

[Metro.net](#) (web)

## Resources

► [Safety](#)

► [Pressroom](#) (web)

► [CEO Hotline](#)

► [Metro Projects](#)

► [Facts at a Glance](#)  
(web)

► [Archives](#)

► [Events Calendar](#)

► [Research Center/  
Library](#)

► [Metro Cafe](#) (pdf)

► [Metro Classifieds](#)

► [Retirement  
Round-up](#)

## Metro Info

► [Strategic Plan](#) (pdf)

► [Org Chart](#) (pdf)

► [Policies](#)

► [Training](#)

► [Help Desk](#)

► [Intranet Policy](#)

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At Boys and Girls Club of Carson, from left, Wanda Washington, Kathleen Martin, Mayor Jim Dear and Kenya Harris.



PHOTOS: ROY TURNER

## 'DAC Attack' Spreads Metro's Message in Area Communities

By RICH MORALLO

(April 27, 2005) The "DAC Attack" is on the offensive, spreading from school campuses to senior citizen meetings, from neighborhood block parties to community centers.

"The DAC Attack is our aggressive community outreach program where members of the Division Ambassador Council look for opportunities to connect to our communities," said Kenya Harris, a Carson Division 18 operator.

Harris and 80 other Metro South Bay operators, mechanics, service attendants and supervisors volunteer on their free time to distribute transit and safety messages to the public.

"Be safe and Go Metro are our basic messages," said Harris, as she described how she and fellow-DAC members are happy and proud to be Metro ambassadors of safety and goodwill. Recently DAC supported events at senior centers in San Pedro and Los Angeles, as well as street fairs and campus events in the South Bay.

### DAC members excited

Harris and fellow DAC member Kathleen Martin gave a transit presentation to 60 youngsters at the Boys & Girls Club of Carson. Martin, who has talked to hundreds of residents in Compton, Chesterfield Square and San Pedro, said DAC members are excited by volunteering to talk to the neighborhoods.

Another DAC member, Michael Williams-Carr, visited Lloyd High School during career day in Lawndale.

"It is essential that Metro reaches out to the entire community and lets them know what we are all about," said Williams-Carr, the transportation manager at Arthur Winston Division 5.

Operators Dwight Graham and Darrel Stephens spent hours preparing for a community open house at the Arthur Winston Division.



Mechanic Barney Harris and his wife, Marilyn, during the open house at Arthur Winston Division 5.

"Whatever it takes to keep the community informed, we'll do," said Stephens as he Graham helped decorate vendor booths and pass out flyers in the neighborhood. Mechanic Barney Harris and his wife, Marilyn, also assisted at the open house by staffing an information table.

DAC often partners with other Metro departments in community outreach efforts.

### **Career day teamwork**

Metro Rail's Hector Gutierrez and Anthony Lawson, along with Metro Westside Central's Sandra Kelly-Williams teamed up with DAC's Roy Turner and Louvenia Harris during career day at Inglewood Christian School.

"The event was awesome. The students were so inquisitive," said Harris.

The South Bay and Westside/Central service sectors cooperated closely to make the event a success. Westside/Central helped to coordinate Metro's participation in the event, contributing more than 1,000 promotional items, disseminating career information pamphlets and by participating in student interviews about Metro Careers.

Lawson, a Metro Green Line maintenance specialist, said, "We, as a community, are the owners, supporters and future innovators of transit."

"Participating in events such as these introduces and aspires children to set positive and ascertainable career goals," says Kelly-Williams, Westside/ Central's Return to Work/Transitional Duty coordinator. "Metro was glad to be a participant in making this a reality for the children at Inglewood Christian School."

