

2022
GOLDEN PLATE
AWARDS GALA

HELP US MAKE THE
FUTURE A LITTLE

Brighter



Foothill Unity Center, Inc.

HELPING PEOPLE. CHANGING LIVES.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO
TASHERA TAYLOR



Welcome to the 23rd Annual Golden Plate Awards Gala, where we honor exceptional individuals who support Foothill Unity Center and our Community. This year's theme for our gala is *Help Us Make the Future a Little Brighter*. Jobs are more plentiful, schools are open, mandates are lifting, and masks are optional. However, COVID is still here, and many of our neighbors are still struggling. Inflated prices and an uncertain economy leave room to add brightness.

Foothill Unity Center continues to provide services to twice as many people as in pre-pandemic 2019. While doing this good work, fatigue has set in, has become a relatable experience, and is a common word uttered by many. The Center needs to raise funds continually to keep our doors open as a beacon of hope, inspiration, and life. So how do we refrain from growing weary in our giving; how do we help make the future brighter through the darkness of struggles?

Together, let us tap into and access our strengths. Whether it be hope, kindness, compassion, or wealth, let us weave together our reservoirs and become light to others through struggling times. Together we help people and change lives with adequate nutrition, access to healthcare, and interventions to prevent homelessness. Together we keep the doors open.

To our Volunteers, Donors, Staff, Board of Directors, and Neighbors, thank you for joining in to make the future bright

AGENDA

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

WELCOME

Tashera Taylor, CEO

WELCOME

Gary Kovacic, Board President

HEART IN HAND HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Rao and Indira Yalamanchili

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS BUSINESS AWARD

Donna Baker

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS YOUTH SERVICE AWARD

KIWIN'S Club of Pasadena High School

CARL FOOTE LEGACY AWARD

David Steinmeier

LIVE AUCTION

Gary Kovacic and Greg Vanni

RAFFLE

CLOSING COMMENTS AND THANK YOU

For list of Past Golden Plate Award Honorees visit:
foothillunitycenter.org/honorees

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT
GARY KOVACIC



Dear Friends:

As president of the board at Foothill Unity Center, it is my honor to represent a life-changing organization that *makes the future brighter for those in need*. For the last forty-two years, Foothill Unity Center has been a place where our neighbors can find food, housing, health and social service resources, and always a kind person to listen to their thoughts, dreams, and challenges.

It is also my honor to celebrate tonight's honorees – Rao and Indira Yalamanchili, Donna Baker, the KIWANIS Club of Pasadena High School, and David Steinmeier. Each of them has made, and continues to make, a significant impact at Foothill Unity Center and in our communities. We are proud to call them friends.

Since its founding, Foothill Unity Center has been here to provide hope, health, and support. However, the last two years have been extremely challenging. The demand for services has grown exponentially with the shortage of housing, increased food insecurity, and high inflation hitting hard the people we serve. Now, more than ever, we need to keep our doors open.

Thank you for supporting Foothill Unity Center tonight and throughout the year. Your time, talent, and financial support help us provide the essential assistance our neighbors need to become self-sufficient.

SPECIAL THANKS

2022 GOLDEN PLATE AWARDS GALA COMMITTEE

Cruz Baca
Lois Gaston
Margaux Gibson
Ulises Gutierrez

Gary Kovacic
Raina Martinez
Annie Rai
Peter Siberell
Julie Swayze

Greg Vanni
Alice Wang
Weera Wright
Vivian Kambe

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT
Gary Kovacic

1ST VICE PRESIDENT
Greg Vanni

2ND VICE PRESIDENT
Karen Herrera

TREASURER
Rev. Terry Keenan

SECRETARY
Kay Kinsler

MEMBERS AT LARGE
Rev. Ulises Gutierrez

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
Tashera Taylor

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Cruz Baca
Brian Barreto
Keshia Carter-Bowen
Tom Daly
Lois Gaston
Margaux Gibson
Mary Ann Lutz
Roberta Preskill
Mary Saenz
Donald P. Schweitzer
Pete Siberell
Dr. Ryan Smith
Linda Vidov
Brian Vosberg
Alice Wang

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NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS (\$5,000-\$4,000)

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CHRISTINE LEE



ALICE WANG



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Partial list of sponsors submitted by print deadline. Please visit our event page at gala.foothillunitycenter.org for full list.

