



The Al Wooten, Jr. Heritage Center is a neighborhood approach to the revitalization and empowerment of a community in crisis. We provide a safe, nurturing environment committed to good citizenship and academic excellence.

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WOOTEN CENTER RESPONDS TO DEADLY SHOOTING

LOS ANGELES - The Al Wooten, Jr. Heritage Center, a South Central Los Angeles after-school program responds to the deadly shooting that happened just a few doors down from a place that local youth come to learn and stay safe in a neighborhood filled with violence.

The tragic death of Lois Gean Cole at a bus stop on Western Avenue is a sign that this community needs to provide a safe place for young people and provide gang intervention services to youth that may be tempted to engage in the gang lifestyle.

“The Wooten Center provides a safe haven for youth to play in a secure area, participate in character building classes, gang intervention services, and tutoring help that they so desperately need,” said Executive Director Linda Broadous Miles. “Most of these children would be forced to play on the unsafe streets of our neighborhood if the Wooten Center did not exist. We want the children in our community to have the resources and direction to avoid gang life and develop the academic and social skills needed to succeed in college and become productive citizens.”

(more)

Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center
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The Wooten Center, located in gang territory fewer than two miles from the outbreak of the 1992 Los Angeles riots, provides college-prep guidance and educational, cultural and recreational activities for more than 200 low-income minority youths ages 8 to 18. More than 90 percent of the youths served come from single-parent or foster-care households with incomes of less than \$17,000 per year.

The Wooten Center was founded in 1990 by Myrtle Faye Rumph after the senseless drive-by murder of her son, Al Wooten Jr. Wooten Center programs including literacy tutoring, the CollegeTrack readiness program, one- on- one tutoring, youth leadership programs, a Boys-to-Men character building program, gang intervention services, computer lab instruction, daily homework assistance, vocational assistance, a music program, gardening activities and more. The Center is the site of the Ella Fitzgerald Library, the Rhino Entertainment Study Hall and the David & Elizabeth McFadzean Building.

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