

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
Department of Recreation and Parks

May 19, 2004

TO: BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

FROM: JON KIRK MUKRI, General Manager



SUBJECT: WITHOUT BORDERS INCREASE IN GRANT FUNDS

The Without Borders Program, grant-funded by the U.S. Department of Education, provides adaptive sports experiences to youth of all abilities at various Recreation and Parks' facilities throughout Los Angeles. The mission of the program is "to assist all participants in recognizing and expanding upon their unique abilities, both athletically and socially, in an enthusiastic, supportive and fun environment." The sports experiences for youth with disabilities have been a catalyst for therapeutic recreation outreach and a key tool in disability awareness and education for the community.

The program began in October 2002 with a grant award of \$115,687. Successful activities such as "Beep Baseball," golf, power soccer clinics, and a Without Borders Sports Festival have resulted in increased participation levels in the second year – the original goal of 450 participants was exceeded by 62%, with 731 total participants. Continued growth in participation is expected in year three which has resulted in an additional \$12,900 allocation from the U.S. Department of Education.

The Without Borders Program continues to be successful in expanding opportunities for youth of all abilities throughout the City. The additional funding will provide for further growth of this valuable program.

This report was prepared by Vicki Israel and Alexa Esparza.