

66Your values become your destiny. 99

MAHATMA GANDHI

# **FAMILY**

We provide families with a supportive community and resources so they can thrive.

We want every child to grow up in a loving family.

### WHATEVER IT TAKES

# **EMPATHETIC**

We seek to develop a deeper understanding of our children and families.

We work to embed empathy into our decision-making, interactions and actions.

## INNOVATIVE

We are agile and forward-thinking. We continually seek out better ways to help children and families thrive.

# COLLABORATIVE

We can't do it alone and we must do it together.

We work in partnership to address
the holistic needs of children and families.

We never give up. We will always be there for our children and their families.

# **INCLUSIVE**

We stand up in support of equity and social justice, and we stand against injustice and racism. We strive to build an equitable world for our clients and staff.

## **DRIVEN**

We take every opportunity to move forward in our strategic direction and to create meaningful change.



ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020 WAYFINDER FAMILY SERVICES 1



#### "Wayfinder tapped into each of its core values to make sure clients received services without interruption during the pandemic."

MIKI JORDAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

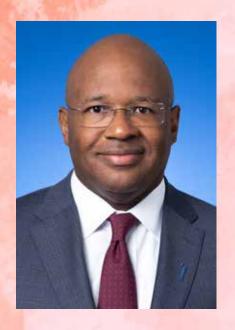
# Changing the future, together

2020 is a year of unprecedented challenges. How is Wayfinder meeting these challenges while continuing to live its values?

When the going gets tough, you dig into your values to guide you. Wayfinder tapped into each of its core values to make sure clients received services without interruption during the pandemic. In particular, our values "Collaborative," "Whatever it takes" and "Innovative" describe our quick pivot to virtual delivery methods for many services, like early intervention, mental health therapy and educational programs. In our 24/7 residential programs, staff did their utmost to ensure safety and compassionate care for our vulnerable clients. I'm so proud of how everyone at Wayfinder is living our values during the coronavirus crisis.

#### How do Wayfinder's values guide your work each day?

One of my longtime passions is equity for all of our clients, which is reflected in our "Inclusive" value. The majority of people Wayfinder serves—in child welfare and in our disability services—are low income individuals of color. They do not have equitable access to health, education, housing or economic opportunities. Advancing equity is a key pillar of our strategic plan, and we are working to embed inclusion, diversity, equity and accessibility at every level of our organization. In 2019, we formed Wayfinder's first Inclusion Council of employees who champion equity and foster open discussions within the organization. Also in 2019, we began offering implicit bias and anti-racism education to our staff so that we can disrupt bias. We are taking these and other steps toward building a more equitable world.



"Unfortunately, not every child's family has the connections and support they need. Wayfinder's work is to fill that gap."

ELWORTH (BRENT) WILLIAMS, JR. CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Wayfinder merged with Lilliput Families at the end of 2019-20. How do the organizations' values align?

We are very happy that Lilliput has become a part of Wayfinder. Our values are completely aligned. Lilliput is in Sacramento County, and it is recognized throughout California for its high-quality services for children in the child welfare system. Lilliput is particularly known for its expertise in kinship care, which is when extended family members or close family friends raise children when their parents cannot. We are excited about blending the unique skills of each agency to make us a stronger organization. The merger unites two organizations that maintain the highest quality in child welfare programs. Together, we are building healthier families and finding loving homes for children across the state.

#### What value stands out to you this year?

Wayfinder added "Family" as a value when it merged with Lilliput Families. I was lucky to come from a loving family. I grew up in a developing country, where large, extended families are very important as a support system. My parents were both educators—my father a math teacher and my mother the principal of a school. So they worked hard to ensure that my brothers and sisters and I got an education. Unfortunately, not every child's family has the connections and support they need. Wayfinder's work is to fill that gap. You know the saying, it takes a village to raise a child? I would amend that to say, it takes a village to support a family. Wayfinder is that village. Wayfinder is there for a family that needs to support the development of an infant with multiple disabilities. Wayfinder is there to provide support and connections to a family that is raising a foster child who has mental health challenges. I'm very proud to be part of Wayfinder's work in living its "Family" value.





