



From left to right: Steve Carpenter (RT-OC), Mary Garcia (RT-SGV), Christina McKay (RT-GLA), Tina Yang (OT), Jane McCabe (OT)

## Rebuilding Together in Region 2

Tina Yang, OTD, OTR/L, Board Member for the Greater LA Affiliate of Rebuilding Together  
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**R**ebuilding Together is a national nonprofit with a network of more than 225 affiliates across the United States. Our mission is to preserve affordable housing by bringing volunteers and communities together to rehabilitate the homes of low-income homeowners.

Rebuilding Together fills a pressing need in our communities. The rising cost of living and falling social service budgets have left some of our most vulnerable neighbors without the most basic of necessities, a warm, safe, and dry home.

The nation is facing enormous problems, many of which have reached crisis levels. The low-income homeowners that Rebuilding Together serves are disproportionately affected by these issues. Homeownership is at an all time high, especially among low to mid-income Americans, but the costs of owning

and maintaining a home are growing exponentially. Healthcare costs are skyrocketing, leaving low-income citizens with less and less disposable income for home repairs and modifications.

Rebuilding Together focuses on the issues of homeownership, the elderly, the disabled, families with children, healthcare, and the rising federal deficit. By identifying the challenges associated with these issues we are well placed to face a problem with full understanding and to create real, sustainable solutions for the low-income homeowners we serve.

Recently, local area representatives from Rebuilding Together attended the AOTA conference in Long Beach, Ca. It was a great resource to our growing network to learn more about the Occupational Therapy approach to Home Modifications. Those who staffed our booth in the EXPO enjoyed meeting many of the OT's personally and were delighted to talk with them about what we do, who we help and how OT's are a valuable asset to Rebuilding Together with regards to how we do our home assessments for safety modifications. Since



Rebuilding Together is a volunteer run organization, most affiliates do not have the luxury of having an OT on the ready to do site visits and recommend safety and accessibility modifications that are specific to that persons needs. We have been installing grab bars for years but as an organization we are committed to doing more to help our senior's age in place, safely!

To get involved in an affiliate near you or to learn more about what we are doing nationally, please visit the national website at: [www.rebuildingtogether.org](http://www.rebuildingtogether.org). Therapists located in Region 2 in the Greater Los Angeles area can contact Tina Yang directly, who is a Board Member for the Greater LA Affiliate of Rebuilding Together, for additional information regarding volunteering. **OTAC**

Every Member Get a Member

NAME	SPONSOR	REGION			
Bowen, Jessica, COTA/C	OTAC Office	3	Leary, Trish, OTR/L	OTAC Office	3
Bowles, Sue, OTR/L	OTAC Office	2	Lomax, Leah, OTR/L	OTAC Office	0
Canchola, Daniel, OTR/L	OTAC Office	5	Mackrani, Sanjeeta, OTR/L	OTAC Office	3
Del Mar, Marydel, OTR/L	OTAC Office	2	Marthis, Dawn, MS, OTR/L, CHT	OTAC Office	1
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Duquette, Michelle, OTS	OTAC Office	3	Moore, Kathryn, OTS	OTAC Office	3
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Garrick, Jane, OTR/L	OTAC Office	3	Nichols-Lockwood, Shante, OTR/L	OTAC Office	3
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Jones, Myrna, OTR/L	OTAC Office	3	Partida, Ann, OTR/L	OTAC Office	2
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Kramp, Carol, OTS	Christine Wietlisbach, OTR/L	1	Raynsford, Carol, OTR/L, CHT	OTAC Office	5
Kruger-Gregory, Nancy, OTR/L	OTAC Office	3	Swington, Abby, OTS	OTAC Office	3
Kuznetsov, Marina, OTR/L	Lorena Ellenberger, OTR/L	3	Zali, Gina, OTR/L	OTAC Office	3
			Total New Members: 34		



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