



CITY OF LOS ANGELES
BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

2023



PHILANTHROPY REPORT



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BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT

JOHN W. MACK POLICE COMMISSION HEARING ROOM



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About the Board of Police Commissioners

The Board of Police Commissioners serves as the head of the Los Angeles Police Department, functioning like a corporate board of directors, setting policies for the Department and overseeing its operations. The Board works in conjunction with the Chief of Police who acts as a chief executive officer and reports to the Board. There are five civilian members who make up the Board of Police Commissioners. Commissioners are appointed by the Mayor.

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INTRODUCTION

The Commission Investigation Division's Charitable Services Section (**CSS**) is responsible for regulating and monitoring Charitable activities, Bingo Gaming Enforcement, and investigations related to non-profit organizations throughout the City of Los Angeles. The services contribute to safeguarding the community from nefarious operators disguised as charitable efforts within the City.

The regulatory program includes receiving and investigating Notice of Intention to Solicit Charitable Contribution applications to ensure compliance with the City's Charitable Solicitation Ordinance, issuing Information Cards, and reviewing the Reports of Results of each solicitation. (Los Angeles Municipal Code Sec. 44.02 and 44.04).

A charitable solicitation may be designated as a Special Event or a General Appeal. Within 30 days after the end of the solicitation, the solicitation agency shall file a Report of Results of Activity detailing gross receipts and total expenses. (Los Angeles Municipal Code Sec. 44.04 and 44.10).

The Section is comprised of civilian investigators and administrative personnel whose main function is to ensure charitable and non-profit organizations comply with Section 44.04, Article 4, of the Los Angeles Municipal Code and the City's Charitable Solicitation Ordinance No. 185,605, Eff. 7/8/18.

Activity regulated by CSS are examined and analysis reports are acted upon by the Police Permit Review Panel, which is empowered by the Board of Police Commissioners. Angelenos and constituents of the City of Los Angeles are encouraged to contact the Charitable Services Section to report suspicious or illegal activity related to charitable events conducted in the City of Los Angeles, and/or nonprofit organizations, via phone: (213) 996-1260, or by email: pccharity@lapd.online.



DISCUSSION

PROCESS IMPROVEMENT

This past year, CSS revised the majority of its intake forms and remains committed to improving processes. The issuance of an Information Card, has significantly improved compared to previous years. On average, the turnaround time is 4.66 (5) days for issuing an Information Card, well within the LAMC guideline of 15 days. This applies to applications received in-house that fulfill all necessary requirements. Upon authorization, Information Cards are sent via email, enhancing delivery speed to recipients and contributing to cost savings on postage, as well as reducing paper consumption.

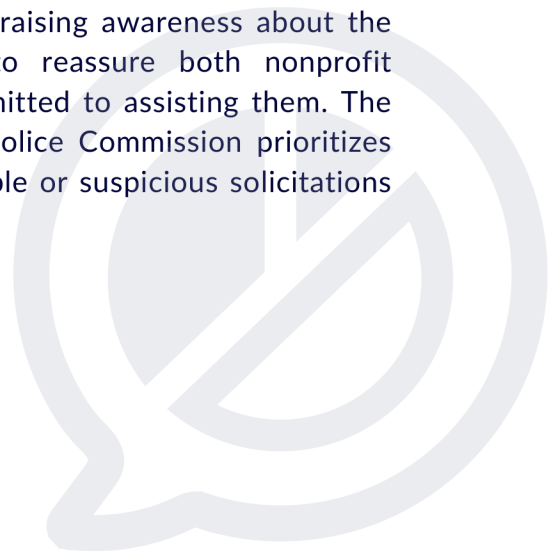
CHALLENGES

COMPLIANCE. As the non-profit sector evolves, CSS is committed to turning challenges into opportunities by working with State agencies' data to explore means of streamlining verification of current nonprofits operating within the City, and identifying those that have been suspended by the State Department of Justice or Franchise Tax Board agencies. This proposed strategic approach may pose programmatic challenges including increase in turn around time in the issuance of Information Cards, an increase in field inspections and outreach activities.

CHECKS AND MAIL. Currently, CSS accepts checks as the only payment method for application processing fees. This limited option creates significant delays and is often attributed to delays by USPS mail. In an effort to provide additional payment options and create efficiencies, CSS would like to offer other forms of payment, such as debit/credit cards, or other popular payment platforms such as Zelle.

LOOKING AHEAD

CSS is actively planning outreach initiatives aimed at raising awareness about the services it provides. These efforts are designed to reassure both nonprofit organizations and the general public that CSS is committed to assisting them. The goal is to reassure Angelenos that the Los Angeles Police Commission prioritizes their well-being by safeguarding them from questionable or suspicious solicitations and ensuring compliance with existing laws.



