



## 2020-2021 Grantee Final Report Summary

*Submitted August 2022*

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### **CALM – Child Abuse Listening Mediation (\$75,000)**

**Community Needs Addressed:** Mental Health, Early Childhood Education, Family Support Services

*This grant sustained one full-time school-based mental health clinician to serve the needs of students, families, and educators at Franklin Elementary. This is the third year of collaboration between Santa Barbara Unified School District (SBUSD) and CALM to provide mental health services in all SBUSD preschools and nine elementary schools. The model includes a combination of individual counseling, skill-building groups, and Mental Health Consultation.*

The Women's Fund grant allowed CALM to build their school-based therapy team at Franklin Elementary in the first half of the academic year. Funds covered the salary/benefits of a full-time therapist and other newly hired school-based staff working as part of the team. All funds have been expended. While behavioral challenges stemming from the pandemic were expected, CALM clinicians and district staff reported that the state of students' mental health and social emotional wellbeing was the worst they have ever seen. At the same time, teachers' and educators' tolerance for student misbehavior and emotional outbursts was at an all-time low. CALM therapists responded to student needs and supported teachers in navigating the stress and anxiety of teaching in person during the pandemic. The entirety of CALM's school-based program, partially supported by the grant, reached approximately 5,000 students, 500 teachers, support staff, and administrators plus all the adults in the lives of those children. The success of the CALM/SBUSD collaboration was noted in a comment by Frann Wageneck (former Assistant Superintendent of Student Services), "The good news is that we had the system in place; without CALM in the schools, the experience of students would have been even more traumatic."

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### **Carpinteria Children's Project (\$90,000)**

**Community Needs Addressed:** Early Childhood Development

*This grant helped during the pandemic to sustain a tuition-based preschool in Carpinteria that provides quality childhood education to low-wage working parents.*

Funds were fully expended during the first half of the grant year on salaries/benefits for preschool teachers. The grant allowed CCP to continue to employ all their highly qualified educators who wished to continue working during the pandemic. Over 2,500 individuals received some type of support from CCP last year, including early childhood education, referrals for needed services, support groups, classes and basic needs. CCP worked over the past year implementing staff development and preparing to launch a fully bilingual English-Spanish preschool in Fall 2022. They

met their fundraising goals for 2021-22 despite low enrollment and tuition and now have a solid roster for the Fall already registered.

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### **Casa Pacifica (\$80,000)**

#### **Community Needs Addressed:** Mental Health

*This grant funded one additional south Santa Barbara County SAFTY mobile crisis counselor to reduce response times and provide longer-term counseling for youth experiencing mental health crises.*

A SAFTY counselor was hired in July 2021. Because of unanticipated staffing changes, grant funds were not fully expended until August 2022. From August 2021 through April 2022, SAFTY received 517 calls to the crisis hot-line for south Santa Barbara County youth and provided 104 in-person responses. Crisis calls were received primarily from clients and/or guardians directly, emergency rooms, schools, and law enforcement. The additional crisis care specialist allowed SAFTY to provide 20% more in-person responses in south Santa Barbara County. Other improvements have included less time triaging calls, responding 55% more quickly to face-to-face responses, dispatching 18 minutes faster on average, and reducing psychiatric holds by 19%. The agency received 14% more calls this year compared to last. One of the largest increases in total number of calls to the crisis line was from schools at an increase of 192%. Casa Pacifica has renewed its contract with the County for the coming year and will seek further philanthropic support to continue adding new team members to the program. Despite meeting the goals of the grant, SAFTY continues to struggle with staff retention, which is common in the mental health crisis field.

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### **The Cecilia Fund (\$50,000)**

#### **Community Need Addressed:** Healthcare

*This grant expanded Cecilia Fund's existing program to cover medical and dental costs for an additional 35 patients who had no other way to pay for needed care.*

Cecilia Fund met the goals of this grant by helping 35 individuals get the care they needed who otherwise would not have had any option for addressing the financial burden of their healthcare crisis. The personal impact on their lives is immeasurable. The rigorous process in being selected for a Women's Fund grant no doubt has increased awareness of the Cecilia Fund. They stated in their final report that "the video produced with the Women's Fund's help will be very useful in our efforts to educate the community and raise ongoing funds."

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### **Children & Family Resource Services (\$100,000)**

#### **Community Need Addressed:** Family Support Services

*This grant provided training, management, and support for 24 community workers, known as Promotores, to obtain certification and work as Family Health Navigators.*

Although it was difficult to meet the time frame for this program because of delays in scheduling the certification, all 24 Promotores have now successfully completed the training. The Women's Fund award of \$100,000 played a key role in securing additional funding for the next two years from Santa Barbara County and the Santa Barbara Foundation. The goal of the program is for each of the Promotores to serve 100 community members resulting in better health literacy and better personal/community health outcomes. They state: "We have only begun this work, it was a slow start, but each person has already served multiple families". The support of the Women's Fund in creating a documentary on the Promotores program has been an additional benefit. The video is being used in grant applications to tell the story of the Promotores program. Current collaborations include projects with the Food Bank, Alpha Resource Center, and an exploratory pilot with Cottage Hospital.

