Executive Director’s Message

Since Myldred Jones opened the doors of Casa Youth Shelter in 1978, we have been providing shelter, counseling, and support services to youth in crisis.

Every day we hear stories of fear, trauma, and isolation.

Youth come to us abandoned, abused, hurting, and feeling entirely alone. These children come to us for help, and I am grateful that we can give them a safe place, a warm bed, a hot meal, and someone to talk to.

Every day we hear stories of connection, strength, and hope.

Teens are incredibly resilient. After a couple weeks at Casa Youth Shelter, many youth discover that the light and strength that comes from opening up to someone who cares can outshine their anxiety and shame.

Our incredible team – our skilled and compassionate staff, phenomenal volunteers, dedicated Board of Directors, and our generous partners – has persevered through an incredibly challenging time, and upheld our promise to make a positive and lasting difference in the life of every young person who walks through our doors.
Every youth deserves to feel safe, supported, and respected for who they are.

When youth come to Casa Youth Shelter, they know that we will help them through their crisis, and that we will stay with them for the months and years that follow. We will continue to provide support, so each teen and every family has a chance at a future filled with courage, confidence, and hope.

AMY LAKIN
Looking Toward The Future

From Our President

At Casa Youth Shelter we celebrate our 44th year of providing safe shelter and support for youth in crisis. Through this impact report we are pleased to share the work of our talented staff, exceptional volunteers and generous sponsors to support the youth and families of the communities we serve.

Despite the continuing influence of the pandemic on our operations this year, we are so proud of our Casa Youth Shelter team who has ensured that our shelter and services remained open and available, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week, enabled us to return to full traditional services and provide residents with safe and secure overnight accommodations for 1,691 nights; and have been the reason behind our recent recognition as a 2021 California Non Profit of the Year awardee.

Further, I express my great appreciation to our dedicated Board of Directors for its continued work to implement our strategic plan, and support to provide the focus and direction necessary to guide the organization’s growth and development. (See https://casayouthshelter.org/strategic-plan-2020-2025-draft/).

Looking forward, we emerge from this second pandemic year better positioned to serve with remote tools and virtual capacity that complements traditional service delivery methods; and with a growing list of volunteers, who out of the shadows of the pandemic, have returned in large numbers to give the gift of their time and experience to benefit those that we serve.

All of us at Casa Youth Shelter are very proud to serve. We welcome you to review the information provided and thank you for your consideration of our work and mission to support youth in crisis.

With gratitude and admiration for all that serve our youth and families,

GREG MAGNUSON

President, Board of Directors,
Casa Youth Shelter
Our Impact

One Resident's Casa Youth Shelter Journey

Amaya's Story

Amaya struggled for many years before coming to Casa Youth Shelter for help. She had been adopted by Jenny, a family member, after experiencing childhood trauma, and had been in and out of therapy for many years.

Recently Amaya and Jenny’s relationship had been suffering from frequent and intense arguing. For Amaya, those arguments were particularly distressing, as she experienced overwhelming anger that she had trouble managing. When these arguments occurred, Amaya went to her room without speaking to anyone for the rest of the evening. Feeling isolated and unable to manage her intense emotions, Amaya found relief through self-harm. Concerned for Amaya’s health and wellbeing, Jenny sought help and was referred to Casa Youth Shelter.

During her time at Casa Youth Shelter, Amaya was able to identify and express her thoughts and feelings. Amaya and Jenny successfully communicated their needs, and discussed ways they could better resolve conflicts in their home. Through individual and family counseling sessions, Amaya learned effective communication skills and strengthened her self-esteem and self-confidence. She also learned that her love for creative expression through drawing could be used as a way to positively cope with the difficult emotions she experienced after having an argument with Jenny.