PHILANTHROPY REPORT

This report has been produced for the people of Los Angeles as allowed by the Los Angeles Municipal Code Sec. 44.02(a)3, which grants the department the power: “To investigate the method of making or conducting any solicitation and to give publicity to its findings in such manner as the Department deems best to advise the public of the facts of the solicitation.”

The report provides an overview of the Charitable Services operational activity through charts and summaries, which includes a look at the number of Notice of Intention applications received, Information Cards (for solicitation) issued, Report of Results of Activity, which is the result of solicitation efforts reported to CSS by organizations issued an Information Card. This report also includes Charitable Bingo and Senior Recreational Bingo activity for the calendar year ending 2023.

REGULATING & MONITORING

The Charitable Services Section is responsible for regulating and monitoring Charitable activities, Bingo Gaming Enforcement, and investigations related to non-profit organizations throughout the City of Los Angeles. The Section is comprised of civilian investigators and administrative personnel whose main function is to ensure charitable and non-profit organizations comply with Section 44.04, Article 4, of the Los Angeles Municipal Code and the City's Charitable Solicitation Ordinance No. 158,408, Eff. 11/20/83.

General		Bingo
Process Notice of Intention applications to solicit charitable contributions in the City of Los Angeles	Process Commercial Fundraisers Applications	Process both Senior and Charitable Bingo License applications
Process Report of Results of Activity of permitted fundraising activities, including periodical audits	Process Solicitors Applications	Process Income and Expense Statements of Charitable Bingo-related activities



2023 ACTIVITY SUMMARY



The Charitable Services Section managed a significant number of applications and reports over the course of the year. The following summary outlines the processed applications, licenses, and reports, underscoring our commitment to the continuous mission of serving the people of Los Angeles. This effort also emphasizes our dedication to transparency in charitable activities, ensuring the public's protection.



1,016

NOIs RECEIVED

The Notice of Intention (NOIs) are the applications filed by charitable organizations to receive "Information Cards" to conduct charitable solicitations in the City of Los Angeles.

952

INFORMATION CARDS ISSUED

An Information Card is the document that authorizes a charitable organization or agency to solicit charitable contributions within the City of Los Angeles, per L.A.M.C. Chapter 4, Article 4, Sections 44.04 – 44.09.

627

RORs RECEIVED

The Report of Results (RORs) are the reports of financial activities (outcome) of the charitable solicitation events or campaigns.

