



Impacts

Fiesta Para Los Niños Gala: Guests will experience a larger than life celebration of all things L.A.—recognizing the families, partners, and industry leaders that make our work possible. For more information, please visit: <http://www.paralosninos.org/gala/>

Dr. Drew Furedi, EdD, Named PLN President & CEO



This winter, Para Los Niños announced the appointment of Vice President and Schools Superintendent Drew Furedi, EdD, as President & CEO.

In his new role, Furedi leads a team of more than 400 professionals, serving more than 5,000 of the city's most impoverished children and their families through three charter schools, six early education centers, a range of mental health and social services, and extensive community outreach, youth development and

parent engagement programs.

"The appointment of Drew Furedi as President & CEO builds on our work to continue anchoring our wrap-around services through our innovative educational model—a driving force behind our top-class social services and the future of philanthropy in Los Angeles," said Board President Marjorie Lewis. "The board is confident that Drew will provide the intelligent leadership, vision and commitment to excellence in all we do."

Furedi brings more than 20 years of experience working in and managing school systems and nonprofits with multi-million dollar federal, state and privately funded budgets. He spent over half a decade in various leadership roles within the Los Angeles Unified School District, where he oversaw human capital strategies and ran a division of over 100 people responsible for developing and providing training and support for the 1,200+ district administrators and some 30,000 teachers throughout the district.

"I am grateful to our board for this opportunity and to the many people we serve at Para Los Niños for giving me this privilege," said Drew Furedi, EdD. "I firmly believe in our mission to empower impoverished children and their families— and I look forward to fortifying every facet of our organization's commitment to service."

A Native New Yorker, Drew holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science from the University of California- Santa Barbara, a Master's degree in Public Administration from USC and a Doctorate in Educational Leadership for Social Justice from Loyola Marymount University. In 2016, Drew was selected as a Pahara-Aspen Institute Education Fellow.

PLN Awarded Nearly \$1MM to Tackle Obesity Among Westlake & MacArthur Park Residents

The L.A. County Department of Public Health, in partnership with the CA Department of Public Health & the U.S. Department of Agriculture, has awarded PLN with an \$880,000 grant.



The support aims to boost the Champions for Change - Healthy Communities Initiative, a health program reducing the prevalence of obesity among low-income Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program-Education eligible populations by providing nutrition

Events

36th Anniversary Gala: **Fiesta Para Los Niños**

Each year, we celebrate our work with the L.A.'s neediest children and families with a **grand fiesta**—a larger than life tribute to their ongoing accomplishments.

Please join us for a fun-filled evening including a hosted bar, scrumptious dining options, a curated live auction featuring extraordinary collector's items, live musical and dances performances. Honorees include our **Partner of the Year Award** (Univision Network) and special guest speakers Ana Guerrero, Chief of Staff to **Mayor Eric Garcetti**. Our celebrity Master of Ceremonies is the star of a Sony and Netflix Original Series...soon to be announced! Stay tuned for the latest.

For sponsorship & branding opportunities, contact us at: info@paralosninos.org or visit the event site for [Fiesta Para Los Niños](http://www.paralosninos.org/gala/).

Thank You to Our Foundation & Corporate Supporters!

\$800K+

- L.A. Department of Public Health

\$600K

- The Ballmer Group

\$60 - \$100K

- WHH Foundation/William H. Hurt Philanthropy
- Dwight Stuart Youth Fund

\$20 - \$60K

- The Capital Group Companies Charitable Foundation
- United Way of Greater LA
- Diane and Dorothy Brooks Foundation
- Louis L. Borick Foundation
- The California Endowment
- J.B. and Emily Van Nuys Charities
- Pfaffinger Foundation

education, physical activity promotion, and working to create healthier environments where families live, learn, work, play, pray, and shop.

Key efforts under the initiative include teaching fundamental skills such as cooking, reading food labels, shopping on a budget, growing fruits and vegetables, and introducing low-cost and fun ways to be physically active. In addition, 'Champions in Communities' throughout the County will be identified to help improve access to healthier foods and increase opportunities to be physical active.

