



**We are all  
Wayfinders.**



**Wayfinder**  
FAMILY SERVICES

Annual Report  
2017-2018



“The true gift of the wayfinder’s journey is not arrival at a destination; it is who we become along the way...”

(Spiller, Barclay-Kerr & Panoho, 2015)





“We are one of the few organizations that has the expertise to work with children with vision impairment and multiple disabilities.”

MIKI JORDAN  
PRESIDENT AND CEO

# Q & A

## **Why did Junior Blind change its name to Wayfinder Family Services in 2018?**

The name Junior Blind speaks to one important segment of the community that we support. We wanted a name that embraces all of the people we assist. We’re so proud of Junior Blind’s long history of serving children, youth and adults with visual impairments and developmental disabilities. In recent years, we have expanded to help children removed from their homes due to maltreatment, foster children with medical or mental health challenges, and families seeking to foster or adopt children. The new name welcomes all the children and families who seek assistance from us.

## **Do you still serve children and adults who are blind?**

Yes! In fact, we serve more children with vision loss across California than any other organization. We are one of the few organizations that has the expertise to work with children with vision impairment and multiple disabilities. Wayfinder will continue to meet the needs of blind children and adults, today and into the future.

## **Wayfinder strives to create a world where everyone has the opportunity to thrive. What does an equitable world look like to you?**

I think everyone should have a *chance to thrive*, which is the opportunity to learn, grow and become independent. *A safe haven*, where you are protected from harm and receive the care you need. *A loving family*, whether its your birth family, adoptive family or a family you have chosen. Those three visions shape this annual report.



“I’m proud that Wayfinder is always pushing itself to do more to serve those in need.”

SCOTT M. FARKAS, ESQ.  
CHAIR OF THE BOARD

**Why are you proud to be a Wayfinder?**

Three generations of my family have been passionate supporters of Wayfinder. I am proud to carry on that tradition by being a member of the Wayfinder board. My grandparents, Charlotte and Davre Davidson, beloved donors and members of the Wayfinder family, were instrumental in the organization’s success and growth, devoting countless hours to board leadership and volunteer work. My uncle, Harold Davidson, is a longtime board member and former chair who I am delighted to serve with on the board. In recognition of the family’s efforts, the Davidson Program for Independence bears the family name. Being involved at Wayfinder comes naturally for me, as I have known it my whole life. My wife, children and I love to attend so many of the events on campus, like the holiday carnival and Wayfinder Paralympic Games. It’s inspiring to see how much Wayfinder clients achieve. Also, I believe that Wayfinder’s work is extremely important to the communities it serves. The organization delivers very high-quality services, many of them specialized services that families cannot find anywhere else. I’m also proud that Wayfinder is always pushing itself to do more to serve those in need.

**How do you feel about the name change to Wayfinder?**

I love the new name! I think the name is powerful, positive and implies forward motion. We have received so much positive feedback. It’s exciting to be a part of this chapter in the organization’s history. I cannot wait to see where the future takes us.



# A Chance to Thrive



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lena is not yet 2 years old, but she has already battled extreme odds—and won! Elena was born at slightly more than 5 months, weighing only 1 pound, 4 ounces. “She had only a 20% chance of survival,” says Hector, Elena’s dad.



After two months in a neonatal intensive care unit, doctors discovered abnormal blood vessels in Elena’s eye. This condition, retinopathy, is common in premature babies and can cause blindness.

“For Elena, it was a struggle from the beginning,” says Hector. Three months after she was born, Elena came home, weighing only 4 pounds.

But survival was just the first obstacle. “The doctors told us she was going to be behind in vision, hearing, walking and talking,” Hector says. Elena began receiving early intervention services from Wayfinder.

Evelyn, a Wayfinder early intervention specialist, remembers meeting Elena for the first time. “She was almost 6 months old, but she looked like a newborn,” Evelyn says. “She was a very tiny baby.”

Evelyn established a rapport with Elena and began with the basics: tracking objects with her eyes and rolling over. With dedicated support from her parents and Evelyn, Elena began meeting her developmental goals.

Hector, Maria and Elena attended a session at Wayfinder’s Camp Bloomfield for early-intervention families. “Elena has a thing for horses now,” Hector says. “She cried the first time she got on the horse. We did it again, and she loved it! She didn’t want to get off.”

