

Contra Costa Foster Friends

Providing critical and ongoing support to foster children and their caregivers in Contra Costa County

2024 ANNUAL REPORT



2024 was a year filled with monumental achievements for Contra Costa Foster Friends. We stayed true to our strategic vision by supporting more foster children and their caregivers than ever before. That said, we recognize that these accomplishments are shared wins, and we graciously thank our partners, donors, supporters, and volunteers who have contributed to our organization's success.

2024 HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- Caring for over **600 children** in Contra Costa County's foster care program. From monthly support groups, to four annual fun-filled social events, to loads of holiday gifts, our foster kids have been seen, heard and loved.
- **Created our Opportunity Fund**, a scholarship program to give youth in foster care the opportunity to participate in enriching extracurricular activities that are so important in building confidence and self-esteem.
- Welcoming **nearly 1200 visits** to our Resource Center - a place where everything a foster child could ever need is available at no cost.
- **Enhancing our Caregiver Support program:** added a 2nd support group, this one specifically for caregivers of teens in foster care to wrap support around families doing the critical but difficult work of fostering teens.

We look forward to continuing to further our mission of providing critical and ongoing support to foster children and their caregivers in Contra Costa County. Thank you for supporting us throughout 2024, and we hope you'll stay on this journey with us in 2025.

Claudia Mercier
*Chief Executive Officer/President,
 and Executive Director*

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Thanks to our top 2024 donors, without whom we couldn't do what we do . . .

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|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Antioch Community Foundation | Jane Blake | O'Hara Park Middle School |
| Bank of Marin | Jean Anderson | Leadership Class |
| Carnelian Assisted Living | Jodi Peterson and Tim Beaudin | Pacific Gas & Electric |
| Carolyn and John Hoye | Joyful Beginnings Preschool | Pack N' Play Ministry |
| Charis Fund | Julie and Mike Erwin | Pleasant Hill Hawks Baseball |
| Colleen and Bob Holsinger | Goggio Family Foundation | St. Matthew Lutheran Church, |
| Courtney Khashabi, State Farm, | John Muir ER | Walnut Creek |
| and Dream Team BNI Group | Keller Canyon Mitigation Fund of | Strandwood Elementary School |
| Chuck and Ida Sullivan | Contra Costa County | Sweet Beginnings Diaper Bank |
| City of Martinez | Lafayette Community Foundation | Sydney Paige Foundation |
| Contra Costa Community College District | Lafayette United Methodist Church | The Crossings Community, Walnut Creek |
| Dean and Margaret Leshar Foundation | LaMorinda Pediatrics | Theresa Mercier and John Gorman |
| DentPros | Lin Tax Group | Tree of Life Learning Center |
| E Battenberg | Lowell Berry Foundation | UBS |
| Edward Jones (Belma Mirvic) | Magoo's Bar and Grill, Pleasant Hill | Vintage Parkway Elementary School |
| Foster the City (ServWin Prep) | Marin Foster Care Association | Walmart Community Grants (Martinez, |
| Girl Scout Troop #30720 | Mary and John Easton | Pittsburg, Antioch, Corporate) |
| Hillside Covenant Church, Walnut Creek | Matt Labrot | Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation |
| Indian Valley Elementary School | McDonald's Golden Grants | Women's Council of Realtors |
| Jane and Brad Rutledge | | |

THANKS TO OUR RESOURCE STAFF VOLUNTEERS AND VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Charlene Noden, Dana Morris VonAustin, Diana Snyder, Donna Moldoff, Haley Calabrese,
 Louisa Speciale, Nicole Wilson, Sarah Sullivan, and Wendy Gilbert
 Carrington College, O'Hara Park Leadership Class, Project Peace, Saint Matthew MOPS/Momco, and TAPS

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOSTER PARENTS THAT CARE FOR THE FOSTER CHILDREN IN OUR COMMUNITY



BOARD MEMBERS

Claudia Mercier
Chief Executive Officer and President

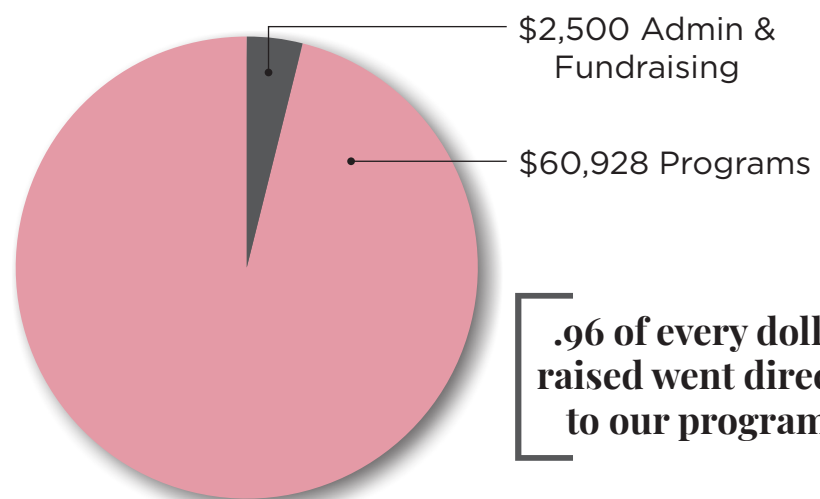
Michael Mercier
Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Julie Erwin
Secretary

Haley Calabrese
Board Member

Colleen Holsinger
Community Engagement

TOTAL EXPENSES FOR 2024 WERE \$63,428



.96 of every dollar raised went directly to our programs

WAYS YOU CAN HELP!

- Sign up to attend a foster care orientation.
- Monthly Giving - Switch to monthly giving to Contra Costa Foster Friends (CCFF) via credit card so we can count on your regular support.
- Donate new or like new goods to our Resource Center
- Shop our Amazon wishlist to have new items sent directly to us www.ccfosterfriends.org
- Share our website and social media pages with others.
- Volunteer with us.
- Hold a drive at your work, church, or school to help stock our Resource Center with supplies, clothes, diapers, and toys for foster families.
- Enlist your company to underwrite special activities for foster youth or opportunity fund grants.
- Check on company matching for financial donations.
- Raise awareness of the needs of foster kids by inviting CCFF to speak at a work, school or church gathering.
- Become a Friends of the Family volunteer where you can support foster families.

Contact ccfosterfriends@gmail.com for more information for any of these items.