



MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO TASHERA TAYLOR

WE ARE **TRULY GRATEFUL**FOR YOUR SUPPORT AS
MORE PEOPLE ARE BEING
PUSHED INTO POVERTY,
HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS.
WITH YOUR HELP WE
ARE ABLE TO MEET THE
OVERWHELMING DEMANDS
FOR BASIC NEEDS.



My deepest gratitude to all our donors, partners, supporters, and volunteers for your unwavering support. Your generosity makes it possible for the Center to continue its vital work.

2021 was a challenging year due to the pandemic and the worst economic recession since the Great Depression. Within the Center's service area, an estimated 60,000 people live in poverty. Unemployment spiked last year and still remains around 10% locally. In our area, housing costs are three times the national average. Nearly a third of families in our communities pay more than half their income for rent. Many working poor families are struggling daily to not slip into homelessness.

The number of people affected by poverty and needing our help grew significantly. We were faced with everchanging safety measures and fears. Through it all the Center never closed its doors. We added new services such as COVID-19 testing, vaccinations, and provided masks and supplies. We provided seven times more food deliveries than pre-pandemic 2019. Our comprehensive range of services, Food, Health, Crisis Case Management, Housing/Homeless and Job Development, continue to provide a comprehensive safety net.

In these tumultuous times, we continue to rise with compassion to "Be the Heart of Hope" to our neighbors in need. This summer, Foothill Unity Center was honored and awarded "Non Profit of the Year-Heroes of the Pandemic" by Congresswoman Judy Chu.

Through the power of our community, team effort and generous donations from all our supporters, the Center will continue to make life-changing differences for neighbors in need. Together, we will stay true to our value of Neighbors Helping Neighbors.



COVID-19 IMPACT

The pandemic has continued to cause a strain on our on operational capacity. It has been challenging to meet the sharp increase in demand for services while working under these new constraints. Never-the-less our team continues to spring into action, pivoting resources, galvanizing staff and volunteers, coordinating community support, and addressing challenges head-on.

13,820INDIVIDUALS SERVED

1111

61% OF FAMILIESARE NEW TO THE CENTER



7X MORE FOOD

DELIVERIES THAN
PRE PANDEMIC 2019







NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

For over 40 Years, Foothill Unity Center has helped individuals and families in need with programs that focus on: Food, Health, Crisis Case Management, Job Development, Housing and Homeless services, supported by our Volunteer Program.

MISSION

We help neighbors in crisis attain self-sufficiency by partnering with the community and using our resources wisely to provide vital support services with love and dignity.

VISION

Foothill Unity Center, Inc., envisions 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.

HISTORY

Foothill Unity Center was founded in 1980 by Josephine Anderson in a borrowed church closet in Monrovia, California, to provide food to a few hungry families. Over the years the Center has become a major source of food, health services and crisis assistance for thousands of low-income families. In 1991, the Center was incorporated as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. In 2008 we were federally designated the Community Action Agency for the Foothill Area of Los Angeles County.

COMMUNITY ACTION PARTNER

As the Community Action Agency of the Foothills, Foothill Unity Center is the region's largest distributor of nutritious food to very low-income families. Food donations from our partners at the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank, local merchants, and non-profits, together with food purchased by the Center, fill a basic need in our community.



AMERICORPS VIP SUPERVISING ORGANIZATION

As a partner of CalSERVES, Foothill Unity Center functions as the Supervising Organization that oversees Americorp VIP Fellows at the local level. Complex needs facing our local communities include education, employment, health access, housing, hunger, and wealth inequities. Fellows build capacity by providing support, skills and resources to not only address these needs, but to assure volunteers are successful as they provide service to the community.



COMMITED TO TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Foothill Unity Center is proud to be recognized for our services and our impact on the community. We have received top ratings from charity watch dogs and positive reviews from the community. Accountability and transparency are important to us. Year after year we have been awared with a five-star rating from Great Nonprofits as a top-rated charity, as well as the Platinum Seal of Transparency rating by Guidestar and the highest rating from Charity Navigator.







HOW WE AFFECT CHANGE

HELP

Through programs and services that address basic needs

HOPE

From a responsive and caring community



From economic stability to wellness

We are Helping People and Changing Lives! We are Interconnected, Compassionate and Committed! **COVID-19 Support**

COVID-19 IMPACT

Throughout 2021 Foothill Unity Center remained open and continued to provide vital services. Our pandemic response efforts continue to address the needs of our most vulnerable population who suffer disproportionately from this crisis. We have expanded our programs to increase our level of support. We have provided COVID testing, vaccinations, educational material as well as masks and supplies.

GRATEFUL.



Foothill Unity Center has supported Yvette Spencer, "Grandma Spencer", in her journey towards economic and housing stability, and supported her multigenerational family in achieving security through access and education.

She and her husband were homeless for 3 years. The Center helped them apply for and receive permanent housing through section 8. Through the years she would receive food, dental and health services, school supplies, and holiday gifts for her grandkids.