MAKE AN IMPACT (\$2,500)



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DISTRICT 48



DAVID & JOANN
STEINMEIER



HEART OF CHANGE (\$1,500)



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HEART IN HAND HUMANITARIAN AWARD: RAO AND INDIRA YALAMANCHILI



Rao and Indira Yalamanchili immigrated to the United States from India in 1971 and Rao initially worked for Los Angeles County as a civil engineer. In 1975 he and Indira had the opportunity to become property managers of the apartment building in which they lived. This launched a career change for them and they began buying and managing apartment buildings full time. They moved to Arcadia in 1977 and their company office has been based there

since 1981. Their 4 children Pavani, Pallavi, Vipula and Srinivas all attended Arcadia public schools and have all worked at the family business over the years. They now have 8 Grandchildren.

Being active within their community is important to Rao and Indira and they are involved with many local organizations. They have been important benefactors in the founding of local Hindu Temples in Baldwin Park, Montebello and Riverside. Rao has also served on the Board of Directors of Watts Learning Center Charter School since 2015.

Rao and Indira are honored to support Foothill Unity Center. They, along with their family and company employees, have enjoyed getting to know the team at the Center during onsite volunteer events and look forward to continuing work together to help fulfill the organization's mission of helping neighbors in need.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS YOUTH SERVICE AWARD: **KIWIN'S CLUB OF PASADENA HIGH SCHOOL**



We are the KIWIN'S Club of Pasadena High School, a division of Key Club International. Key Club International is sponsored by Kiwanis, leading the three clubs, along with many others, to form the Kiwanis Family. We strive to the community by volunteering our time and effort wherever it

is needed. Our co-presidents, William Wallius and Remy Rabideau, founded the Pasadena High branch last year and have been working to grow the club ever since. Thus far, our club of over 20 members has served our community by volunteering for the Salvation Army and Foothill Unity Center to distribute food to low-income individuals and families. We also work with the organization Amigos De Los Rios, whose goal is to bring nature back to parks and schools through gardening in the Emerald Necklace of the San Gabriel Valley. We are still working to inspire more students at Pasadena High School to get involved in our club and serve the community in the best way possible.

CARL FOOTE LEGACY AWARD:
DAVID STEINMEIER



David Steinmeier is a longtime Foothill Unity Center, Inc (FUCI) volunteer and a former Board member. David's belief in the FUCI mission of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" with love and dignity so resonated with his personal religious beliefs that he joined the Board in 2004.

David served for 12-years as Board Member, Secretary, and Board President, and immediate Past President before retiring from the Board in 2016.

David's favorite FUCI programs are the Thanksgiving and Holiday distributions where he directed the logistics from 2005 to 2016. Gathering, packing, and distributing food boxes for over 2,000-families with the help of 500 volunteers was always a heart-warming experience. During his tenure as Board President, David formed a close friendship with Carl Foote who served as the Board Secretary. David came to rely on Carl for his "no nonsense" financial insights and practical advice. Carl recognized the importance of volunteers, he personally assisted David with the Thanksgiving and Holiday distributions. After Carl's untimely passing in 2017, the Board created a special volunteer recognition award in Carl's memory called the "Carl Foote Legacy Award".

David has been happily married to Joann for 55-years. They have one son, Jeremy, daughter-in-law, Angelica, grandson, William, and granddaughter, Aimee. For the past 25-years, David and Joann have successfully operated microJoining Solutions, a manufacturing consulting business specializing in metal joining technology.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS BUSINESS
 AWARD: **DONNA BAKER**



Donna Baker moved to Monrovia with her husband, David, in 1987. Donna immediately got involved in her new community by volunteering with the Monrovia Historic Preservation Group. In 1995, Ms. Baker was appointed to the Historic Preservation Commission by Mayor Bob Bartlett, where she served for the next 20 years.