# WHATEVE

ne moment, Brittany was a focused 16-year-old with good grades, college plans and a bright future. The next moment she was blind. She had been shot in the head by a stray bullet while in a car parked at her friend's house. But the shooting didn't dim her future at all.

Brittany describes the experience as life-changing, but not devastating. "I was very happy when I woke up the next day," she recalls. "I was alive. I didn't have any pain, and I remembered everything."

Doctors warned Brittany's parents that she would likely be depressed after such a traumatizing event. But not Brittany. "I couldn't see my future ending when I was 16," Brittany says. "I didn't want to be a statistic. I still was smart, and I wanted to go to a university like I had planned."

The shooting occurred in May 2012, so Brittany spent the summer recovering. She went back to high school in September with an aide to guide her through the hallways. Her grade point average

### UNSTOPPABLE

during her senior year was 4.0.

Brittany entered Wayfinder's Assistive Technology Training in the summer before

college to learn computer screen-reader software to write papers and do research. "People told me I shouldn't go to college yet, that it would take six months to learn assistive technology," says Brittany. "But I insisted I was going to be done in three months."

And she was.

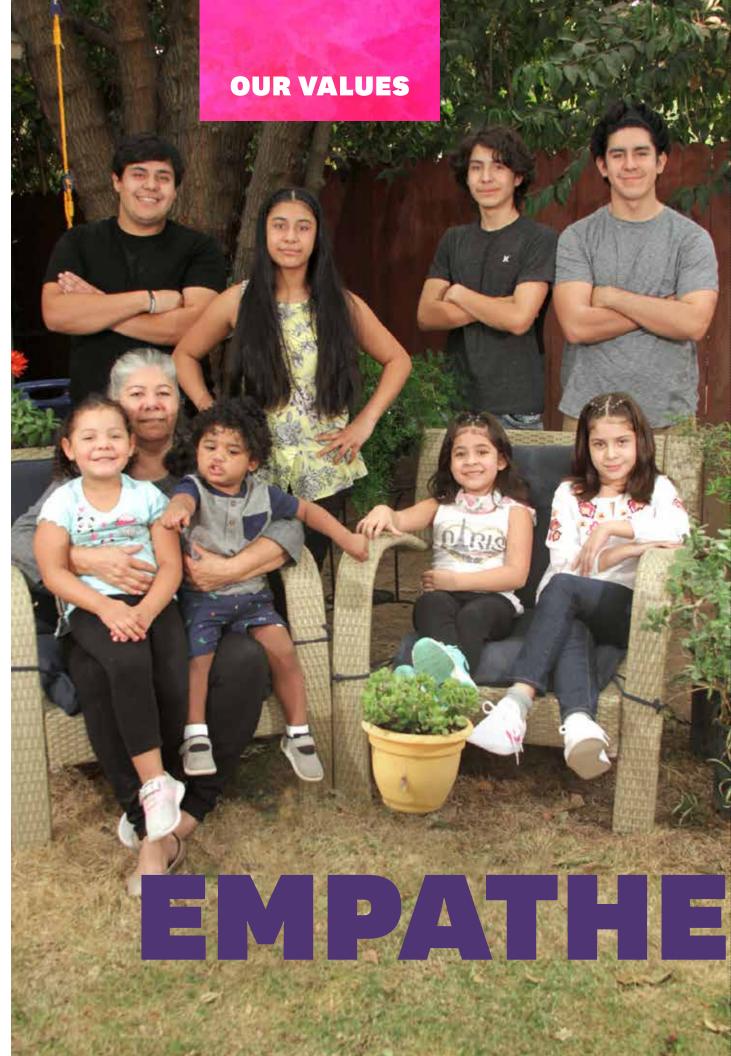
At Cal State Dominguez Hills, Brittany earned a bachelor's degree in sociology in four-and-a-half years. Then she entered Wayfinder's Davidson Program for Independence to learn independent living skills like mobility and braille.