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### **Children's Resource & Referral of Santa Barbara County (\$100,000)**

**Community Need Addressed:** Early Childhood Development

*This grant provided funding to recruit, train and assist 30 women to obtain family childcare licenses, creating 200 new available childcare spaces in family-run daycare centers.*

This Women's Fund grant has been fully expended helping 30 women obtain their Family Child Care Licenses. The women had the opportunity to participate in over 25 hours of professional development including topics such as best business practices, early childhood development, special needs inclusion, and quality learning environments. CRR has secured additional dollars to continue the program for the next two fiscal years with local and state funding. They have worked with several community agencies to grow the network of Family Child Care Providers. CRR states: "Women were empowered, Women re-entered the workforce, Women had reliable childcare, Women became business owners, Women fulfilled dreams and Women ventured into their brand-new careers with confidence! All grant deliverables were proudly met and exceeded!"

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### **Doctors Without Walls – Santa Barbara Street Medicine (\$60,000)**

**Community Needs Addressed:** Healthcare, Homelessness, Mental Health

*This grant award is providing funding for a trained outreach worker to administer medical services to unsheltered and marginally sheltered populations in south Santa Barbara County.*

DWW's goal is to support transitional housing clients with free onsite medical care to ensure their medical needs are being met for continued success in their move from the streets into permanent housing. DWW has a far-reaching effect as they are now able to provide services during the day. During the last 12 months (June 2021-May 2022) DWW has surpassed their goals through encounters with 4,699 clients of which 1,084 became medical encounters. Collaborations with local agencies have also increased access to services for DWW clients. Collaborations include partnering with SB Public Health to provide Covid 19 booster shots, partnering with Behavioral Wellness for mental health services, and work with the Rescue Mission, New Beginnings, Citynet, SBC Homeless Services and many more. The partnerships provide clients nearly immediate health care for behavioral health, food access, housing access, and case management. According to executive director Maggie Sanchez, "The Women's Fund grant supporting our outreach worker has drawn positive attention to DWW and has resulted in increased grant funding as well as individual donations." DWW has incorporated the expense of a daytime outreach worker in their budget and now includes this position in their grant writing for potential funding. Due to an unanticipated delay,

the outreach worker began her job later than later than expected. As a result, grant funds are not fully expended, but will be within the next several months.

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### **New Beginnings Counseling Center (\$75,000)**

**Community Needs Addressed:** Housing Assistance

*This grant supported the expansion of the Safe Parking Program within south Santa Barbara County to provide increased case management and housing assistance services to vehicular homeless. Funding paid for lot insurance and sanitation stations, direct financial assistance to clients, and a Program Services Director to manage program operations and expansion.*

Funds have been fully expended. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022, NBCC served a total of 564 clients through the Safe Parking Program, a staggering 22% increase over the prior year. Of those, 331 received rapid re-housing case management services. Additionally, of the total, 54 were able to exit the program and obtain permanent housing. Overall, 98% of clients fell under the 50% AMI (area median income) and qualified as low or extremely low income. Forty-six had at least one disabling condition and 34% were chronically homeless. Funding allowed NBCC to deepen its level of collaboration with agencies serving individuals experiencing homelessness by hiring a Homeless Services Director available to serve as a liaison for their program. The biggest challenge they have faced is remaining competitive with other non-profit employers with regards to staffing.

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### **PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) (\$50,000)**

**Community Need Addressed:** Housing Assistance, Homelessness, Healthcare

*This grant funded a new cargo van, insurance, security camera, vehicle registration, exterior branding, and a custom interior appropriate for collecting and distributing donated food to agencies that feed people experiencing homelessness.*

Support from the Women's Fund covered 100% of the project. The purchase of the van was made in June 2021, and all funds have been expended. The van is primarily used for receiving food donations for their interim housing program and sharing surplus with local organizations that support women and girls. An unanticipated benefit of having the van has been helping clients move into permanent housing. Also, it was used during the PATH major fundraising event saving the costs of renting other vehicles. This project served more than 400 unduplicated clients during the first year of operation, 30% were women. PATH partners with Faulding Hotel, Johnson Court, and Girls' Inc. to deliver surplus food and provide after school snacks. PATH has recognized the Women's Fund support with a Women's Fund logo decal wrap on the van.

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### **United Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Barbara County (\$70,000)**

**Community Need Addressed:** Education

*This grant provided scholarships for 80 low-income youth to attend summer camp, which included daily educational sessions.*

The goal of the grant was to offer 80 full summer camp scholarships distributed at four UBGC Clubs during the summer of 2021. The impact of the summer camp program included limiting and

reversing educational regression during summer months, ensuring 100% of the participants did not go home hungry, and providing vulnerable populations access to affordable educational summer activities at no cost. In total 1,110 youth were served with 300 scholarships granted at six UBGC locations. As a result of the Women's Fund grant, many individuals reached out to volunteer at UBGC. This outreach led to the establishment of Friends of UBGC which is now an organized volunteer group that serves all locations. This was an unexpected benefit of the Women's Fund grant. Since summer 2021, UBGC has seen an increase in food insecurity among their members and in response launched a supper meal program, serving hot meals to after school students instead of small snacks.