Donna Baker started real estate in 2001, after a 30-year career as a high-level administrative professional. Since 2002, Ms. Baker has been the #1 Realtor in her office and is consistently one of the top agents in Monrovia. She works for Douglas Elliman and anchors their Monrovia location. Donna's commitment to community has allowed her to earmark every commission check to give back and thank the people of Monrovia for placing their trust in her when selling or buying a home.

When not selling homes, she is very involved in her community. Donna traveled to Thailand to work on the Jimmy Carter Work Project with Habitat for Humanity, and supports many community organizations, including Foothill Unity Center, Monrovia schools, City of Hope Blood Drive, youth baseball, Monrovia Chamber of Commerce, and more. Donna has served on many boards including the Santa Anita Family YMCA for over seven years, serving as President from 2008-2010, and is currently on the board of the Monrovia Parks, Wilderness and Recreation Foundation. She was President of Quota Club of Monrovia and the Monrovia Day Association. She has also received the Iris Award as 2008 Citizen of the Year from the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce.

THE NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY

83%
of our clients live below
50% FPL (extreme poverty,
less than \$13,875
per year for a family of 4)

28%
of LA County Residents are
Food Insecure

69,144
LA County homeless count
(as of February 2022)

+8.4%
Food price increase
(in 12 months as of May 2022)

+44%
Gas price increase
(in 12 months as of May 2022)



We envision a community where all have their basic needs met, all get the necessary support to become self-sufficient and all are treated with love and dignity.



Los Angeles Times
California rents could skyrocket 10%. Blame inflation

Starting Monday, California landlords are allowed to begin raising rents under a 2019 state law.

Aug. 2, 2022

The Washington Post

Child poverty spiked by 41 percent in January after Biden benefit program expired, study finds

The White House was unable to extend an expansion in the Child Tax Credit amid pushback from Sen. Joe Manchin III (D-W.Va.).

By Jeff Stein February 17, 2022 at 4:09 PM PST



FOX 11
LOS ANGELES

Understanding LA's out-of-control homeless issue

LOS ANGELES - Homelessness in Los Angeles is a complex issue that's been around for decades. Many have tried to fix the problem, but the numbers increase year after year.

FOX 11's new documentary *Lost Angeles: City of Homelessness* takes a look at the roots and causes of homelessness, arguably the largest issue currently facing Angelenos.

By FOX 11 Digital Team | Published May 25, 2022

2021 YEAR STATS

MAKING AN IMPACT

COMMUNITY IMPACT

 **13,820**

Individuals Served
2X more than
Pre-pandemic 2019

 **61%**

Families are NEW
to the Center. 7,400
families served

 **6,326**

Case Management
Services provided
to 399 Families

 **247**

Nursing students trainees,
45 work-experience
trainees & 17 interns

 **38,400**

Volunteer Hours
by 1,247 Volunteers

FOOD IMPACT

 **1,021,260**

Total Meals

 **5,306**

Food boxes delivered
to seniors & disabled

 **25,407**

Meals for Homeless

 **7X**

More food deliveries than
Pre-pandemic 2019

 **3,722**

Thanksgiving & Holiday
Food Boxes

HEALTH IMPACT

 **3,525**

Vital Health Screenings

 **2,868**

Dental Services

 **17,850**

COVID Masks,
supplies, educational
material and
scheduling services

 **426**

COVID Vaccines & Tests

 **58**

Families Placed in
Permanent and
Temporary Housing

This report reflects your generosity and impact on the lives of our neighbours in need. Thanks to donors, supporters and volunteers like you we are able to make this possible!



