

2022-2023

**A N N U A L
R E P O R T**



**PROJECT
HOPE
ALLIANCE**



NOTE FROM A FRIEND & BOARD CHAIR

What does it mean to be a GENERATIONAL DISRUPTER OF HOMELESSNESS

It's been said that often, we overestimate what we can do in a year and underestimate what we can do in ten. Having just celebrated my 10th year as CEO of Project Hope Alliance, reflectively, I see the powerful truth in this statement.

During my first year as CEO, I sent an email to our team of four, supporters, and partners entitled "Let's Dare Greatly...Together." In this email, I made the commitment to leverage my former vocation (15 years as a litigator) and my avocation (to let the little girl in the motel room where I once lived know that she matters) to the benefit of Orange County's children experiencing homelessness. My vision was to do this in strong community partnership "working together with the talented, dedicated, team of teachers, volunteers, donors, and Project Hope Alliance team... letting that little girl know that she is not limited by her parents' economic circumstances. **That if she does her part, she can trust that we will do ours.**" I am humbled to look back over these last 10 years to see that together, we've done, and are doing, just that for so many students and families across Orange County.

Through this year's Annual Report pages, you will see how we have dared greatly together. We've grown in the number of students served by 25% in the last year; our kids have persevered, accomplished mighty things. They've broken the cycle of generational homelessness, and our schools, cities, and communities have seen, risen, and shown up for them.

Candidly, while my vision hasn't changed over the past ten years, what we've accomplished has greatly exceeded my expectations, and that is all because of you. **Be certain we won't underestimate what we can do together in the next ten years.**

Jennifer Friend CEO
Project Hope Alliance



At Project Hope Alliance, we are driven by the belief that anything is possible for youth experiencing homelessness. In partnership with our school, district, and city partners, as well as dedicated community philanthropists, our team continues to respond to the needs of our students in critical aspects of their young lives: academic, social-emotional, and developmental.

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of our mission and the young people we serve. We look forward to another exceptional year for the kids!

Lynn Hemans Board Chair

OUR WORK

Project Hope Alliance(PHA) deploys a long-term model of care for kids and youth experiencing homelessness. We have full-time case managers who work on public school campuses alongside kids and youth to eliminate barriers brought on by homelessness that could impede their ability to learn and succeed in school. Our team builds trusting relationships with students and offers individualized support in the form of academic guidance, social-emotional well-being, and basic needs resources from kindergarten to age 24.

We provide hope so that kids can visualize and realize a future without homelessness.



ELEMENTARY
(KINDERGARTEN–6TH GRADE)



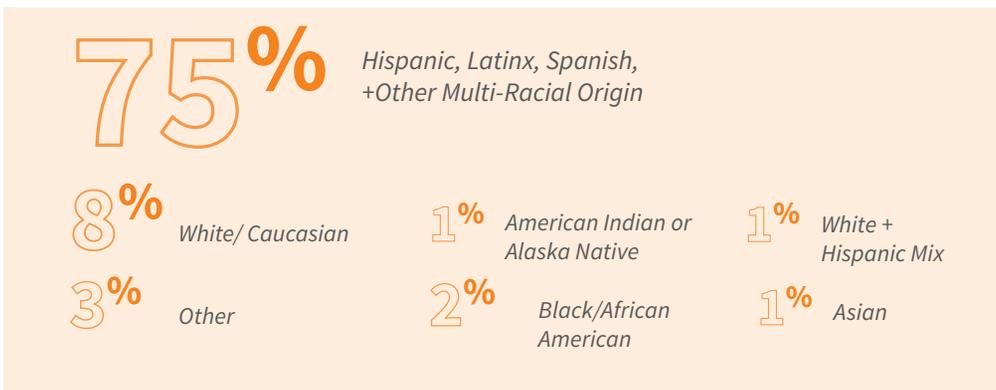
MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL
(7TH–12TH GRADE)