Twenty months after her birth, Elena started walking. “She sings songs. She has friends,” says Maria. “She is very energetic. She has a lot of charisma.” Her vision and hearing remain normal.

“Now, we have no worries about Elena being behind or struggling,” says Maria. Hector adds, “She overcame everything.”

#### WHY WAYFINDER?



# 91%

percentage of children in our early-intervention programs who met their individual developmental goals

## “She overcame everything.”



## Meet Lorenzo Paz

Former Client in Wayfinder's  
Davidson Program for Independence

**When you first came to Wayfinder, what was your biggest obstacle? What did Wayfinder do to help you overcome it and thrive?**

I am a chef, but when I got sick and became blind, I stopped cooking. When I went to the Davidson program, I got all my confidence in myself again. I started cooking again. I'm not afraid of the flame or the stove or oven. I was cleaning, cooking, walking on my own, talking to people. I had such a great time in that program.

**What does being a Wayfinder mean to you?**

If anyone has the opportunity to come to the Davidson program, they will find out how much help Wayfinder provides to everybody. It's a helping institution. Everybody was very, very nice. Everyone was sharing and helping each other. They are very kind people.

**Can you share one of your favorite Wayfinder moments?**

I cooked for everyone in the program. I was really so happy when everybody said, "Thank you, Lorenzo, your food is so great. Your pasta...your chicken...your steak." I was so happy with myself and happy for them. They were eating and talking and calling me 'chef.'

LEARN MORE ABOUT LORENZO AT  
[WWW.WAYFINDERFAMILY.ORG/LORENZO](http://WWW.WAYFINDERFAMILY.ORG/LORENZO)

# OUR PROGRAMS

## Early Intervention

Wayfinder's **EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM** in Southern California and **BLIND BABIES FOUNDATION** in Northern and Central California provide in-home early intervention services for children with vision loss and multiple disabilities, from birth to age 6. Young children maximize any vision they have and reduce developmental delays. The programs empower parents with knowledge and advocacy skills.

- **Number:** 1,115 children
- ★ **Outcome:** 91% of children in Early Intervention and Blind Babies met their individual developmental goals.

## Independence

Wayfinder's **DAVIDSON PROGRAM FOR INDEPENDENCE** in Los Angeles and **HATLEN CENTER** in San Pablo are comprehensive residential programs for adults ages 18 and older who are blind or visually impaired. Participants learn Braille, assistive technology, orientation and mobility, and independent-living skills so they can find employment and enjoy productive, fulfilling lives.

- **Number:** 71 adults
- ★ **Outcome:** 82% of graduates of Davidson and Hatlen moved into independent living, became employed or enrolled in an education or training program within 12 months of graduation.

**TRANSITION SERVICES** enable teenagers and young adults who are blind or visually impaired to explore careers and successfully transition to independent living, college or the workforce. Across California, participants learn assistive technology, independent living skills, and orientation & mobility skills.

- **Number:** 270 teens and young adults
- ★ **Outcome:** 98% of youth and young adults who participated for at least six months in Transition Services were in higher levels of training, employed or enrolled in higher education within six months of completing the program.





**Wayfinder Assistive Technology and Employment Services programs assisted adults from seven California counties this year.**

## Independence *(continued)*

**ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY TRAINING** provides instruction to adults with vision loss on the latest assistive technology devices and software for success in today's job market.

The program features our state-of-the-art technology lab and worksite assessments in Los Angeles, plus in-home training in Northern California.

■ **Number:** 42 adults

**EMPLOYMENT SERVICES** teaches adults who are blind or visually impaired the skills they need to join or rejoin the workforce. Clients emerge as competitive candidates in the workforce. Also, Wayfinder assists employers in adapting workplaces.

■ **Number:** 101 adults

## Education & Recreation

**WAYFINDER'S SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL** offers children and youth, ages 5 to 21 who are visually impaired or have multiple disabilities, a safe, positive environment for growth. Students learn in the least restrictive environment in our state-certified, non-public school.

■ **Number:** 49 children

★ **Outcome:** 82% of students in our Special Education School met their individual goals in white-cane skills, independent living, Braille and communication, and social and vocational skills.