While at Casa Youth Shelter, Amaya began to consider the ways in which her different life experiences impacted her relationship with Jenny. Amaya returned home and she and Jenny continue to work on their effective communication. Jenny continues to support Amaya and was also connected with outside therapeutic services for herself. ❤
2021 Casa Youth Shelter Statistics

Youth in Shelter:
- Shelter Days Provided: 1,691
- Youth Receiving Shelter Care: 148
- Hours of Counseling: 7,820
- Hours of Case Management: 155
- Parent/Guardian Participation: 55%

Crisis Calls:
- Calls Received: 750

Aftercare Services:
- Counseling: 68%
- Parent Education: 9%
- Teen Drop-In Classes: 10%

Length of Stay:
- Less than One Week: 37%
- One to Two Weeks: 27%
- Two to Three Weeks: 30%
- More than Three Weeks: 6%

Age:
- 12 Years Old: 7%
- 13 Years Old: 12%
- 14 Years Old: 18%
- 15 Years Old: 25%
- 16 Years Old: 20%
- 17 Years Old: 18%

Gender Identification:
- Female: 55%
- Male: 37%
- Non-Binary: 3%
- Other/Decline to State: 5%

Ethnicity:
- Hispanic: 45%
- White: 24%
- Black: 13%
- Asian: 9%
- Mixed: 8%
- Pacific Islander: 1%

Of the Children Served:
- LGBTQ+: 33%
- Military Family: 9%

Referral Source:
- Internet: 18%
- Hospital: 16%
- Self, Friends, Relatives: 16%
- Community Agencies: 14%
- Social Services (DCFS/SSA): 10%
- Schools: 9%
- Law Enforcement: 7%
- Past Client: 5%
- Other Shelter: 3%
- Juvenile Probation: 2%
"Thanks for always being there for me."

"Thank you for helping me see the bigger picture of things."

"I like the comfort here. As soon as you walk in it feels welcoming."

"I'm glad I didn't give up on myself. No matter how tough times got."

Child Abuse Reported:
- Physical Abuse: 23%
- Sexual Abuse: 13%
- Neglect: 6%
- Mental Abuse: 5%
- Suspected Child Abuse Reports: 37%

Issues Identified:
- Parent/Child Conflict: 47%
- Mental Health Concerns: 21%
- Literacy Concerns: 18%
- Running Away: 12%
- Substance Abuse: 10%
- Danger to Self: 9%
- Experiencing Homelessness: 5%
- Gang Involved: 2%
- Human Trafficking: 1%
- Danger to Others: 1%

Exit Disposition:
- Successful or Satisfactory: 83%
- Unsatisfactory or Unknown: 17%

Destination at Exit:
- Parents' or Relatives' Home: 73%
- Mental Health Facility or Hospital: 10%
- Alternate Shelter: 8%
- Residential Community Agency: 5%
- AWOL: 1%
- Social Services: 1%

Cities Served:
- Anaheim, CA: 13%
- Buena Park, CA: 3%
- Cerritos, CA: 1%
- Cypress, CA: 1%
- Fullerton, CA: 4%
- Garden Grove, CA: 6%
- Hemet, CA: 2%
- Huntington Beach, CA: 2%
- Irvine, CA: 7%
- La Habra, CA: 1%
- Long Beach, CA: 2%
- Los Alamitos, CA: 1%
- Los Angeles, CA: 2%
- Orange, CA: 1%
- Paramount, CA: 1%
- Placentia, CA: 1%
- Riverside, CA: 1%
- San Clemente, CA: 1%
- Santa Ana, CA: 14%
- Seal Beach, CA: 1%
- Cities less than 1% (36): 24%

Counties Served:
- Orange County: 72%
- Los Angeles County: 14%
- Riverside County: 7%
- Other Counties (3): 7%
2021–22 Revenue*

- Foundations: 37%
- Individuals: 22%
- Government Grants: 16%
- Events (net): 15%
- Corporations: 5%
- Organizations: 5%
- Social Services: 1%