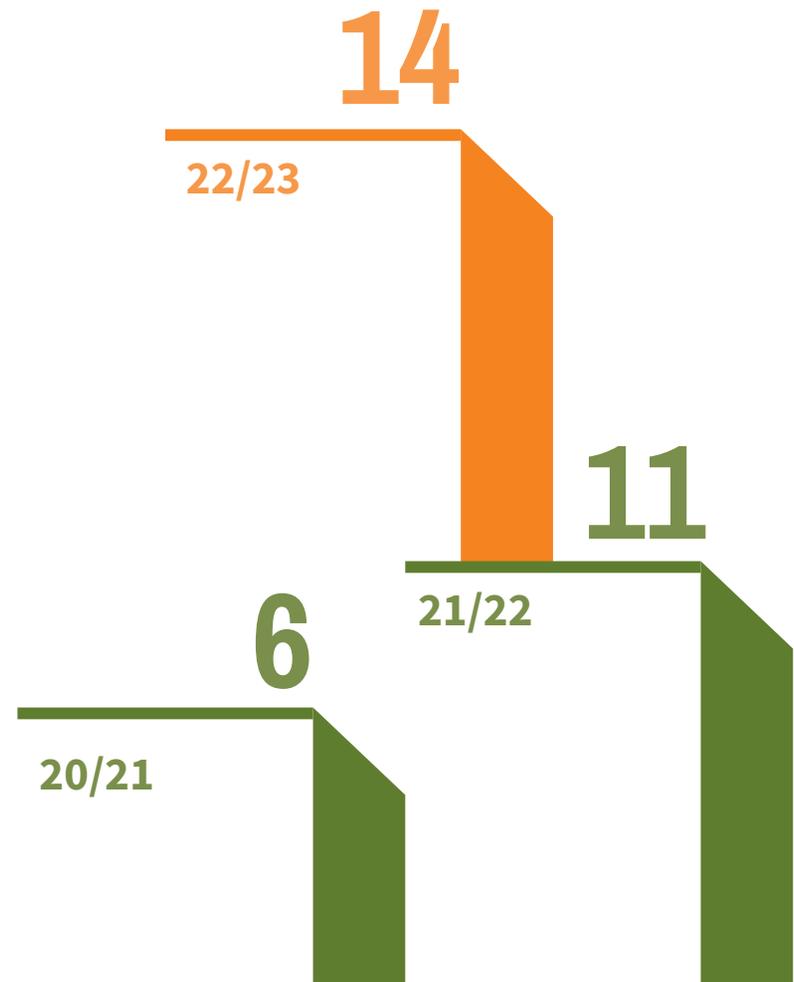
OLDER YOUTH
(AGE 18–24)

