



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



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How We Foster Love.

In 2024, we achieved an extraordinary milestone of **helping our one-millionth child.**

This achievement marks thousands of hours of dedication from our volunteers, agency workers, and donors who have worked tirelessly to bring resources, hope, and support to children in foster care. It is a moment to celebrate the collective impact we've made together—but also a reminder of the work still ahead.

Foster Love began with a simple act of compassion and a desire to change the way children in foster care are cared for in America. In 2008, Danny Mendoza discovered that his 9-year-old cousin, Roger, was living out of a car. This heartbreaking discovery opened Danny's eyes to the urgent need for more support for kids in foster care. At just 16 years old, Danny couldn't become a foster parent, but he was determined to help children facing challenges like Roger.

What started as a small event to support foster kids—funded by recycling cans—soon grew into something much bigger. Danny and the early Foster Love supporters would even dumpster dive to raise money for jerseys and sports equipment, working tirelessly to make a difference. The first initiative, an after-school sports camp for children in foster care, laid the foundation for what would become a nationwide movement. This effort was truly a labor of love for everyone involved.

It's this same compassion that drives our mission and fuels the work we do every day. We provide programs like bike builds, sibling reunification events, and scholarship funds to help foster youth pursue higher education. Our volunteer programs extend across the country, offering people from all walks of life the chance to get involved and make a meaningful impact.

Foster Love's goal has always been to change the way children in foster care are treated, and today, it's a nationwide organization that has impacted millions of children.

From helping one child to supporting many, Foster Love continues to grow and will not stop until every child in foster care has a bright future filled with love and opportunity. Today, Foster Love is proud to offer programs like shopping sprees, bike builds, sibling reunification events, and scholarship funds to help foster youth succeed in school. Our volunteer programs span the country, giving people from all walks of life the chance to get involved and make a meaningful impact.



DANNY MENDOZA
Founder, and CEO of Foster Love



GIANNA MULKAY
Executive Director of Foster Love

OUR VISION

Foster Love envisions a world where every child impacted by the foster care system receives the care, support, and opportunities they need to heal, grow, and reach their fullest potential.

OUR MISSION

Foster Love is dedicated to transforming the way children navigate through the foster care system by providing critical resources, services, and support.

Since 2008

1,000,000+

Children & Youth Served





IN 2024

12.3M

RAISED TO SUPPORT
CHILDREN IN FOSTER
CARE

78K+

VOLUNTEER
HOURS

200K+

CHILDREN &
YOUTH SERVED

Foster Lo

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephanie Baeza

Christopher Mekdara

Danny Mendoza

David Mendoza

Kim Moore

Brandon Myers





Our Core Values

TEAMWORK

Working collaboratively allows us to become more efficient and effective in enacting our mission's goals. Leaders rise through their actions and support of one another.

INNOVATION

We love and encourage new ideas, elevating each concept while celebrating the unique creativity of each individual within the organization, embracing the spirit of teamwork.

PASSION

Our team radiates an intense enthusiasm, which allows us to develop a deeper meaning to our purpose with an eagerness and urgent sense of innovation.

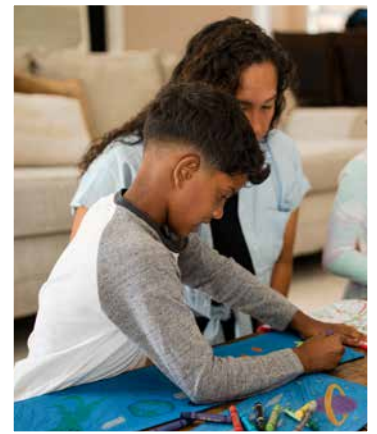
Community In Action

Delivering Resources Where They're Needed Most

Our service activities are the backbone of everything we do—they enable us to provide the essential resources children in foster care need to thrive. These projects give individuals, groups, and organizations the opportunity to give back by directly supplying children with what they need, while also keeping the Foster Love mission alive. By getting involved, volunteers and donors not only support children in foster care but also learn the importance of teamwork along the way.