*Estimated at Press Time

Full financial statements and our FORM 990 are available at casayouthshelter.org

2021–22 Expenses*

- 74% Program: Shelter & Clinical
- 12% Management & Administration
- 6% Program: Community Outreach
- 8% Fundraising

*Estimated at Press Time
Youth Leadership Program 2021-2022

YLP has successfully engaged in the community over the last year in the following ways:

- CYS's Youth Leadership Conference
- Chipotle Fundraiser
- Movie Under the Stars Fundraiser
- Los Alamitos Spring Community Event
- Los Alamitos Trunk or Treat
- Serve Los Al
- Winter Wonderland
- CYS's Open Hearts, Open House

www.CasaYouthShelter.org/Youth-Leadership-Program

Casa Youth Shelter's Youth Leadership Program (YLP) provides peer-to-peer advocacy and community-based outreach, while also developing leadership skills and fostering community engagement in young people. The program is designed for high school students and offers personal growth through community service, volunteer activities, and public awareness.
Our Supporters 2021-22

We gratefully acknowledge the 100s of individual donors who contributed funding to support our programs in this fiscal year. Your gifts, of all sizes, help sustain us and provide for our youth.

Foundation Donors
The Doyle Foundation • The Foster Family Foundation • The DelRe Foundation • The Green Foundation • The Rudolf J. and Daphne A. Munzer Foundation • Sisters of St. Joseph Healthcare Foundation • Devto Support Foundation • Peter & Ginny Uebelhoer Foundation • The Hart Family Foundation • O.L. Halsell Foundation • Skylight Foundation • The Gay and Carol Milgard Family • Slave 2 Nothing Foundation • The Hexberg Family Foundation • George Hoag Family Foundation • Wame Family Foundation • Carrie Estelle Doheny Foundation • Gannahl Family Foundation • Nathan Cummings Foundation • William Gillespie Foundation • James A. Reep Family Foundation

Corporate Donors
Adobe Employee Community Fund • US Bank • Nordson Corporation • Nordstrom Cares • Anonymous • Green Street Interiors • Johannessen Trading Co. • First Foundation Bank • In-N-Out Burger Foundation • Saint-Gobain Corporation Foundation • Ameriprise Financial • Southland Credit Union • Ernst & Young LLP • Printmasters • Halbert Hargrove Global Advisors • Billings Auction • Golden State Water Company • American Woodmark Foundation • Badger Controls • Guitar Center Foundation • Affordable Housing Access • Farmers & Merchants Bank • Epson America Inc. • Anaheim Ducks • Gannahl Lumber • Global Conductor Inc. • Pacific Concepts Group • The Starbucks Foundation • We Mail For You, Inc. • Debbie Maldonado • Law Offices of Andrew Lachina • Tengo Inc. • Daico Industries Inc. • Gannahl Lumber • ALDI • The Wonderful Company Foundation Inc. • Campbell Hill Bakery • Adams Demolition • Gelson’s Foundation • Chipotle

Organization Donors
Decorative Arts Society • Junior League of Long Beach • City of Los Alamitos • KWA Ministries • National Charity League, South Coast Chapter • Woman’s Club of Artesia-Cerritos • Run Seal Beach • Alamitos Bay Garden Club • Roosters Foundation of Orange County • Zonta Club of Newport Harbor • Port of Long Beach • Los Alamitos Police Department • Rotary Club of Los Alamitos • Surf City Rotary of Huntington Beach • Leisure World Interfaith Council • Woman’s Club Of Cypress • Rossmoor Elementary School • Los Alamitos High School • National League of Young Men • Seal Beach Center for Spiritual Living • School On Wheels • Food Finders • Panorama Elementary School