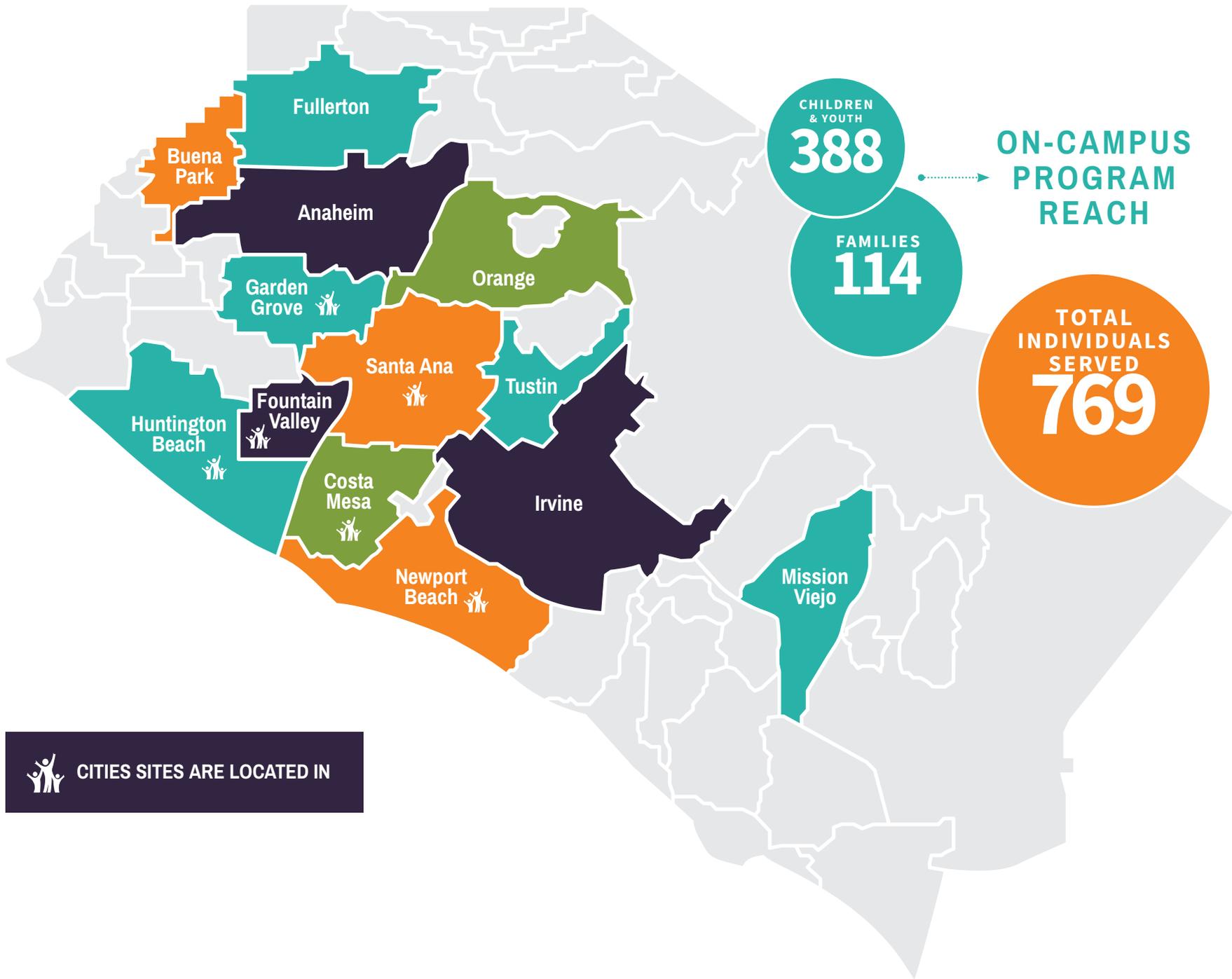
Project Hope Alliance by the NUMBERS

It is crucial for our case managers to be embedded into campus life to ensure our students have direct access to our support. This allows our team to remove barriers that homelessness presents in real time.



OF SITES WE ARE ON





NURTURING FUTURES:

Empowering Youth Through Mentorship for Lasting Impact



Mentors contribute to youth's social and emotional well-being during a one-year term. They become an additional stable, trusted adult in the youth's life. The mentor's commitment and consistency lead to a meaningful and impactful partnership between the youth, family, and mentor.

I've been able to be a part of watching my mentee grow, learn a second language, and become aware of her potential. My mentee and her family have impacted me so much- it has truly been an honor to be part of the PHA mentor program.” Mentor since 2020



Scan to learn more about volunteer opportunities.



Mentor/ Tutor Orientation with Program Manager Lizbeth Loyola, AmeriCorps Fellow Madelyn Runcie and Mentors Christina Mai, Sonya Fortune Zamora and Susan Crook .

Nurturing Equity and Breaking Barriers

NIDIA PRAVONGVIENGKHAM

As the case manager for Scholarship Prep Schools, Nidia Pravongviengkham provides individualized support to 30 youth and their families. She has made an incredible impact as a passionate advocate, champion for equity, and empowering force for her youth and their families. She is a true agent for change in the community as she consistently removes barriers to break the cycle of homelessness.



Working Together with our

COMMUNITY

Project Hope Alliance is proud to partner with The City of Costa Mesa and Newport Mesa Unified School District (NMUSD) to end the cycle of homelessness, one child at a time.

