEX COMMISSION MEETING ROOM
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION MAY TAKE ACTION ON ANY ITEM
LISTED ON THE AGENDA

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

ROLL CALL: Commission Members Bickford, De La Rosa, Furey, Johnson, Leys, Wright, Chair Pryor

2. FLAG SALUTE: Commissioner Johnson

3. REPORT OF STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA The agenda was posted on the Public Notice Board at 3031 Torrance Bl. and on the City's Website on February 18, 2026

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to a 30-minute period)

*This portion of the meeting is reserved for comment on items on the Consent Calendar or items not on the agenda. Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Commission cannot act on items raised during public comment but may respond briefly to statements made or questions posed; request clarification; or refer the item to staff. **No longer than 2 minutes per speaker.** If presenting handout material to the Commission, please provide 10 copies to staff before speaking.*

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed by a Commissioner from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.

6A. APPROVE MINUTES: OCTOBER 23, 2025

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ACCEPT AND FILE UPDATE ON THE 2026 GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT

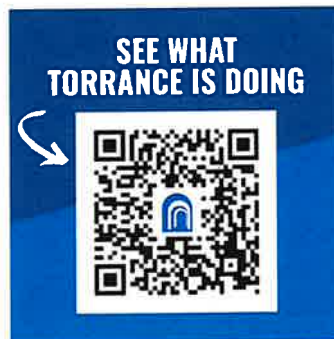
7B. ACCEPT AND FILE UPDATE FROM STAFF ON THE 2025 VETERANS APPRECIATION EVENT AND TIMELINE FOR 2026 VETERANS APPRECIATION EVENT

7C. ACCEPT AND FILE UPDATE ON PRESENTATIONS FOR THE COMMISSION THROUGH JUNE 2026

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

9. ADJOURNMENT

- 9A.** Adjournment of the Social Services Commission Meeting to Thursday, March 26, 2026, at 6:00 pm for a regular meeting in the West Annex Commission Meeting Room



October 23, 2025

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
TORRANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMISSION**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Torrance Social Services Commission convened in a regular session at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 23, 2025 at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners De La Rosa, Furey, Leys, Wright and Chair Pryor

Absent: Commissioners Bickford and Johnson

Also Present: Deputy City Manager Hoang, Staff Liaison Allen, Staff Liaison in-Training O'Neill and Veterans Event Coordinator LeAnne Chen

MOTION: Commissioner Wright moved to approve the excused absences of Commissioners Bickford and Johnson; motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent: Commissioners Bickford and Johnson)

2. FLAG SALUTE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Commissioner Furey.

3. REPORT OF THE STAFF ON THE POSTING OF THE AGENDA

Staff Liaison Allen stated that the agenda for the Social Services Commission was properly posted on October 15, 2025 on the Public Notice Board by the City Clerk's office and on the City's website.

4. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WITHDRAWN, DEFERRED, AND/OR SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

Staff Liaison Allen stated that there were no items.

5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: August 28, 2025 and September 25, 2025

MOTION: Commissioner Furey moved to approve the minutes of August 28, 2025 and September 25, 2025; motion was seconded by Commissioner De La Rosa. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent: Commissioners Bickford and Johnson)

7. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

7A. ACCEPT AND FILE PRESENTATION FROM THE JEWISH FREE LOAN ASSOCIATION

Staff Liaison Allen introduced Rebecca Rosansky, Partnership Officer from the Jewish Free Loan Association who presented slides and described the services that the association offered: personal interest free loans for all types of need: school tuition and loans repayment, personal

emergencies, home repairs, medical expenses, life cycle events, security deposits, vocational training, used car loans, fertility treatments, domestic violence situations, pet funds and adoption. She noted the Association had been active since 1904, was a Four-Star Charity on Charity Navigator, listed areas of service and explained that the loans were "free" in that there was no interest charged on the amount borrowed. She added that they had dispersed 20 million dollars in loans and had a repayment rate of 99% and did not charge any interest or fees. She listed the guidelines, requirements and process to be eligible to be a borrower and noted that all borrowers were required to have at least one guarantor.

A member of the public spoke.

MOTION: Commissioner Wright moved to accept and file Item 7A, Presentation from the Jewish Free Loan Association; motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent: Commissioners Bickford and Johnson)

7B. ACCEPT AND FILE UPDATE ON THE 2026 GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT

Staff Liaison Allen reported that the Homeless Count would take place on Thursday, January 22, 2026 from 8:00 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. and noted that the January Commission meeting would be cancelled and adjourned to February 26, 2026.

