

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022



**L.L. Foundation**  
FOR YOUTH

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# INTRODUCTION

L.L. Foundation for Youth recognizes the significance of the transition from youth to adulthood, especially for those impacted by disadvantage, hardship, and lack of resources. In recognizing this critical time period, L.L. Foundation for Youth takes pride in targeting our grants on programs that provide invaluable experiences and resources for youth ages 13-26. The youth we serve often require medical, emotional and mental health related support to go on and live the full lives they deserve.

We have dedicated ourselves to supporting youth going through life events like cancer and subsequent chemotherapy to youth needing to live in supportive housing as they emerge into adulthood. It is our continued mission to provide financial funding for organizations in Southern California that work hard to create beautiful realities for youth and young adults.





# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Greetings,

It is among my greatest honors to serve as CEO at L.L. Foundation for Youth and extend the legacy of our founder Leonard “Lenny” G. Leff. L.L. Foundation for Youth has continued to inspire as we discover how best to serve youth. With the ever changing climate and unique challenges youth and young adults face today it is important that we never stop asking ourselves “How we can be of service to this young person?”

We believe that the ages of 13-26 are one of the most transformational periods in one's life. This time is full of questions asked and answers sought. While it may be a period of struggle, it is the period with the most opportunity for growth and possibility. Being in real relationships with our grantees allows us to see what is possible: Hope and a path to a good life with both needs and dreams fulfilled.

Throughout 2022 we partnered with 46 organizations dedicated to supporting and uplifting youth during this crucial time. We are filled with not only gratitude, but a high level of joy at the possibilities we work to provide.

We invite you to read our second annual report and share our joy in all that our grantees have accomplished!

  
Renate Kreger-Hochleitner, CEO



# OUR 2022 GRANT CONTRIBUTIONS



## \$3,195,000

IN CASH DISTRIBUTIONS



## \$70,000

AVERAGE GRANT FUNDED  
IN 2022

# 46

TOTAL  
GRANTS  
FUNDED



# OUR IMPACT

## GRANTMAKING STRATEGY IN ACTION

# 43,326

ADOLESCENTS AND YOUNG ADULTS SERVED  
BY GRANT PROGRAMS

### OPEN SUBMISSION

We held our first round of open submissions in **2022** and as a result, we funded **19** organizations with an investment of **\$900,000+**.

