



**CITY OF GLENDALE, CALIFORNIA
REPORT TO THE PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
COMMISSION**

AGENDA ITEM

Report: Recreation & Community Services Section Monthly Activity Report for April 2021

COMMISSION/COMMITTEE ACTION

Item Type: Report Only

Approved for _____ April 19, 2021 **calendar**

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

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RECOMMENDATION

This report is provided for information only.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, effective March 13, 2020, the City of Glendale began closing facilities based on Los Angeles County directives to avoid senior gatherings. The Glendale City Council proclaimed a local emergency effective March 16, 2020, and slowly began transitioning the City to a “Safer at Home” Order following LA County lead. LA County had issued a local emergency dating back to March 4, 2020, and issued an official “Safer at Home” Order on March 16, 2020. On March 13, 2020, all City facilities closed to the public, and all programs, events and permits were cancelled. Slowly, the State and the County allowed for some programs and facilities to open back up, but shortly thereafter things began to close down again. A list of the closures and what has since opened as it relates to our department operations can be found below.

Current Closures – Closed Since March 13, 2020

In order to protect the health and safety of our community, and in accordance with guidance from State and local health officials to prevent the spread of COVID-19, Community Services & Parks is continuing to implement the following:

- All sports and recreation areas are closed until further notice. This includes, but is not limited to picnic shelters, splash pads, basketball courts, volleyball courts and all fields (baseball, soccer, softball, multi-purpose), except as permitted for fitness rentals, sports camps/clinics and youth sports leagues following the County protocols.
- All park buildings and indoor facilities are closed to the public until further notice, including community centers, community buildings, Verdugo Jobs Center, gyms, computer labs, and multi-purpose rooms. Public counters are open by appointment only at this time. Some buildings are open for programming, such as the Education Connection and Maple Starz After School Camps.
- All events and rentals are cancelled. New reservations are suspended until further notice.
- All recreation programs and classes are suspended/cancelled until further notice, including sports leagues, instructional classes (contract classes), drop-in programs, and recreation activities. Some classes/programs were converted to virtual classes/programs. Youth Sports Leagues were allowed to open back up effective August 4, 2020.

- All Senior Centers are closed. The Congregate Meals Program for seniors has been modified to frozen meal delivery or brown bag lunch pick up for eligible seniors. Please see the details by following the link at www.glendaleca.gov/parks for the most current information. You may also call (818) 548-3775 for more information.

Facilities Opened Since Initial Closures

Open as of May 9, 2020

- Golf course, not including pro-shops or dine-in restaurant
- Parks, not including playgrounds, sport courts, picnic amenities, and exercise equipment
- Trails and trailheads - To help keep them open, we ask everyone to please adhere to these protocols:
 - Practice Social Distancing – provide space of at least 6 feet at all times during your visit
 - Face Coverings Required – trail users over 2 years old must wear a face covering when others are near
 - Do Not Gather in Groups
 - Communicate with Others as You Pass – alert trail users of your presence and step aside to let others pass
 - Pack Out Your Trash – use leave-no-trace principles to protect park staff and wildlife

Open as of May 16, 2020

- Tennis and Pickleball Courts
- Palmer Community Garden
- Equestrian Facility at Riverwalk

Open as of June 12, 2020

- Day Camps – The City operated Summer Day Camps from July 6 through August 14, 2020. On August 19, 2020, the City opened Education Connection and Maple Starz After School Camps to provide child care during the GUSD remote learning school program.
- Gyms – the City has one indoor gym at the Adult Recreation Center, but kept it closed since it is a Senior Center and the County is not allowing for senior congregate programs at this time. The County closed indoor gyms again effective July 7, 2020.
- Pacific Park Pool opened starting June 15 for Recreation and Lap Swim. Swim lessons began July 7, but were suspended again on December 3, 2020 due to surging COVID-19 numbers.

- Splash Pads at Pacific Park & Cerritos Park were opened for a short period of time, but closed again on July 2, 2020, as the protocols for re-opening from the County were too difficult to maintain with current resources.

Open as of June 22, 2020

- Field rentals for sports camps and/or sports clinics under Day Camp guidelines. County allowed field use for sports camps/clinics under the Day Camp guidelines effective June 12, 2020, but the City opened it effective June 22, 2020.