Individual Donors
John & Helen Freeborn • Anonymous • The Perry Family • Jerry & Mary Beth Mashburn • Leslie & Charlotte Moore Foundation • Wendi McLendon-Covey & Greg Covey • Robert & Valerie Gwyn • Troy & Betty Edgar • Phil & Sandy McElroy • Sanne Vloet • Judy Klabouch • Tanya Doby • Tom & Maria Bussa • Glenn & Marilyn Salsbury • Chief Michael & Shelley Claborn • Geoff & Catherine King • Laura Renger • Kevin & Jane Boylan • Jeff & Andrea Salsbury • Jamie & Paul Sprague • Collie & Jane Conoley • Jack Scharringhausen • Luciann & Tom Maulhardt • Robert Wright • Greg & Deborah Magnuson • Karen & Jim Sullivan • Aaron & Susan Tout • David Pincel • Kenny Brandyberry • Nasir & Sabira Tejani • Gregory & Karen Salsbury • Steve & Carol Ellis • Thomas & Gina Cappanelli • Joe & Kay Amalfitano • Kathryn & Doug Partis • Hon. David & Peggy McEachen • Celeste Early • The Madison Family • Chynna Canizares • Michael & Caren Esposito • Michael & Jeany Kwang • Kevin & Michelle Falsken • David & Karen Vandervoot • Tom Garret & Tracey Brown • Bryan & Jeanne Stirrat • Anna Debecki & Thomas Jeschke • Mark Abrams • Beverly & Glenn Ducat • Mary Hardwick Bolton • Jerry & Carol Jacoby • Kelly Sutherlin McLeod & Steven McLeod • Sean & Amy Payne • Obie Scott Wade & Sokha Huot • Mike & Lisa Hutton • Jennifer Wilkerson • Roy Browning • Clyde & Kathy Foss • Rudy & Yvette Mayorga • Gary & Christine Prem • Geraldine Knox • The Cannings • Kent & June Clayton • Dave Basok • Charles & Judy Long • Susan Morales • John & Kristin Dimiceli • Brighton Oothoudt Merrell • Tom & Jan Timmons • Vito & Denice Lanuti • Jacki Brotchner • Jonathan Crouch • The Billings Family • Michael Cruchley • Gentner Family • Lori & Pancho Jimenez • Linda & Tony Rubin • Doug & Kathe Schaaf • Dennis & Laureen Swing • Lois & Herb Abrams • Chip & Kathleen Andrus • Matthew, Melissa & Molly Bragman • Ronald Davies • Ellen Gries • Ray & Carol Grimes • Ronald Lalondie • James Lawrence • Kevin & Nancy Malloy • Marilyn & James Perona • Bob & Marianne Hughlett • Chet Simmons • Christine &
Legacy Gifts

Alexander Biddle

Bequests and Honorariaums

97% exited to safe and stable housing

88% left CYS with improved emotional well-being

84% had at least 1 adult they can go to for advice or emotional support

90% are attending school, graduating from high school, or obtaining a GED

7,820 hours of counseling provided

Our Residents

"Thank you for being there for me when I needed someone."

- former resident

A visit from the mobile zoo

- former resident
Prior to coming to Casa Youth Shelter, Ryan had been under the care of a Medical Center after a second suicide attempt by overdose. Ryan shared that they had been struggling with suicidal ideation and depression since a young age, but it had become more difficult to manage. Ryan’s last attempt occurred after an argument with their mother when they felt invalidated and unjustly reprimanded for something that “wasn’t my fault.”

While at CYS, Ryan actively participated in individual, group, and family therapy sessions. One significant theme that emerged during counseling was the close loving dynamics among the nuclear and extended family members. Another was a passive communication style and fear of burdening others. Ryan began to realize that their hesitation in seeking support when having a hard time was in part due to their depression and suicidal ideation.

Ryan worked with a counselor to understand their depression and explore their current relationship with family. Ryan successfully reunified with family after meeting their short-term goals and being able to articulate their need for emotional support. Before exit, they were able to strengthen their coping skills and develop creative outlets to communicate, such as a mood board. In addition, Ryan and their counselor collaborated on a “No-Harm Agreement,” which included a safety plan. Currently, Ryan continues individual therapy with an outside therapist, and family therapy in aftercare with Casa Youth Shelter.
"I don't have to apologize or put myself down for asking for help."