"Brittany is resilient. She has what it takes," says Allison Burdett, Wayfinder's associate VP, visual impairment & developmental disabilities services. "Having something so life-altering happen—a lot of people never recover the life they wanted. But Brittany wasn't going to be sidetracked."

Before the pandemic paused everyone's life, Brittany was working at a restaurant that lets patrons experience blindness by dining in the dark, as well as co-facilitating Wayfinder's trainings for mental health clinicians treating people with disabilities.

Brittany is unstoppable. She plans to apply to master's programs in social work. Brittany credits Wayfinder with helping her achieve her goals: "Wayfinder is a stepping stone to becoming a functioning, visually impaired individual and an independent individual."

# RITTAKES



even years ago, Rosa got word that her daughter Ysabel's six young children were being left alone at home. Rosa had been helping care for her grandchildren, but in a moment of anger six months earlier, Ysabel had ordered Rosa out. "Ysabel used to be a great mom," Rosa says. "But her husband started beating her and then left her. She started doing drugs."

Rosa prayed, "Please bring her to my door. Have her ask me to care for the kids." Rosa's prayer was answered. Juan Manuel, Christian, Noah, Elizabeth, Bella and Victoria came to live with her.

Rosa became a kinship caregiver—a relative or close family friend who steps up to raise children to avoid the trauma of separation from their birth family. Lilliput, a part of Wayfinder, supports kinship



families, particularly those like Rosa's that form without the assistance of a child welfare agency. In those cases, kinship providers do not receive state funds to cover children's basic needs.

"Rosa is in a peculiar situation because she doesn't get any public funds for the kids," says Tania Fuentes, Wayfinder social worker. "We've had to think outside the box to help her."

### AN ANSWERED PRAYER

Wayfinder helped Rosa find a larger rental home and paid the security deposit. Tania assisted Rosa with paperwork for family court. "I call them angels. I never have had so much help with the kids," says Rosa. "They ask what I need. That means a lot."

Three years ago when Ysabel gave birth to a girl, Rosa added baby Gabriela to the family. Eighteen months ago, Rosa got a call from a child welfare worker. Ysabel was infected with HIV, and so was her newborn son. At the hospital, Rosa talked to the fragile baby. "I told him, 'I'm here for you,'" Rosa remembers. "He squeezed my hand." Rosa carefully administered antiretroviral medicines to baby Jeremiah, and he now tests negative for HIV. Rosa is adopting Jeremiah.



To manage a household of eight children, ages 19 years to 18 months, Rosa has established routines. The older children help care for the younger ones, and everyone works together. "Rosa is super resilient," says Tania. "She is loving and caring. She puts others first before herself."

To Rosa, raising her grandchildren is a gift. "I tell them, I am so blessed to have you with me, to see you at night when you're sleepy," Rosa says. "I get to cover you with a blanket and give you a kiss goodnight."

he A Team is big. The A Team is lively. No, not the 1980s television show! The new A Team is composed of parents Alejandro and Alicia, plus their three adopted children, Angel, Abigail and Aaden, along with Avah, whose adoption is nearly finalized.

Alicia and Alejandro met in choir class in high school. "My husband says when he saw me, he knew I would be his wife," Alicia says. "It took me a little while longer." They married in 2009.

Having both grown up with a lot of siblings, the young couple wanted a big family. They could not have biological children, so they turned to Wayfinder to adopt.

The first boy they fostered with the hope of adopting went back to his biological parents. "It was really hard," recalls Alejandro. "We were so attached to him." They worried that children they hoped to adopt in the future would return to their biological families.

After counseling and support from Seana Aylen, Wayfinder's director

# A TEAM

of foster care and adoptions and an adoptive mom herself, Alejandro and Alicia got past the fear. "We were going to be there for the kids and do whatever we could to make

them happy and comfortable," Alicia says.

Alicia and Alejandro's children are two pairs of biological siblings. "Keeping siblings together will build strong connections," Alicia says. "I don't want them to feel that they don't have blood relationships." All four children were born drug exposed. They took Angel into the family when he was seven-and-a-half months old, followed by his sister Abigail when she was 3 days old. Aaden came next, only 3 days old, and later his baby sister Avah at 2 days old.