Open as of July 7, 2020

- Pacific Park Pool swim lessons

Open as of August 4, 2020

- Field rentals for Youth Sports Leagues for outdoor practices (No Scrimmages or Games). Previously, some youth sports leagues were operating under the Day Camp guidelines for sports camps/clinics.

Open as of August 22, 2020

- Verdugo Skate Park

Open as of October 7, 2020

- Playgrounds, outdoor exercise equipment, and picnic tables (picnic shelters are not being reserved for large rentals or parties, but tables are available first-come, first-served for households to use)

Second Surge

Closed as of November 30, 2020

- Verdugo Skate Park – County changed protocols to only allow single family/individuals from same household to skate at one time. CSP decided to keep the park closed as it would be too difficult to enforce and a poor use of staff resources to open the park for handful of individuals.
- Swim lessons cancelled. Pool only open for lap swim.
- Playgrounds & Outdoor Exercise Equipment

Reopening After the Surge

Open as of December 10, 2020

- Playgrounds & Outdoor Fitness Equipment re-opened

Open as of January 29, 2021

- Outdoor gatherings can resume with no more than a combined total of 15 persons from three households (including your own).
- Use of picnic tables, pavillions, and shelters are on a first-come first-served basis. No reservations are allowed, to prevent organized group gatherings
- Tennis and Pickleball courts can accommodate for doubles from outside the same household.
- The County informed the department that it now allows for Skate Parks to open and to be used by persons not of the same household, with social distancing. The department reopened the skate park on February 22, 2021.

Open as of February 17, 2021

- County updated the Youth & Adult Sports protocols to allow for Adult Sports to begin skills training and drills outdoors, but the City chose not to permit adult groups as most all adult groups use the reservation time to run scrimmages or games and do not do skills training or drills. City did allow for Master's Soccer to begin since it is a City run program and can be modified to only allow for trailing and drills.
- The protocols also indicated which type of youth sport would be allowed to return to games within each respective colored risk tier (as defined by the State).

Open as of February 24, 2021

- The updated Youth & Adults Sports protocols allow for youth and adults to return to outdoor sports and play scrimmages and games, but no tournaments. The protocols also allow for outdoor basketball to return as well as Softball, Baseball, Lacrosse, Tennis, Soccer, Pickleball, and other sports. All players, coaches and youth spectators must wear a mask at all times (even during play). Spectators for adult sports are not allowed.

With this update, field reservations are returning to pre-COVID level of use. The department however, had already issued facility use permits to the existing users from March 1 through March 15. It was determined that these permits will be honored through March 15, 2021. Beginning March 16, 2021, priority was given to High School CIF games, followed by youth sports groups who are in season (i.e. Little Leagues and other chartered youth baseball and softball leagues), and then youth and adult teams such as soccer, baseball, and softball. The department also decided to delay the start of its adult softball leagues until Summer to be able to accommodate the local high schools and little leagues to complete their shortened season, and reduce the impact of the shortened season on field availability.

Open as of March 1, 2021

- City opened the outdoor basketball courts. County allowed for them to open on February 24, 2021, but it took the City some time to re-install the basketball rims.

Orange Tier Announcement

- On Tuesday, March 30, 2021, the County announced that it will move into the “orange” tier on April 5, 2021. On Thursday, April 1, 2021, staff participated in a teleconference hosted by the County; it was a discussion on youth and adult sports. The general message conveyed is that, while outdoor sports won’t be impacted by the change in the tier, indoor sports will see an increase in capacity. As it relates to the City of Glendale, staff determined that no new changes need to be implemented and groups can carry on using outdoor recreation venues as they have been.

Medical Point of Dispensing (MPODS)

The City partnered with Tri-State Clinics to provide vaccines based on current County eligibility phases and tiers at the Civic Auditorium. At the time of this report, an MPOD operated at the facility for a total of seventeen (17) days between February 20, 2021 and April 2, 2021.