Wayfinder offers **SPORTS AND RECREATION** that are adapted for child and teen athletes with disabilities. From goalball, a Paralympic team sport, to *Visions: Adventures in Learning*, we provide empowering recreational experiences.

■ **Number:** 228 children and youth



## Camp Bloomfield

**CAMP BLOOMFIELD** provides children and youth who are blind, visually impaired, multi-disabled or in foster care and their families with memorable experiences that develop self-esteem and build independence. The 45-acre campground in Malibu offers activities adapted for children of all ages and abilities.

■ **Number:** 580 children and adults

**CAMP BLOOMFIELD UPDATE:** The Woolsey Fire in November 2018 destroyed Camp Bloomfield. We are grateful that our camp manager and his family evacuated safely. The spirit of Camp Bloomfield lives on! Wayfinder will provide children and families with a camp experience in summer 2019.

If you would like to contribute to 2019's camp experience, please visit <http://camp-bloomfield.everydayhero.do/>



## Meet Ryan Fernandez

Former Intern in  
Transition Services

**How did Wayfinder help you overcome your biggest obstacle and thrive?**

I had only experienced my side of being visually impaired. Wayfinder gave me exposure to people with different visual impairments. It gave me an advantage in my master's program.

**What does being a Wayfinder mean to you?**

Being confident, being independent and paving my own path.

**Can you share one of your favorite Wayfinder moments?**

At the Transition Services conference, I spoke on a panel about accepting your disability. I gave my opinion: In order to be successful, we have to accept we have this disability and move forward. It was easily my favorite experience.

LEARN MORE ABOUT RYAN AT  
[WWW.WAYFINDERFAMILY.ORG/RYAN](http://WWW.WAYFINDERFAMILY.ORG/RYAN)

# A Safe Haven

# F

Frankie Jones knows how children feel when they are suddenly removed from their homes because of abuse or neglect. “You start off scared. You’re being taken out of your home,” he explains. “You’re overwhelmed, you want your mother or father.”

Frankie knows this because he lived it.

At age 7, he entered foster care due to neglect by his mother, who used drugs. Now, Frankie has made it his life’s work to help children who are entering the child welfare system. He is a residential counselor at The Cottage, Wayfinder’s transitional shelter care

program.

“I want them to know you can bounce back. This is not long-term,” he says. “And it’s not their fault.”

## “I want them to know you can bounce back.”

When he was in foster care, Frankie realized that he had a choice. “I could be scared of change, or I could be resilient. I could blame the system or utilize it.” Frankie chose to use the system, taking full advantage of the benefits offered to foster children in higher education to earn a bachelor’s degree.

Frankie wants children at The Cottage to understand that they are not powerless. “The most important things are them knowing that they have a safe place to stay, staff members who care, and they have rights,” he says.

His approach is to give hugs generously and to be a good listener and mentor. Frankie knows that even a small gesture can make all the difference to a scared child whose world has been turned upside down.

“I have an opportunity to change someone’s journey, to change someone’s path,” he says. “My high school motto was ‘find a path or make one.’ I feel I’m making a path for a new generation. And that’s what I enjoy doing most.”

### WHY WAYFINDER?



# 1,665

number of children removed from their homes who received care at The Cottage transitional shelter program in 2017-2018



## Meet Marsha Todd Austen

Cofounder and Director of Hope in a Suitcase

### How do you bring Wayfinder Family Services' mission to life?

Hope in a Suitcase is honored to partner with Wayfinder Family Services. Our goal is to free Wayfinder's expert staff in The Cottage from scrambling to provide clothing and other essentials so that they can focus on comforting and settling newly arrived children. Hope in a Suitcase wants every child to meet their new foster family with dignity, without the lasting memory of arriving with their belongings in a trash bag.

### What does being a Wayfinder mean to you?

Being a Wayfinder means partnership and warmth to me. When I first visited The Cottage, I was struck by the cozy surroundings. Everyone has a grim view of what a shelter looks like. But Wayfinder's Cottage

breaks the mold. The people set the tone, and the space matches that warmth. The clothing and comfort items we provide are an important part of that warmth and letting a child know that they matter.