Her grandkids are thriving, she was able to put two of them through college. She is grateful for all the opportunities she has through the center, grateful for always being treated with respect, and for the sense of community. She is excited about her future.

Impacting generations

Bringing Comfort

ELAINE'S STORY

Elaine Iverson has a passion for making quilts and helping those in need. She has consistently donated quilts every month for over 2 years for our homebound and senior clients who wait eagerly for the next collection of warm blankets to arrive.

In her own words," It is so special to see people appreciating the quilts, one mother said to me that her daughter won't go anywhere without her blanket [...] that really touched my heart. Seeing people find comfort in the quilts I make is what urges me to keep making them. There are so many people in need and a handmade quilt can keep people warm and it gains so much more meaning along the way."

JUSTENE'S STORY

Justene, mother of five, was chronically homeless since 2017, staying with friends, family, hotels, and shelters. In 2018 she was at Union Station shelter when she gave birth to her child in the dark.

In 2020, she found Foothill Unity Center and was assigned a social worker where she finally found a sense of community and care. She was placed in an extended stay, with a kitchen and fridge that gave them time to recover from the trauma of homelessness and she was able to save money and heal. She received behavioral health support, kids'school supplies and backpacks, clothes, food, holiday gifts for the kids, therapy, and step-by-step help applying for and receiving permanent housing through section 8.

In her own words "They made me feel as if it was my family taking care of me. My faith in humanity is seriously restored. You've given me this chance at life and offered me new cycles of healing that I never thought I would have."

Help Finding a Home



THE NEED IN OUR COMMUNITY

ALL 13,820

of our clients are food insecure with income below 200% poverty

1 in 5

Seniors in California live in poverty

83%

LIVE IN extreme poverty (50% FEDERAL POVERTY LEVEL)

18%

of LA County Residents are Food Insecure

66,436

LA County homeless count (as of May 2022)

66,436

LA county has more food insecure children than any other county in the U.S.

+8.4%

Food Price increase (in 12 months as ofMay 2022)

+44%

Gas Price Increase (in 12 months as ofMay 2022)

+14.6%

Electricity Price Increase (in 12 months as of May 2022)

+15.9%

Percentage change in median rent (2019-2022)

We are providing access and opportunities, and removing barriers for the low-income and working poor, providing a safety net of services to the disadvantaged to prevent homelessness, and supporting the underserved homeless population. We serve twelve cities along the Foothills of the San Gabriel Valley: Altadena, Arcadia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bradbury, Duarte, Irwindale, Monrovia, Pasadena, Sierra Madre, South Pasadena and Temple City.



Los Angeles TimesCalifornia rents could skyrocket 10%. Blame inflation

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

Aug. 2, 2022

●CBS NEWS"True cost of aging" index shows many U.S. seniors can't afford basic necessities

BY JUDITH GRAHAM JULY 27, 202

More than half of older women living alone -54% – are in a similarly precarious financial situation: either poor according to federal poverty standards or with incomes too low to pay for essential expenses. For single men, the share is lower but still surprising -45%.

That's according to a valuable but little-known measure of the cost of living for older adults: the <u>Elder Index</u>, developed by researchers at the Gerontology Institute at the University of Massachusetts-Boston.



Lost Angeles: City of Homeless City of Homeless

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 <u>homelessness</u>, arguably the largest issue currently facing Angelenos.

By FOX 11 Digital Team | Published May 25, 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.).



February 17, 2022 at 4:09 PM PST



U.S Bureau of Labor Statistics; USC Dornsife's Public Exchange, LA County Metrics (Marcl 2022); 2022 LAHSA homeless count, LA County (May 2022); US Department of Housing and Urban Development; US Census Bureau

FOOD PROGRAM

Many neighbors in our community are one job loss or medical crisis away from food insecurity. Foothill Unity Center leads the fight against hunger and poor nutrition in the San Gabriel Foothills through our food distribution, community kitchen and nutrition education programs.

Includes food for a week for those who have the means to refrigerate and cook food, plus bag lunches and hygiene kits for those experiencing homelessness. Food boxes are delivered to seniors, homebound, and disabled clients who cannot drive. Thanksgiving and Holiday Food Distributions are special events that are added to the food distribution.

We continue to be driven to improve the quality of our food and services. In 2021, after a year and a half of extensive training, our Center was awarded the title of Nutritious Food Pantry by LA Regional Foodbank.







25,407
MEALS FOR HOMELESS



HEALTH PROGRAM

Access to healthcare, education on ways to manage chronic health diseases, and assistance with navigating the healthcare system.