### MULTI-YEAR GRANTS

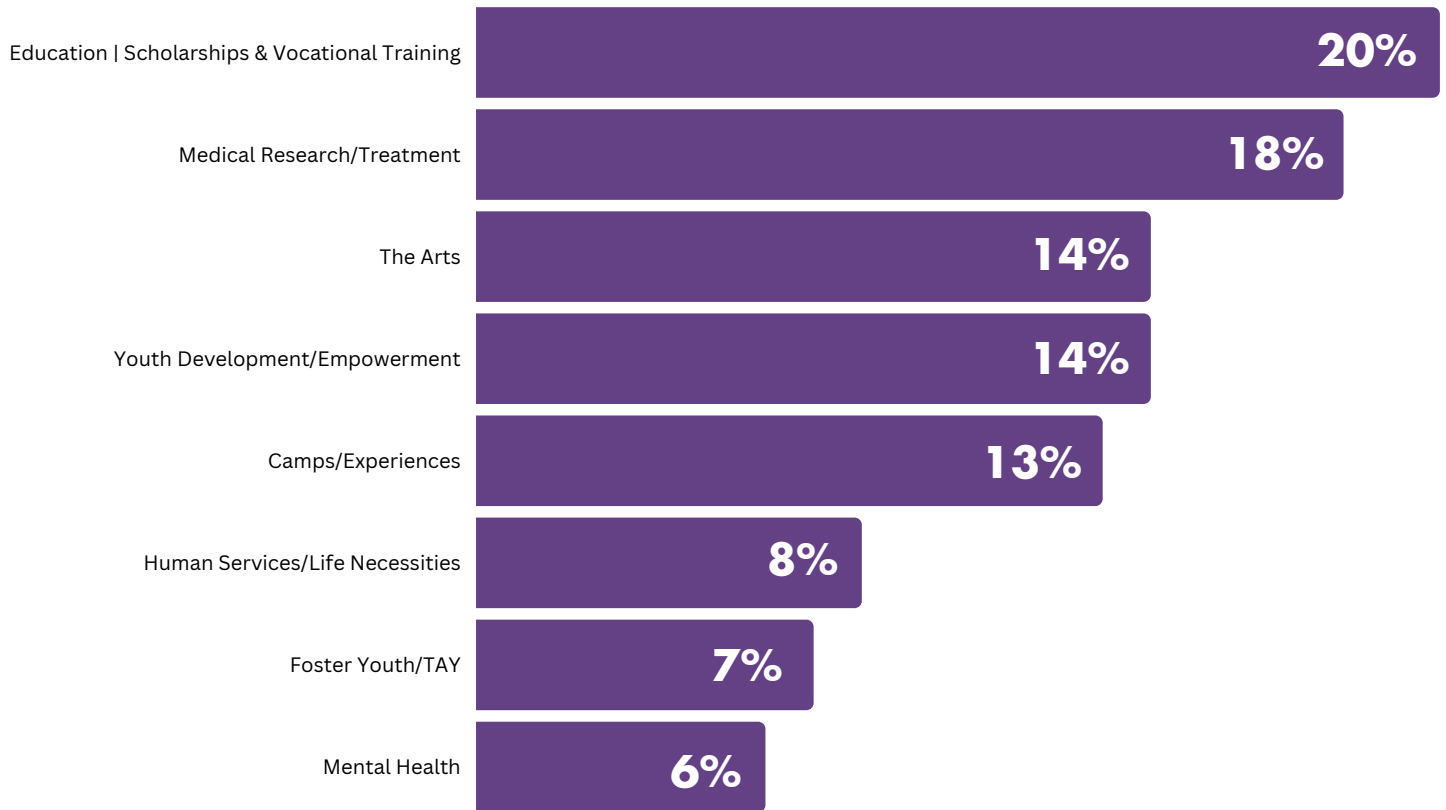
We invested in multi-year grants for the first time in 2022. We pledged **\$2.1M+** in funding to **14** organizations over **3** years.

### GROWING PROGRAM AREA IMPACT

We increased our investment by **\$1M** in **3** key focus areas that are significant to youth development: TAY|Foster Youth, The Arts, and Vocational Training.



## FUNDING BY PROGRAM AREA



### FOCUSED IMPACT:

In 2022, we nearly tripled investments in the Arts.

## FACTS ABOUT THE REGIONS WE SERVE



## THE YOUTH WE SERVE

21% of Grantees  
serve **At-Risk  
Youth.**

40% of Grantees  
serve  
**Economically  
Disadvantaged  
Youth.**

14% of Grantees  
serve **Homeless  
Youth.**

12% of Grantees  
serve  
Youth in need of  
**Health Services  
or Disabled  
Youth.**

3% of Grantees  
serve **Student  
Youth.**

10% of Grantees  
serve  
**Foster Care or  
Post Foster Care  
Youth.**





# TRANSFORMING LIVES

**Cedars-Sinai** evaluated new methods to detect kidney transplant rejection in pediatric patients at an earlier stage, which helped to preserve kidney function, extend the life of a transplanted kidney, decrease morbidity and mortality, and provide a better quality of life for young patients.

**Children's Hospital of Los Angeles** expanded behavioral health, supported critical research, and expanded access to gender affirming care for BIPOC adolescents and young adults.

**City of Hope** created a Young Adult Patient Navigator Program. The program utilized an AYA Patient Navigator to address the psychosocial needs of adolescents and young adults (AYAs) with cancer through counseling, advocacy and provision of supportive resources.

**Debbie Allen Dance Academy** provided funding for two Debbie Allen Dance Academy programs primarily serving students age 13 and older with a comprehensive dance curriculum: Academy III and the Conservatory.

**Deep Springs College** hosted The Summer Seminar for new students. The Summer Seminar introduces the new students, all of whom receive full scholarships, to academic life at the College.

**East West Players** expanded their Theater for Youth program, which reached over 11,000 youth and families last year and brought a touring production into schools, community colleges and community centers.

**Foundation for Women Warriors** provided emergency financial assistance stipends and child care assistance stipends to women veterans and active-duty servicewomen ages 18-26 to prevent homelessness and enhance their personal and economic well being.