### Can you share one of your favorite Wayfinder moments?

We all know entering the foster care system is one of the most unimaginable experiences a child can face. During an impromptu visit a few months ago, I spotted a group of three little girls leaving Wayfinder, each wearing new clothing and hugging stuffed animals from Hope in a Suitcase, and carrying one of our cheerful duffel bags. Being able to lift kids' spirits and confidence as they step into a new chapter means everything to us, and we're grateful to Wayfinder for sharing that vision.



"Hope in a Suitcase wants every child to meet their new foster family with dignity, without the lasting memory of arriving with their belongings in a trash bag."



Of the four organizations that provide transitional shelter care in L.A. County, Wayfinder's Cottage is the only one that accepts infants and toddlers.

## OUR PROGRAMS

### Residential

Wayfinder's **YOUTH RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT PROGRAM** offers foster children—many of whom have serious or life-threatening medical conditions or mental health challenges—a nurturing, highly structured, therapeutic residential program in which they can thrive. Youth receive individualized nursing and mental health support that address the barriers hindering their return home or to less restrictive foster care.

- **Number:** 72 youth
- ★ **Outcome:** 95% of foster children with medical or mental health conditions in our Youth Residential Treatment Program increased their educational performance or attendance at school.

The **TRANSITIONAL SHELTER CARE PROGRAM**, also known as **THE COTTAGE**, is a 72-hour, short-term transitional shelter program for children, ages 0 through 17, who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect. They need temporary refuge until they can be placed with family members or foster families. Wayfinder is one of only four agencies selected by the Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services to provide this service.

- **Number:** 1,665 children

### Counseling & Support

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES** provides therapy to young people who have been impacted by the foster care system, including children with special healthcare needs, multiple disabilities or chronic illness. Also, we assist individuals and families who need help coping with the effects of sudden or gradual vision loss.

- **Number:** 275 people

### Health & Well-Being

Wayfinder's **MEDICAL CENTER** provides 24-hour services to children with complex medical and mental health needs. Our nursing staff includes 12 full-time and four part-time nurses. We contract with a nurse practitioner, psychiatrist, endocrinologist and behavioral psychologist. The medical center serves children in our residential programs and Special Education School. High-quality care helps exceptionally vulnerable children stabilize their medical and mental health conditions.

- ★ **Outcome:** Wayfinder's nursing staff administered an average of 331 doses of medication per day, or 120,815 per year.



Meet

## Alex Ofuonye

Senior Director of Residential Services

### How do you bring Wayfinder Family Services' mission to life?

I work to build trust with the youth in our residential program and their families. They go from a vulnerable position to a trusting position.

### What does being a Wayfinder mean to you?

Our youth arrive on our campus feeling lonely and powerless. I have the opportunity to nurture and empower them. It is rewarding to see them build their self-esteem and meet their goals.

### Can you share one of your favorite Wayfinder moments?

My most cherished moments are when youth begin to make progress, even small steps, and when a student who has dropped out returns to school.

**“She looked out for me as if I was her daughter. We developed almost a family bond.”**



“**M**

any people thought I was going to break when I went into foster care,” says 19-year-old Melanie. “But I knew that I was strong enough to become the person I wanted to be.”

At age 15, Melanie entered the child welfare system and was placed with a foster family. “I was nervous and a little bit scared,” Melanie remembers. “They were strangers to me, but I was hoping for the best.”

What Melanie found was an understanding, giving family. “It was very different from what I was used to,” Melanie says. “It was very calm and peaceful.”

Melanie’s foster mom, Lourdes, loved and supported her. “She looked out for me as if I was her daughter,” says Melanie. “We developed almost a family bond.” Lourdes made sure that Melanie went to school on time, did her homework and got tutoring when she needed it.

In high school, Melanie enrolled in a health care class. “I took the class not knowing I wanted to be in the medical field,” she says. The course convinced Melanie to pursue a nursing career.

Her Wayfinder social worker and Lourdes guided Melanie through applying for college admission and financial aid. As she approached age 18, they gave her increasing responsibility so she could become more independent.

After three years with her foster family, it was time to say goodbye. “They were sad when I left,” Melanie recalls. “I was ready to build my own life.”

Today, Melanie is living on her own and enrolled in college. She is focused on her future.

Melanie was right. She is strong. And the support of a loving foster family helped her build an independent life.