"Para Los Niños is proud to be a part of this County-wide initiative, as we are uniquely positioned to reach Westlake and MacArthur Park, children and their families," said Brenda Aguilera, Director of Community Transformation within PLN's Student and Community Services. "We are working toward making notable changes in schools, corner stores, and parks to make healthier foods more affordable and accessible— as well as identifying ways to incorporate physical activity into the day to improve the overall health for our families," Aguilera added.

According to the L.A. County: A Cities and Communities Health Report, obesity-related chronic illnesses continue to rank among the top ten leading causes of premature death, including heart disease, stroke, and diabetes. While the obesity epidemic continues to impact virtually all population groups, about 27.8% of children and 23.3% of adults in Westlake and MacArthur Park are obese.

"Reducing obesity is a priority of Public Health and a key objective of the Champions for Change - Healthy Communities Initiative," said Jeffrey Gunzenhauser, Interim Health Officer of Los Angeles County. By investing in our communities and the people that we serve, we are hopeful that we can make impactful, long-lasting changes for better health outcomes."

The Ballmer Group Pledges \$600K to Support Families' Economic Mobility



Para Los Niños was gifted a \$600,000 grant over the next three years from The Ballmer Group.

The Ballmer Group, founded and led by Steve and Connie Ballmer, supports initiatives and organizations aimed at improving economic mobility for children and families in the United States.

"We are thrilled to have The Ballmer Group partner with us in our work," said Drew Furedi, President & CEO of Para Los Niños. "The Ballmer Group has shown extraordinary leadership in improving the lives of impoverished children and families and we are grateful to have their support. Their commitment to Para Los Niños will allow us to greatly deepen the academic, mental health and social service supports we have in our schools and preschools."

Since 1980, Para Los Niños serves more than 5,000 impoverished children and family members annually via its six preschools, three charter schools and array of mental health and social services in the downtown/Skid Row and Westlake/Pico Union areas of Los Angeles.

Nina Revoyr, The Ballmer Group's executive director in Los Angeles, said: "The Ballmer Group is honored to support Para Los Niños as it works toward improving the lives of L.A.'s highest-need children and families. We believe that PLN's strategy of blending social services with quality schools and early education centers can help close the achievement gap for children in poverty."

- Walton Family Foundation
- Joseph Drown Foundation

\$10 - \$20K

- National Council of La Raza
- Macy's
- Union Bank Foundation
- The Walt Disney Company
- William H. Hannon Foundation
- Kaiser Hospitals

\$6K and Under

- McMaster-Carr Supply Company
- The Lucille Ellis Simon Foundation
- KLM Foundation
- The Morrison & Foerster Foundation
- Carol and James Collins Foundation
- Roy E. Crummer Foundation
- Manufacturer's Bank
- Los Angeles Flower Market
- GKN Aerospace

Not listed and would like to be?

There's plenty of time to make the next list. [Click here](#) to make your contribution today.

PLN Partners with L.A. Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs



Principal Juan Carlos Ramirez, Gratts Primary Center, speaks with Univision's KMEX34

Earlier this month, PLN team members from across the organization (communications, charter schools, early education, student and community services, central administration, etc.) worked to put together a 'Know Your Rights' Workshop with the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs. [Click here](#) to watch the segment.

Held at Gratts Primary Center, this workshop provided over 100 PLN families with: information from the Mayor's Office, and the Los Angeles Police Department; an overview of White House Executive Actions (and their timelines), basic information about citizenship steps and also provided attendees free 30-minute consultations with immigration lawyers working pro bono. As we shape robust supports in this area, we'll continue to work closely with the Mayor's Office, LAPD and partners to inform and help more PLN families.

If you would like to partner on our empowerment efforts, please contact: [Oliver DelGado](#), Director of Communications.

If you have story ideas for us or would like further information please contact:

Oliver DelGado
Director of Communications & Marketing
odelgado@paralosninos.org

Stay In Touch