Some of the clinics at the Civic Auditorium have been open to the public for anyone eligible at the time of the clinic. In addition, the City has partnered with Glendale Unified School District, Glendale Community College, local private schools, and assisted living and day centers for seniors. Spaces were offered to each of these groups privately, to ensure enough spaces would be available for their teachers, staff, and participants (in the case of the seniors at the centers). If the schools and centers were unable to fill all available spaces, the City opened remaining appointments to the eligible public so that valuable spaces were not wasted. Over 5,400 vaccines were given, which equates to the full vaccination of approximately 2,700 people. The clinic provided Pfizer vaccines, so two (2) doses were required for a person to be fully vaccinated.

In addition to the clinic at the Civic Auditorium, Senior Services staff were able to acquire 150 vaccines by partnering with Curative to provide vaccines for seniors 65 and older. On March 2, 2021, the first round of vaccines was administered to 122 seniors, in the parking lot between the Adult Recreation Center and Downtown Central Library. On March 30, 2021, those 122 people who received their first vaccine dose, received their second dose. Additionally, another 45 seniors were scheduled to receive their first dose. The 45 seniors who were able to get their first dose, will receive their second dose on Tuesday, April 27, 2021.



The department is part of the collaboration between the City, Adventist Health Glendale, and Glendale Community College (GCC) to operate a “mass” MPOD in GCC’s parking lot. The department’s role is to provide food logistics to those working on site. The site will run a test of the operation on April 8, 2021, and open on April 10, 2021. It will begin with 500-600 vaccines given per day, and will ramp up to a goal of 2,500 vaccines provided daily. It will operate every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday weekly for a period of three (3) months. Currently, Moderna vaccines will be provided at the clinic; however, Adventist Health Glendale anticipates that they may also receive Pfizer in the future.

Spring Break Camp

During the week of March 15 through 19, 2021, the department operated Spring Break Camps at Pacific Community Center and Sparr Heights Community Center. A total of 77 campers participated in Spring Break Camp at both sites, 54 participants at Pacific and 23 participants at Sparr Heights.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, we had to continue and enforce stricter guidelines for the safety of our campers and staff. Our counselors were influential in enforcing the guidelines and creating a welcoming environment amongst new campers who hadn’t previously attended our modified version of camp.

Participants had the opportunity to create a diverse set of crafts and activities including: jelly soap & Kool-Aid lip gloss, lantern name tag, clay spring keepsake, Parks Make Life Better tie-dye mask, teddy graham house and candy apples, and the campers ended

the week with a scavenger hunt and talent show. Campers also enjoyed a wide variety of sports activities such as modified indoor hockey, kickball, soccer drills, ping pong, and pickle ball. Even with the modified games and stricter guidelines, we received positive feedback from both the campers and parents.

Overall, the campers had a memorable camp experience! Parents were very grateful that the Community Services & Parks Department continues to provide a safe space for their children to enjoy their school breaks. Each camper walked away with new memories and friends. We look forward to seeing our campers return for Summer Camp beginning June 14, 2021.





Spring Session Education Connection & Maple Starz After School Camp

The Spring session of Education Connection (Ed Connect) and Maple Starz After School Camp (together Ed Camp) began on Monday, March 22, 2021. We will continue to operate through Friday, June 11, 2021.

At the time this report was written (4/2/2021) the program's weekly average enrollment for Ed Connect (7am to 2pm) was 102 participants per week, and for Maple Starz (2pm to 6pm) it was 84 participants per week.

The public can visit www.glendaleca.gov/educationconnection for more information and www.myglendaleparks.com to register. Registration is only available online.

Community Services & Parks
is offering child care
during the distance learning school session this Spring!

**Parks
Need
You
Back!**

Education Connection

Program Dates: 3/22/21 through 6/11/21
General school return by campus session

Time: 7:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Locations: Maple Park Community Center, Pacific Community Center, Civic Auditorium, Danmore Park, Sparrow Heights Community Center, and Glenoaks Park.

Each Child Must Bring: Books, school supplies, an electronic device to log into class, headphones with a microphone, snacks, lunch, and a full water bottle.

Staff will be on site to supervise and assist your children with accessing and logging into their school platforms and learning sessions to ensure a safe and clean environment. City will provide free Wi-Fi access.

Ages:
5 to 14 yrs. old
varies by site

Registration Dates:
 Glendale Residents:
2/15/21, 9:00 a.m.
 General Registration:
2/18/21, 9:00 a.m.