## A Loving Family

### WHY WAYFINDER?



**Therapeutic, supportive services from Wayfinder ensure that children reach their greatest potential in safe, nurturing foster and permanent homes.**



## Meet Seana Aylen

Wayfinder Director of Foster Care and Adoptions

### How do you bring Wayfinder Family Services' mission to life?

I find quality foster homes, giving families the tools they need to address the behavioral challenges that may be present due to children's history of abuse and neglect. I emphasize the importance of providing permanency through adoption, giving children lifelong connections and a family to count on.

### What's your Wayfinder compass: the value you most connect with?

"We put people first." I recognize the uniqueness of each child and try to find a quality family that is a good fit. I put people first because both sides—the child and the family—have to be a good match, especially for adoption.

### Can you share one of your favorite Wayfinder moments?

A couple wanted to adopt a baby they had been fostering who was drug-addicted and had significant needs. After a year, he reunified with his mom. But they said, "He is our son. We believe he will come back to us." After a year he came back, but with a baby sister. They weren't looking to adopt two children, but they did. It took three or four years. They stayed the course. They believed this was their son, and they were not giving up.

# OUR PROGRAMS

## Family Services

Wayfinder's **FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION** program matches children and youth who have been displaced from their homes due to abuse or neglect with families that can provide safe, caring homes. Our adoption services find loving, lifelong families for children in the child welfare system. Therapeutic, supportive services from Wayfinder ensure that children reach their greatest potential in safe, nurturing foster and permanent homes. Wayfinder is drawing on its decades of experience assisting children with disabilities to ensure that hard-to-place children with health and mental health conditions find foster and permanent homes.

■ **Number:** 465 children

Foster care is "both a child welfare issue and a disability issue" due to "alarmingly high numbers" of foster children with physical, mental and developmental disabilities.

(National Council on Disability, 2008)



Stable, caring foster families increase resilience and reduce negative developmental outcomes for foster children.

(Jones Harden, 2004)





Adults with intellectual disabilities living in community group homes significantly increase their ability to perform daily living skills, compared to those who live in other settings.

(Woodman, Mailick, Anderson & Esbensen, 2014)

## Group Homes

Wayfinder operates five **GROUP HOMES** in single-family homes, each housing up to six children or six young adults with multiple disabilities. Residents receive round-the-clock care. All group homes are conveniently located in the South Los Angeles neighborhood near the Wayfinder campus so that residents can attend the Special Education School, use Wayfinder's recreational facilities or receive care from our 24-hour medical center in an emergency.

■ **Number:** 32 children and young adults

## WHY WAYFINDER?

# 87%

percentage of residents of our group homes who achieved two or more of their four individual goals for the year



## Meet Shannon Morales

### Director of Group Homes

#### How do you bring Wayfinder Family Services' mission to life?

In my department—Group Homes—these kids don't have a voice. I support the mission by making sure we are the voice for young adults and children with developmental disabilities who do not have a voice.

#### What does being a Wayfinder mean to you?

It means helping individuals with developmental disabilities through stages of their lives. We have children who come to us before age 18, and we help them transition to adult life. Also, we find a way to make sure that the people we support have access to the resources they need, like a psychiatrist who understands the needs of people with developmental disabilities.

#### Can you share one of your favorite Wayfinder moments?

We took in a resident from our transitional shelter program, The Cottage. He was in the shelter for more than 60 days. They had difficulty finding a foster placement that could meet his behavioral and medical needs. I knew Group Homes could give him a better quality of life in a place he could thrive.

# Financial Data

JULY 1, 2017 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2018

## Statement of Financial Position

### ASSETS

Cash	\$ 392,403
Accounts, grants and pledges receivable	4,370,176
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,203,304
Investments	28,509,249
Property and equipment	16,784,567
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>52,259,699</b>

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

#### *Liabilities*

Accounts payable	633,948
Accrued liabilities	3,291,978
Line of credit	425,000
Loan	333,333
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>4,684,259</b>

#### *Net Assets*

Unrestricted	46,788,100
Temporarily restricted	581,460
Permanently restricted	205,880
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>47,575,440</b>

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 52,259,699</b>
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### WHY WAYFINDER?