Through our partnership, we are strategically building systems-based solutions to identify young people experiencing homelessness, implement robust, holistic services tailored to the diverse needs of students and families experiencing homelessness, and develop community-based coordination of resources and strategies to prevent the cycle of homelessness.

A critical component of our partnership is the grants and public funding awarded by the City of Costa Mesa that, joined with the contracted support of NMUSD and private philanthropy, builds a sustainable, strategic, and effective funding model to address student homelessness.

“ Our vision is that every student and every family in our city and our schools that need support will have the information and access to resources. There are resources and needs; we want Project Hope Alliance to continue building that bridge for our students and families experiencing homelessness.

PHA's expertise, model of care, and values perfectly align with the goals of the City of Costa Mesa. In partnership with PHA, Costa Mesa strives to create a replicable model with other cities/ districts/ nonprofits with kindness, compassion, and empathy to build the most impactful and supportive system that it could possibly be.”

-Nate Robbins, City of Costa Mesa, Neighborhood Improvement Manager



City of Costa Mesa

Nate
Robbins

Neighborhood Improvement Manager





Newport-Mesa Unified School District

Socorro
Shields

Assistant Superintendent NMUSD

What makes Project Hope Alliance a good partner?

“Project Hope Alliance is responsive to the needs of the district and our students. As a public entity, there are regulations concerning public fund investments that require strong documentation and an annual assessment; PHA tracks workflow and impact, allowing NMUSD to improve and grow our service relationship. PHA case managers are strong, invested, and action oriented. PHA supports students and families in ways the school cannot. Because of PHA’s deep understanding of homelessness, the 24/7 availability and support in areas of youth development, community resources, and basic needs are well beyond the scope of what schools can do on a large scale with consistency. This level of support makes a profound difference. Together, these aspects of the organization make PHA a strong partner with NMUSD.”

What outcomes do you see from partnerships where school districts, cities and community agencies, like PHA, work together to address youth experiencing homelessness?

“We all want students in school and ready to learn with curiosity and social-emotional stability, free of worry and stress experienced by families who do not have stable housing. To thrive in schools, students and families experiencing homelessness must receive the appropriate support from agencies and organizations for mental health, financial assistance, housing, and food security. When we work together and our efforts are their strongest, the student outcomes all trend in the right direction.”

What is your vision for our community?

“Ultimately, we all want strong families in our communities. This makes for the best experiences across the board. To the extent we can proactively impact families and allow them to remain in stable housing, it is better for all in the long run. Continuing to explore ways to strengthen families is an important effort to prevent homelessness.”



WHERE STUDENTS ENROLLED



93%

Project Hope Alliance
High School Graduation Rate

Compared to CA State Average Rate of 70%



College Majors:

- Computer Science
- Physical Therapy
- Electrical Engineering
- Engineering
- Psychology
- Photography
- Anthropology
- Nursing
- Sports medicine
- Liberal Studies
- Mathematics
- Civil Engineering
- Medical Diagnostics
- Business
- Art
- Automotive Technology
- Culinary Arts

Trades:

- Marines
- Barber School





Overcoming Obstacles and EMBRACING POSSIBILITIES

Maria is a recent high school graduate! Though she was at the top of her class, was an active student body member, and was heavily involved in many extracurricular activities, attending college seemed unattainable, especially going away for college. Because Project Hope Alliance was embedded on her high school campus, Maria could turn to Tia, her Project Hope Alliance case manager throughout her high school experience to support and encourage her to believe all things are possible. In her senior year, Maria earned a scholarship for \$50,000 and will be attending college at UC in San Diego!



Tia Small is Maria's case manager and advocate.