Maple Starz After School Camp

After school care is available in the form of a recreation camp for students enrolled in the Education Connection Program ONLY.

Time: 2:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Cost: Free

Children will spend the afternoon making crafts, playing games and other recreational activities, while social distancing!

Open to ALL, priority will be given to returning customers and Glendale residents.
 Weekly registration is required. Space is limited!
 For more information, visit glendaleca.gov/educationconnection or call (818) 548-2184.
 All LA County Health protocols will be followed.

Although Glendale Unified School District opened up the schools and started to allow for in-person instruction, the City will continue to offer the Ed Camps, as some parents may choose not to send their children back to in-person school, and those who may

return will still have remote instruction half of the week. The City will continue to operate the Ed Camp program as originally planned.

Every Body Plays – County Wide Movement

On Thursday, April 1, 2021, the Community Services & Parks Department and the Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation (LA County Parks) joined a movement to get kids playing with Every Body Plays, a program that provides free access to a variety of recreational programming and equipment such as balls, jump ropes, athletic equipment and games while visiting their local parks. Two parks in City of Glendale plus 55 LA County Parks locations and 43 additional parks in 20 cities countywide will be safe havens that provide access to caring recreation staff and are natural places to help heal by connecting youth with their peers in a safe environment (following Public Health protocols).

As schools re-open, Every Body Plays will align to support youth and families by providing free drop-in after-school recreational programming on Mondays and Wednesdays from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Pacific Park, and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at Maple Park. In collaboration with Glendale Unified School District's Nutrition Services, CSP will also provide nutritional snacks at qualifying park sites to ensure that children are not hungry in the afternoon.





Virtual Programs

CSP transitioned some recreation programs to virtual programs during this pandemic in order to connect with our program participants, provide resources, and make sure our participants and their families are well and safe. The Department implemented the “Glendale Parks at Home” website in June 2020. The website address is www.glendaleparksathome.org, and content includes links to all virtual programs, videos of hikes and campfire programs, the July is “Parks Make Life Better!” activities, and exercise programs.



Staff has created a monthly schedule for virtual activities and social media postings, including things like:

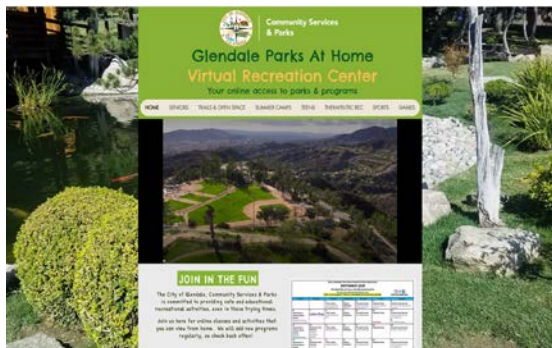
- Monday Fun Day (featuring programs currently being offered online and in person)
- Trails Tuesday (virtual Nature Education videos and programs posted weekly)
- Wellness Wednesday (with activities to stay healthy physically and mentally)
- Thriving Thursday (including downloadable games & challenges)
- Flash Back Friday (pictures from previous programs)

- Social Services Saturday (highlighting Teen Night Out, CDBG Open House, Homeless Success stories, and more)
- Support Seniors Sundays (providing tips for keeping our senior population engaged during COVID-19)

Trails & Open Space Programs

For the Trails & Open Space Program, videos have been added to the website for viewers to watch on their own. These include:

- Seven Trees trail tour at Brand Park
- Dunsmore Creek/Le Mesnager trail tour at Deukmejian Wilderness Park
- Catalina Verdugo trail tour at Glendale Sports Complex
- Beaudry Loop trail tour in the Verdugo Open Space
- Deukmejian Wilderness Park Education tour with Deveron Shudic
- “Coexisting with Coyotes” video with Dana Stangel
- “Butterfly Garden” video with Betina Loudermilk
- “Bird Walk at the Glendale Narrows Riverwalk” video with Alexander deBarros
- “Swarm, Swarm, Swarm” Campfire program video with Glendale Parks & Open Space Foundation
- “Nature in Your Neighborhood” video with Glendale Parks & Open Space Foundation
- “Bats in the Summer Sky” video with Dana Stangel
- “Reduce, Reuse, Recycle” video with City of Glendale Integrated Waste
- “Medicinal Plant Hike” video with Dr. James Adams
- “Hiking & Biking Safety” video with City of Glendale’s Trail Safety Patrol members
- “Birds of Prey” video with Jane Gao
- “Nature Myth Busters” campfire video with Glendale Parks & Open Space Foundation
- “Know the Native Plants of Deukmejian” video with John Pearson and Glendale Parks & Open Space Foundation, coming soon.



