

**4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2011**  
**WITNESS: WATTS SPECIAL**

**Show:** Witness: Watts Special ABC7  
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**SUMMARY:**

**Watts Labor Community Action Committee**

Since 1965, the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC) has operated as the key antipoverty agency in South Central Los Angeles. The WLCAC was founded shortly after the Watts Riots by Civil Rights Activist Ted Watkins. Interview with: WLCAC President Tim Watkins

**Alma Reaves Woods**

Alma Reaves Woods has fought for the education of children in Watts since 1954. A public library in Watts now bears her name in honor of her contributions. Interview with: Alma Reaves Woods

**Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, Project Fatherhood and Motivated Mothers**

The Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) is a state-chartered public agency. It provides the largest stock of affordable housing in Los Angeles. In Watts, HACLA is spearheading the redevelopment of the Jordan Downs Housing Project. The redevelopment includes a "Families First" Initiative, which helps its residents develop personal responsibility, accountability and employability. Two of these programs are Motivated Mothers of Jordan Downs and Project Fatherhood. Interviews with: John King, Director, Policy & Planning, L.A. Housing Authority; Andre Christian, Co-Founder, Project Fatherhood; Aaron Pineda, Parent; Socorro "Coco" Diaz, Motivated Mothers of Jordan Downs Member and Parent

**Verbum Dei High School**

Verbum Dei High School is a Catholic, Jesuit, college and career preparatory school serving young men of Watts and the surrounding communities. The school has become a model for success in education in Los Angeles. Part of the curriculum includes real-world work experience for its students through corporate internships. Interviews with: Verbum Dei High School Students Uriel Ceja and Julio Ceja; Father Bill Muller, Verbum Dei High School President

**Urban Compass**

Urban Compass was formed in partnership with Verbum Dei High School and 112th Street Elementary School to combat poverty and violence and make a difference in the lives of children in Watts. The non-profit organization provides after school programs, field trips and tutoring. Interviews with: Theresa Gartland, Executive Director, Urban Compass; Students Petra Avela and Aaron Shipp

**Computers for Families: Los Angeles OIC**

Los Angeles Opportunities Industrialization Centers (OIC) provides education, training, employment, healthcare and housing services to economically disadvantaged people. One of its marquee programs, "Computers for Families," distributes computers donated by corporations to residents of the Jordan Downs Housing Project in Watts. Interviews with: Chris Floyd, Executive Director, Los Angeles OIC, Shirley Starks, Watts Resident

**Watts Healthy Farmers Market / Kaiser Permanente Watts Counseling and Learning Center**

The Kaiser Permanente Watts Counseling and Learning Center has offered Watts-area children and their parents free educational, counseling, and child development services. The Center helped start the Watts Healthy Farmers Market which provides healthy food options and fresh produce grown by local farmers. Arlene Andrews, Watts Resident; Ashley Hiestand,

Manager, Watts Healthy Farmers Market; Josefina Medina, Local Farmer; Maria Aguirre, Project Manager, Watts Counseling & Learning Center

**Watts/Century Latino Organization**

The Watts/Century Latino Organization (WCLO) was formed in 1990 to help improve the quality of life for all Watts area residents and to address the needs of the growing Latino population. Interview with: Arturo Ybarra, President and Founder, WCLO

**Watts House Project**

Watts House Project (WHP) is an artist-driven neighborhood redevelopment organization which brings artists and design professionals together with Watts Towers area residents to employ art as an economic and community development engine to enhance the quality of residential life in the Watts neighborhood. Interviews with: Will Sheffie, Managing Director Watts House Project; Rosa Gutierrez, Watts Resident

**HOSTS:**

Jovana Lara, ABC7 Anchor/Reporter; Danny Romero, ABC7 Weathercaster