

## **A SPECIAL THANK YOU FOR SBCCOG VOLUNTEERS**

On November 16, 2017, Kurt Weideman Chair of the South Bay Cities Council of Governments (SBCCOG) and Councilmember from the City of Torrance led the annual recognition event for the SBCCOG's dedicated volunteers. Other local, state, and federal representatives, as well our utility and agency partners were on hand to join in the festivities honoring our volunteers.

The SBCCOG has come to be known throughout the State for our forward thinking, action oriented programs including the South Bay Environmental Services Center (SBESC). We could not achieve nor maintain our extensive programs without the help of our SBCCOG volunteers.

Over the last year the SBCCOG's volunteers have helped with research on land use and Energy Generation and Storage for those chapters of the 15 city climate action plans. They have promoted our Green Building Challenge as well as provided information on transportation options and support for our other environmental programs.

Having volunteers allows us to have more hands and bodies to reach farther into the community and spread information to individuals, businesses, and public agencies on how we can all be more energy efficient, conserve water, and even form vanpools.

Since 2008, we have had a total of 225 volunteers who have given over 17,000 hours of service! Currently, we have 25 active volunteers led by SBCCOG staff Environmental Analyst and Volunteer Coordinator Martha Segovia.

The SBCCOG recognizes both the annual and cumulative contributions of our volunteers. Annual recognition is based on an 11-month calendar year from January to November and includes the total number of hours worked in the current year. This year two annual recognition awards and four cumulative awards were handed out.

A special volunteer who has worked 50 plus hours at the center this year was named our Value Volunteer Awardee: Jamie Leonard

Our second special volunteer, Kathy Haynes, who has worked 100 plus hours at the Center this year received the Green Ambassador Award.

Two volunteers who have consistently provided outstanding work at the center have worked over 250 hours since they began the program with us. Maelyn Evans – started January 2016 and Miguel Vasquez – started September 2010.

The level of commitment of our volunteers is extraordinary and our appreciation in the next category went to a volunteer who has worked over 1,000 hours. The Gold Sustainability Award named: Kathy Young – started September 2009.

Beyond extraordinary efforts were awarded to the volunteer recognized for her work of over 2,000 cumulative hours! The SBCCOG Lifetime Sustainability Award for dedicated service to the South Bay Environmental Services Center since 2008 was awarded to Ingrid Nugent.