Volunteer trail maintenance was suspended due to the winter surge in COVID-19 infections, but will begin again in April.

Virtual Fitness and Line Dancing Classes for Seniors

As of July 6, 2020, the department began offering virtual classes for seniors. CSP continues to offer five different exercise/fitness classes, five days a week.

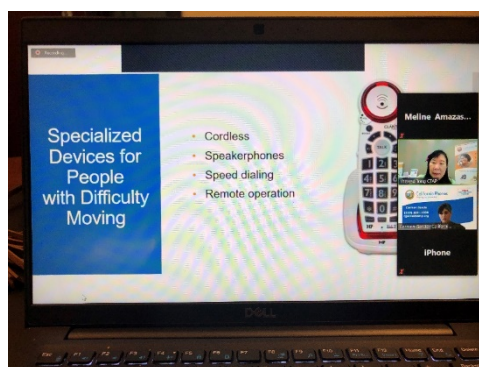
- Aerobics - Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.
- Slow Stretch - Mondays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Muscle Toning - Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.
- Line Dancing - Mondays from 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
- Zumba - Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

The classes are provided free of charge. Participants must email staff and RSVP to participate. Staff sends them an invitation to the class, and on the day of the class, while the instructor is teaching, staff monitors and manages the room and places participants on mute as necessary.

Senior Services

In collaboration with the California Telephone Access Program, the department offered a virtual presentation on “California Phones, Keeping You Connected,” on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

California Phones is a state program that offers specialized telephones and accessories for individuals that have difficulty with their hearing, vision, mobility, speech or memory, at no cost. Participants received informative information on this state program and the free services that are offered.



Club Maple Virtual Hangout and Get Fit

The Therapeutic Recreation Program continues to host Club Maple Virtual Hangout, from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. every other Thursday. The Club Maple program aims to provide adults with intellectual disabilities the chance to enjoy social and interactive activities. The Club Maple Virtual Hangout program averaged 12 participants in February.

Our Therapeutic Recreation Program continues to host a Virtual Get Fit program, from 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Get Fit program aims to provide adults with intellectual disabilities the chance to enjoy fun and safe physical activities. During the month of February, Virtual Get Fit averaged 11 participants per session.

A guest speaker from Adventist Health Glendale Foundation has been part of the program since July 2020 and provides important health and wellness information.

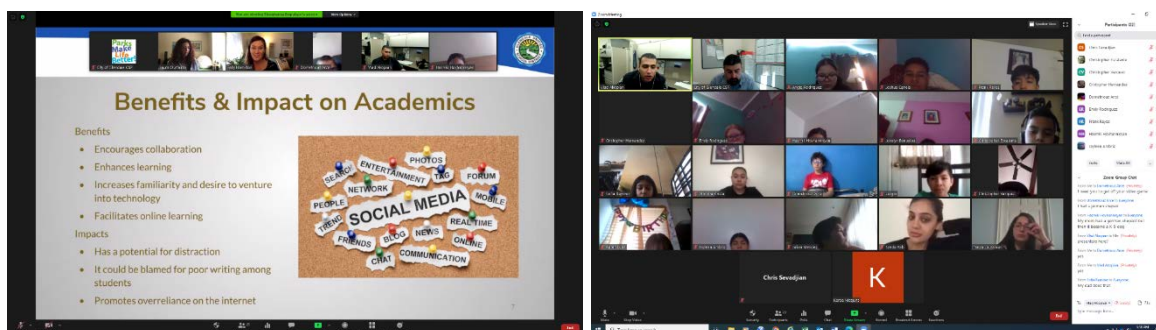
Youth & Family Services Section

Virtual STAR Meetings

Youth & Family Services staff continue to reach out to STAR program (Students Training as Role Models) participants to conduct wellness checks and verify if there are any services or resources families are in need of while the county is still practicing physical distancing and while businesses and agencies are working under modified guidelines and protocols.

