

2022 IMPACT REPORT



Extraordinary Families

NURTURE. THRIVE. REPEAT.



Executive **Summary**

OUR MISSION

To help children and youth in foster care have the childhoods and futures they rightfully deserve.

OUR COMMUNITY

Los Angeles County has the largest regional child welfare system in the country. As of December 31st, 2022, 27,380 children and youth were involved in some way. Of those, 18,058 were separated from their first family.

- 1,493 youth emancipated directly from the foster care system without being adopted or reunified.
- Los Angeles County alone has more children in foster care than the entirety of any state, with the exceptions of Texas, Florida, and Illinois.

As ExtraFam enters our 30th year of providing foster care and adoption services to children and youth, we reflect not just on 2022, but also on three decades of community support.

We're honored to equip resource parents with the extensive training and support they need to provide the best care possible to the children in their home. Our families continue to amaze us with their compassion and love, whether they are joined with children for weeks, months, or years. Last year, we helped 159 children grow and thrive with their resource families.

Our team is proud of the resources and connections we've been able to share with 95 youth transitioning from foster care into adulthood through our UP4Youth programs.

We remain committed to ensuring that all children have the opportunity to grow up in safe, loving homes. Thank you to our resource families, adoptive families, and community partners for your support and dedication to our mission. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of children and youth in need.

Leonardo Bolanos
Board Chair

Barnaby Murff
Chief Executive Officer

2022 **Successes**

159

Children in ExtraFam Care

98%

Stability for children in care

24

New resource families approved

95

UP4Youth Served

32

Adoptions finalized

28

Youth matched with a mentor

Our **Team**

Board of Directors

Leo Bolanos, Board Chair
Dawn Bridges, Treasurer
Brooke Halsband, Secretary
Fenton Bailey
Sarah Boone-Perez
Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman
Karmel Graham
Jessica Kastner
Miguel Sanchez Lascurain
Nigel Lifsey
Francesca Orsi
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Steve Vai
Michelle Visage
Tiffany White Stanton

Staff

Barnaby Murff, CEO

Program Team

Lorena Bernal, LCSW
Danielle Calderon
Anthony De La Cruz, MSW
Danielle Gordon, MSW
Christina Hedrick
Alejandra Hernandez-Flores
Leo Kirkham
Paola Lopez
Robert Martinez, MSW, ASW
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Kayla Sberna
Bonnie Sharpe, MSW, ASW
Joy Sinclair
Luis Tlalacalco
Ana Campos Torres, MSW, ASW
Lili Villa-Rechav, MSW, ASW
Kayla Wright, Ed.D

Administrative Team

Tammy Johnson, Ph.D
Beth Lazar, MSW
Danny Ou
Joe Udeochu, MBA
Marta Valle
Mark Zipoli

To all our parents, volunteers, ambassadors, partners, and mentors - thank you! We couldn't do this without you.

Foster Care

We find families for children, not children for families.



TOOLS FOR SUCCESS

Meet Becca, an ExtraFam resource parent who opened her heart and home to a one-month-old baby, Cora*, in 2019. Cora's parents faced seemingly insurmountable barriers to reunification with their daughter. Becca's love and care for the girl helped give her parents confidence, and Cora inspired them to turn their lives around. They seized every opportunity to spend time with their daughter while Becca offered steadfast support, including serving as a reference for the mother's academic pursuits.

After a year and a half, the parents successfully reunited with Cora, marking a promising start on the next chapter of their lives. Becca's role didn't end with reunification; she has been welcomed into Cora's future as a "second mom," nurturing a profound and meaningful bond with the whole family.

Becca recently celebrated the adoption of her daughter, Ava (at left), with whose relatives she has also built a strong relationship. She anticipates adopting Ava's sibling, whose welcome presence in their family is an unplanned-for challenge and blessing. **"Seeing them bond and play is incredible."** She shares that **"ExtraFam helps with issues that would be otherwise stressful, offers moral support, and prepares me to be best parent possible."**

GIVING BACK

Adopted as a child herself, foster care seemed like the right choice to create a family for Molly and her wife Jaime. When the first infant that they cared for reunified with her mother after almost a year, they continued to offer child-centered support to the family while processing the emotions of their changed role.

Currently fostering their second baby, who is blossoming in their care, Molly and Jaime tell us that **"so many little moments make foster care worth it,"** despite the challenges. "We step into this role to try and take away the pain and the hurt that the kids went through. My biggest fear was that our first child would forget us. But every time she sees us, her face lights up, and that's a feeling we can't replace... We adore our ExtraFam team, and can't imagine not having a foster family agency. **We get so much support from people who 'get it'. At the end of the day – we'd do it all again.**"



CARF Certification



ExtraFam successfully renewed its 3-year accreditation with CARF International. The team, led by Bonnie Sharpe, Interim Director of Programs, is proud to announce that ExtraFam met all of the rigorous and internationally recognized CARF standards, with zero findings.