Deputy City Manager Hoang requested that the Commission members go to Count.LAHSA.org to sign up to register, whether volunteering to count or stay on site, in order to complete the required waivers.

Chair Pryor stated that she would announce the Homeless Count at the City Council meetings of December 16, 2025 and January 13, 2026.

Commissioner Furey confirmed that she would also announce at the January 13, 2026 City Council meeting.

There was no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Furey moved to accept and file Item 7B, Update on the 2026 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count; motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent: Commissioners Bickford and Johnson)

7C. ACCEPT AND FILE UPDATE FROM STAFF ON THE 2025 VETERANS APPRECIATION EVENT

Veterans Event Coordinator LeAnne Chen noted that there were already 100 RSVPs for the event and reviewed the time schedule for the day of the event and requested that volunteers plan on arriving at 9:00 a.m. She noted that guests would be encouraged to remain with the vendors until the time of the program.

There was no public comment.

MOTION: Commissioner Wright moved to accept and file update from staff on the 2025 Veterans Appreciation Event; motion was seconded by Commissioner Furey. The motion passed by a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent: Commissioners Bickford and Johnson)

8. COMMISSION ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Deputy City Manager Hoang confirmed that an additional outreach coordinator had been hired by the City and would be introduced to the Commission at a later date.

9. ADJOURNMENT

9A. At 6:47 p.m., Commissioner Furey moved to adjourn the meeting to February 26, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Annex Commission Meeting Room, Torrance City Hall. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright. The motion passed with a 5-0 roll call vote. (Absent: Commissioners Bickford and Johnson)

DRAFT SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Accept and file update on the 2026 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission accept and file an update on the 2026 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Since 2018, the City of Torrance has served as a deployment site for the Los Angeles Homeless Service Authority's (LAHSA's) Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count. The City once again served as a deployment site for the 2026 Homeless Count on the evening and night of Thursday, January 22, 2026. A special thank you to the Commission's former Staff Liaison, Julia Smith, for her excellence in once again coordinating a seamless Homeless Count.

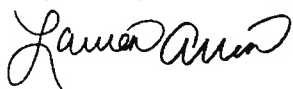
Approximately 70 volunteers signed up to participate, with approximately 60 volunteers actually participating during the Count. Most individuals who were unable to attend let staff know in advance and the reasons were primarily related to illness. Approximately half of the individuals participating in the 2026 Count were City staff. Additionally, two LAHSA staff and a staff member from the South Bay Cities Council of Governments participated at Torrance's deployment site.

LAHSA assigned 39 census tracts to the City during the 2026 Count, with some of the tracts split into two subtracts. Results from the Count are anticipated to be released in July or August of 2026.

During tonight's meeting, staff will share with the Commission an overview of the process, what went well, and what the Commission may wish to consider for future Counts. Additionally, the following Commissioners were able to support the deployment site or were deployed to perform the count. Staff are eager to hear their observations and experiences from the 2026 Count, and their recommendations for the 2027 Count.

- Commissioner Bickford
- Commissioner Furey
- Commissioner Johnson
- Commissioner Leys

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Allen
Staff Liaison



Viet Hoang
Staff Liaison

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

SUBJECT: Accept and File Update from Staff on the 2025 Veterans Appreciation Event and Timeline for 2026 Veterans Appreciation Event

RECOMMENDATION

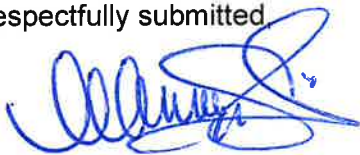
Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission receive and file an update on the 2025 Veterans Appreciation Event and timeline and elements for the 2026 Veterans Appreciation Event.

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

The Torrance Social Services Commission held its annual Veterans Appreciation Event on Friday, November 7, 2025, 10 am – 1 pm at the Torrance Cultural Arts Center. This evening, Veterans Event Coordinator LeAnne Chen will provide your Honorable Body with an update from the event.