The STAR program continues to meet virtually once a week. During their weekly virtual sessions, the participants listen to various presentations and complete arts and crafts activities.

On Tuesday, March 9, Tanya Loussinian, field Instructor with the GUSD, presented: *Understanding and Appreciating Diversity*. On Tuesday, March 23, 2021, Laura Ourfalian discussed *The Benefits of Academics*. On March 2nd, 16th, and 30th, STAR students were given homework assignments by Officer Vlad Akopian to complete and submit before their next virtual meeting.



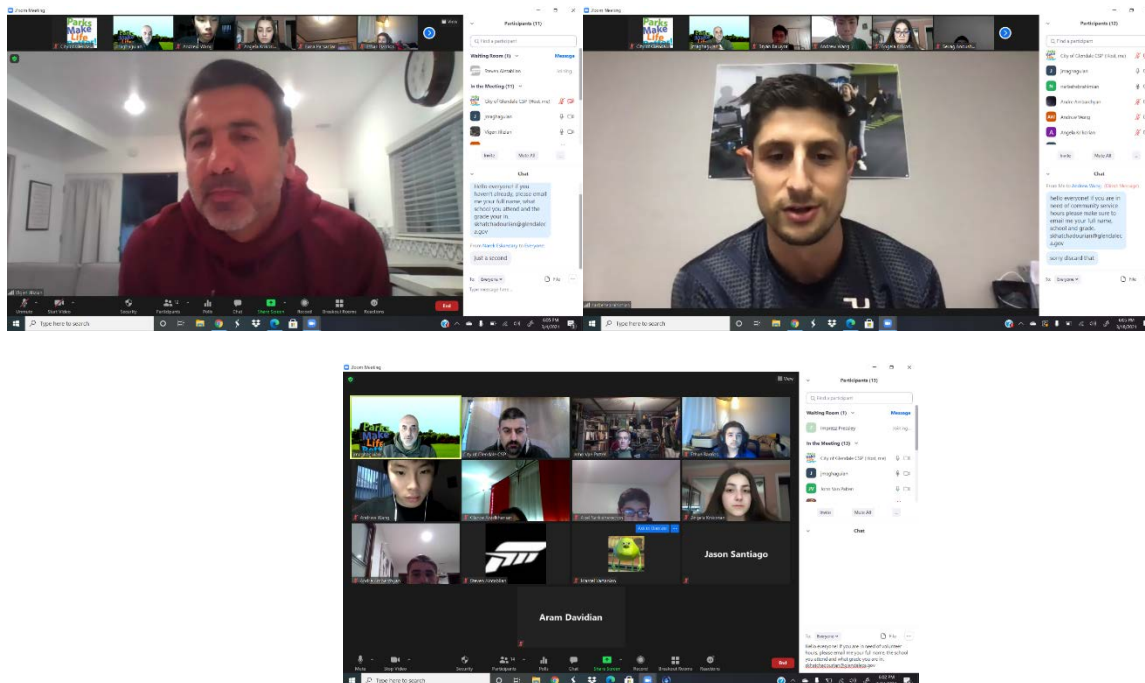
Youth & Family Services Virtual Teen Night Out and Workshops

We continue to offer virtual Teen Night Out meet-ups and workshops in order to allow teens to have some form of interaction with their friends and continue to access resources. Since the transition to virtual in May 2020, these presentations take place weekly, as opposed to every other week. The virtual format allowed for staff to recruit a

presenter for each week to cover various topics relevant to teens, as opposed to one presenter a month.

The March presentation line-up included: *March Madness*, *Glendale Basketball History 101*, *An Evening with Narbeh Ebrahimian*, and *Fitness Night with Coach Justen Grant*.

The event flyers are available on the City's website and events calendar, and are advertised in the department's newsletter and through social media outlets.



April's presentation line-up includes: *Proper Dental Hygiene for Teens*, *Planting Seeds for a Financially Fit Future*, *Health and Nutrition for Teens*, *Finance 101-Banking, Credit, and Budgets*, and *Graphic Design for Teens*.

FISCAL IMPACT

N/A

ALTERNATIVES

N/A

EXHIBITS

N/A