



December 2, 2009

Dear Friend of GLAD,

I can't think of a better way to begin this letter than by saying **Thank You**...thank you for your donations, your enthusiasm, your dedication and your willingness to support the Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness. As we celebrate 40 years of service to the deaf and hard of hearing community, we applaud your continued support and true belief in the mission of GLAD.

2009 brought a milestone into the history of our Community with the passing of Marcella M. Meyer, the first CEO of GLAD. Marcella brought incredible change to the lives of Deaf and Hard of Hearing people everywhere.

Despite difficult economic circumstances, GLAD closes out 2009 with successful programs and services as we continue Marcella's legacy:

- Our much anticipated Visual Communications Center, funded by the S. Mark Taper Foundation, is set to open its doors early 2010.
- Funding has been secured through the City of Los Angeles Community Development Department for the demolition of the Annex portion of our facility.
- GLAD's newly improved website has launched...visit us at [www.gladinc.org](http://www.gladinc.org) to explore the many programs and services GLAD has to offer.
- Our Health Education is set to host its Second Annual Teen Fest in spring 2010, an event which increases community involvement in building healthy families through awareness of the effects of teen and unintended pregnancies.
- A regional network of health care providers, language advocates and other stakeholders are working to develop a strategic plan to improve access to quality health care services for deaf and hard of hearing consumers in Los Angeles County. The Health Care Access Coalition is teaming up to create system change for better access to health care delivery.
- Our Human Services department is currently developing an educational DVD guiding parents through the Individualized Education Program (IEP) process, enabling them to become effective advocates for their children.

With services that impact people of all ages, GLAD is committed to being there every step of the way with programs like Parent Connections, Teen Pregnancy Prevention, Health Care Access Coalition, Advocacy and Employment services, Senior Housing, collaborative studies such as the Cancer Research Study with UCLA, interpreting referral agency LIFESIGNS, among so much more. **Now more than ever, GLAD needs your involvement.** Please find it within your means to give whatever you can, so that GLAD may continue to provide future quality programs and experiences. Our non-profit organization has been going strong for 40 years and counting and your tax deductible contribution would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for taking this time to reflect on the wonderful things that GLAD represents in our community as it enables us make a difference today, tomorrow and in the future.

GLADly,

Dr. Patricia Hughes  
Chief Executive Officer