**Fulfillment Fund** empowered young people with access to afford higher education, successfully graduate, and embark on a meaningful career path – the gateway to economic mobility.

**The ALS Association Golden West Chapter** established the L.L. Foundation for Youth Fund. This fund supported youth ages 13 to 26 in California whose loved ones have or have had ALS.

**Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services** provided ongoing support to Sycamores' new Drop-In Center at Pasadena Community College. The Drop-In Center provided support for homeless and at-risk students attending the school, assisting with basic needs, such as food and clothing, while also providing linkages to housing, mental health and other supportive services.

**Hope Loves Company** facilitated their premier program, Camp HLC®, a three-day, overnight retreat for youth and young adults, who have or have had a loved one battling ALS. They also hosted virtual groups and provided scholarships for youth affected by ALS.

**New Directions for Youth, Inc.** created a "bridgefund" to cover mental health counseling, gang intervention, and other program costs while awaiting LA County reimbursements.

**Notre Dame High School** was able to hire a learning specialist who coordinated all of the support services and accommodations for students with learning differences.

**Optimist Youth Homes and Family Services** was able to provide accessibility at their Highland Park campus. These enhancements brought dormitories to current ADA standards.

**Pacific Asian Counseling Services** was able to serve more than 57 school-aged youth in 14 schools across 3 LA County Service Planning Areas (SPAs) through mental health counseling, individual rehabilitation, and targeted case management.

**The Pasadena Playhouse** was able to put on a physical production designed by students from costume designs to projections and video.

**Lost Angels Children's Project, Inc.** utilized a multi-year grant to facilitate their 12-week vocational training program and to provide financial assistance with life necessities.

**Rancho San Antonio Boys Home Inc.**, was able to update their existing garage to build out a state of the art music studio and creative healing arts treatment facility for youth who have been involved in the juvenile justice or Child Welfare system.

**California School for the Deaf, Riverside** was able to integrate outdoor learning activities with formal education which encouraged teamwork between deaf students, deeper understanding of themselves and other people in the process.

**Camp Tawonga** was able to support hundreds of teens of Jewish faith whose families are unable to afford full camp fees. These teens and young adults were given the tools to navigate mental health issues, find their footing and become their best selves.

**Challenged Athletes Foundation** distributed grants to young adult athletes between the ages of 13-26 living in Southern California. These grants provided adaptive sports equipment, sports prostheses and expenses for coaching, training, sports clinics and competition travel for youth with permanent physical disabilities.



# TRANSFORMING LIVES

## **Childhood Leukemia Foundation**

started an endowment and continued their Keeping Kids Connected iPad Program which has distributed iPads since 2011 to educate, empower and elevate the spirits of pediatric oncology patients.

## **Didi Hirsch Mental Health Services**

was able to facilitate their Mental Health Services' Teen Line that provides support, resources, and hope to youth through a hotline of professionally trained teen counselors, and worked to de-stigmatize and normalize mental health through outreach.

## **Exceptional Children's Foundation**

supported a Music Program at Kayne Eras School for students in grades 9-12. This school offers special education, therapeutic services, and experiential learning activities that promote the academic success of students with special needs.

**Golden Heart Ranch** was able to purchase a 15-passenger van for Community Days and the transportation of young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

**LA Opera** created opportunities for high school and college students to learn and work alongside professionals through three different branches of The Academy: Leadership Academy, Russell Thomas Youth Artist Training Academy, and the Tech Academy.

## **Saint Andrew's Abbey, Inc.**

purchased and upgraded necessary equipment to help enrich the retreat experience for youth.

**Colburn School** facilitated the Herbert Zipper Scholars program offering highly motivated students from low-income families the opportunity to enroll, tuition-free, in a comprehensive music education at the Colburn School, one of the nation's premier arts organizations.

**Starlight** was able to facilitate their online STEAM education program which pairs chronically and seriously ill youth with mentors who teach STEAM course curriculum. Students learned everything from the science of light to coding and animation.