RISING

Beyond Challenges

Project Hope Alliance will have its first graduates from our program as they turn 24 this year. Matthew is one of the youths graduating. Matthew and his parents lived in motels and would couch surf during his time in high school and college. Project Hope Alliance has been there for Matthew to help him become self-sufficient. While Matthew has been with Project Hope Alliance, he has graduated from high school, attended Cal State Fullerton, and earned his Personal Trainer certificate. Matthew excels in his job, and in less than a year, Matthew was promoted to Business Development Manager. Matthew is now stably housed and has been living independently since 2020.

Our youth aging out this year:

100%

fully-employed

100%

stably housed and
living independently



FOSTERING TRUST AND TRANSFORMATION:

Project Hope Alliance and Huntington Beach Partnering for Student Empowerment



Jocelyn Montiel
Huntington Beach High School
Case Manager

The partnership between Project Hope Alliance and Huntington Beach High School has helped improve the communication between families experiencing homelessness and Huntington Beach High School. Providing a safe space for students on campus to talk about their personal experiences without fear of judgment with adults is what we were able to create with PHA at Huntington Beach High School.

“ We had a young man who came to our community with a big chip on his shoulder and did not like, trust, or want to support an authority figure like the principal. The chip was so large that he got into trouble early on at HBHS, resulting in his arrest on campus. This young man, in our safe place, let me have it! After he got that out of his system, we established systems where he knew he could turn to Jocelyn or me and vent his frustrations. It resulted in him refocusing his energies on his success and concentrating on ending his cycle of poor choices. I was happy to attend his court hearing and support him to the point that all charges he incurred on our campus were dropped. I hope to continue working with more students like him through PHA.”

-Daniel Morris, Huntington Beach High School, Principal



Daniel Morris
Huntington Beach High School, Principal



EMPOWERING CHANGE :



PHA and the City of Santa Ana's Partnership for Shelter Youth Success

In 2022, Project Hope Alliance partnered with the City of Santa Ana to serve the children, youth and families staying at the Carnegie Shelter. Project Hope Alliance embedded a full-time case manager within the shelter, activated its programming and model of care, and developed a space for children and youth to receive trauma-informed services to support their academic, social-emotional, and behavioral needs. As the Manager of Shelter Services, Michelle Lanternier works to be a stable, trusted adult for the children and youth while they reside in the shelter environment. In supporting youth in the shelter, Project Hope Alliance provides weekly group work sessions, 1:1 wrap-around case management, and parent support.





BUILDING DREAMS:

Project Hope Alliance's Career Fair Igniting Brighter Futures

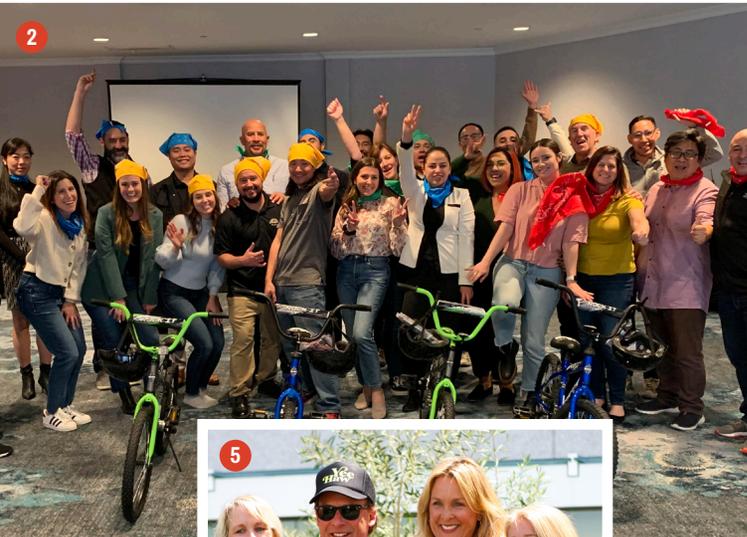


As part of our goal of ending the cycle of homelessness, Project Hope Alliance focuses on college and career readiness to prepare our students for their futures. To best support our youth, Project Hope Alliance conducts a Career Fair twice a year at our offices, where various professionals donate their time to participate in career workshops to provide education and hands-on experience to our youth.

