

INLAND VALLEY NEWS

Section B

New Board Members Appointed for the Leroy Haynes Childrens Center



Jimmy Gutierrez



Christina Vera, J.D.



Thomas Brayton

Claremont, CA-- Two Claremont attorneys and an educator with the Pomona Unified School District have been appointed to the all-volunteer Board of Directors of the LeRoy Haynes Center for Children in La Verne.

Christina Vera, J.D., and attorneys Thomas (Tim) Brayton and Jimmy Gutierrez joined the Board at the end of last year for three-year terms. The Board meets every two months.

Board Chair Theodore "Ted" Piatt, Sr. welcomed the three as the newest members of the Board of

Directors.

"All three of these leaders in the community have made significant contributions throughout their careers - both professionally and through their volunteer work," Piatt said. "We are delighted to have them as a part of the LeRoy Haynes Center family and I look forward to working personally with each of them. They all bring impressive backgrounds in their respective areas and will add value to who we are in the greater Los Angeles region."

Vera, who currently serves as a school site specialist

and teacher on special assignment for the Pomona Unified School District, has a long history of raising funds for student services and educational programs. A former Assistant Dean of Admission at Harvey Mudd College in Claremont, she received a bachelor's degree at UC Irvine, a master's degree in education at

Claremont Graduate University and a Juris Doctorate at the UCLA School of Law.

Brayton, of the law

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firm Jones & Brayton, LLP in Claremont, has served previously on the LeRoy Haynes Board of Directors and has been an active participant on the Board's Finance Committee and others. He practices family law, received a Juris Doctorate at the UCLA School of Law, and has served on the Family Law Section of the Executive Committees of both the State Bar of California and the Los Angeles County Bar Association.

Gutierrez, of the law firm Gutierrez & Vera, LLP in Claremont, who has represented public agencies ranging from cities and redevelopment agencies to school districts, also has served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Chaffey Community College District and as Judge Pro Tempore for the San Bernardino Superior Court's settlement conference program and its arbitration committee. He received a bachelor's degree at Pomona College in Claremont and a law degree at the UCLA School of Law.

The three join the previous year's Board appointments on the 20-member panel. They were Pomona Superior Court Judge Robert A. Dukes, Patrick D. Leier and Patricia Sampson.

Dukes, who also serves as a Director of the Los Angeles County Fair Association and as a member of the Board of Directors of the Pomona Boys and Girls Club, formerly served as a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney. He is a native of Pomona.

Leier, who served as

Superintendent of the Pomona Unified School District for 12 years, also served as a member of the Commission on Technology in Education, charged with developing the Technology Master Plan for Education for the State of California. He was named the Association of California School Administrators' Superintendent of the Year for Region XV.

Sampson serves as a language speech and hearing specialist for the Pomona Unified School District and has worked as a speech pathology specialist in the brain injury unit at Casa Colina Hospital in Pomona. She holds a master's degree in communicative disorders from the University of La Verne.

The LeRoy Haynes Center for Children provides specialized treatment and educational services to entire families of emotionally troubled, abused or neglected children in order to enable them to form and maintain healthy productive relationships. It was founded in October 1946 by LeRoy Haynes, a former chaplain at the Fred Nellis Youth Authority in Whittier, as a way to help many of the troubled boys he served through intervention and treatment in a home-like setting.

The group home facility has grown from its initial 10 residents to six cottages, each housing 12 children. Mental health treatment services are provided to every resident.

The Haynes Education Center, a non-public school founded in 1989 as a companion to the group home facility, initially provided

schooling to the children of what was formerly LeRoy

Boys Home. It has grown to serve not only the children who live on campus but the community as a whole, accepting children (boys and girls) from 14 school districts throughout Southern California.

Credentialed teachers working in a highly structured environment address curriculum as well as learning disabilities including autism, emotional challenges and developmental disabilities.

The entire facility serves 350 to 400 children annually through its three basic programs – residential, Haynes Education Center and mental health.

For more information, contact the LeRoy Haynes Center for Children & Family Services at 233 West Baseline Road, La Verne 91750, (909) 593-2581, or visit the web site at www.leroyhaynes.org.