



# L.L. Foundation FOR YOUTH

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024



# A LETTER FROM OUR CEO

## Greetings,

In 2024, we partnered with 48 remarkable grantees who are pushing boundaries and driving innovative changes in youth housing, vocational training, the arts, social emotional learning and medicine. Three of these grantees—Children's Hospital Los Angeles, City of Hope, and Cedars-Sinai Medical Center—received \$1M each from 2021 to 2024 which moved research and essential mental health services forward. As we look back on the past four years and celebrate these milestones we are humbled by the day-to-day work of these grantees.

The legacy of our founder, Leonard "Lenny" G. Leff, continues to inspire our work with organizations that empower youth during the formative ages of 13 to 26. It is our greatest hope that young people **feel heard, seen, and understood**. Our commitment to this mission is unwavering, and every initiative we champion reflects Lenny's enduring vision.

In these uncertain times, the greatest gift we offer our grantees is certainty. We are not going anywhere. We remain steadfast in our commitment to stand by all young people, providing the stability they need to thrive.

The successes detailed in this report are a tribute to the indomitable spirit of our grantees and our collaborative efforts. As we move forward together, let's continue to champion the voices of the next generation, transforming today's uncertainties into tomorrow's opportunities.

With gratitude,  
**Rena Kreger-Hochleitner**  
CEO, L.L. Foundation for Youth

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# 2024 BY THE NUMBERS

 **\$2,650,000**

in cash distributions



**\$55,208**

was the average amount of all grants disbursed in the given year



**48**

total grants funded

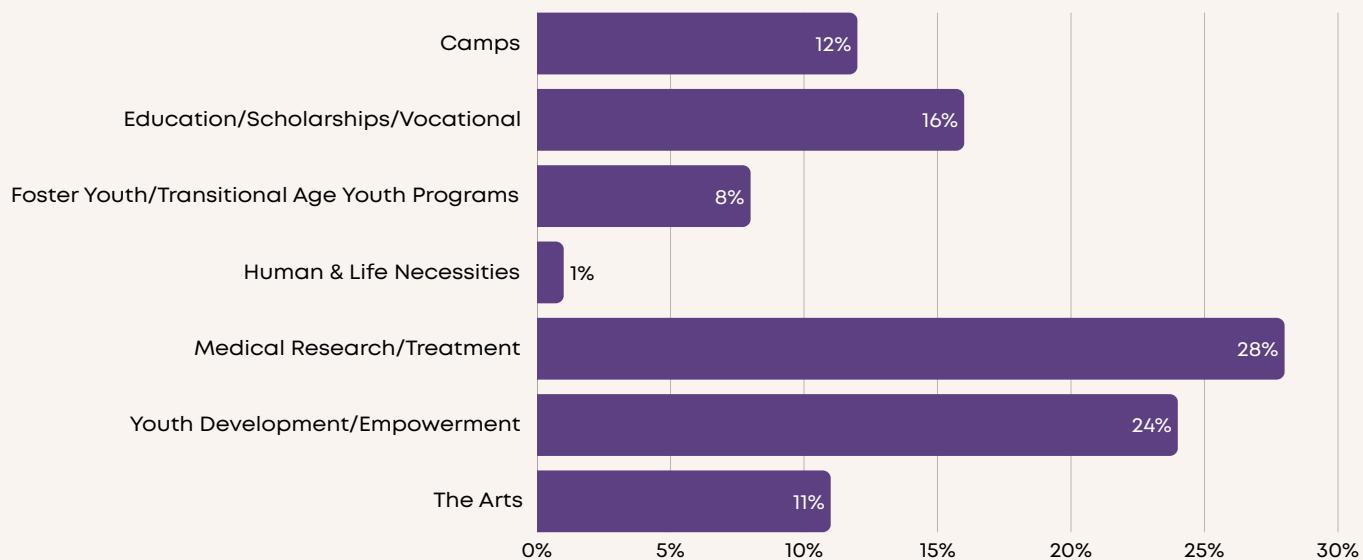




2024

# FUNDING BY PROGRAM AREA

In 2024, our grantees made significant strides in **Medical Research and Treatment**. **Youth Development and Empowerment** remained a key focus, reflecting our belief in the power of mentorship, skill-building, and resilience to shape the next generation. We continued to partner with grantees focused on **Education** including **Scholarships** and **Vocational training**, valuing each as essential to our workforce and society. Grantees focused on the **Arts** or **Camps** continued to provide space for expression and discovery. Through our grantees' work in each of these areas, our goal remains: to ensure that disadvantaged and disabled young adults feel seen, heard, and understood as they transition into adulthood.