Because the siblings pairs are of different ethnicities, "My daughter likes to call us the rainbow family," Alicia laughs.

Along their journey, Wayfinder has supported the family. "Seana always answered our questions," Alejandro says. "She would explain the possible outcomes of our court dates, and that put us at ease."

Alejandro and Alicia started a YouTube channel to pass along what they know about foster-to-adopt to other couples. For anyone considering fostering or adopting, Alicia has a message: "Open your hearts. Don't be afraid. At first, we were scared, but we wouldn't have it any other way now."





INCLUSIVE



andice got a phone call from a social worker. A baby named Tara needed a loving home. Tara had had an unfair start in life. She was exposed to drugs in the womb. She was removed from her birth parents after a severely traumatic experience at 5 weeks old. Candice and her husband, Daniel, had a baby, Declan, who was just two weeks older than Tara, plus 4-year-old Seamus. But Tara needed them, so they made room in their family and began the adoption process.

As Candice and Daniel got to know Tara, they saw she wasn't developing the skills appropriate for her age. When she was 18 months old, Tara entered Wayfinder's Early Intervention Program with several types of developmental delays. She didn't understand

# GAME CHANGER

emotions on faces or comprehend simple phrases. She fell down frequently. Wayfinder early intervention specialist Maria Gomez took on Tara's challenging case.

To handle complex cases, Wayfinder specialists receive training in stress and

vicarious trauma management, funded by The Carl and Roberta Deutsch Foundation. "Listening to Tara's background was very intense," Maria recalls. "I had to be sensitive to the family and give 100 percent while not letting it take a toll on my personal health."

"Wayfinder jumped right in and tried to understand," says Candice. "They were really good listeners and thought outside the box. Maria watched and caught things that I even missed."

Maria and Candice set an initial goal for Tara in early intervention: to pay attention to a book while Candice read to her. Candice and Daniel did not know why this was hard for Tara. Then Maria had an idea. "Maria said we should try books with more realistic illustrations of people," recalls Candice. "I would have never thought of that. It was a game changer. Now she loves reading books."

Maria used emotion cards—with realistic illustrations—to help Tara understand emotions on faces. "We realized how much she was starting to improve when we showed her the laugh card one day," Candice remembers. "Tara threw her head back and did the biggest laugh. We hadn't modeled it for her. What she did was funny. We laughed for 10 minutes." After a year in early intervention, Tara is making great strides. Her vocabulary has increased dramatically, and she is using two- and three-word sentences. Her physical stability is better.

During the pandemic, Tara is continuing to improve through telehealth sessions and learning materials that Maria drops off. Wayfinder's virtual parent support group was a big help to Candice. "Wayfinder means a safe place for our family," Candice says. "They are so professional and caring."

# NOVATIVE

### **OUR IMPACT**

#### **WE INCREASE ACCESS TO**

### educational success.

92% of children in Early Intervention and Blind Babies met their individual development goals Our statewide EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAM, known as BLIND BABIES FOUNDATION in Northern and Central California, provides 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 program empowers parents with knowledge and advocacy skills. During the pandemic, specialists are providing telehealth sessions instead of in-home visits.

- Number: 1,079 children and 3,237 family members
- ★ Outcome: 92% of children in Early Intervention and Blind Babies met their individual development goals.

Our **SPECIAL EDUCATION SCHOOL** offers children and youth ages 5 to 22 who have multiple disabilities, including vision loss, a safe, positive environment for growth. Teachers are continuing to develop students' communication, mobility and independent living skills during the pandemic through online distance learning. The school drops off materials and helps families support their children's learning.

- Number: 46 children and 138 family members
- ★ Outcome: 79% 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.



#### **OUR WORK ADVANCES**

# economic opportunity.

The DAVIDSON PROGRAM FOR INDEPENDENCE in Los Angeles and HATLEN CENTER in San Pablo are comprehensive residential rehabilitation programs that prepare adults ages 18 and older who are blind or visually impaired to find employment and enjoy productive, fulfilling lives. In response to the coronavirus stay-home order, participants transitioned to distance learning to continue studying braille, assistive technology, orientation and mobility, and independent-living skills.