5

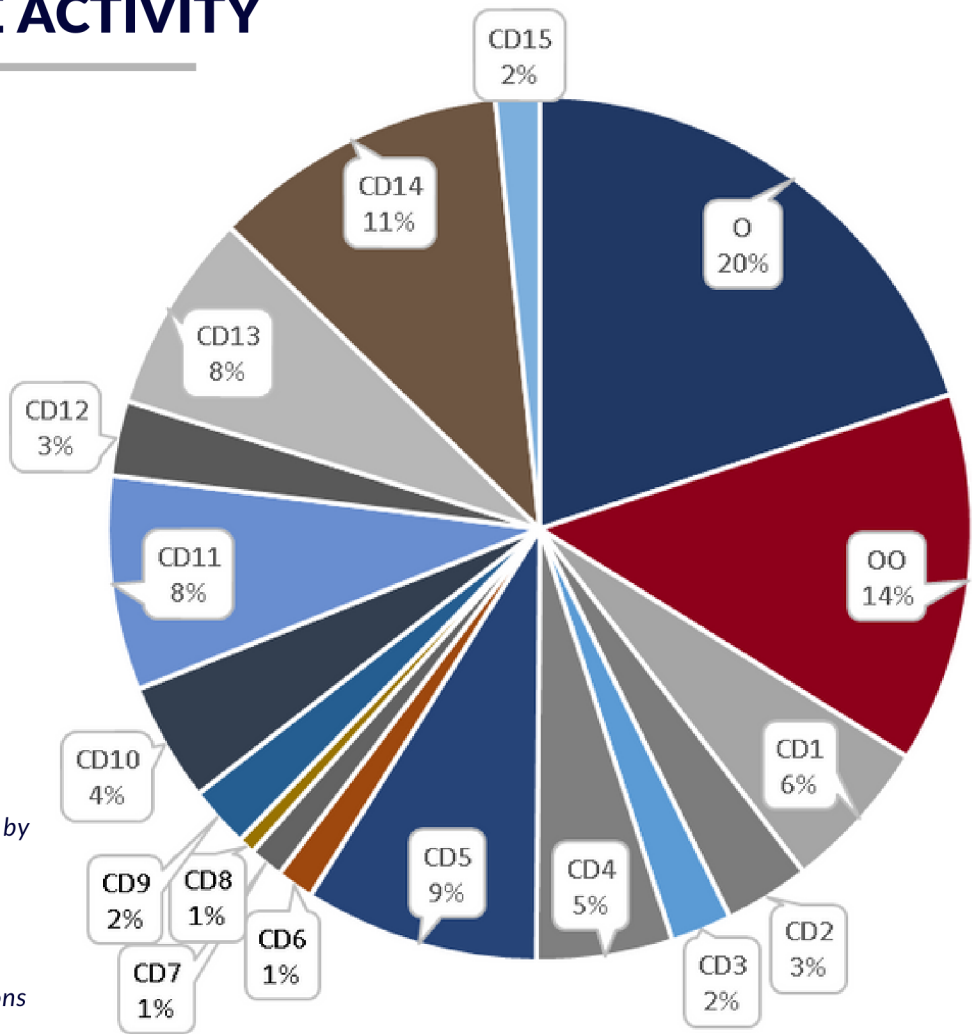
PROCESSING TIME

Average number of *days to process Notice of Intention Applications.

**Applications with complete documentation required and accompanying fee.*

CHARITABLE ACTIVITY

Charitable Activity by Council District



Percent of charitable activity by Council District based on Information Cards issued (to solicit).
 O = Out of City organizations
 OO = Out of State organizations

COMMERCIAL FUNDRAISING

At present, there are two (2) licensed Commercial Fundraisers permitted to conduct solicitations in the City on behalf of their clients. These clients include both local and national high-profile organizations which cover various issue-based industries.

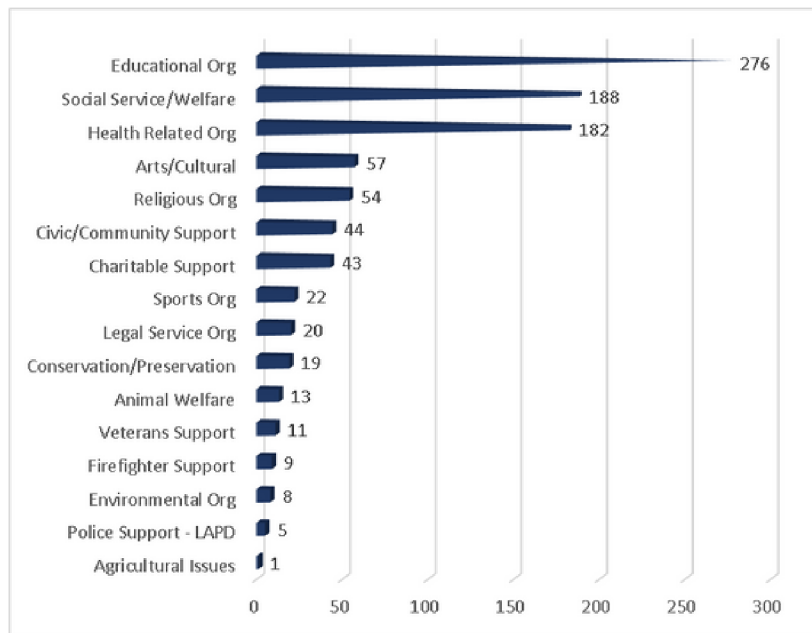
Organizations or individuals other than a bona-fide paid employee of a charitable organization, who receive compensation or consideration to raise funds for charitable purposes, are required to apply for and obtain a Commercial Fundraiser’s License issued by CSS per L.A.M.C., Chapter IV, Section 44.14, which regulates the licensing of Commercial Fundraisers for charitable solicitations.

Organization Name	Industry Type
American National Red Cross	Health/Social Welfare
Children's Miracle Network Hospitals	Health/Social Welfare
Education Foundation for California Schools, Inc.	Educational
Feeding America	Social Welfare
Make-A-Wish Foundation	Health/Social Welfare
NAACP Empowerment Groups, Inc.	Community Social Welfare
Stater Bros. Charities	Social Welfare
The Cape and Islands Veterans Outreach Center, Inc.	Veterans Support
The Humane Society of the United States	Animal Welfare
UNICEF	Social Welfare
United Way Worldwide	Social Welfare
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.	Environmental
Foundation for a Christian Civilization	Religious
Jewish Voice Ministries International	Religious
Los Angeles Mission	Social Welfare
Messianic Jewish Alliance of America	Religious
World Wildlife Fund, Inc.	Environmental

The chart above lists clients of the commercial fundraisers licensed in the City.

2023 CHARITABLE ACTIVITY BY INDUSTRY

The charts below offer a summary of the fundraising efforts in 2023, categorized by the number of Information Cards issued according to industry type and the submission of reports detailing post-event activities.