# SERVING CALIFORNIA

This year, we expanded our reach by providing support to **48 organizations delivering programs in California**. **33 grantees focused on regions in Southern California**. Notably, we maintained our presence across **all eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs)** in Los Angeles, underscoring our commitment to providing support at both the local and regional levels.



# MILLION DOLLAR MILESTONES

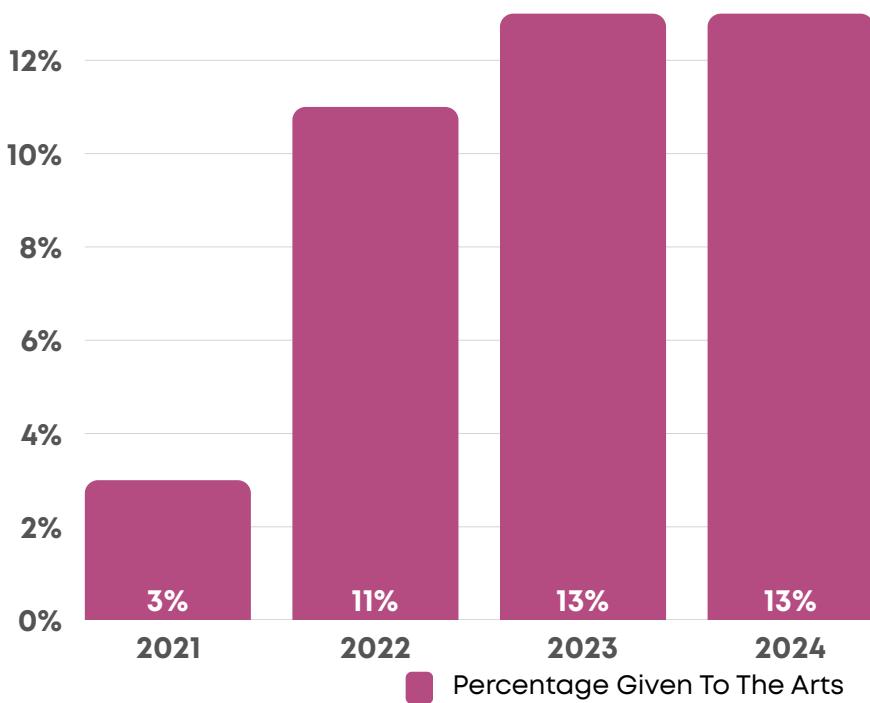
“ We trusted the hospitals (CHLA, CSHS, COH) to tell us what was needed and how long they needed it. This trust gave our research and clinical teams the ability to focus in on their programs and projects. ”



# INVESTMENTS IN THE ARTS



Our commitment to the Arts held steady in 2025 with investments in performing arts, music production, and visual arts programs which allowed for expression of identity and creativity by and for youth.



# INVESTMENTS IN CAMPS

**RAD**  
CAMP



From the beginning, camps have been an essential part of LLFY's grant program. We believe that camps and experiential learning are transformative for middle and high school age youth of all abilities.



# LEVERAGING TECHNOLOGY FOR IMPACT

**In 2024 grantees leveraged technology to benefit real people by exponentially expanding access to education and career training, touching difficult to reach populations and connecting isolated individuals - all with great efficiency and impact.**



## Childhood Leukemia Foundation

- Combating isolation and creating connectedness by distributing iPads to pediatric cancer patients at children's hospitals in SoCal.



## Pathways to Empowerment: After-School Computer Lab

- After School Computer Lab empowers teens by encouraging creative design through computer technology and software, while also teaching essential life skills and career preparation.



## Autism Partnership Foundation

- APF has leveraged technology for vocational training and certification.
- In response to COVID they went online, now serving over 450,000 young people (18-26) nationwide as they pursue their dreams of becoming behavioral therapists.