Wayfinder was reaccredited by the Council on Accreditation in November 2017 after an extensive, yearlong process. COA accreditation signifies that Wayfinder has exemplary programs, fiscal oversight, operations and management. Only 10 nonprofits in Los Angeles have achieved this distinction.



JULY 1, 2017 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2018

## Statement of Activities

### REVENUE

#### Private Support

Wills and bequests	\$ 4,564,982
Other contributions	1,991,575
Trust income	978,359
Contributed property, good and services	827,321
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>8,362,237</b>

#### Government fees and other revenue

Government contracts, fees for service, grants	20,293,275
Other revenue	652,460
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>20,945,735</b>

#### Other

Investment income, net of fees	342,370
Gain on investments	1,311,290
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>1,653,660</b>

**TOTAL REVENUE** 30,961,632

### EXPENSES

Program services	23,928,370
Management and administrative	3,160,637
Fundraising and public relations	1,518,820
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>28,607,827</b>

**CHANGE IN NET ASSETS** 2,353,805\*

**NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR** \$ 47,575,440

### Operations of Related Organization – Foster Care and Adoption

Revenue	\$ 5,693,625
Expenses	5,355,988
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 337,637</b>

\*Two passive items unrelated to Wayfinder's operations affect our operating results: nonrecurring wills and bequests and profit or loss from investments. The Board of Directors adds excess earnings from planned gifts and investments to our investment portfolio to safeguard programs and fund program enhancements. In 2017-2018, Wayfinder's operating result was a modest surplus of \$4,095.



**CHARITY NAVIGATOR** awarded Wayfinder four stars for the eighth consecutive year, signifying sound fiscal management and responsible stewardship of donations.



Wayfinder received a Gold Seal of Transparency from **GUIDESTAR**, recognizing its commitment to transparency and fiscal responsibility.



Wayfinder is a **BBB ACCREDITED CHARITY**, meeting all 20 standards for accountability in governance, measuring effectiveness, finances and fundraising.

# Our Benefactors

## Thank you to our donors!

### \$100,000 and above

The Derfner Foundation

### \$50,000 – \$74,999

Carol L. Price/Tabor Trust  
S. Mark Taper Foundation  
Stevie Wonder/We Are You Foundation

### \$25,000 – \$49,999

Jill Atterbury  
John and Marjorie Bancroft  
The Carl & Roberta Deutsch Foundation  
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The Green Foundation  
Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Foundation  
The Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation  
Annunziata Sanguinetti Foundation  
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians  
Sharks Foundation  
Valley Jesters  
Wells Fargo Foundation  
Witherbee Foundation  
*And those who wish to remain anonymous*

### \$15,000 – \$24,999

The Beverly and Frank Arnstein Foundation  
Johnny Carson Foundation  
Max Factor Family Foundation  
Jack Felthouse Scholarship Fund  
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Independent Financial Group  
Ann Jackson Family Foundation  
The Karl Kirchgessner Foundation  
The Marcia Israel Foundation, Inc.  
The Ann Peppers Foundation  
George H. Sandy Foundation  
The Valley Foundation  
*And those who wish to remain anonymous*

### \$10,000 – \$14,999

The Brotman Foundation of California  
Gail Buchalter and Warren Breslow  
Vera R. Campbell  
Nadine and Harold Davidson  
Scott and Carin Farkas and Family  
Goodwin Family Memorial Trust  
Gary Gorchester  
Harvey Family Foundation  
Lisa and Robert Held  
Steve Hernández/Barnes & Thornburg LLP  
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation  
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Dr. and Mrs. Fernando Morales  
Robert S. and Helen P. Odell Fund

Peninsula Endowment  
Albert Sweet and Craig Darian/  
Occidental Entertainment  
Group Holdings, Inc.  
Jeffrey P. Wilson  
*And those who wish to remain anonymous*

### \$5,000 – \$9,999

9th Wonder  
Marie and Jay Allen  
Associated Roofing Contractors  
of the Bay Area Counties, Inc  
Amir Atashi Rang  
Charles Bellone  
Bolton & Company  
Kimberly and Albert Brooks  
Bruce Ford and Anne Smith  
Bundy Foundation  
Ed Chambliss & Laina Schwartz  
Combined Federal Campaign  
Comerica Bank  
The Hugh and Hazel Darling  
Foundation  
Linda Myerson Dean  
The Max and Victoria Dreyfus  
Foundation  
Constance W. Dunitz  
Elks of Los Angeles Foundation  
Employees Community Fund of  
Boeing California  
Finish Line Youth Foundation  
Rodger and Kate Graef Family  
Foundation  
Fred L. Hartley Family Foundation  
Miki Jordan and David  
Emenhiser  
Palmer C. Langdon  
Lawrence Livermore National  
Security  
Little Caesars Pizza  
Jeannette and Jonathan I. Macy