Number of Information Cards Issued by Industry

The table to the left provides an overview of the 2023 fundraising by industry type, including education, health-related initiatives, arts and culture, veterans support, and charities focused on animal welfare.

Summary of Fundraising by Industry

The table to the right reflects a snapshot of fundraising performance across sectors. The expense ratios* offer insights into the efficiency of organizations in utilizing funds. The information is based on the self-reported data received through the Reports of Results of Activity.

Industry	ICs Issued	Gross Receipts	Total Expenses	Net Receipts	Expense Ratio (%)
Agricultural Issues	1	\$ 18,355.80	\$ 62.00	\$ 18,293.80	0.34
Animal Welfare	13	\$ 2,015,480.82	\$ 561,605.14	\$ 1,453,875.68	27.86
Arts/Cultural	57	\$ 33,488,777.76	\$ 10,424,274.25	\$ 23,064,503.51	31.13
Charitable Support	43	\$ 4,744,443.75	\$ 2,344,650.99	\$ 2,399,792.76	49.42
Civic/Community Support	44	\$ 12,171,718.38	\$ 1,038,443.78	\$ 11,133,274.60	8.53
Conservation/Preservation	19	\$ 16,080,582.91	\$ 1,350,323.34	\$ 14,730,259.57	8.4
Educational Org	276	\$ 591,757,145.96	\$ 85,054,822.06	\$ 506,702,323.91	14.37
Environmental Org	8	\$ 213,674.00	\$ 54,856.00	\$ 158,818.00	25.67
Firefighter Support	9	\$ 4,436,032.00	\$ 955,861.86	\$ 3,480,150.14	21.55
Health Related Org	182	\$ 591,207,822.56	\$ 104,449,644.11	\$ 486,758,178.46	17.67
Legal Service Org	20	\$ 2,572,652.52	\$ 609,448.68	\$ 1,963,203.84	23.69
Police Support - LAPD	5	\$ 4,193,030.00	\$ 299,928.18	\$ 3,893,101.82	7.15
Sports Org	22	\$ 1,266,630.00	\$ 223,818.69	\$ 1,042,811.31	17.67
Religious Org	54	\$ 1,855,440.69	\$ 674,498.17	\$ 1,180,942.52	36.35
Social Service/Welfare	188	\$ 55,186,609.59	\$ 11,640,643.93	\$ 43,545,965.65	21.09
Veterans Support	11	\$ 84,763,365.91	\$ 41,522,022.55	\$ 43,241,343.36	48.99
TOTAL	952	\$ 1,405,971,762.65	\$ 261,204,923.73	\$ 1,144,766,838.92	18.58

*The expense ratio represents the amount used for overhead and operating costs of the charitable program when compared to the funds generated toward the intended cause.