In addition, this evening, staff will present to your Honorable Body a recommended timeline for planning and coordinating the 2026 Veterans Appreciation Event. This year, the Commission has been requested by City Council to integrate elements of “Torrance Celebrates America’s 250th Birthday” in the Veterans Appreciation Event. As your Honorable Body may know, on December 2, 2025, City Council approved of staff’s concept for the celebration (City Council item attached). In coming months, as staff presents ideas for your Honorable Body’s decision, staff will include anniversary themes to incorporate into the 2026 Veterans Appreciation event.

Respectfully submitted



LeAnne Chen
Veterans Event Coordinator

Attachment: Agenda Item 10D – Accept and File the Conceptual Report and Discuss and Provide Direction on Citywide Commemorative Programming, Torrance City Council, December 2, 2025.



Date: December 2, 2025

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Aram Chaparyan, City Manager

By: Jin Chun, Public Engagement Manager | JChun@TorranceCA.gov

Subject: City Manager – Accept and File the Conceptual Report and Discuss and Provide Direction on Citywide Commemorative Programming. Expenditure: None.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the City Manager that City Council:

1. Accept and file the conceptual report “Torrance Celebrates America’s 250th Birthday”; and
2. Discuss and provide direction on proposed programming, legacy projects, and community engagement initiative to commemorate the United States Semiquincentennial in 2026.

FUNDING

None required.

DISCUSSION

2026 marks the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America, a milestone known as the Semiquincentennial. In recognition of this historic event, staff is providing several recommendations on how the City of Torrance can join communities across the nation in celebrating the country’s 250th birthday with civic pride.

To commemorate this occasion, staff developed a conceptual plan titled “Torrance Celebrates America’s 250th Birthday.” The proposed approach integrates the anniversary theme into existing City events and programs to maximize community engagement and cost efficiency, while highlighting Torrance’s unique role in American culture, innovation, and service.

PROPOSED FRAMEWORK:

1. Leveraging Existing Events: Citywide celebrations will be integrated into Torrance’s established calendar of community events throughout 2026, including:
 - January 13, 2026: Proclamation presented at the first City Council Meeting of 2026.
 - February-March 2026: Coinciding with President Lincoln’s Birthday (February 12, 2026) and Presidents’ Day (February 16, 2026), alongside a commemorative 250th Anniversary Banner, Presidential banners will be hung along Torrance Boulevard between Maple Avenue and just east of Hawthorne Boulevard to commemorate each of the 47 presidencies. Projected Cost for this concept is estimated to be \$30,835.63.
 - April 2026: Torrance Hometown Heroes Banners will commence installation.

- May 15–17, 2026: Armed Forces Day Parade and Celebration incorporating America's 250th branding.
 - May 25, 2026: Memorial Day Reading of the Torrance Veterans Memorial Wall names.
 - June–August 2026: Summer Concert Series branded with 250th birthday visuals, with one concert scheduled to feature patriotic music.
 - July 4, 2026: Expanded Independence Day Celebration and fireworks, larger food truck options, additional portable restrooms, games, community engagement footprint.
 - July 16, 2026: Rock Around the Block Celebration to embrace 250th birthday.
 - September 6, 2026: Coastal Clean Day, coinciding with the 250th day of the year, symbolizing Torrance's commitment to sustainability for the next 250 years.
 - November 2026: Veterans Appreciation Program: Year-end event tying into the 250th celebration theme.
 - December 2026: Torrance Civic Chorale may consider a patriotic holiday program.
2. Visual Support & Commemorative Branding
 - Create logo design for visual support to be used on all marketing materials.
 - Commemorative Presidential Banners from Feb-April.
 - Print stickers, bookmarkers, pencils, and commemorative coins to be handed out at the various events. Projected Cost for materials is estimated to be \$6,000.
 - Use digital marquee signage to share messaging throughout the year.
 3. Educational and Interpretive Program Concepts
 - Collaborate with Torrance Historical Society, Torrance Public Library, Western Museum of Flight for exhibitions on American innovation and local history.
 - Libraries would designate patriotic shelf of books, biographies, historic, fiction for the month of July at all branches.
 4. Digital Media Campaign
 - City Communications team to produce storytelling features on various communications channels and coverage of all events planned for the Semiquincentennial.
 5. Civic Engagement
 - Launch the Torrance 250 Challenge, encouraging residents to give back through service like pledging to volunteer 250 minutes to a community cause, pick up 250 pieces of trash, or perform 250 acts of kindness throughout the year. Social media participation by using #Torrance250Challenge.

