

Saving Lives, Changing Lives, Building Hope for Children and Families

Summer 2017

#### SERVICES

Ettie Lee's fully accredited, restorative programs serving at-risk, abused, and abandoned and neglected, youth and their families:

- Foster Family/Adoption
- Intensive Treatment Foster Care
- Group Homes
- Mental Health
- State Certified Substance Use Disorder
- Therapeutic Behavioral Services
- After-Care
- Transitional Housing
- Wraparound

Accredited by:

CREDIBILITY · INTEGRITY



ACHIEVEMENT

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Remember Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services when you designate your United Way gift.

# **15-16 ANNUAL REPORT ENCLOSED** Trauma— Let's Talk About It

Ashleigh: "My dad started to, like, actually physically started to beat me up to the point where I would actually go to school covered in bruises. I don't know how many times I've been threatened to be killed by my own

dad."

William: "My mother and brother were murdered in front of me. He put the gun to my head and he had me beg for my life. I was 10 – just turned 10," retells William, who continued, "I felt isolated. Nobody knew

isolated. Nobody knew what I was going through. To go three years without talking about it...I imploded."

At Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services all of the children and youth that we are determined and committed to serve have one thing in common adverse childhood experiences or trauma – perhaps the greatest public health threat facing our nation today said Dr. Robert Block, former president of the American Academy of Pediatrics. These experiences include, physical, emotional or sexual abuse, physical or emotional neglect, parental mental illness, substance dependence, incarceration, gang violence, being a victim of crime, parental separation or divorce, and domestic violence. And, according to Dr. Nadine Burke Harris, "The science is clear, early adversity dramatically affects health across a lifetime." In fact, she continues, "the repeated stress of abuse, neglect and parents

struggling with mental health or substance abuse issues has real, tangible effects on the development of the brain. This unfolds across a lifetime, to the point where those

> who've experienced high levels of trauma are at triple the risk for heart disease and lung cancer."

Trauma affects all of us -individuals, families and our communities by altering healthy development which can negatively affect relationships and contribute to mental health issues including

substance use, domestic violence and child abuse. We all pay the price when we see an increase in crime, loss of wages, or threat to the stability of the family when people in our community have not been treated for their trauma. Like William, the children and youth who found Ettie Lee because, they too, have imploded due to their individual traumatic experiences. Whether it's in one of Ettie Lee's group homes, a foster family home, or out in the community, Ettie Lee's therapists, interns and counselors use a comprehensive tool kit that is trauma-focused. We use Trauma Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (TF-CBT) to intervene with their behaviors - such as anger or depression. In this way we aim to reduce trauma-related symptoms by teaching the children and youth how to master trauma-related cues that incite their stress. Check out this video for more information https://youtu.be/ z8vZxDa2KPM.



# **Ettie Lee is Reaccredited!**

In April 2017 Ettie Lee was formally reaccredited through the Council on Accreditation (COA). Accreditation is the formal evaluation of an organization or program against best practices. It signifies that an organization or program meets standards of quality set forth by the

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ronald J. Bateman, Chairman John Barlow, Secretary James Jay Smith, Treasurer Walter Allen III Carlo DeAtouguia Linda Magruder Michael Norring M. Kent Warner

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"Give to others so that they may grow strong and not dependent." Robert Dole (1923 - )

accrediting body. It involves an in-depth self-review against currently accepted best practice standards, an onsite visit by an evaluation team comprised of experts, and a subsequent review and decision by the accrediting body. The value of a COA accreditation signifies that **Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services** is effectively managing its resources and providing the best possible services to all of its stakeholders—consumers. staff. board, donors, funders and regulators.

"Ever since Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services pursued its COA accreditation in 2004," remarked its President and CEO, Terri Varnum, "we have sustained a continuous quality improvement program." Continues Varnum, "Continuous quality improvement is at the core of COA accreditation. This process engages all stakeholders in the work of evaluating the effectiveness of our programs and steadily making changes to achieve excellence--in other words, great outcomes for our kids."

Karen Turner, Director of Staff Development and Quality Improvement, who lead the reaccreditation team, believes that all of the staff's dedication, hard work and attention to detail put us over the top.



Karen Turner with COA accreditation plaque.

### In the world of Foster Care/Adoption Agencies, birth parents are

often viewed in a negative light rather than seen as part of the solution. Recently after a visit with his son, a biological father turned to his son's

social worker and said, "I am not that good with words, but can you give"these" ("these" were Lifsaver's candy) to my son's Foster Parents, because they are doing such a good job with my son and this is how I feel about them!



## Sip & See with Ettie Lee at Frisella's Roastery

On July 15, 2017 The Wright Associated Companies hosted the First Annual "Sip & See" at Frisella's Roastery in Glendora, California. A private event and a fundraiser for Ettie Lee Youth & Family Services, it was generously hosted by Wright's owners **Tommy and Vanessa Gibson,** who invited more than 100 of their business contacts. Funds from the event will be used to help support the programs and services here at Ettie Lee. Tommy's Dad, Tom Gibson, Sr. served as Master of Ceremonies.