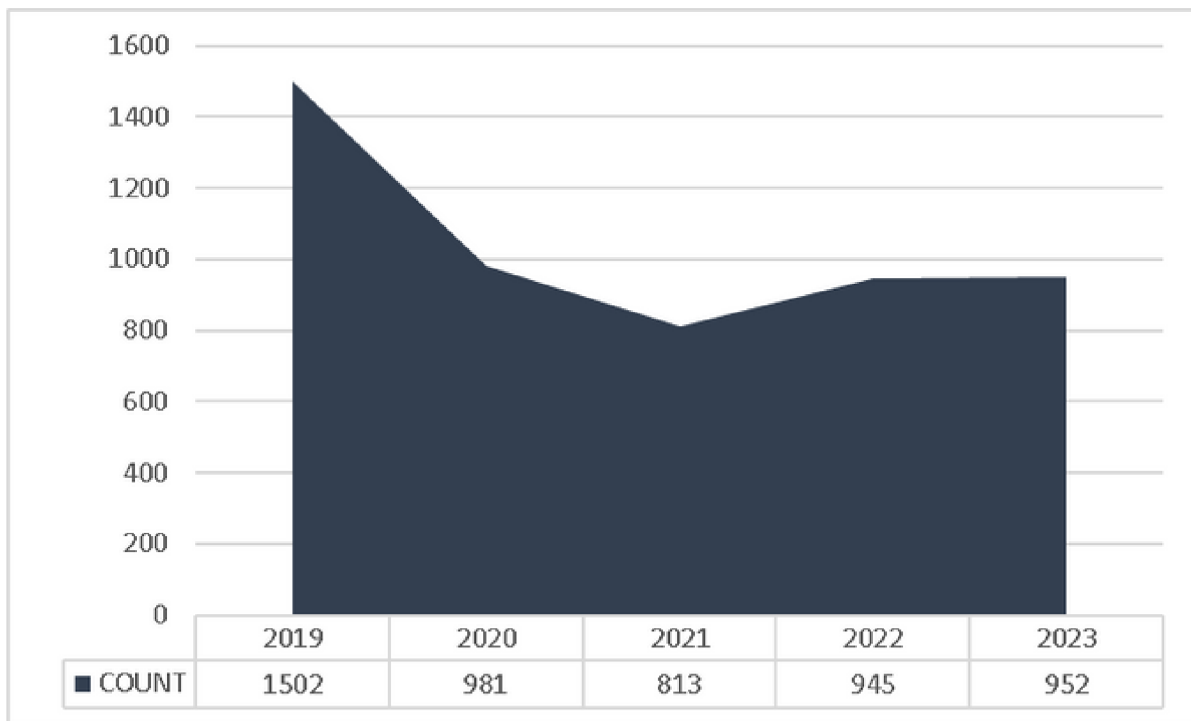
NOTICE OF INTENTION APPLICATIONS

A Notice of Intention application must be submitted for each fundraising campaign and/or special event that is held within the City of Los Angeles. After successful review of the documents and investigations, an Information Card is issued.

The Information Card (IC) is not an endorsement but issued only as information for the public (LAMC Article 4, Ch 4, Sec 44.02). The IC contains important facts to be considered by a prospective donor in determining the desirability of making a contribution. No solicitation shall be started until the Information Card has been issued. The Information card is sent to the “Person in Charge” of the Appeal unless otherwise specified by the organization.

NOIs 5-year Overview

The chart below reflects the number of NOI applications received over a 5-year period (2019-2023), totaling 5,193 applications.



MULTI-YEAR SUMMARY (2019-2023)

The five-year period from 2019 to 2022 shows key metrics examined including the number of applications received, gross receipts, total expenses, net receipts, and the expense ratio per year.

The receipts metrics are self-reported and submitted to CSS through the Report of Results of Activity form. The expense ratio is calculated based on the data reported.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Apps Received</u>	<u>Gross Receipts</u>	<u>Total Expenses</u>	<u>Net Receipts</u>	<u>Expense Ratio (%)</u>
2023	952	\$1,405,971,763	\$261,204,924	\$1,144,766,839	18.6
2022	949	\$10,991,968,773	\$1,164,749,340	\$9,827,219,433	10.6
2021	813	\$10,338,503,066	\$853,986,146	\$9,484,516,919	8.3
2020	981	\$10,794,857,827	\$979,441,945	\$9,815,415,882	9.1
2019	1502	\$10,802,583,848	\$1,187,955,302	\$9,614,628,545	11.0

The 2023 gross receipts projected to be similar to 2022. Latest data not available at the time of publication of this report.



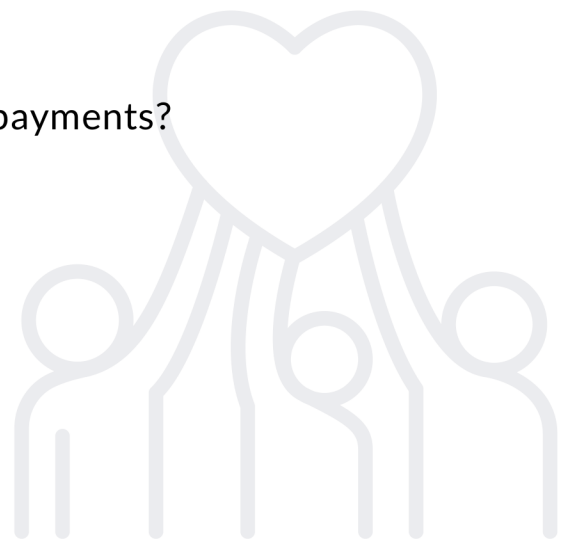


THINKING ABOUT DONATING?

GIVE WISELY - EVALUATE THE CHARITY

CSS advises donors to consider assessing the impact and transparency of charitable organizations they wish to donate to, so as to confidently ensure contributions are utilized effectively. When making a donation, consider the following:

- How much of your donation will cover the charity's operating costs and how much will go toward the cause they are promoting?
- Is the charity legitimate?
- Is the solicitor legitimate?
- Will the charity accept non-cash payments?



THINKING ABOUT DONATING?