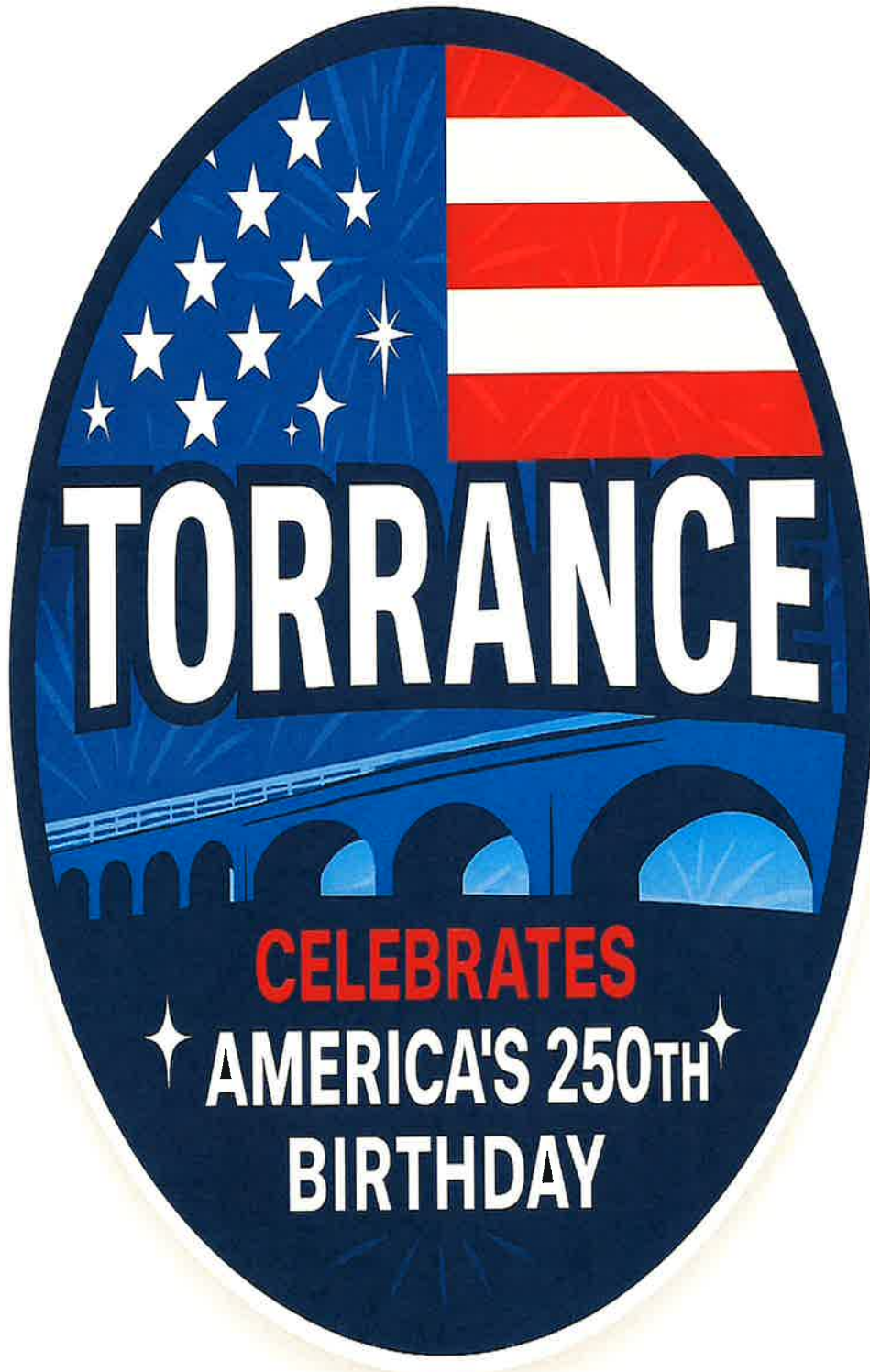
RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager is requesting the City Council accept and file the conceptual report "Torrance Celebrates America's 250th Birthday"; and discuss and provide direction to begin implementing the Council's vision of celebrating the Semiquincentennial.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Working Conceptual Design 1
2. Working Conceptual Design 2
3. Cost Estimate for Banners