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Callie D. McGrath Foundation  
Moose Toys  
Mutual of America  
Northrop Grumman Corporation  
The Louis & Harold Price  
Foundation, Inc.  
Rite Aid Foundation  
Meta & George Rosenberg  
Foundation  
San Pablo Community  
Foundation  
Sence Foundation  
Reva Shakkottai  
Lucille Ellis Simon Foundation  
Lon V. Smith Foundation  
Snecker Family Charitable  
Foundation  
Grace Helen Spearman  
Charitable Foundation  
Teichert Foundation  
USABA/Anthem Foundation  
National Fitness Challenge  
Venable Foundation, Inc.  
Brent Williams/Wells Fargo Bank  
Bernard E. & Alba Witkin  
Charitable Foundation  
The Wood-Claeysens  
Foundation  
*And those who wish to remain anonymous*

WAYFINDER HAS MADE EVERY EFFORT TO ACCURATELY LIST DONORS. IF YOU NOTICE AN ERROR, PLEASE CALL THE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE AT (323) 295-4555 EXT. 220.

## \$2,000 – \$4,999

Craig Ackerman  
Carole and Kenneth Adashek, M.D.  
America's Best Local Charities  
Angela Anantharaj, M.D.  
The Cecile & Fred Bartman Foundation  
The Lowell Berry Foundation  
Beverly Hills Charitable Foundation  
Buddha Jigong House of Enlightenment  
California American Water  
Arnold & Kay Clejan Charitable Foundation  
Chloe Crawford Fund  
Hazel E. Daly Fund  
Ecolab  
Enterprise Holdings Foundation  
Eye Surgical and Medical Associates  
The Jean B. Fields Charitable Fund  
Dr. Arthur and Mrs. Melba Fields  
Ella Fitzgerald Charitable Fund  
Fraternal Order of the Eagles, Unit #8  
Clare and Jack Friedman  
Georges & Germaine Fusenot Charity Foundation  
Carl Gellert & Celia Berta Gellert Foundation  
Fred & Peggy Hartley Family Foundation  
Herbst Foundation  
Linda and Michael Hong  
Christine L. Johnston  
Kaiser Permanente Northern California  
Kelly Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust  
Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica  
Rosemary and John Klem  
Joanne C. Kozberg  
Shelley and Michael Krall  
Dinny and David Lesser  
Los Angeles Host Lions Club  
Florence and Mike Madani  
Sheila and Michael Marchese  
Joe H. Miller, Jr.  
The Dr. Henry & Lilian Nesburn Award Fund  
Pasadena Host Lions Club  
Mary and James Perkins  
Jennifer and Richard Porter  
RBC Foundation

Violet G. Sachs Endowment Fund  
Frances M. Shloss  
Brian J. Stock  
Variety Club Children's Charity  
Vision Produce Company  
Wells Fargo – Tulare Branch  
George Randall Williams, M.D. and Sandra S. Arey  
R.W. Zant Company  
*And those who wish to remain anonymous*

## \$1,000 – \$1,999

Glen Y. Arakawa  
Partow Z. Bagheri  
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## Wayfinder Moment

- **THE PLACE:** Hesperia, California
- **THE PEOPLE:** Miranda, Daniel, Thomas and their Wayfinder social worker
- **THE GREAT MOMENT:** Miranda had an empty house and a heart full of love to give after her grown children moved out. She began fostering two boys, Daniel and Thomas, whose father was deceased and whose mother had been deported. The boys struggled with grief and loss. Three years later in November, even as Miranda completed the adoption, the boys worried that something would prevent them being adopted. Their Wayfinder social worker told them, "No more moving, no more changing schools. You are home forever." The boys relaxed. The social worker asked them, "What is the number one item on your wish list for Christmas?" Daniel replied, "This is my Christmas wish come true. All I wanted was to get adopted. I didn't want anything else." His little brother smiled and agreed. Everyone's dream came true: Miranda got more children to love, and two boys gained a loving home.