ADDITIONAL SAFETY TIPS FOR CHARITABLE DONORS



- *Prepare a giving plan and budget ahead of time, based on your own research, to avoid pressure from unsolicited charities.*
- *Even without a plan, avoid spontaneous gifts. Deceptive organizations often rely on impulsive cash donations.*
- *Do your research - DO NOT be fooled by organizations that closely resemble a well-known organization.*
- *DO NOT provide personal or financial information over the phone for unsolicited calls. Ask for a website where you can donate.*
- *Unsolicited emails may contain viruses or malware. Do not respond or click on links or attachments.*
- *DO NOT be fooled by charities that claim a connection to police or fire services.*
- *The Los Angeles Police and Fire Departments DO NOT solicit charitable donations for police and fire services.*

RESOURCES

- Los Angeles Police Commission, Charitable Services Section, (213) 996-1260 or toll free call 800 439-2909 and ask for 996-1260.
- [Better Business Bureau Wise Giving Alliance \(www.give.org\)](http://www.give.org)
- [California Attorney General \(https://oag.ca.gov\)](https://oag.ca.gov)
- [Your Guide to Intelligent Giving \(www.charitynavigator.com\)](http://www.charitynavigator.com)





BINGO!

CHARITABLE BINGO

In the City of Los Angeles, Bingo is restricted for charitable purposes. It is a means for fundraising to generate revenue for nonprofit organizations, charities, or community causes.

This form of activity is regulated by the City, with the proceeds going to support various charitable endeavors. How charitable bingo works: In the City this type of activity requires permitting, reporting, auditing and other restrictions as outlined in the City's Municipal Code.

Purpose: The primary goal of charitable bingo is to raise funds for charitable, religious, or nonprofit organizations. These organizations use the proceeds from bingo games to support their activities, projects, and causes. Common beneficiaries include schools, churches, veterans' groups, animal shelters, and social service agencies.

Organization: A charitable organization, often with a 501(c)(3) nonprofit status in the United States, is responsible for organizing and hosting the bingo games. They obtain the necessary permits and licenses to operate the games legally.

Bingo Events: Charitable bingo events are organized on a regular basis, often weekly or monthly, at designated venues such as community centers, church halls, or dedicated bingo halls. These events are open to the public and are usually advertised in advance.

Game Play: Participants purchase bingo cards or tickets, which grant them access to the games. The bingo cards contain grids of numbers, and a caller randomly selects numbers and announces them to the players. Players mark their cards when their numbers are called. The objective is to complete a specific pattern or fill the entire card, depending on the rules of the particular bingo game.

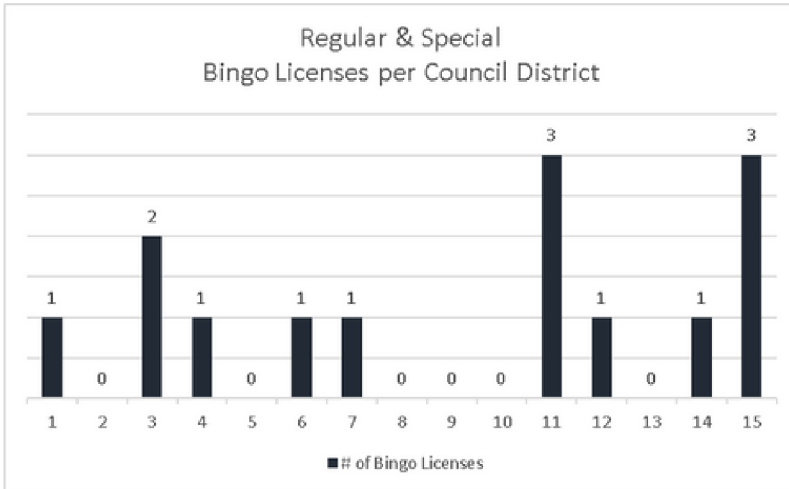
Proceeds Allocation: The revenue generated from ticket sales and, if applicable, concessions at the bingo event are collected by the charitable organization. These proceeds are then used to support their charitable mission. A portion of the funds may also cover the operational costs of hosting the bingo games, such as rent for the venue and equipment.

Transparency and Accountability: Charitable organizations hosting bingo events are typically required to maintain transparency and provide financial reports to regulatory authorities. This ensures that the funds raised are used for their intended charitable purposes and not for personal gain.



CHARITABLE BINGO ACTIVITY AT A GLANCE

Regular & Special Licenses



CHARITABLE BINGO PER COUNCIL DISTRICT

The chart on the left shows the charitable bingo licensing distribution per council district. Licenses may either be issued as Regular or Special Bingo License.

REGULAR BINGO LICENSED ORGANIZATIONS

CRI-HELP, Inc.
First Samoan Congregational Christian Church of Harbor City
Knights of Columbus #3601
Knights of Columbus #4438
Samoana Inc.
West Los Angeles Buddhist Temple
Young Martial Artist Foundation

SPECIAL BINGO LICENSED ORGANIZATIONS

Aldama Elementary PTA
Mary Star of the Sea Catholic Church
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church
Our Mother of Good Council Church
St. Francis Xavier
Venice Japanese Community Center
Venice Marina Lax Lions Club

REGULAR - an annual bingo license granted to charitable organizations whose primary charitable activities is charitable bingo. **SPECIAL** - a bingo license granted to charitable organizations for a limited time and whose primary charitable activities is not bingo.