"I am a person capable of being loved & cared for."

"CYS eased my stress regarding finances for college."

"CYS motivated me to strive for who I want to become later in life."

"WHILE AT CASA YOUTH SHELTER I LEARNED HOW STRONG I AM AND HOW TO PRIORITIZE THE IMPORTANT THINGS IN LIFE. I LEARNED COPING MECHANISMS THAT MAKE ME FEEL BETTER WHEN I AM STRESSED. CASA YOUTH SHELTER CHANGED MY LIFE."

Former Resident

All current and former residents of Casa Youth Shelter can apply to our post-secondary education scholarships, which can help with college necessities like tuition, fees, books, supplies, living expenses, and transportation costs.

Recent CYS former residents receiving the scholarships are pursuing degrees in theater, African American studies, film, and psychology at four-year colleges. Others are attending vocational schools and are working to become RNs, medical assistants, cosmetic nurses, researchers, and creative writers. We are so proud of our past residents, all they have achieved, and all they are working to achieve!
Activities including Life Skills classes, music lessons, art therapy, and educational outings – like to the nearby El Dorado Nature Center or Aquarium of the Pacific – give residents a break from their crises in a constructive way. Our youth gain unique experiences and find productive activities they enjoy. Our goal is to help youth come out of their crises with skills and tools they can use to maintain a sense of well-being, enabling them to gain confidence and thrive.
## Casa Youth Shelter Strategic Plan:

### Programmatic Goals & Objectives

<table>
<thead>
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<th>01</th>
<th>Access</th>
<th>Enhance service delivery capabilities.</th>
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<tbody>
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<td>02</td>
<td>Services</td>
<td>Provide client-centered, comprehensive continuum of services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>Awareness</td>
<td>Enhance awareness of services among youth and parents.</td>
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### Infrastructure Goals & Objectives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>04</th>
<th>Governance</th>
<th>Nurture an engaged, philanthropic, and diverse Board to meet the goals and mission.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05</td>
<td>Finance &amp; Resource Development</td>
<td>Grow stable and diverse funding streams and maintain solid financial management.</td>
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<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>Staff &amp; Volunteer Development</td>
<td>Attract, develop, and retain dynamic, mission-driven professionals and volunteers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>Facilities &amp; Systems</td>
<td>Develop and maintain facilities and systems to serve the community and further the mission</td>
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We are committed to continually improving our Programs and our Infrastructure to ensure that we are providing the best and most relevant services to the youth and families in our care. We are removing barriers to enhance access to services, expanding awareness, and enhancing our program to provide a client-centered, comprehensive continuum of services to support youth and families experiencing crisis. To accomplish this we are dedicated to growing our financial stability, retaining dynamic and mission-driven staff and volunteers, strengthening our governance practices, and developing facilities and systems that are equipped to serve the community and further our mission.

We are grateful to the over 350 youth, parents, educators, service providers, community leaders, supporters, and friends who took the time to fill out surveys, participate in interviews, and attend focus groups to make this Plan a reality. The Strategic Plan has been adjusted due to the extraordinary circumstances we faced over the last two years, and in response to the evolving needs of our community’s youth and families.

As we build toward our future, we remain rooted in the proud history and distinctive character of Casa Youth Shelter. Following in the footsteps and legacy of our founder Myldred E. Jones, our commitment to being a compassionate and empowering safe haven for all youth and families is unwavering.

For more information, stay informed about our work, or make a donation, visit: CasaYouthShelter.org
Our Amazing Community
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Vice President

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Michael Melchor  
Kelly Perry  
Nesi Stewart  
Karen Sullivan
Our Mission
Casa Youth Shelter serves and nurtures youth in crisis with shelter, counseling, and support services, empowering them to come through their crisis with increased confidence, stability, and tools for continued growth.

24-HOUR HELPLINE
(800) 914-CASA (2272)