For over a decade, we've been on the front lines, delivering critical resources and comfort to children in foster care, offering tangible support where it's needed most. From providing essential items to creating opportunities for meaningful connections, our programs touch the lives of thousands of children each year.

When the community comes together for these projects, they help create real, lasting change. Whether it's assembling duffle bags, organizing donations, or volunteering at events, every effort strengthens the network of compassion and love that makes our mission possible.





2024

Sweet Cases Made the Biggest Impact

This year, the Sweet Case program has brought comfort and joy to children in foster care, replacing trash bags with duffle bags filled with essentials and care, while delivering a lasting message of dignity and hope during times of transition.



36,297

**SWEET CASES
REPLACED
TRASH BAGS**

“ We had our annual foster/ adoptive picnic last Saturday and were handed one of these bags and told children had created the drawings on our bags for us. They were so beautiful and the thought that children helped make them made them even more special. Our girls loved them.

Ours came with caterpillars and butterflies which are very close to our hearts, as they remind us of transformation — the old turning into something new.”

-Kelley, Agency Worker

“ As a foster parent, our kids have come with these bags for the past few years. It’s great for moving, and we’ve also used them as their regular luggage when we go on trips. They’re huge and super durable, and each kid loves having their stuff in their own bag rather than sharing suitcases.

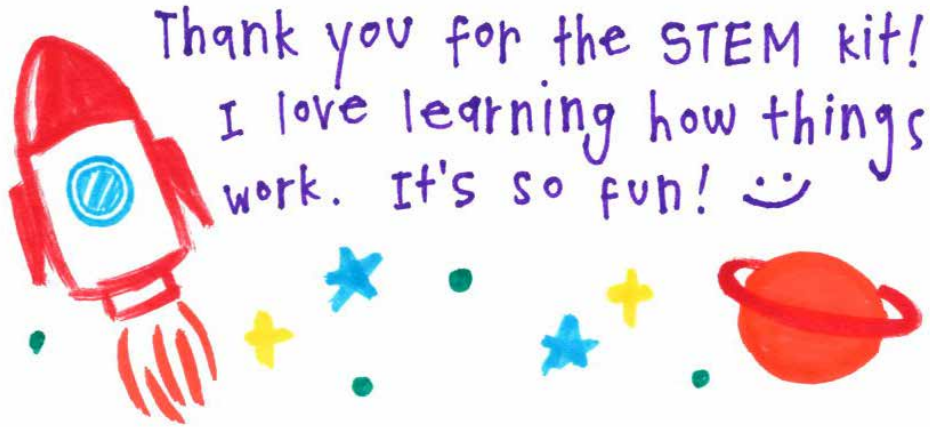
We use them so much in regular life that I don’t think the kids associated them with foster care at all by the time they moved back home.”

-Jeannine, Foster Mom



Introducing STEM Education

This year, our STEM program has introduced kids in foster care across the country to the exciting world of science, technology, engineering, and math. Each box sparks curiosity and a love for learning in children who face unique challenges in school.



- Children of Parks Youth Ranch

9,008
STEM BOXES
PROVIDED



Activating Volunteers

**Charitable Team Building Activities
for Adults, Kids, and All In-Between**

6,945

SUPERHERO BOXES

Awaken the hero within each child with Superhero Boxes. Help empower foster youth and show them their inner strength.

8,655

BIRTHDAY BOXES

Join us in celebrating more birthdays with the birthday box. Help ensure that all children in foster care get the birthday celebration they deserve.

5,383

BUILD A BOARD

Youth in foster care may miss out on simple childhood moments like learning how to ride a skateboard. Help lift the spirits of foster youth.





5,248

BIKE BUILD

Bikes provide more than transportation, they bring independence, adventure, and fun. Help change lives with a childhood rite of passage.