# **Statement of Financial Position**

| Assets  |           |                             |          |    | orarily<br>ricted |    | ane<br>icte  | ntly<br>d | :   | 2016                      |           | 2015                        |
|---|-----------|-----------------------------|----------|----|-------------------|----|--------------|-----------|-----|---------------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| CURRENT ASSETS  |           |                             |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     |                           |           |                             |
| Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)                                  | \$        | 474,782                     | \$       |    | 50,509            | \$ |              |           | \$  | 525,291                   | \$        | 631,175                     |
| Accounts Receivable   |           | 1,136,174                   |          |    |                   |    |              |           | 1,1 | 136,174                   |           | 1,650,590                   |
| Prepaid expenses<br>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS                            |           | 206,379<br><u>1,817,335</u> |          |    | 50,509            |    |              |           |     | 206,379<br><u>867,844</u> |           | 174,809<br><u>2,456,574</u> |
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS  |           |                             |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     |                           |           |                             |
| Investments (Note 3)  |           | 257,070                     |          |    |                   |    | 18,73        | 39        |     | 275,809                   |           | 308,813                     |
| Property and equipment (Note 5)                                     |           | 345,706                     |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 345,709                   |           | 392,992                     |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS<br>TOTAL ASSETS                            | \$        | 602,776<br>2,420,111        | 9        | 6  | 50,509            | \$ | 18,7<br>18,7 |           | \$  | 621,515<br>2,489,359      | <u>\$</u> | 701,805<br>3,158,379        |
| LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS  |           |                             |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     |                           |           |                             |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES   |           |                             |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     |                           |           |                             |
| Accounts payable  | \$        | 192,572                     | :        | \$ |                   | \$ |              |           | \$  | 192,572                   |           | \$ 189,690                  |
| Accrued payroll   |           | 171,136                     |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 171,136                   |           | 185,482                     |
| Accrued vacation  |           | 207,006                     |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 207,006                   |           | 198,985                     |
| Accrued Unemployment liabilities (Note 6)                           |           | 17,674                      |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 17,674                    |           | 29,247                      |
| County advances and overpayments                                    |           | 1,640,213                   |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 1,640,213                 |           | 2,100,181                   |
| Current portion of notes payable (Note 7)                           |           | 29,940                      |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 29,940                    |           | 29,940                      |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES   |           | 2,258,541                   | L        |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 2,258,541                 |           | 2,733,525                   |
| Long-term portion of notes payable (Note                            | e 7)      | 53,036                      | 6        |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 53,036                    |           | 82,999                      |
| TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES                                       | ;         | 53,03                       | 6        |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 53,036                    |           | 82,999                      |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES   | <u>\$</u> | 2,311,577                   | <u>r</u> |    |                   |    |              |           | \$  | <u>2,311,577</u>          |           | <u>\$ 2,816,524</u>         |
| NET ASSETS  |           |                             |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     |                           |           |                             |
| Unrestricted  |           | 58,534                      |          |    |                   |    |              |           |     | 58,534                    |           | 211,372                     |
| Unrestricted—board designated (Note 2)                              |           | 50,000                      | )        |    | 50,059            |    |              |           |     | 50,000                    |           | 50,000                      |
| Temporarily restricted (Note 9)<br>Permanently restricted (Note 10) |           |                             |          |    | 50,059            |    |              | 18.739    |     | 50,059<br>18,379          |           | 61,744<br>18,739            |
| TOTAL NET ASSETS  |           | 108,534                     | ł        |    | 50,509            |    |              | 18,739    |     | 177,782                   |           | 341,555                     |
| TOAL LIABIILITIES AND NET ASSETS                                    | \$        | 2,420,111                   |          | ;  | 50,509            |    | \$           | 18,739    | \$  | 2,489,359                 | 1         | \$ 158,379                  |

# **Statement of Activities**

| REVENUE AND SUPPORT  |                    |                        |                        |                    |                             |
|--|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| Fees from government agencies (Note 10) \$                         | 7,771,433          | \$                     | \$                     | \$ 7,771.433       | \$7,375,955                 |
| Contributions  | 241,294            | 16,372                 |                        | 257,666            | 521,880                     |
| Other income   | 23,114             |                        |                        | 23,114             | 10,694                      |
| Gain (loss) on investments   | 9,326              |                        |                        | 9,326              | (14,153)                    |
| Interest and dividends   | 4,314              |                        |                        | 4,314              | 4,670                       |
| Net assets released from program restrictions                      | 3 27,607           | (27,607)               |                        | -                  | -                           |
| TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT  | 8,077,088          | (11,235)               |                        | <b>8,065,8</b> 53  | 7,899,046                   |
| EXPENSES   |                    |                        |                        |                    |                             |
| Program Services   | 7,287,776          |                        |                        | 7,287,776          | 7, 247,596                  |
| Support services   | 801,899            |                        |                        | 801,899            | 708,374                     |
| Fund Development   | 140,251            |                        |                        | 140,251            | 146,786                     |
| TOTAL EXPENSES   | 8,229,926          |                        |                        | 8,229,926          | 8,102,756                   |
| CHANGE IN NET ASSETS   | (152,838)          | 11,235)                |                        | (164,073)          | (203,710)                   |
| NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR<br>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR <u>\$</u> | 261,372<br>108,534 | \$<br>61,744<br>50,509 | \$<br>18,739<br>18,379 | 341,855<br>177,782 | 545,565<br><u>\$341,855</u> |