The careers selected are based on the interests of our youth: including construction, cosmetology, nursing, business, and barbering. Our career fairs help our youth explore all opportunities.



OUR SUPPORTERS: DOING MORE TOGETHER FOR THE KIDS



We are grateful to our incredible supporters – donors, volunteers, faith-based partners, and youth organizations – for standing with Project Hope Alliance and our kids this year. Throughout the year, our community helped ensure our students had everything they needed for the new school year and food and gifts to celebrate the holidays with their loved ones. Our community also invested vital financial contributions to help fund our onsite case management program for over 350 students across Orange County. Thank you for making everything possible for Project Hope Alliance and #forthekids!

1 + 2: Corporate volunteer groups supported various projects yearly. Team members from AAA organized our Community Space, and team members from Zespi built bikes for our youth.

3 + 4: Our young philanthropists provided gifts for our holiday drive and packed hygiene kits for our students.

5: We were honored to recognize The Martin and The Pickup Families as our Catalyst of Hope Honorees at this year's Anti Gala fundraiser. Due to their visionary and generous multi-year investment, we expanded our reach in Huntington Beach.

6: Los Angeles Chargers head coach Brandon Staley and his wife Amy Staley (pictured here) joined with Nike to outfit and equip our student-athletes with the best gear and apparel.

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SUPPORTERS AND PARTNERS

\$100,000 – \$499,999



HUNTINGTON BEACH
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT



DevTo Support Foundation

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Newport-Mesa
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ELIZABETH GRIES

For a complete list of supporters please visit www.projecthopealliance.org

Empowering Communities from Within:

CELSO FUENTES

Celso was recently promoted to District Manager of Scholarship Prep Schools! He has worked at Project Hope Alliance for almost two years and has served children and youth from Ensign Intermediate, Newport Harbor High School, Whittier Elementary, and Davis Magnet. He now supports students enrolled at Scholarship Prep school in Santa Ana.

Celso was born and raised in Santa Ana, and for the past ten years, he has been deeply committed to pouring back into his community as an advocate, stable trusted adult, and support system for children and youth. Celso believes in Project Hope Alliance's intentional and unique model of care as he has experienced the transformative power that a supportive adult on your life can do for your life trajectory.



SHINING LIGHT ON THE UNSEEN:

PROJECT HOPE ALLIANCE'S
ADVOCACY AND EXPERT
TESTIMONY IN ADDRESSING
CHILDHOOD HOMELESSNESS IN
ORANGE COUNTY



Project Hope Alliance advised & provided expert testimony to the Orange County Grand Jury on the report “The ABC’S of Educating Children Experiencing Homelessness in Orange County,” released this May. Among other significant findings in the report, the Grand Jury found an estimated 30,000 k-12 students experiencing homelessness identified in Orange County’s public schools, with 70% failing to meet state standards. The report called on our county, district, and community to “prioritize the unique needs of children experiencing homelessness with the goal of measurable improvement in their academic performance.” For the last decade, Project Hope Alliance has built and successfully executed the leading model of care to meet the needs of students experiencing homelessness and disrupt the cycle of generational homelessness and poverty.

We are ready and equipped to meet this moment and lead this work for the kids.



Scan to read
the full article.



MEET BOARD MEMBER DR. DAWN BOUNDS



Dr. Dawn Bounds,
*Assistant Professor
Sue and Bill Gross School of Nursing
University of California, Irvine*

Dr. Dawn Bounds is an Assistant Professor in the Sue & Bill Gross School of Nursing at the University of California, Irvine. An expert in youth development and adversity-impacted youth, Dr. Bounds provides research-based guidance to help shape Project Hope Alliance's model of care. This year, Dr. Bounds and Project Hope Alliance launched our Youth Advisory Council.

What is the Youth Advisory Council?

"The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) is a new initiative at PHA that was created to amplify the voices of the youth served at PHA. Elevating youth to leadership on the YAC positions their perspectives as important and integral to the evolution of PHA."

Why is the Youth Advisory Council important?