2,222

TEEN DUFFLES

Children of all ages enter foster care at any time. Help ensure that teens have dignity and comfort when they enter foster care.

4,212

BACK 2 SCHOOL PACKS

Providing educational tools is one way we are changing the foster care experience. Help foster youth excel.

Engaging Virtual Volunteers

Creating Change Remotely

The challenges of the pandemic prompted us to rethink how we engage volunteers, but our commitment to supporting children in foster care remained unchanged. In response, we developed Virtual Service Activity Projects that allow volunteers to make a meaningful impact from the comfort of their homes.

These projects are designed to be simple, engaging, and impactful. Volunteers receive activity kits in the mail, complete the tasks, and then send the finished items back to our headquarters in Brea, CA. From there, we distribute them to children in need, ensuring that each contribution makes a real difference.

Thanks to the dedication of our incredible virtual volunteers, we've impacted the lives of 6,319 supporting children in foster care through these innovative service projects. Together, we continue to expand our reach, helping kids thrive, no matter where you are.

4,163

**IMPACTED THROUGH
VIRTUAL SERVICE PROJECTS**





Good Acts in Motion

Joy And Cheer During The Holiday Season

The holidays can be an extremely lonely and isolating time for children in foster care.

Sadly, hundreds of children are still entering the foster care system daily so Foster Love created the Foster Love Holiday Box, an **all-inclusive kit that brings dignity and holiday cheer to children entering foster care or moving homes during the holiday season.**



1,995+

**HOLIDAY SWEET CASE
DUFFLE BAGS WITH STOCKING**

Academic Services

Closing the Educational Gap for Foster Youth

Since 2015, Foster Love has partnered with private donors, foster care support organizations, and government agencies to provide over \$8 million in academic assistance to college students with foster care experience. Through initiatives like our Family Fellowship and American Industries scholarships and the Rapid Response program, we're eliminating barriers and helping more foster youth succeed in their educational and career pursuits.

Transforming Lives Through Education

“ I just wanted to let you know that I am so grateful for everything you have done for me. Without you, I don't think I would be in the position that I am currently in. I hope to one day be able to give back and do something amazing for other students as you have done for me.”

-Luis, Scholarship Recipient





2024

At A Glance

3,747

STUDENTS SUPPORTED
THROUGH RAPID RESPONSE

\$283,000

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
PROVIDED THROUGH
RAPID RESPONSE

\$600,000

TOTAL FAMILY FELLOWSHIP
SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDED

\$120,000

TOTAL AIS VET TECH
SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDED

\$100,000

TOTAL AIS/BRANDSOURCE
SCHOLARSHIP PROVIDED

\$10,000

FUNDS TOWARDS COLLEGE
SHOPPING SPREES

30

TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS
AWARDED SCHOLARSHIPS

\$1,103,000

TOTAL AMOUNT
OF SCHOLARSHIPS
AWARDED

Eden

Family Fellowship Scholarship Recipient
Texas State University

“Thank you for everything you do, we are truly blessed to have this opportunity. I couldn’t express my gratitude enough. I will graduate and beat the statistics. I will prove everyone wrong and become the best version of myself all because of the Fellowship. You guys have truly saved my life. I wouldn’t be where I am or who I am without Mario, Danny, Robert, Foster Love and all the amazing staff. Forever grateful.”



AMERICAN
INDUSTRIES
SCHOLARSHIP

Rueben

AIS Trade Scholarship Recipient
Central Community College



“Thank you to the American Industries Scholarship donors and Foster Love for giving the gift of continued education. Without your help, I would have had to work this year just to pay for my tools, and then work another year or two to pay for my classes because everything would have had to come out of my pocket all at once. I am so glad that you allowed me to enter college right after high school. It has saved me so much stress and anxiety. Everyone at Foster Love has helped me feel like I was something more than just some foster kid. Thank you again to Foster Love!”



