

## SOUTH GATE STUDENTS RECEIVE SCHOLARSHIPS



Martha Andrade, left, a South Gate resident and a board member of the Southeast Community Development Corporation; and Ronald Garcia, at right, of Southern California Edison, and also a board member, present scholarships to South Gate students Elisiel Davila, a nephew of City Councilwoman Maria Davila; and Marco Diaz.

By WAVE STAFF

Story Published: Sep 3, 2009 at 1:30 PM PDT

Story Updated: Sep 3, 2009 at 1:30 PM PDT

**SOUTH GATE** — The Southeast Community Development Corporation, a nonprofit area social service agency based in Huntington Park, has awarded college scholarships of \$500 each to South Gate residents Marco Diaz and Elisiel Davila, a nephew of South Gate Councilwoman Maria Davila.

The presentation took place Aug. 11 at the South Gate City Council meeting, said Cesar Zaldivar-Motts, executive director of the agency.

Diaz is a history major at East Los Angeles College. Davila is a South Gate High School graduate and will attend UC Santa Barbara, Zaldivar-Motts said.

On hand to make the presentation were Martha Andrade, a South Gate resident and member of the agency board; and Ron Garcia, of Southern California Edison, also an agency board member. The agency was established in 1994 to deal with social and economic problems in the cities of Bell, Bell Gardens, Cudahy, Huntington Park, Maywood, South Gate and Vernon.

The scholarship recipients also received certificates of commendation from South Gate Mayor Henry Gonzalez.

In other action Aug. 11, the South Gate City Council approved new bylaws for its appointed Youth Advisory Commission.

Police Chief Vincent Avila, who oversees the youth group, noted that it was formed in 1989 and aimed at students at South Gate High School. Since then a second high school, Southeast High, has been established in the city and a third, the International Studies High School, is located the campus of Southeast High.

The changes are needed to make sure each school is equally represented, Avila said. Under the new bylaws, the commission will be increased from the current 11 to 13, with 10 nominated by Avila and approved by the City Council, while the student body president or a designate will automatically be placed on the body from the three schools.