14

Regular and Special Bingo
Licenses Issued

474

Game sessions held
throughout the City

55,853

Estimate of players/attendees at
Charitable Bingo operations

BINGO

Prizes & Revenue

Regular Bingo experienced 60% game sessions increase, and 80% game participant increase over previous year.

Total Bingo Sale	Total Bingo Expense	Total Prizes Awarded
\$13,181,753	\$3,827,863	\$9,353,890

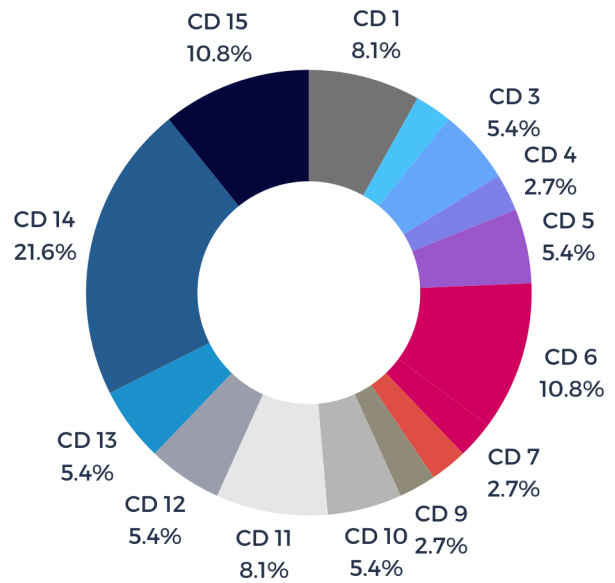
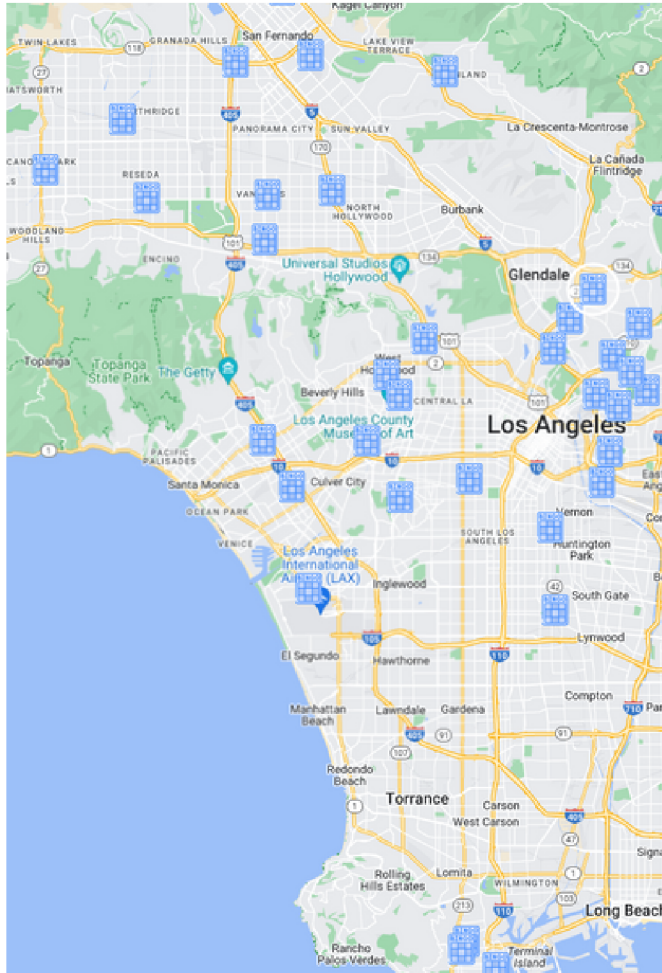
\$84,465

City of Los Angeles Administrative
Percentage License Fee Collected

Law enforcement and public safety fee is collected and reflected in the Bingo operation Expense.. The fee is equals to .922% (.00922) of the total amount paid out in bingo prizes for that month in excess of \$2,000.



WHERE TO FIND SENIOR BINGO



SENIOR BINGO LOCATIONS PER COUNCIL DISTRICT

The chart above shows the share of bingo locations per council district. Organizations hosting recreational senior bingo gaming are granted a 3-year license. The majority of operating licenses are issued to Recreation and Parks facilities, where City staff and volunteers organize and facilitate the bingo events.

Map above shows Senior Bingo locations throughout the City.