79

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP STUDENTS
SUPPORTED SINCE 2015

90%

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP
GRADUATION RATE

A Year Of Giving



March
Disney Days at Disney World



March
Social Worker Appreciation Month



May
Foster Care Awareness Month



June
Back to School Packs



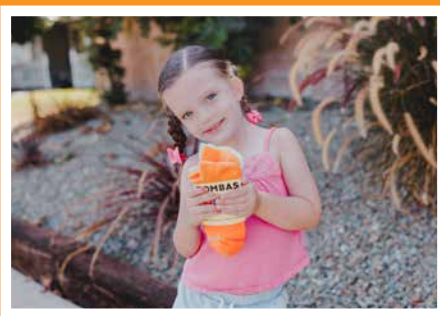
July
Tech Packs for Students



July
Foster Love Gala



September
Disney Days at Disneyland



October
Socktober



October
Halloween Treats



November
Feeding Families



November
Giving Tuesday



December
Holiday Shopping Sprees



Foster Care Awareness Month

MAY 2024

Every May Foster Care Awareness Month allows organizations and individuals to speak up and educate others about the disparities and joys within the foster care community. There are currently over 430,000 children in foster care nationwide and their needs exist all year round.

“I wanted to take a moment to say thank you for the opportunities you have provided to the foster youth that we work with in this past year. I have had the privilege of seeing their excitement, joy, and gratitude, for the shopping sprees, Rise boutique, Disney Days, and the countless program donations for their needs. I am truly thankful to be able to have you as a resource. Thank you so much and hope you all have a great New Year!

-Cristina, Seneca



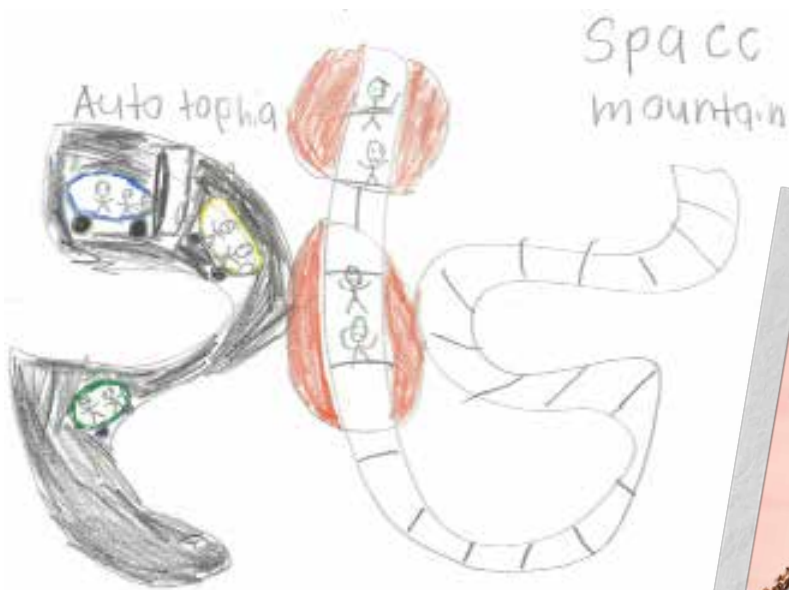
2,500+
**ACTIVE AGENCY
PARTNERS**

Sibling Reunification Events

DISNEY DAYS, SEPTEMBER 2024

For the past decade we've created magical moments for thousands of siblings during the Disney Days reunification event.

Currently, 70% of children in foster care are in placements separate from their siblings. We started Disney Days because **we believe that siblings in foster care belong together.**



- Carlos, Age 8

500+

FOSTER YOUTH REUNITED

300+

VOLUNTEERS ENGAGED





Thank you to the people that took us to Dineland that you so much for taking me and my brother to Dineland my brother says thank you so much for every things so so so much thank you. I appreciate so much for every thing that we did in the game like sploch manteri and space manteri rollercoaters and for brates and lunch and Dener. Thank you so so much Thank you.

Socktober!