- Number: 65 adults
- ★ Outcome: 88% of graduates of Davidson and Hatlen increased their independence by achieving their goals in orientation and mobility, assistive technology and independent living skills.

**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, young people learn about financial aid and scholarship options, participate in work-based learning and practice interviewing skills. During the pandemic, training is being delivered virtually.

- Number: 80 teens and young adults
- ★ Outcome: 100% of teens 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.

**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. During the pandemic, technology training is being delivered via distance learning and has incorporated training in web conferencing tools.

■ Number: 24 adults

**EMPLOYMENT SERVICES** teaches adults who are blind or visually impaired the skills they need to get a job. Delivered via distance learning during the pandemic, the program added training in virtual meeting etiquette, video interviewing and work-from-home expectations. Clients emerge as competitive candidates in the workforce.

■ Number: 11 adults

100% of teens 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.



"I learned about independent living, traveling on my own and how to advocate for myself.

Now I have a career and a job."

Alberto, graduate of Transition Services

# OUR IMPACT

#### **WE ADVANCE EQUITY IN**

# health and well-being.

Wayfinder operates five **GROUP HOMES** in single-family residences for children, youth and adults with multiple disabilities. During the pandemic, our group homes are fully staffed and running without interruption. All group homes are conveniently located near Wayfinder's Los Angeles campus so that, when it is safe to do so again, residents can attend the Special Education School in person and use Wayfinder's recreational facilities.

- Number: 29 children and young adults
- ★ Outcome: 83% of residents in our group homes increased independence by achieving two or more of their four individual goals for the year.

Wayfinder's **MEDICAL CENTER** provides 24-hour services to children with complex medical and mental health needs. Our staff includes 15 nurses and a psychiatrist. We contract with a nurse practitioner, endocrinologist and behavioral psychologist. The medical center primarily serves children in our residential programs and the Special Education School.

★ Outcome: Wayfinder's nursing staff administered an average of 276 doses of medication per day, or 100,740 per year.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES provides therapy to children, adults and families in our programs and in the community who are dealing with vision loss, multiple disabilities, behavioral issues or trauma. Our therapists are delivering mental health services via telehealth during the pandemic.

- Number: 119 community members
- ★ Outcome: 85% of children and youth demonstrated a decrease in functional impairments as a result of mental health interventions.

"They look forward to Camp Bloomfield. Metzli asks me, 'Mom, is the application up yet? Make sure you get it in."

- Rosie, mother of two Camp Bloomfield campers

CAMP BLOOMFIELD After fire destroyed Camp Bloomfield in November 2018, Wayfinder welcomed campers to the Point Fermin Outdoor Education Center in summer 2019. During the pandemic in summer 2020, Camp Bloomfield live-streamed activities with audio description for campers with vision loss. Each camper received a box of supplies for fun activities.

- Number: 205 campers
- ★ Outcome: 95% of campers with vision loss learned at least one new independent living skill.

Wayfinder offers **SPORTS AND RECREATION** that are adapted for child and teen athletes with disabilities. During the pandemic Wayfinder is leading online workouts for athletes at home in goalball and blind judo, as well as co-hosting toddler workouts for early intervention staff and babies.

■ Number: 490 children and youth and 304 family members





"You can touch a life. It's unbelievable!"

- Virginia, foster mother

#### **WE STRIVE TO IMPROVE**

# safety and resilience.

Wayfinder's **SHORT-TERM RESIDENTIAL THERAPEUTIC PROGRAM** is a residential treatment program on our Los Angeles campus for traumatized foster youth with acute mental health and behavioral issues. During the pandemic, the program is open 24/7 for youth to overcome their challenges.

- Number: 63 youth
- ★ Outcome: 70% of foster youth in our STRTP showed an increase in existing strengths or in those the youth wanted to acquire.

The **TEMPORARY SHELTER CARE PROGRAM**, known as **THE COTTAGE**, is a 10-day shelter on our Los Angeles campus for children, ages o through 17, who have been removed from their homes due to abuse or neglect and are awaiting placement. The Cottage continues to be a safe haven through the pandemic.