1103 Sartori Ave
Torrance, CA 90501
(310) 542-3636

6

ATTACHMENT 3
ESTIMATE
E094-121257

www.fastsigns.com/94

Payment Terms: Net 30

DESCRIPTION: 250TH ANNIVERSARY BANNERS

Bill To: CITY OF TORRANCE
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90503
US

Pickup At: CITY OF TORRANCE
John Newman
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, CA 90503
US

Requested By: Jin Chun
Email: jchun@torranceca.gov
Work Phone: (310) 618-5762

Salesperson: Santoie Croxford
Email: santoie.croxford@fastsigns.com

PRODUCTS	QTY	UNIT PRICE	TOTALS
1 250TH ANNIVERSARY BANNERS 36X92 DOUBLE SIGNED; BLOCKOUT 18OZ; POLE POCKET TOP / BOTTOM; CITY TO PROVIDE PRINT READY ARTWORK FOR BANNERS	94	\$150.00	\$14,100.00
2 250TH ANNIVERSARY BANNER INSTALLATION DOUBLE BANNERS PER POLE Installation of 250TH Anniversary banners and banner hardware on light poles using supplied double banner hardware. Includes chase vehicle with flashing arrow following boom truck, as requested by city. To be installed on light post between Hawthorne Blvd and Maple on both sides of the street. Total of 47 light post with double hardware and 94 banners.	1	\$1,692.00	\$1,692.00
3 250TH ANNIVERSARY BANNER REMOVAL DOUBLE BANNERS PER POLE Removal of Armed Forces Day banners and double banner hardware, from light poles. Includes chase vehicle with flashing arrow following boom truck, as requested by city. Total of 47 light post with double hardware and 94 banners	1	\$1,598.00	\$1,598.00
4 BANDING STRAPS Stainless steel bands with quick release for easy installation and removal. Bands required for each double sided pole banner. Double sided banner hardware to be supplied by City of Torrance	1	\$3,088.00	\$3,088.00
5 DOUBLE BANNER BRACKET POLE SETS Cast aluminum brackets in combination with 3/4" fiberglass arms. The arms are permanently Epoxy glued in	47	\$232.17	\$10,912.06

the aluminum brackets to help prevent wearing on the fiberglass rod. Double pole consist of 4 fiberglass poles and caps and 2 aluminum brackets. All banner brackets are made to order.

Unless other terms are agreed upon, a deposit equal to 50% of the total is required to begin an order and complete payment due when the project is completed. Orders under \$300 will require payment in full when the order is placed. Credit terms may be extended after completing and submitting a credit application.

Base Subtotal:	\$31,390.06
Discount:	(\$3,088.00)
Subtotal:	\$28,302.06
Taxes:	\$2,533.57
Grand Total:	\$30,835.63

Projects requiring a proof, one (1) proof with one (1) round of edits will be supplied at the quoted price. All changes will be billed separately.

Estimates are good for 5 days only.

Unless specifically noted on the estimate/invoice, customer is responsible for all permits that may be required by the state, county or city where the sign will be located. Customer is responsible for insuring that all signage ordered meets all state, county, city, and community association ordinances. FASTSIGNS will not be responsible for any order placed that does not meet all ordinances.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Thank you for your business!

Honorable Members of the Social Services Commission
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Commission:

**SUBJECT: Accept and File Update on Presentations for the Commission
through June 2026**

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of staff that the Social Services Commission accept and file an update on presentations to support Commission members in performing their advisory role to the Torrance City Council

BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

Staff respectfully requests that your Honorable Body discuss presentations within the Commission's subject matter jurisdiction that would support the Commission in their advisory role to Torrance City Council. Based on past requests from the Commission, the following presentations have already been identified to be included in a future agenda:

- Torrance Community Services Department: Presentation on City programs that serve adults and youth with disabilities and special needs (March 2026).
- Torrance Outreach Team: Update on City's efforts related to homelessness, including outreach and interim housing.
- Torrance Human Resources: Update from the Human Resources Department on the City's internship partnership with EVOLVE, which supports young adults with autism, ADHD, anxiety and learning differences.
- Coastline Cares: Organization that support South Bay community members who may need support with yard care due to age or disabilities.
- Mychal's Learning Place: Support, training, and opportunities for youth and young adults with developmental disabilities to build independence and pursue their goals and dreams.
- Mental Health Presentation

Respectfully submitted,



Lauren Allen
Staff Liaison



Viet Hoang
Staff Liaison