

Adela Barajas

Board Member

Adela Barajas is a woman with the passion and determination to bring change to South Los Angeles — what she calls the "Forgotten part of Greater Los Angeles."

In 2007, Adela's sister-in-law Laura Sanchez-Barajas was brutally murdered, and Adela was committed to providing Laura's children and family with a positive outlet to express their emotions. She wanted to find a way to transform a cruel tragedy into something that could make the world a better place. She founded Life After Uncivil Ruthless Acts or LAURA.

LAURA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for South Los Angeles residents. The group empowers youth, survivors and their families through civic awareness, facilitates community collaboration, and offers a wide range of resources.

For the past 15 years, LAURA has advocated for city, county, state, and federal authorities to take action to bring positive change to the community. Adela's vision is to better unite African Americans and Latines in South Los Angeles, so that with one voice there is a stronger chance to create real and lasting change.

She is also a member of:

- Southern California Cease Fire Committee / Project Cry No More Advisory Board since 2008
- National Juvenile Justice Network Institute (NJJNI) since 2011
- California for Safety and Justice (CSJ) founding member of Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice since 2013
- LAPD Racial Identity and Profiling Act (RIPA) Steering Committee since 2021
- LADA Latinx Advisory Board since 2022