- Number: 1,538 children
- ★ Outcome: 71% of children ages 6 to 18 who completed an exit survey reported they felt safe, their rights were respected and their needs met while in The Cottage.

Our FOSTER CARE AND ADOPTION program matches children and youth with families that can provide safe, caring homes. Wayfinder offers specialized training for families to prepare them to foster children with health and mental health conditions. In 2020, Lilliput Families became a part of Wayfinder. Lilliput is recognized statewide for its high-quality delivery of timely permanency services—reunification, kinship care, guardianship and adoption. Together, we are building healthier families and finding loving homes for children across the state.

- Number: 1,317 children and 2,853 family members
- ★ Outcome: 98% of children and youth remained stable in their resource family home, transitioned to a lower level of care or entered a permanent placement.

The KINSHIP SUPPORT SERVICES PROGRAM supports grandparents, extended family members or close family friends who step up to raise children so they avoid the trauma of separation from their birth family.

- Number: 4,543 children and 3,896 family caregivers
- ★ Outcome: 94% of relative care families were stabilized and maintained while active, case-managed program participants.

Our **FAMILY FINDING SERVICES** conduct an exhaustive search for relatives and people close to the child in foster care. We connect children to these important people so children can maintain or establish valuable, supportive family relationships.

- Number: 162 children and youth
- **★ Outcome:** 91% of youth in Family Finding increased their number of connections.

PROMOTING SAFE AND STABLE FAMILIES and HOME TO STAY provide family services to prevent at-risk children from entering foster care. Parents whose children are in foster care receive SUPERVISED VISITATION AND COACHING services to strengthen parenting and sustain family ties.

- Number: 332 children and 256 adults
- ★ Outcome: 68% of PSSF families improved family interactions. 100% of youth who completed Home to Stay remained at home with their families during the program. 96% of Visitation and Coaching parents increased their knowledge of parenting skills.



# FINANCIAL DATA



Wayfinder is accredited by the Council on Accreditation.
Achieving COA accreditation signifies that Wayfinder is among the best in the field, with exemplary programs, fiscal oversight, operations and management.

#### **AS OF JUNE 30, 2020**

#### **STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**

#### **ASSETS**

Cash	\$ 5,383,313
Accounts and grants receivable	3,287,148
Pledges receivable	646,069
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,495,039
Investments	32,635,552
Property held for investment	2,989,000
Property and equipment	10,351,470
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 57,787,591

#### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS** 

#### Liabilities

Accounts payable	737,391
Accrued liabilities	4,252,839
Accrued unemployment liability	77,176
Paycheck Protection Program loan*	3,740,950
Total Liabilities	8,808,356
Net Assets	
Without donor restrictions	47,804,365
With purpose restrictions	754,990
With perpetual restrictions	419,880
Total Net Assets	48,979,235

\*Wayfinder received a Paycheck Protection Program loan as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act). If forgiven, which is likely, these funds will offset any operating losses in fiscal years 2019-20 and 2020-21.



\$ 57,787,591

#### **STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

#### **JULY 1, 2019 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2020**

#### **REVENUE**

Private Support	
Wills and bequests	\$ 2,723,623
Other contributions	2,177,233
Trust income	912,610
Contributed property, good and services	637,387
Subtotal	6,450,853
Government fees and other revenue	
Government contracts, fees for service, grants	25,539,064
Other revenue	175,533
Subtotal	25,714,597
Other	
Investment income, net of fees	590,172
(Loss) gain on investments	(582,769)
Subtotal	7,403
TOTAL REVENUE	32,172,853
EXPENSES	
Program services	28,084,930
Management and administrative	3,917,945
Fundraising and public relations	1,419,204
TOTAL EXPENSES	33,422,079
Change in Net Assets Before Other Changes**	(1,249,226)
Other Changes†	1,346,243
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	97,017
Transfer of assets due to acquisition††	829,290
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 48,979,235

<sup>\*\*</sup>Excluding nonoperating items, Wayfinder's operating loss was \$519,661, nearly all due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The operating loss will be offset by a Paycheck Protection Program loan if it is forgiven, which is likely.