OCTOBER 2024

Socks are the **#1 requested items at shelters and agencies**, yet they're the least donated! To help meet this overlooked necessity, we partnered with Bombas to deliver socks and other essentials like t-shirts and underwear to children in need across the country. Over **57,500** children received the comfort and dignity they deserve. Many of these children enter foster care with little more than the clothes on their backs, making this support all the more vital.

"It makes me feel awesome to be part of an organization that is making an impact. Just to know that you don't need to do a lot to do good.

Sometimes just a little bit helps a lot and we all need a helping hand."

- Mandy Ho, Volunteer



Thank you very
much for the socks

- Elizabeth, Age 7

57,500
SOCKS SHIPPED



Holiday Shopping Sprees

DECEMBER 2024

The chance to pick out new clothing is transformative for foster youth, especially those who enter the system with little more than the clothes on their backs. Shopping Sprees allowed kids across the country to choose outfits that reflected their personality and style, helping them step into the new year with confidence.

“I’m having a big day on the 19th. I’m being adopted, so this is great! These people were very nice, letting me have an extra gift card so I could get the clothes I wanted.”

- Mickhael, Foster Youth



405

YOUTHS HELPED

Donors And Supporters





Our Supporters

Create Positive Change In The Community

“ Please continue this, as a former foster child I can't tell you how much the smallest of things really do matter so much.

The state funding, caseworkers, and foster parents are so limited as far as what they can feasibly do for the magnitude of children in their care.

I can remember everyone involved trying to make the best of what was available. It's only getting more complicated and harder to provide. It feels good to see people pool together on this. Thank you.”

-Cierra, Former Foster Youth



A Special Thank You

To Hope and Robert Smith, with the Fund II Foundation for their warmth and generosity towards our Family Fellowship scholars.



VISIONARY | \$1,000,000

Safelite

SUPERHEROES | \$100,000



CHAMPIONS | \$75,000



ALLY | \$50,000



FRIEND | \$25,000





Foundations

Boeing Crystal Vision Grant
Finish Line Youth Foundation
Foxwynd Foundation
Fund II Foundation
George L. Ohstrom Jr. Foundation

Motorola Solutions Foundation
Pritzker Family Foundation
Resnick Foundation (The Wonderful Company)

Supporters

A special thank you to our supporters who are instrumental in helping us reach our goals, both big and small. Their contributions have made a meaningful impact on our progress.