2022 IMPACT STATS

YEAR TO DATE

7,379

Individuals Served
more than the full year of
Pre-pandemic 2019

22,735

Food services
more than 2X the food than
the same 6 months of
pre-pandemic 2019

MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC

103

Children & parents
received procedures
valued at \$126,228

BACK TO SCHOOL

1,192

Children received school
supplies and clothing

4,048

Health screenings &
educational material



YOUR GENEROSITY

BY THE NUMBERS

HELP FIGHT HUNGER

(Providing Food, including fresh produce
through our Nutritious Food Pantry)

\$300 feeds 1 person for 1 month

\$1,200 feeds 1 family of four for 1 month

\$3,650 feeds 1 person for 1 year

\$14,600 feeds 1 family of four for 1 year

\$36,500 feeds 10 people for 1 year

\$73,000 feeds 5 families of four for 1 year

\$102,200 feeds 28 people for 1 year

HELP FIGHT POVERTY

(Providing shelter, food & case management)

\$60 for 1 person per day

\$420 for 1 person per week

\$1,800 for 1 person per month

\$7,400 for 4 people per month

\$21,900 for 1 person per year

\$43,800 for 2 people per year

\$109,500 for 5 people per year

WE ENVISION A COMMUNITY WHERE:

All have their basic needs met, including the need to give
All get the necessary support to become self-sufficient
All are treated with love and dignity ... all the time.



THANK YOU TO OUR OPPORTUNITY DRAWING SPONSORS

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The Derby

Jack Robbins with Rainbow Sandals, Inc.

LA County Arboretum

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Karen Herrera

Kathy Kirchner

The Weiler Family

M on Mission

Kaizen Martial Arts & Fitness

Lyon Air Museum

Ruth's Chris Steakhouse Pasadena (Raffle Item)



Congratulations to Our Very Own **Donna Baker**

For Her Continued Dedication
in Serving the Community as
a Long Time Donor to the
Foothill Unity Center

Donna is being honored with the Foothill Unity Center, Inc. Neighbors Helping Neighbors Business Award

Donna Baker is the top real estate agent for Douglas Elliman in Monrovia, CA. Her extensive real estate knowledge covers Monrovia, Duarte, Sierra Madre, Arcadia, Pasadena, and the entire San Gabriel Valley. She represents sellers and home buyers of all types of real estate, with a specialty in heritage and architecturally significant homes, as well as residential income properties.

When not selling real estate, Donna is actively involved in her community, with a focus on the unity center and youth-related organizations. She is also a recipient of the Iris Award, Monrovia's Citizen of the Year awarded by the Monrovia Chamber of Commerce. In addition, Donna was named the Mary Wilcox Youth Advocacy & Community Leadership Award winner by the Boys & Girls Club of the Foothills.

Donna Baker

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*To our valued partner:
Thank you for the wonderful work you do for our community.
We appreciate Foothill Unity Center!*



*Margaret Finlay, Mayor
Vinh Truong, Councilmember
Jody Schulz, Councilmember*

*Samuel Kang, Councilmember
Cesar Garcia, Councilmember
Toney Lewis, Councilmember*

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Second Baptist Church of Monrovia

Congratulations, 2022 Honorees, for your valued services.

Foothill Unity Center, we support and appreciate the continued partnership with Second Baptist Church.



Pastor Christopher
A. Bourne, Sr.



We
Welcome
You!

Come Worship with Us!

In Person and YouTube Online at 10AM on Sundays

YouTube@2bcmmonrovia

Online Bible Study YouTube at 7PM on Wednesdays

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjxiR9XtDz2RiEenemv1gbQ>

925 South Shamrock Avenue, Monrovia, CA 91016 | (626) 358-2136



Congratulations to the 2022 Golden Plate Award Honorees and Thank You to the Staff at Foothill Unity Center for your Outstanding and Tireless Service!

ROBERTA & JOHN PRESKILL



**Congratulations
Foothill Unity
Center and 2022
Honorees on
making the future a
little brighter!**

Chris R. Holden
41st Assembly District

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THANK YOU

A heartfelt Thank You for supporting our 2022 Golden Plate Awards Gala! Thanks to the generosity of supporters like you we are able to make an impact on the lives of our neighbors in need!

SILENT AUCTION

Bidding begins on September 11 and closes on September 25

CONTACT

information@foothillunitycenter.org | 626.358.3486

GALA EVENT WEBSITE

Visit our event page for more details, online donations, silent auction info, additional sponsorship listings and more:

gala.foothillunitycenter.org



DONATE NOW! TEXT **4GALA** TO **41444**



Foothill Unity Center, Inc.

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