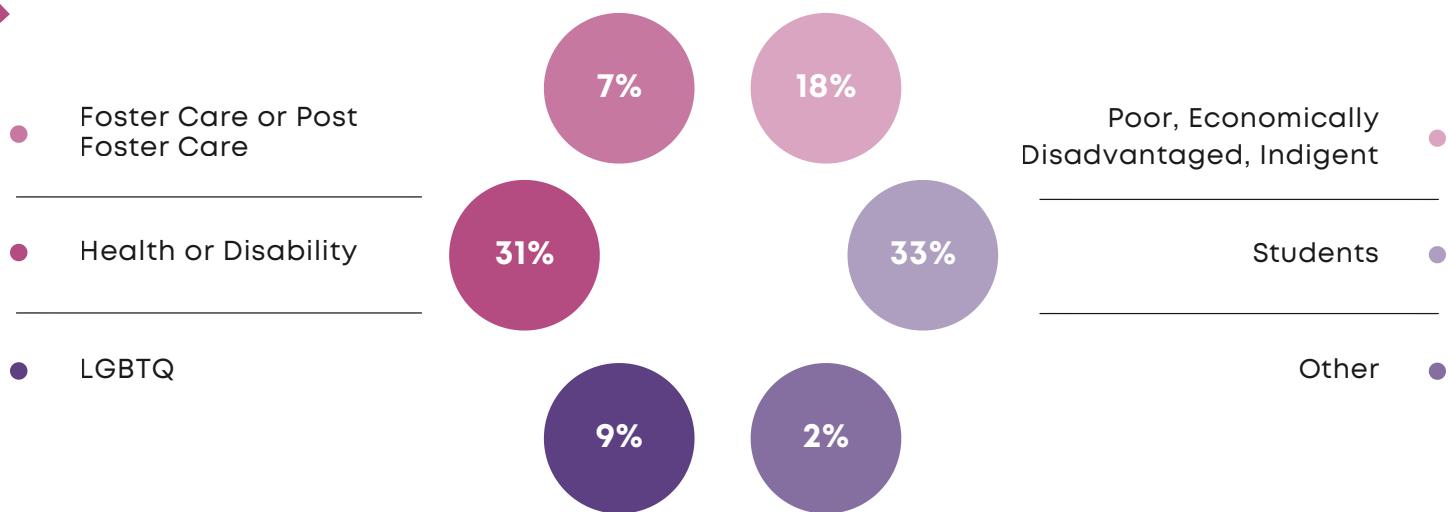


## Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles Teen Talk APP

- Moderated peer to peer chats in support of mental health via the Teen Talk app which has proved ideal for serving under-resourced communities like Antelope Valley.

# THE YOUTH WE SERVE

The youth our grantees serve come from a wide range of diverse backgrounds, each bringing their unique experiences and perspectives.



# OUR GRANTEES

TRANSFORMING LIVES



**A Place Called Home** Teen & Young Adult Services (TYAS) department provided vocational preparation, career and college guidance, scholarships, mentoring and life skills classes to support a positive transition to adulthood, for 300+ youth from ages 13 to 22. A portion of funds served students who attend RISE High School at APCH, an on-site charter school in partnership with Da Vinci Schools, reaching youth in foster care.



**A Sense of Home** recently launched its PIFA Program, where program recipients give back as peer mentors, volunteer to support the program, and gain access to special events, workshops, resources and supportive community.



**ALS Network** continued program funds to support the L.L. Foundation for Youth Fund for youth and young adult family members impacted by ALS. Youth provided with customized and essential support faced with confronting caregiving and grief benefited from the fund.



**Antelope Valley Health Partners** continued focused funding on Youth Mental Health and Wellness (AV-YMHW) targeting youth ages 13-26.



**Autism Partnership Foundation** was able to facilitate a free registered behavior technician (RBT) training program which benefited both the young adult trainees and the youth they served; currently with goals to expand access to historically underserved communities.



**Benkadi** offers schools West African drum, dance, and culture programs, providing students with a unique and enriching experience. They deliver outstanding teachers, authentic instruments, and a state standards-compliant curriculum.



**The Boys & Girls Clubs of the Los Angeles Harbor (BGCLAH)** funded a Workforce Development Center which helped expand their Career Bound/Workforce Development Program from high school students to include young adults ages 18-24.



**The Braille Institute** was able to hire additional staff and facilitate in-person programming for student activities and parent workshops, transportation for off-site adventures, assistive technology, career readiness, and remote activities for participants.



**C Booster Club** provided equipment, leadership retreats and outdoor experiences for California School for the Deaf Students between the age of 13 and 18 years old.