Everyone is Welcome



ExtraFam is recognized as an “Innovator” by the Human Rights Campaign’s All Children - All Families initiative.

In 2022, 35% of our resource families identified as LGBTQ+, and 47% identified as BIPOC. ExtraFam continues to devote resources to ensuring that all parents can offer trauma-informed, affirming support for any child in their care.

Transparency

Gold
Transparency
2023

Candid.

In alignment with its values of integrity, dedication, justice, and collaboration, ExtraFam publishes periodic impact reports and maintains financial records on its website and on Guidestar/Candid. ExtraFam has received a Gold seal for its reporting of 2022 information.



Nurture. Thrive. **Repeat.**

A child needed a safe, stable home. These parents stepped up.



RESOURCE FAMILY IMPACT

164

Approved families opening their homes to children in need.

17

Successful reunifications with parents.

17

Joined with relatives or chosen family.

“I never thought that ExtraFam would bring me and our daughter’s new parents this close, but they want what is best for my daughter, and I do too. I couldn’t ask for any other parents for my baby girl. Thanks to Tessa and ExtraFam for never making me feel ‘less than’ and giving my baby a better life and a blended family. Y’all are what set the example of actually keeping families together.” - Mom

“I’LL HAVE SOMEONE CALL YOU TOMORROW”

One friend’s insight transformed Jay Shindell’s life. As an ExtraFam Board member, she recognized his potential. “I’ll have someone call you tomorrow,” she declared, and took the initiative to refer him to ExtraFam. Jay was more surprised than hesitant. As a single man living in LA, he hadn’t considered becoming a resource parent.

Out of curiosity and with an open mind, he attended orientation, started the application process, and was approved in early 2018. Four times, Jay welcomed a young child into his home and provided the love and stability they needed, for as long as they needed it.

He opened his heart to each of the four children - the tiny infant from the hospital, the beautiful, happy baby who spent seven months with him, the toddler with whom he shared the isolation of the pandemic, and the newborn enduring withdrawal. And each time, Jay supported successful reunification with parents or close family members who could embrace these children into their homes.

The first reunification, leaving behind a quiet home with abandoned toys, was heartbreaking for Jay. His ExtraFam social worker recognized his grief, and after two months she interrupted his sorrow with a special request. A sweet little girl needed a home. Jay couldn’t find it in him to



say no. “I’m so glad she did that,” he tells us, “because having her here helped heal my heart and made me realize that **having a child here to care for and love makes everything better.**”

Jay is an exemplar in child-centered care. After each reunification, he continued to offer support to first families, so much as jumping in as emergency childcare when their parents hit bumps in the road. He has made a profound, positive impact on the lives of these children by giving them the love and tenderness they needed to grow and thrive while in foster care.

Jay is now the father of a crawling, delightful baby, and is in the final stages of the adoption process. Once completed, and after moving to a larger house, Jay plans to reopen his home and heart to help more children in foster care. Moreover, he serves as an Ambassador for ExtraFam and mentors new resource parents. **Thank you, Jay, for your unwavering devotion to children in foster care.**



UNCONDITIONAL LOVE

“There really is no deeper love than between a parent and child. We have been through so much, not just the emotional journey of foster care, but the pandemic and lockdowns. Seeing my son [adopted] and his foster sister [reunited] get stronger and more independent each day fills me with joy and calm; I know we’re preparing them to face life with positivity and a strong sense of self. We’ve tried to instill in the kids that life is full of change, but we - and our daughter’s mom - will always be there for them.

“So many children need homes. Like right now. We, as a community, need your strength and stability so one less child doesn’t have to worry about where they’ll sleep or what they’ll eat for dinner.” - Robbie and Neal, Resource & Adoptive Parents

UP4Youth

Unlimited Possibilities for Youth



UNLOCKING RESOURCES

UP4Youth staff coordinated access for **95 transition-aged youth** to partner nonprofit and government resources for housing, healthcare, food assistance, and other basic needs.



UPLIFTING POTENTIAL

We encouraged and helped **16 youth** continue their education. **A third received support to secure or maintain employment.** The Conrad N. Hilton Foundation supported paid internships for seven young adults with ongoing UP4Youth guidance.



UNLEASHING CONNECTION

The team celebrated youth throughout 2022, hosting 147 birthday parties, **matching 28 youth with trained mentors**, facilitating bi-weekly to weekly support groups, and coordinating seven workshops and two field trips.