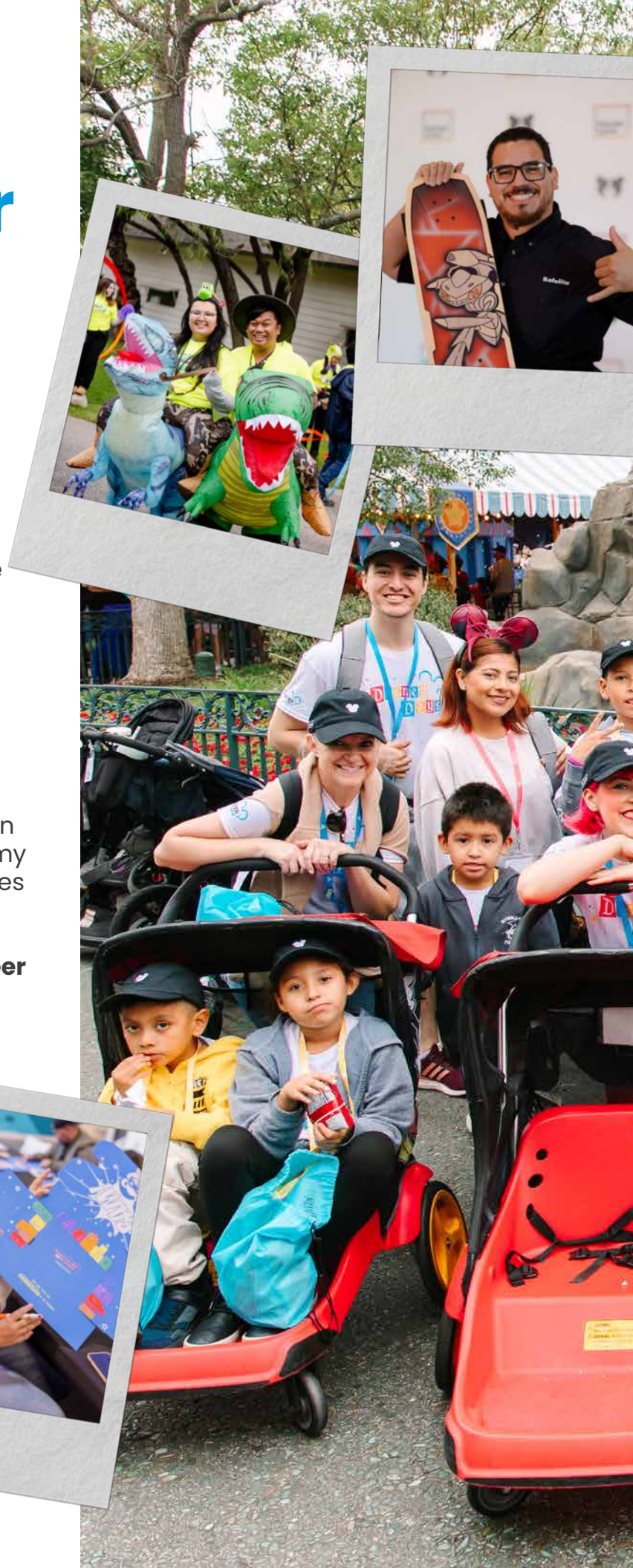
A Special Thanks To Our Volunteers

We are so grateful for the unwavering support of volunteers who make our mission possible. Their dedication and compassion fuel our work, ensuring that children in foster care across the country receive the resources they need. Every volunteer plays a vital role in advancing our cause, and through their efforts, we are able to make a meaningful difference in the lives of children in foster care.

The kindness and generosity of our volunteers are the heart of our mission, and we couldn't do it without them.

“I love you guys so much. Honestly, pulling up to the Foster Love location makes my heart just so full. I get peace in my soul. Keep on making a difference in the lives of these innocent children.”

- Kelly, Volunteer





87,483
TOTAL VOLUNTEERS
ENGAGED IN 2024



November 15, 2022
Dear "Together we rise!",

I'm writing this letter because I want to say "thank you" for giving us the tickets to go to "Disneyland." You guys were the ones who gave us the opportunity to have fun in a theme park. I know the tickets are expensive, but with all those kids and adults going, that's a lot of money. But you guys didn't have to do that. And you guys still did. I'm really thankful for what you guys have done for us. Thank you. We had a lot of fun. We got to see Disney characters, go on rides, eat food, and have fun. We really had a lot of fun, and got to meet a lot of new friends. So did my sister. What you guys did, was super nice. Thank you for giving the ticket to go to "Disneyland." That's like a child's dream. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Abideline



A Special Thank You

To Our In-Kind Donors!

Alter'd State

Are You Kidding Socks

Beis (Shay Mitchell)