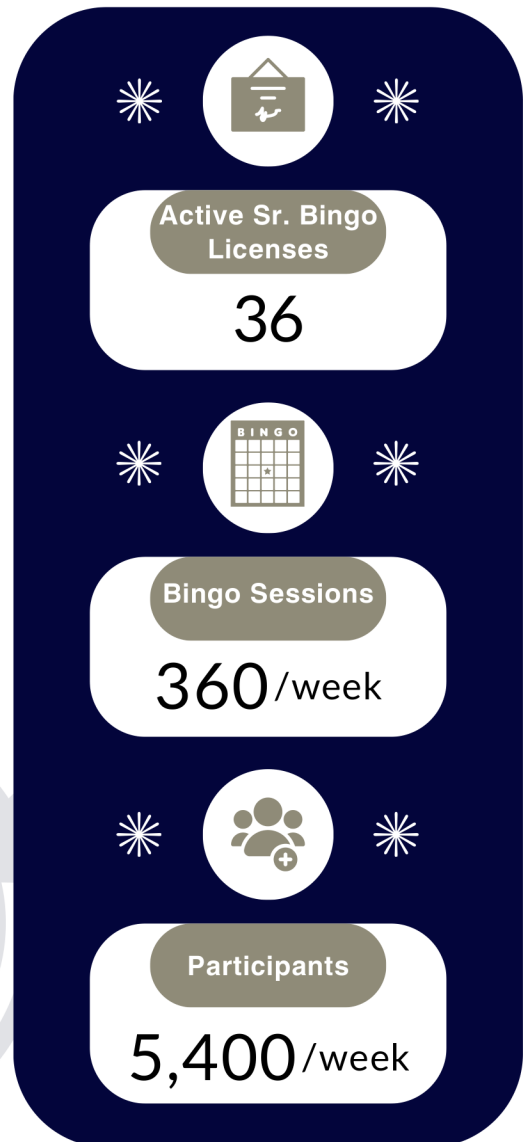


SENIOR BINGO



Senior Citizen organizations playing bingo for recreational purposes are granted bingo licenses for periods up to three years. There is no licensing fee. However, organizations must still abide to the L.A.M.C and City of Los Angeles Bingo Rules and Regulations apply.

The City's Recreation and Parks Department administers all bingo activity at Rec & Park facilities, including senior centers throughout the City. CSS is proud to assist in the licensing of Senior Bingo to help facilitate recreational bingo for our City's seniors. Other organizations such as churches, or mobile home parks are also part of the licensed senior bingo facilities.



**Participants may play multiple sessions per day. Estimate is based on average reported by senior centers.*

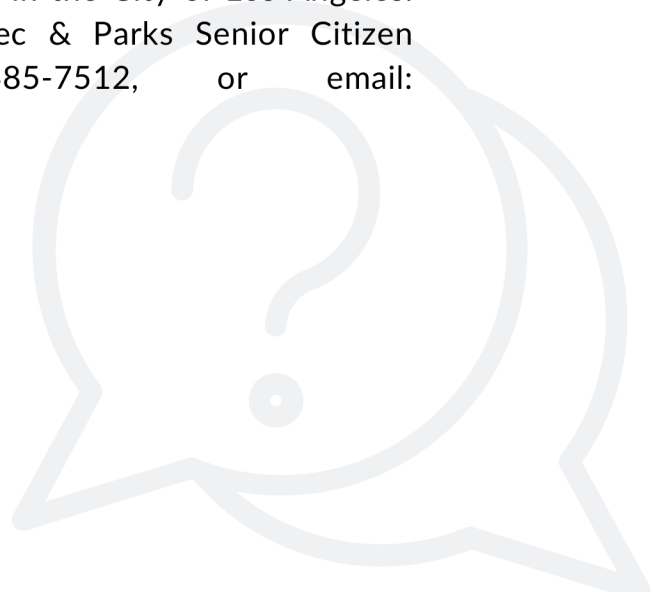
LEARN MORE

FOR CHARITIES

For details about the process to register as a charity in the City of Los Angeles, visit the [Los Angeles Police Commission Charitable Services](https://www.lapdonline.org/police-commission/cid/charitable-services-section) website for general information including: forms, frequently asked questions and other resources (<https://www.lapdonline.org/police-commission/cid/charitable-services-section>)

FOR SENIOR BINGO

LA's Seniors can call their local Recreation and Parks (Rec & Park) Center to find a near Senior Bingo location in the City of Los Angeles. Or for more information, contact the Rec & Parks Senior Citizen Section: by phone (213) 485-7512, or email: RAP.SeniorCitizens@lacity.org





LOS ANGELES



2023 PHILANTHROPY REPORT

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Commission Investigation Division, Charitable Services

lapdonline.org/police-commission/cid/charitable-services-section

PCCharity@lapd.online | 213-996-1260

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