CONGRATULATIONS TO APRIL!

We extend our heartfelt congrats to April, the UP4Youth alumna pictured above, on her graduation from El Camino Community College! At the age of 12, she entered the foster care system, and after moving from one resource home and school to another, she emancipated from the system without a sense of direction. And like many women who have experienced foster care, April became a single mother at a young age. Her two children are her pride and joy.

“If it weren’t for you, I would not be where I am today... I will be forever grateful for those of you who continue to support us making a life for ourselves and providing a better future for our children,” she says. In the near future, April plans to complete her Bachelor of Science in Nursing and certify in anesthesiology. It’s our privilege to support her as she creates a thriving life for herself and her family.

“Anything, even the smallest effort, that can be done to relieve the turmoil these children have gone through, improves their lives. With 17,000 kids in the LA County foster system, it takes a tremendous amount of love and dedication from a community of people to help create a future for each and every one of them.” - Molly & Jaime, Resource Parents



Get Involved



JOIN US FOR ORIENTATION

Curious to learn more about becoming a resource (foster) parent, offer respite care, or want to pursue adoption? We'd love to see you!



MENTOR YOUTH

Create a life-long connection. Mentors welcome and accept youth, celebrate their achievements, and offer guidance on obstacles to independence.



SUPPORT

Volunteer, donate, or share your talents with us! No gift is too small. We also welcome donations of personal necessities for our families and youth.



**JOIN EXTRAFAM
SCAN HERE**

**Everyone is welcome at
Extraordinary Families.**

We invite you to join us on the next, exciting chapter of our journey of service to the community.

Connect with us:



info@extraordinaryfamilies.org



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Thank you Fenton Bailey and World of Wonder!

We extend a special thank you to our Board member Fenton, who generously hosted the *House of Love* event at his home. The evening brought new friends, supporters, and volunteers to our mission, while raising critical unrestricted funds to support our children and youth.

Financial Stewardship



100%

Transparency & Accountability

The team invests in precise accounting, and is pleased to announce that the 2021 audit had **zero findings**. The 2022 audit is almost complete. All audits and 990s are posted on our website.

24%

Blend of public and private support

While County support provides the majority of ExtraFam's operational revenue, a sustainable network of stakeholders with aligned goals comprised a full quarter of income in 2022.

6

Rainy Day & Contingency Funds

The Board of Directors maintains a cash reserve equivalent to over six months of operational expenses, striking a balance between investing in the present and buffering against financial disruptions.

\$4,054,878
REVENUE

76%

Government Contracts

24%

Philanthropy

100% goes directly to support our children, youth, and families!

85%

Foster Care & Adoption Services

8%

UP4Youth Services

7%

Core Mission Support

\$4,052,391
EXPENSES

*Unaudited

Our Donors

Superstar Partners

The John Gogian Family Foundation

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\$2,000+

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Ryan Serhant

Shelter Partnership, Inc.

Jacob Slane

Michelle Visage and David Case

Ms. Tiffany White and James Stanton

\$10,000+

Fenton Bailey & World of Wonder

The Change Reaction

Andrew Cohen

Disney Worldwide Services, Inc

Ross Fremer

The Josephine S. Gumbiner Foundation

Katharina Otto-Bernstein

Manatt, Phelps & Phillips LLP

Silicon Valley Bank

Thomas Wolf

THANK YOU!

To everyone who donated their time, talent, or treasure to us this past year: you have our heartfelt gratitude. Everything we accomplished in this report is thanks to your support!

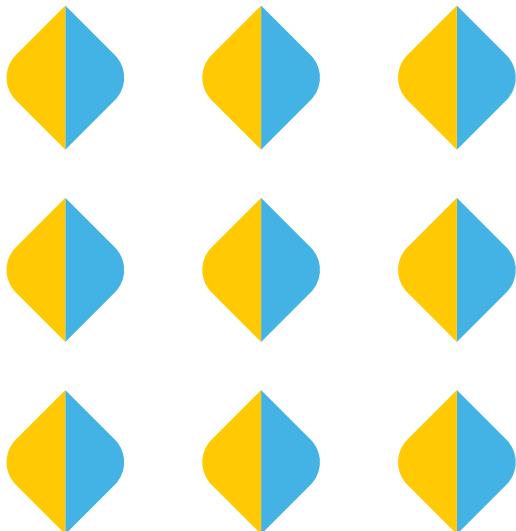
We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please notify us by contacting Jess at j.blaisus@extraordinaryfamilies.org or calling 213-886-2266.



NURTURE.

THRIVE.

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