



**MEDIA ADVISORY**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**“People, Power, Progress Awards” Celebrates Community Leaders & South LA Victories**  
*Special Guests include U.S. Rep. Karen Bass and Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson*

**WHAT:** [Community Coalition](#)’s 17<sup>th</sup> annual “People, Power, Progress Awards” celebrates esteemed community leaders, provides an opportunity for its supporters to recognize key policy victories that transformed South LA and share new organizational initiatives. This year's honorees include Dr. Cheryl Grills, Rusty Hicks and Cástulo de la Rocha.

New initiatives previewed include **embrACE LA**’s “100 Dinners on Race,” officially launching in Spring 2018. embrACE LA’s goal is to unify Angelenos and empower communities through a citywide conversation about race and racism to challenge and change inequities. The 100 Dinners aim to build and strengthen relationships between Los Angeles’ communities by fostering honest, open and meaningful conversations around the dinner table.

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 26, 2017. 6:00 PM, Silent Auction. 7:00 PM, Dinner and Program

**WHERE:** JW Marriott Hotel at L.A. Live, 900 West Olympic Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90015

**WHO:** Special guest speakers including, **U.S. Rep. Karen Bass** (D-Los Angeles), **Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson**, **Alberto Retana**, Community Coalition President & CEO, **Pastor Cue Jn-Mari**, The Row Church, **Carolyn Webb de Macias**, Community Coalition Board Chair.

KABC Eyewitness News anchors **Marc Brown** and **Michelle Tuzee** are the program’s hosts and [CONTRA-TIEMPO](#) will also perform.

**Honorees include:**

**Dr. Cheryl N. Grills**, Professor of Psychology and Director, Psychology Applied Research Center, Loyola Marymount University. Dr. Grills’ current work in the area of racial stress focuses on training associated with racism, racial stress, implicit bias and the development of community-

based self-help models to address the negative effects of racism on people of African ancestry in the US and globally. **U.S. Rep. Karen Bass will present the award.**

**Rusty Hicks**, Executive Secretary-Treasurer, Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. AFL-CIO is comprised of over 300 local unions that represent over 800,000 workers in virtually every key industry – transportation and goods movement, entertainment and media, janitorial and hospitality services, education, construction, government, retail healthcare and communications. **AFL-CIO local union members will present the award.**

**Cástulo de la Rocha**, President & CEO, AltaMed Health Services Corporation, a long-standing community health leader for more than 35 years. AltaMed delivers nearly one million patient visits annually in more than 40 sites in Los Angeles and Orange counties and provides high-quality, affordable and accessible health and human services to underserved communities. **Mike de la Rocha, Founder, Revolve Impact will present the award.**

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit, [Progress Awards](#).

**About Community Coalition:**

*For nearly 30 years, Community Coalition has provided a hub to elevate South LA's voice and empower residents to take control over the future of their neighborhoods. Community Coalition works with residents to build a prosperous and healthy South LA with safe neighborhoods, quality schools, and a strong social safety net. The coalition continues to work on positive economic development that reduces crime, poverty and substance abuse in South LA through resident organizing, direct advocacy and community support services.*

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