### HONOR ROLL OF DONORS "We never consider our gifts as a donation. They are investments in young children"

#### - Mr. and Mrs. Herbert L. Harger

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Ettie Lee gratefully acknowledges all of our donors. If your name is inadvertently missing or misspelled, please call Vicki Mastro at 626-960-4861 so that we can make a correction in the next newsletter. Thank you.

# TRIBUTES

# In Memory of:

**Eva Dollard-Massey** Vicki Mastro **Minnie Foster** Mr. and Mrs. Earl D. Jardine **Vernon Giles** Mr. Jason Fetchik Vicki Mastro Mrs. Kathryn Stannard Carla and Chris Stephens Terri and Tim Varnum Earl Gilmore Mr. Clayton S. Gilmore **Christina Gomes** Vicki Mastro Joyce Mastro Vicki Mastro Mary E. Neill Ms. Donna Matherly **Charles Page Jr. and Page III** Mrs. Ina Loomis Page Vincent Pepito Mr. Matt Arrillaga Mr. Garrett Bruen Mrs. Laura Hertz Mr. Ian Jack Mr. Bruce Kessler Mr. Leo Kohlbacher Mrs. Lydia Pepito Mrs. Alma Pepito Martha P. Petersen Mr. and Mrs. John Richardson **Grace Taylor** Vicki Mastro **Yvette Valasco** Mr. and Mrs. Ricardo Morales John Vidmar Holli Catchpole Mrs. Charol D. Conley Mr. and Mrs. Paul D. Gillespie Ionathan Club Ann and Wayne Madden Mr. Stephen Penny Whittle Family Mr. John Lucchino

## In Honor of:

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Park Inn by Radisson hosted our annual Halloween Party for our foster children and their families in October.



Ettie Lee received turkeys for our families from former state Assembly member Roger Hernandez and Suburban Water.



Former resident Luis Campuzano proudly displays his certificate for completing a half marathon in May.



Robert Christoff, former resident made it possible for one of our young men to go to Magic Mountain for his 16th birthday in April. The first time he celebrated his birthday! At left is the young man's escort.



Even our Foster Family staff had fun at our annual Holiday Party. From l to r are: Monica Moreira, Claudia Cuevas, Skarlet Pelehberg, Angie Vernon, Carol Tula and Karen Cash, FFA Director. Santa and Mrs. Claus are Anet and Ken Larson.



In March we attended Friends of Foster Children's annual luncheon. Pictured with one of our residents are Vicki Mastro, (Director of Development), Karen Turner (Director of Residential Services) and Ruth Rocha (counselor).



Lloyd Heald, and Blanket Buddies, has supplied many, many handmade quilts to Ettie Lee for our foster children!

# EVERY PICTURE



Current Transitional Housing resident Evan Tischofer was recently recognized by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors for his involvement in efforts to end homelessness.



Former resident Chris Lee and his girlfriend provided all the necessary goodies that are needed to make some really great Easter baskets for our kids!



Our Foster Family Agency celebrated National Social Worker Month during the month of March. Pictured from l to r are Monica Moreira, Angie Vernon, Skarlet Pelehberg, Jennifer Yessi and Carol Tula.

# **TELLS A STORY**



Baldwin Park Council Member Cruz Baca (r) and Vicki Mastro, participated in Baldwin Park 4 Breast Cancer hosted by Baldwin Park Pizza and Joey and Marietta Spillone.



Serving Children & Families since 1950



At Ettie Lee's Annual Celebration of Foster Parents in May pictured are left photo— having some picture taking fun are from l to r Skarlet Pelehberg, volunteer Irma McGaughey, Vicki Mastro and volunteer Bianca Olivas. In the right photo are Michelle Byerly, Hayden Byerly, Ettie Lee Board Member Mike Norring and Vicki Mastro. Each year this event is hosted by **Big Sunday**.



Former Ettie Lee President & CEO, Clayton Downey came by for a visit recently. He is pictured with Vicki Mastro, Development Director.



As her community service project, in May and June, Katherine Balcazar from Arroyo Valley HS organized a drive at school for Foster Children. She collected so many items for us to include in our Welcome Kits.

# OUR HOLIDAY HEROES 2016





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