Bombas

Cartolina Nantucket

Charles River

Chick-fil-A

Cotton On

Hanna Andersson

Hurley

Inspirity

LaLa Land

OC Community Action Partners Diaper Bank

Starbucks

Target

Thrive Cosmetics

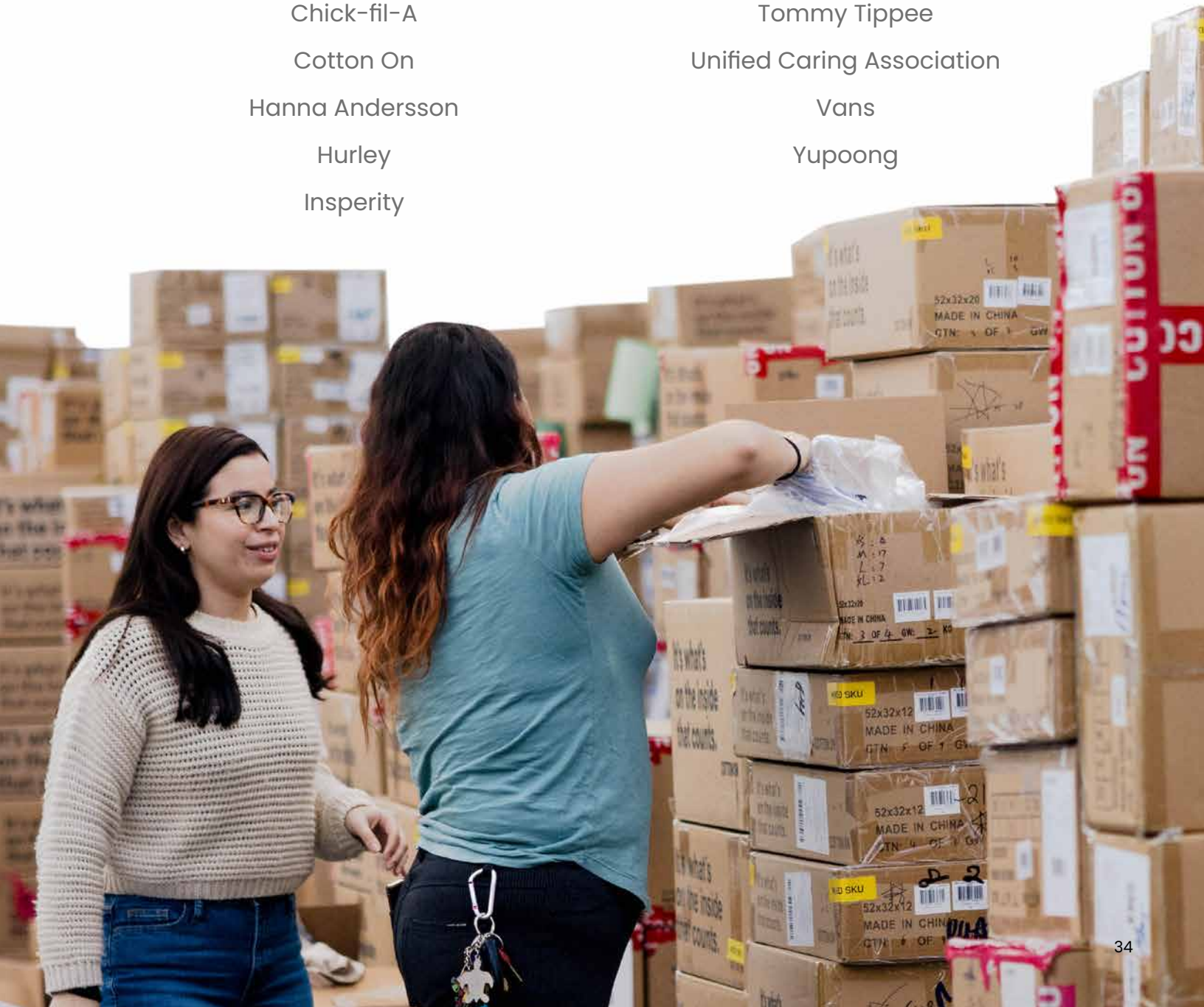
Today Show

Tommy Tippee

Unified Caring Association

Vans

Yupoong

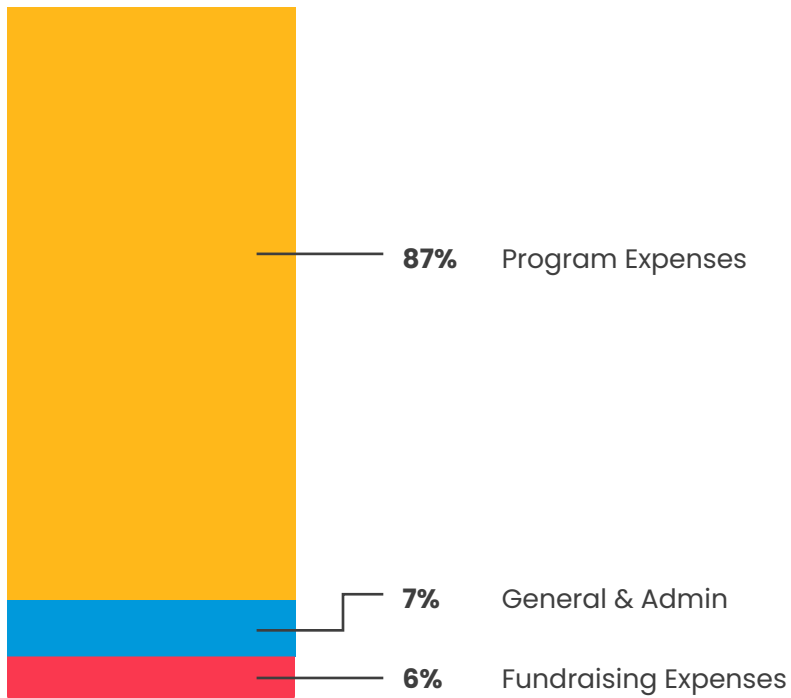


Financials

Breakdown

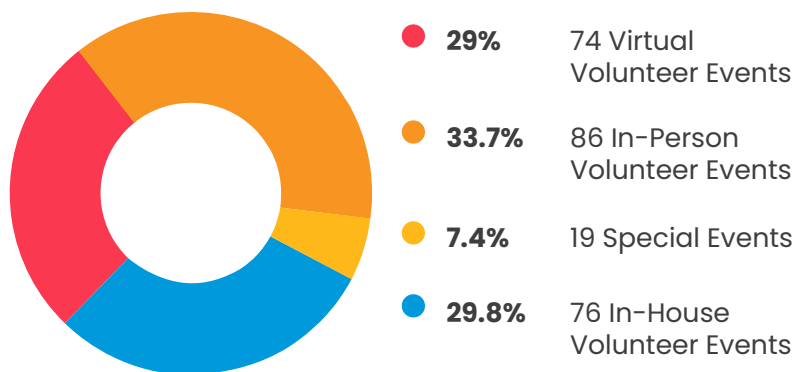