**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.



**Cedars-Sinai Pediatric Nephrology Department** was able to evaluate new methods to detect early-stage transplant rejection and develop a protocol to help prepare patients in transitioning to adult care. This research supported detection of renal transplant rejection in adolescent patients to improve long-term graft survival.



**Center Theatre Group (CTG)** received funding for its Education & Community Partnerships program Student Matinees which introduced thousands of students to world-class theatre productions; provided hundreds of educators with tools to integrate high-quality arts education into classrooms and offered equitable opportunities for students from traditionally marginalized communities.



**Childhood Leukemia Foundation** continued their Keeping Kids Connected iPad Program which has distributed iPads since 2011 to educate, empower and elevate the spirits of pediatric oncology patients.



**Children's Hospital Los Angeles** was able to continue services and training that address critical gaps in mental health care for transgender youth. An additional component included analysis of data collection to provide scientific understanding of trans youths' mental health.



**The Children of the Night** supports teens and young adults moving to mainstream society by offering 24-hour service, 7 days a week support with medical services, mental health services, assistance with educational advancement (i.e. online zoom tutoring, applications for FASFA, etc.), job placement, and much much more.



**Children's Ranch Foundation** was able to fully fund their Lulu Xochi Calderon Program which provided young adults impacted by developmental, social/emotional and learning challenges with the opportunity to work at the Ranch. The young adults benefited greatly from having a dedicated space and support staff responsive to their needs.



**City of Hope's** Adolescent and Young Adult (AYA) Program and Patient Navigation offered therapeutic and psychological interventions for AYA from diagnosis through survivorship, including oncofertility treatment, resource navigation, and support activities.



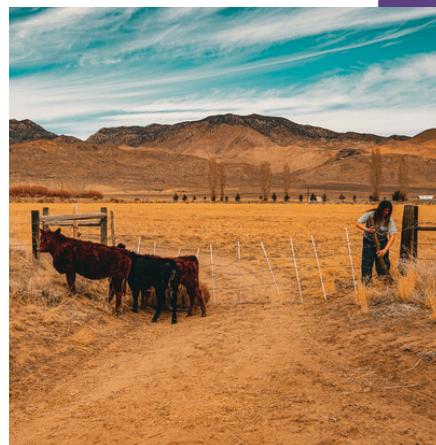
**Coalition of Engaged Education C/Hope** program supports justice-system impacted youth, by providing ongoing mobile case management and a variety of academic, employment, legal, healthcare linkages, advocacy support, ongoing enrichment opportunities, and financial education for ages 14-26.



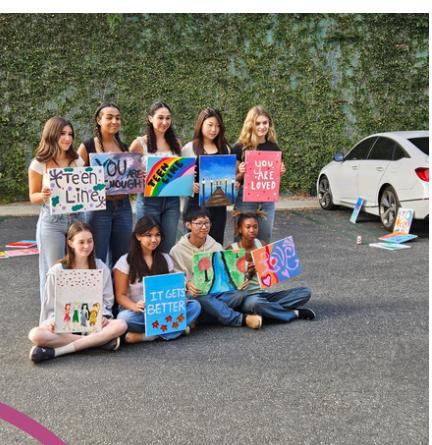
**Colburn School Herbert Zipper Scholars** program has successfully offered highly motivated students from low-income families the opportunity to enroll, tuition-free, in a comprehensive music education at the Colburn School, one of the nation's premier arts organizations.



**Cristo Rey Orange County High School's** Corporate Work Study program provides every student with valuable, real-world work experience and professional mentoring in conjunction with a challenging college-prep academic program.



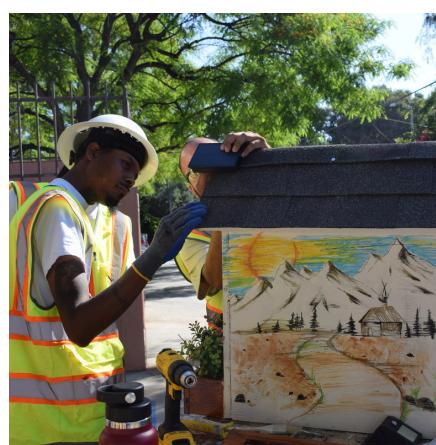
**Deep Springs College** was able to continue their instructional work and their signature Summer Program, welcoming new students. The program remains an essential experience across multiple generations of Deep Springs students and alumni.



**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.



**East West Players** expanded their Theater for Youth program centering notable AAPI historical figures and social issues, which reached over 11,000 youth and families and brought a touring production into schools, community colleges and community centers.