"Not only does the YAC create space for youth to have a voice at PHA, it also focuses on youth leadership and development for each YAC member. Each YAC member will be responsible for leading a PHA event and will be paired with a mentor to assist with their individual development goals. I also believe the YAC will improve PHA for the youth we serve."

What do you hope youth will gain from this experience?

"I hope the youth feel seen, heard, supported, and valued. I also hope that experiences like these serve as a pathway to careers in healthcare, mental and public health, and social services. We need the next generation of healthcare providers, scientists, and community leaders to be the resilient youth from organizations like PHA."

What do you want our community to know about our youth?

"Their circumstances do not define them; despite the adversity they experience, they can and do still thrive. They are full of potential and deserve these leadership positions, having a voice, and our support."

WHAT IS NEW FOR

TEAM KID

Team Kid continues to grow to meet the needs of the students and families we serve!



We welcomed five team members: Shelby Feliciano-Sabala as our Chief Partnership Officer, Annie Song as our Director of Development, Michelle Lanternier as Manager of Shelter Services, and Natalie Garcia and Mauricio Gonzalez as Case Managers.

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Chief Executive Officer

Shelby Feliciano-Sabala, MSW

Chief Partnership Officer

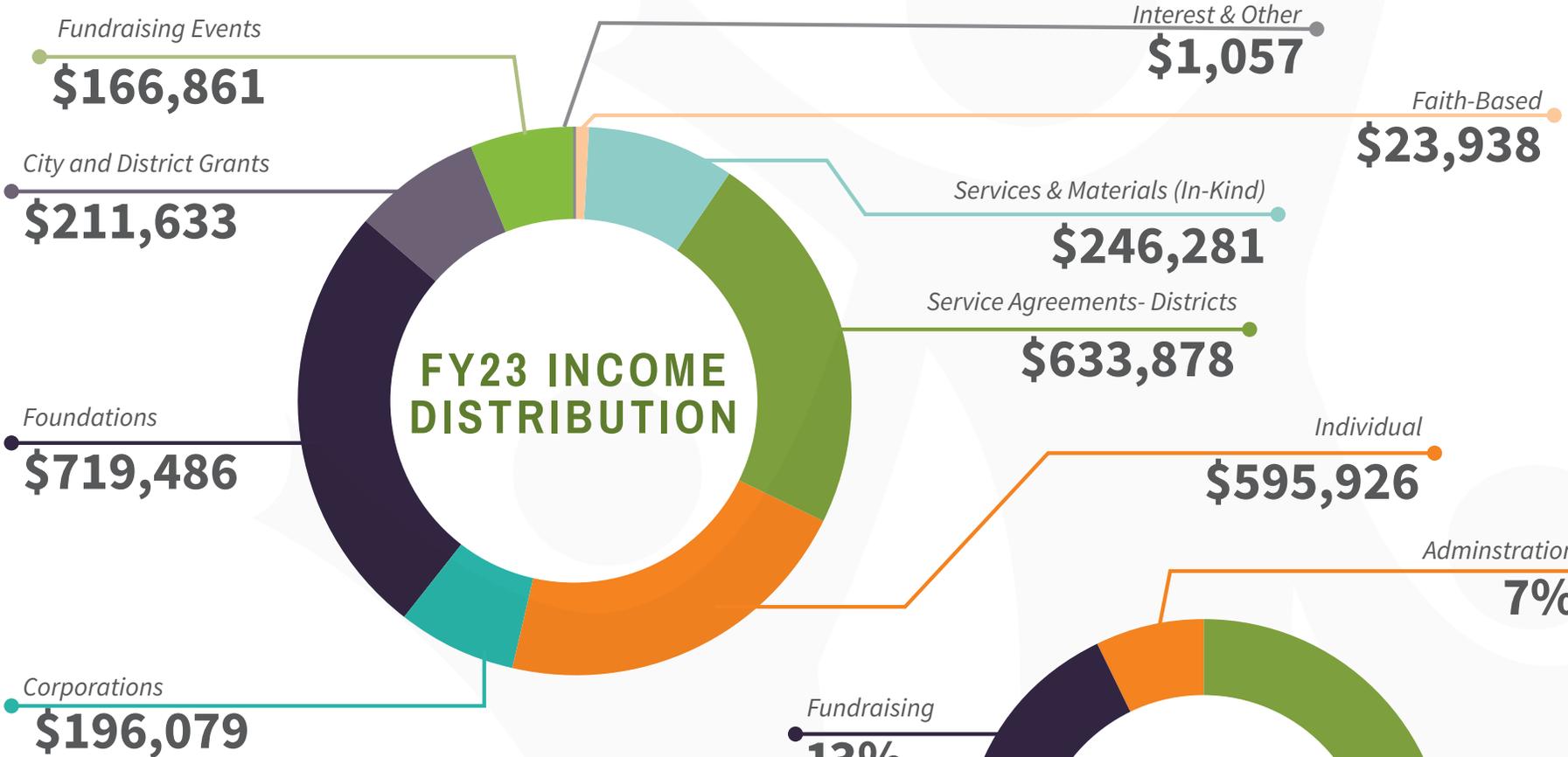
Annie Song, MPA

Director of Development



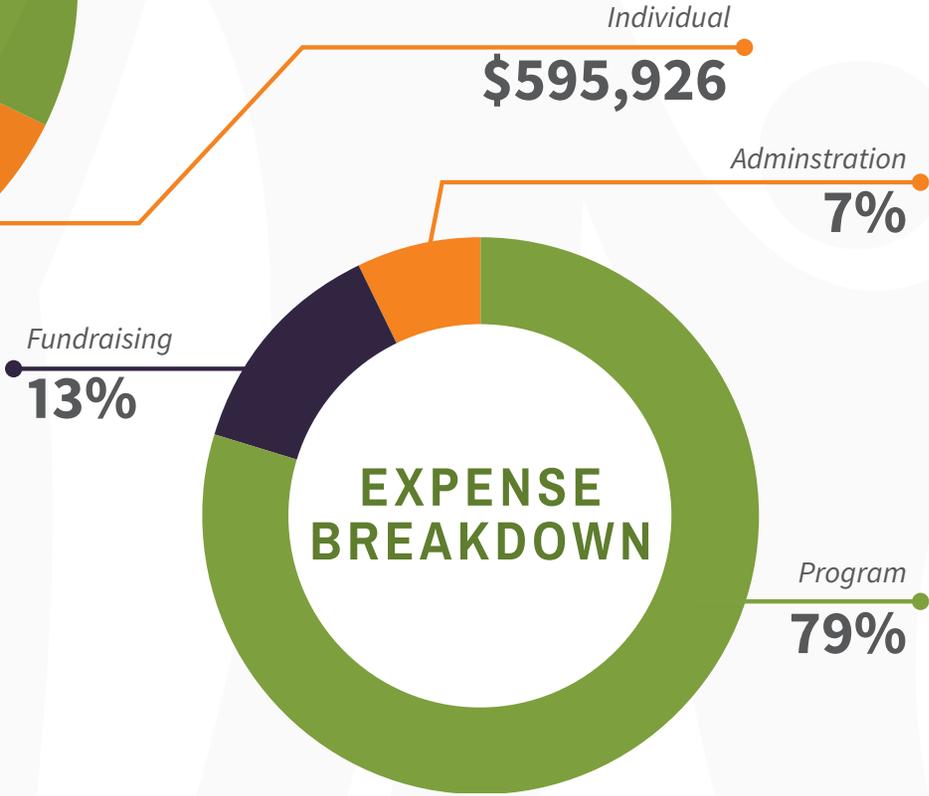
FINANCIALS

FY23 INCOME DISTRIBUTION



TOTAL INCOME
\$2,795,157

EXPENSE BREAKDOWN





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projecthopealliance.org

ENDING THE CYCLE
OF HOMELESSNESS,
**ONE CHILD
AT A TIME**