Total Income	\$	12,266,630
Net Assets	\$	11,710,747
Programs & Expenses	\$	11,012,806
General & Admin	\$	838,381
Fundraising Expenses	\$	705,589

Allocation of Expenses





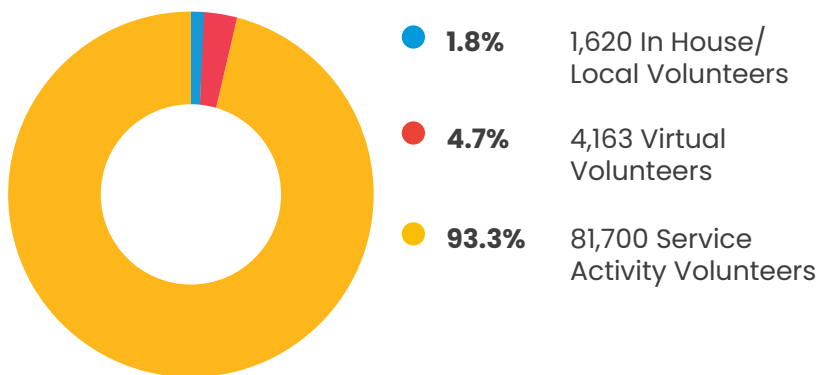
Distribution of Events



255

TOTAL EVENTS

Distribution of Volunteers




87,483

TOTAL VOLUNTEERS
ENGAGED



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