**Flintridge Center's** Apprenticeship Preparation Program was able to receive support for their vocational program curriculum and supplies which included trade-specific tools needed to be job-ready and recently expanded to union construction. They were also able to provide weekly stipends and additional support for needs such as transportation and personal protective equipment.



**Foundation for Women Warriors** Women Veteran Transitions and Emergency Services program 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** College Success Program provides scholarships for students from low-income families over a 4-year period along with individualized case management and support services



**Golden Heart Ranch** provides enriching programs for young adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through activities like camps, ranch days, and special events.



**Hathaway-Sycamores Child & Family Services** Learning Lab was able to provide a range of services through their Family Resource Center. Services included counseling, after-school tutoring, a college readiness program, and support for families through resources like a food pantry.



**Hope Loves Company** Camp HLC program provides camp experiences for youth and young adults who have or had a loved one battling ALS.



**Indivisible Arts** funded their youth development program which enhances social emotional learning as students cultivate creativity, consciousness and connection through art at a collaborative artists studio and on local South Bay campuses.



**Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles's** Teen Talk Program addressed teen suicide prevention via their peer-to-peer support app. Youth were trained to provide peer support through text, with training and services highly targeted in Antelope Valley. Certificates were offered following training.



**Los Angeles Opera** focused funding on developing the future generation of a diverse artistic workforce by creating opportunities for high school and college students to learn and work alongside professionals through its Leadership Academy and its Youth Artist Training Academy.



**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.



**Motivating Our Students Through Experience** supported a college tour program for young women from low-income backgrounds. The program included comprehensive academic and personal growth-focused programming designed to celebrate the young women in its programs and capitalize on their strengths.



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



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



**OBKLA Youth Engagement Initiative** increased involvement of youth and young adults (ages 13-26) focusing on four micro-communities: middle school, high school, at-risk, and transitional age youth.



**OUR HOUSE Grief Support Center Family Support Program and Camp Erin LA Bereavement Support** focused on adolescent campers at Camp Erin ages 13-17 who were experiencing grief. All the campers had experienced the death of a parent, sibling, best friend, grandparent, or someone else significant in their lives.



**Pacific Asian Counseling Services PACS TAY Access to Mental Health Services Project** was able to provide youth across LA with mental health counseling, individual rehabilitation, and targeted case management. Pacific Asian Counseling services was also able to facilitate services on-site and in-person at select schools via funding applied to non-reimbursed travel time and expenses of Counselors.



**Pacific Clinic Hestia House Harm Reduction Project** provided housing for transitional-age youth. Each client received personalized placement assistance and ongoing supportive services tailored to their needs to stabilize and prepare them for long-term housing.



**Pasadena Playhouse's Musical Theater Boot Camp** provides young actors between the ages of 13-17 with the opportunity to hone audition skills and gain valuable insights into the professional theater industry.



**Playa Sunrise Rotary Club Foundation Playa Venice Sunrise Rotary Club Foundation Scholarship Program** provides opportunities to graduating High School seniors to apply for an initial \$1,000 scholarship to defray the costs of higher education: University, Junior College or Trade School.



**RAD Camp** hosts overnight summer camps for children and adults with developmental disabilities, provide life-changing volunteer experiences and deserved respite for caregivers.



**Rancho San Antonio** Creative Healing Arts program provides a space for at-risk youth to process their traumas through therapeutic creative expression including music production, allowing them to "heal and be heard".



**REINS** Equine Assisted Mental Health Program for Youth supports the physical, mental, and emotional health of at-risk youth ages 13-26.



**The Painted Turtle** Summer Leadership Program for former campers, ages 17 and 18, provided connection, community, education, and personal growth through various leadership workshops and activities. The Youth Adult Leadership Weekend for those, ages 19-25, diagnosed with serious illnesses in childhood, help young adults to gain experience with important life skills (i.e. financial wellness, resume/cover letter writing, and much more).



**We Benefit Children fka The Water Buffalo Club** was able to provide backpacks filled with school supplies, pleasure reading books, necessities, clothing, and shoes at the start of the school year. WBC was also able to support former foster youth attending college.



**YWCA-SGV** Pathways to Empowerment-After School Computer Lab continues to support the development of life skills among youth navigating barriers.

**Cover Image:** Our Big Kitchen LA

**Annual Report:** Benevolent Vision, Inc.  
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