Among the other services we provide are dental and vision screenings, dental procedures, eye exams, glasses, and eye glass vouchers from mobile and on site dental and vision clinics, flu vaccines, glucose/diabetes screenings, blood pressure screenings, nutrition, physical and mental health, and education that includes workshops, classes, exercise groups, and healthy cooking/recipe demonstrations and flyers. We leverage our workforce annually with over 100 work trainees, nursing students pursuing licenses, and interns in social work and public

17,850

COVID MASKS, SUPPLIES, EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL & SCHEDULING SERVICES

426
COVID VACCINES & TESTS

2,868
DENTAL SERVICES

3,525
VITAL HEALTH SCREENINGS

\$116,666

VALUE OF DENTAL SERVICES
FOR 101 CHILDREN & PARENTS
THROUGH MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC

EYE EXAMS, SERVICES, GLASSES, AND VOUCHERS



CASE MANAGEMENTPROGRAM

The driving strategy and standard of care practice that supports our core programs through assessment, case planning, care coordination, advocacy, resource linkages, and follow up. Individualized client plans allow the case managers to track progress and make adjustments specific to personal situations. Case management provides access to a complete continuum of services, a safety net that improves the odds of success for an individual to move from poverty to economic security.



6,326CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES



399 FAMILIES



4,136
TRANSPORTATION
SERVICES



2,818DIAPER PACKAGES

Crisis case management related services including resource referrals, services for victims of domestic violence, food, health, transportation, housing & job development.

HOUSING & HOMELESSPROGRAM

Provides increasingly more permanent and temporary placement solutions and services, such as motel vouchers, rental assistance, eviction prevention, and related services to those experiencing urgent emergency and chronic housing needs, navigation, retention, temporary housing, and rapid rehousing.



MOBILE SHOWERS
OFTEN WITH HAIRCUTS,
FREE PHONES & CLOTHING



1,059
HOUSING/HOMELESS
SERVICES FOR
242 FAMILIES

The pandemic has further exacerbated Los Angeles County's homeless crisis and increased housing insecurity.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

Our integrated services with our core programs would not be possible without our Volunteer Program that includes thousands of dedicated volunteers annually from 3 to 93 years of age to help to support all our programs and special events.





A **BIG THANK YOU** TO OUR VOLUNTEERS WE COULD NOT DO THIS WITHOUT YOU!



JOB DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Helps to improve the economic lives of individuals with hands on assistance to gain employment for those unemployed and underemployed. The program aims to reduce the barriers to employment and help the whole family, thereby ending the cycle of poverty for the next generation. Annually, we supervise work experience trainees and interns, including at-risk youth, transitional youth, adults and seniors.







Services include onsite training, academic and vocational counseling, resume assistance, certifications, mentoring, financial literacy workshops, tax preparation, job search and assistance with employment placement.

OUR EVENTS

BACK TO **SCHOOL**

Our Annual Back to school Event helped hundreds of TK through college students of low income families prepare for the upcoming school year, proving them with backpacks, shoe vouchers and essential supplies for the upcoming school year. This past year we had a modified drive through event due to the pandemic.

PET CLINIC & FOOD BANK

Local pet shelters are overflowing because people struggling to survive cannot afford to feed or take care of their pet's healthcare needs. Our Pet Food Bank helps hundreds of families keep their beloved pets. Our primary care pet clinics with the Pasadena Humane Society are hosted several times a year. Clients are able to visit with a veterinarian, ask questions and receive care for their beloved pets.

MOBILE **DENTAL** CLINIC

Our annual Mobile Dental Clinic in partnership with the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, provided over one hundred pre-registered low-income and under insured children and adults with comprehensive dental treatments, peventative measures and education.

THANKSGIVING & HOLIDAY DISTRIBUTIONS

Our Annual Thanksgiving and Holiday Dostributions help to make the Holiday season brighter for local children and families in need. Families receive huge holiday food boxes for both distributions events, as well as new toys, clothing and gift cards for their children at our holiday event.





853

CHILDREN SERVED FOR BACK TO SCHOOL



2,734PET FOOD BAGS



93

PETS SERVED AT VET CLINICS







3,722THANKSGIVING & HOLIDAY FOOD BOXES

1,452

HOLIDAY GIFT BAGS (WITH GIFT CARDS, TOYS & CLOTHING



MORE **EVENTS**

JOB & RESOURCE FAIR

Our Annaul job and Resource Fair helps connect individuals to potential employers. With 20+ vendors looking to hire potential employees, resumebuilding assistance, and a free BBO lunch!

STAMP OUT HUNGER FOOD DRIVE

The NALC's (National Association of Letter Carriers) Stamp Out Hunger Food & Donor Drive is the largest food drive of the year. We coordinte with dozens of local post offices and hundered of volunteers to collect and sort the food donations.

Our annual Vision Clinic in partnership with the Anugraha Drishtidaan organization run by Dr. Alka Kumar, provides over one hundred pre-registered low-income and under insured children and adults with comprehensive eye exams and eye glasses.





CHILI COOK-OFF

VISION CLINIC

Every year the Santa Anita Park hosts a Chili Cook-Off, benefiting Foothill Unity Center. A day of spicy feasting, thoroughbred horse racing, and fun for the whole family! Dozens of contestants offer chili samples and compete for top event prizes and people's choice awards at Santa Anita Park in Arcadia.



THANK YOU TO OUR 2021



Unity Center, Inc.

hili Campus







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