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## Wayfinder Moment

- **THE PLACE:** Wayfinder's Camp Bloomfield in the Santa Monica Mountains in Malibu, California
- **THE PEOPLE:** Hundreds of families with children with disabilities attended our annual family summer camp session, with activities adapted for children of all ages and abilities. Jennifer and Frank Wahl and son Shaun, who uses a walker and wheelchair, created special memories they'll never forget. "You can talk to others and know you're not alone," says Jennifer. "It's like being with our extended family for a vacation."
- **THE GREAT MOMENT:** Shaun played modified soccer and hockey and swung in a harness on the zip lines. The first grader received three awards. "It was really nice for him to be recognized for the sweet little boy that he is," says Jennifer.



# Wayfinder Moment

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Edward and Nancy Young  
*And those who wish to remain  
anonymous*

- **THE PLACE:** Wayfinder's Los Angeles campus
- **THE PEOPLE:** Hundreds of athletes and their families and friends gathered for the 2018 Wayfinder Paralympic Games, formerly the Junior Blind Olympics. The Paralympic Games empower athletes with visual impairments or multiple disabilities to compete in adapted sports with peers of similar abilities.
- **THE GREAT MOMENT:** Eleven-year-old Pierryae kicked off the opening ceremonies by singing the national anthem. When the microphone cut out, the athletes and family members joined him, singing "...banner yet wave ...o'er the land of the free..." The mic back on, Pierryae concluded, "...and the home of the brave." His star shone bright all day, winning medals in the 50-yard dash, javelin, indoor shotput, challenge track, obstacle course, kayak racing, rowing and archery.



## Sustaining Partners

*Thank you to our sustaining partners, who support Wayfinder through monthly donations.*

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## Planned Gifts

*We are grateful for the bequest and trust gifts received in full or in part this year.*

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of Franklin Lloyd McPhail  
Lillian and Nick Moss  
Lucy and Leonard G. Muskin

# Wayfinder Moment

- **THE PLACE:** The Cottage, Wayfinder's transitional shelter program
- **THE PEOPLE:** Five-year-old Darryl was removed from his home due to neglect and sent to The Cottage. During his stay, staff discovered that Darryl suffered from a seizure disorder. He needed special care and medication. Social workers were determined to find the right foster family with the experience and training to care for a child with special needs.
- **THE GREAT MOMENT:** Within a few days, Darryl's sparkling personality and love of music emerged. Whenever he heard music, he would break out his signature dance moves. Darryl went to live with a loving foster family that had the training to care for a child with health challenges—and that shared Darryl's love of music!



## Planned Gifts (continued)

Estate of William N. Nelson  
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## Legacy Society

*Our sincere thanks to Legacy Society members, who have made provisions for Wayfinder in their estate plans or who have established a charitable gift annuity. (\*indicates charitable gift annuity)*

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*Many thanks to our friends who made generous in-kind contributions this year.*

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## Wayfinder Moment

- **THE PLACE:** A family home in Kern County
- **THE PEOPLE:** Mom Debra, baby Lizzie and a Wayfinder early intervention specialist
- **THE GREAT MOMENT:** Baby Lizzie was born prematurely. Her mom, Debra, struggled with the baby's complicated needs and had difficulty bonding with Lizzie. A specialist from Wayfinder's Early Intervention Program, which serves five Southern California counties, arrived to assess the child. Debra's first words to the specialist were heartbreaking. "I don't think my daughter likes me. She won't look at me. She won't smile." As part of the assessment of Lizzie's response to light, the specialist had Debra cradle Lizzie, facing Debra. As the specialist lit Debra's face with a flashlight, Lizzie's face brightened with her first smile for her mom. This special moment was the first step in expanding Lizzie's visual skills and increasing the loving bond between mother and child.





## WHY WAYFINDER?



Wayfinder was one of 10 organizations selected in 2017 to participate in a Transformational Cohort by the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities. With a professional coach, Wayfinder management is using the principles of change leadership to respond to trends in social services. This work is strengthening family engagement, stability, permanency and wellness for our clients.

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