**L.L. FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH**

# **GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT**

## **LOST ANGELS CHILDREN'S PROJECT**

Lost Angels Children's Project (LACP) is a nonprofit organization that provides innovative vocational training, social enterprise, and traditional outreach programs to disadvantaged youth in distressed communities in the Antelope Valley and Lancaster areas of Los Angeles County. LACP's 12-week work program is funded by a multi-year grant of \$225,000 from the L.L. Foundation for Youth. The program includes a six-week apprenticeship and six weeks of on-the-job training in classic car repair and shop skills, along with soft skills training provided by The Los Angeles County Office of Education. Thanks in part to the L.L. Foundation for Youth grant, scholarships covering the entire tuition amount are provided to those accepted into the program.

According to Cheyanne Capelo, Director of Operations and Development from Lost Angels Children's Project, "The issue is that basic necessities are needed to be able to complete vocational training...Such a key piece for our program is to help reduce barriers. The L.L. Foundation for Youth grant has allowed LACP to help students overcome barriers to participation in the program by providing assistance with basic necessities such as transportation and housing." For example, Destiny, a single mother of four coming from an abusive relationship, was able to complete the program with the help of LACP's grant, which provided her with a deposit and first month's rent. With the help of the L.L. Foundation for Youth, LACP is able to reduce barriers to participation and change the lives of its students.

Lost Angels Children's Project has made significant strides in providing vocational training and removing barriers for disadvantaged youth. With the support of L.L. Foundation for Youth, LACP hopes to continue to increase the number of students who can participate in the program and provide more opportunities for BIPOC youth and females. As Cheyanne stated, "Year 1 of 3 years for the [multi-year] grant helped change a lot of students' lives."

### **GRANTEE QUOTE:**

“The L.L. Foundation for Youth grant has allowed LACP to help students overcome barriers to participation in the program by providing assistance with basic necessities such as transportation and housing.”

**Cheyenne Capelo**

Director of Operations and Development





L.L. FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH

# GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT

## OUR HOUSE: CAMP ERIN PROGRAM

L.L. Foundation for Youth is proud to support Our House Grief Support Center's Camp Erin with a \$75,000 grant. Our House has been helping children, teens, and adults in Los Angeles County find healing after the death of someone close for over 27 years. Camp Erin, a grief camp weekend for children and teens, combines traditional camp experiences with grief support activities to provide a weekend of hope and healing. The day camp and overnight camp allow children to receive support in a safe space with new tools. With the addition of music therapy and the desire to increase the number of pick-up locations, Camp Erin is expanding its reach and providing essential grief support to even more children and families in Los Angeles County. Josh Goldman, Director of Development from Our House, said, "Everything is free once the youth arrives at the camp. Partly due to the funds received from LLFY."

Due to the constraints of COVID, Camp Erin had to be resourceful and creative. They decided to try a day camp. The day camp differs from the overnight camp because with the overnight camp, the children are dropped off, and the guardians return only for the last day's ceremony. But with the day camp, the guardians stay at camp for the day. While the focus is still on the children, some program material weaves the guardians in, giving them an opportunity to talk to their child about grief in a safe space with new tools. The Day Camp has been exceptionally well-received, and they are hosting both a day camp and overnight camp this year – supported with funds received from L.L. Foundation for Youth.



### GRANTEE QUOTE:

“Everything is free once the youth arrives at the camp. Partly due to the funds received from LLFY.”



**L.L. FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH**

# **GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT**

## **OPTIMIST YOUTH HOMES AND FAMILY SERVICES**

L.L. Foundation for Youth has provided Optimist Youth Homes and Family Services with a grant of \$100,000.00. OYHFS has been dedicated to helping children in and at risk of foster care achieve success at home, at school, and beyond for over a century. In response to the fragmented services experienced by many youth in the child welfare system, OYHFS provides a full continuum of care that supports youth over time, across all levels of care, and into adulthood.

The funding from this grant, along with additional funding and contracts, has enabled the organization to renovate old dormitories, modernize its facilities, and provide affordable and safe transitional housing for former foster youth, along with a community garden, large kitchen, and recreation facilities. Additionally, OYHFS has successfully implemented a program with case management support centered around wellness, education, relationships, and career. With the program in place and the housing almost completed, OYHFS was able to accept the contract offered by LA County Child and Family Services for providing transitional housing for 18+-year-old foster youth and allowing them to serve more young adults.

### **GRANTEE QUOTE:**

“We are really very appreciative of LLFY Foundation. It has been transformative for us: it was the right gift, the right size, at the right time. It lined up.”

**Todd Sosna, Ph.D.**  
CEO