CHARITY NAVIGATOR awarded Wayfinder four stars for the 10th consecutive year, signifying sound fiscal management and responsible stewardship of donations.



Wayfinder earned a Gold Seal of Transparency from **GUIDESTAR**, recognizing our 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.

 $<sup>\</sup>dagger$ Other Changes reflects insurance-claim income related to the destruction of Camp Bloomfield in the Woolsey fire.

<sup>++</sup>Wayfinder acquired assets from Concept 7, a foster family and adoption agency, as part of a 2018 merger.

# **Our Benefactors**

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And those who wish to remain
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# ABORATIVE



- THE PLACE: Wayfinder's main campus in Los Angeles
- THE PEOPLE: Aundrae Russell, CEO of We Are You Foundation and program director of KJLH radio; Clarence Kehres IV, the 2019 Stevie Wonder Star Student; and Wayfinder President and COO Jay Allen
- THE GREAT MOMENT: At Wayfinder's 2019 Holiday Carnival,
  Aundrae Russell presented the Stevie Wonder Star Student Award
  to Clarence Kehres IV, who was born legally blind and with cerebral
  palsy. Clarence was honored for his compassion and leadership at
  Wayfinder's Camp Bloomfield and in the goalball program. Clarence's
  athletic accomplishments include being the long snapper for his high
  school football team and a power lifter.



- THE PLACE: Wayfinder's Temporary Shelter Care program, "The Cottage," on the main campus in Los Angeles
- THE PEOPLE: James, age 6, and Greg, a counselor in The Cottage
- THE GREAT MOMENT: James arrived The Cottage dirty and hungry. His mother, who struggled with addiction, had neglected him. The Cottage staff made James feel loved—new clothes, comfortable bed, books and toys. During dinner, James lost a tooth. Worried, James asked Greg, "Can the Tooth Fairy find me here?" That night, Greg snuck into James' room and put money under the boy's pillow. The next morning, James was delighted! "She knew it was safe to come here, so she found me," James said.

#### \$500 - \$999 continued

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Monthly donations by our sustaining partners preserve crucial programs. Thank you!

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#### **Planned Gifts**

The bequest and trust gifts received in full or in part this year strengthen Wayfinder. Many thanks!

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#### **Legacy Society**

Legacy Society members are leaving their legacy by providing for Wayfinder in their estate plans or establishing a charitable gift annuity. We are most grateful!

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Estate of Wayne E. Hilton



- THE PLACE: Los Angeles
- THE PEOPLE: Andrea and Glenn Sonnenberg
- THE GREAT MOMENT: The Sonnenbergs joined Wayfinder's Legacy Society when they included Wayfinder in their estate plans. Glenn explained, "Making a planned gift is a way of saying this is who I was, this what I cared about, and this is my way of leaving the world a better place than when I came." Through their planned gift, Glenn and Andrea are ensuring that Wayfinder will continue caring for people who are often forgotten.



- THE PLACE: Wayfinder's main campus in Los Angeles
- THE PEOPLE: Noelia Crespo, LVN, and Robert, a client in our Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program
- THE GREAT MOMENT: Robert (not his real name) entered Wayfinder's Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program during the COVID-19 crisis. Robert is diabetic, and the combination of entering a new residential treatment program and the pandemic caused his anxiety to skyrocket. His anxiety made it difficult for Robert to follow the plan to control his diabetes. Noelia, a nurse on Wayfinder's medical services team, is known for her calm, supportive presence. She provided Robert with an empathetic ear and gentle encouragement. She built a great rapport with Robert, and the teenager moved to a foster home with his diabetes under control.

#### Legacy Society continued

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Donate and become a Wayfinder! You will be stepping up and standing in the gap for vulnerable children and adults. Those with disabilities, those without a home of their own, those who have been abused and many, many more. Please join us today! If you can, please consider making your contribution a monthly donation. www.wayfinderfamily.org.



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