

Inspiring hope, trust and possibilities for brighter futures.

CFLC

California Family Life Center

2017  
Annual  
Report

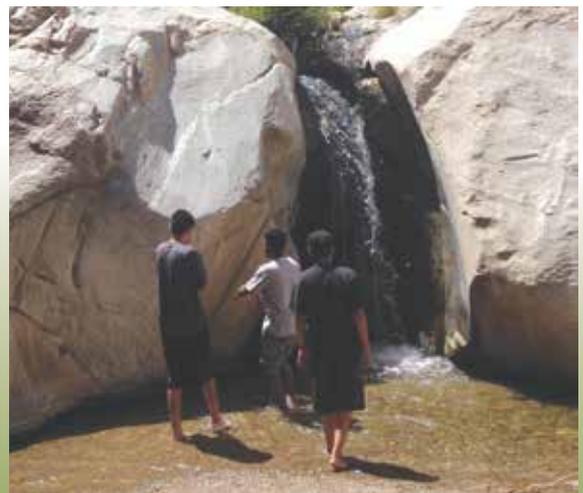


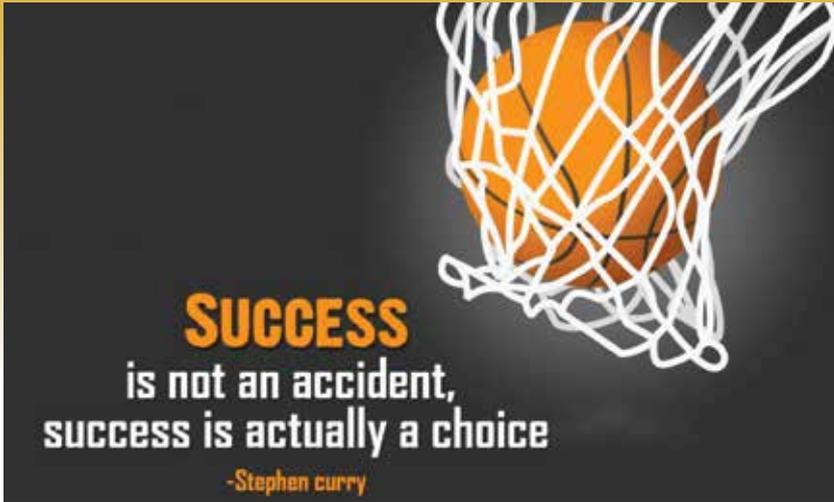
The only way to  
make sense of change  
is to plunge into it,  
move with it,  
and join the dance. Alan Watts



In 2017 CFLC has definitely taken a plunge into a new journey of change due to the Continuum of Care Reform that has been implemented throughout the State of California's Child Welfare system. We invite you to take a glimpse into how CFLC has moved forward with this change within the pages of our Annual Report.

CFLC has many stories of children being reunited with their family, adopted into a new and loving home, or successfully aging out of care and on their own. This past year has been busy and productive and, as always, we look forward to the future, to more success, to more development, and more children reaching their potential. Please join us on our Website, Facebook, and Twitter to follow our journey as we continue to provide for the many children and youth in our care.





## Youth Homes

She is a 17-year-old senior in high school, she applied to a local University and was accepted with a full scholarship. She is on her High School Girls Varsity Basketball team and works hard to get good grades. The difference between her and the other girls on her team is that she lives in one of our Youth Homes. Traditionally, during the last home game of the season, the graduating seniors are accompanied to center court by their family to honor their accomplishments and their success. Each girl was called to center court and walked with their family and then our girl was called. As she began her walk to center court, she was at first alone and then suddenly for her it happened.... the whole varsity basketball team left their families to surround her and stand with her as her family! The audience cheered and gave her much deserved applause and recognition. She is in our Youth Home, she is our girl, and she realized a dream to finish high school and go to college, and more importantly she is not alone and sometimes it is our friends that stand up for us and become our family.

CFLC Youth Homes help break the cycle of child abuse, drugs, violence and gangs and assist youth to successfully transition into better futures. Our homes provide a warm

nurturing place for youth that have been placed with us either through Probation or DPSS and are staffed 24-hours a day with experienced and caring individuals. It is through our Youth Homes that we restore hope and provide warmth and a chance to heal lost childhoods.

## Mental Health

During this year CFLC began to develop a Mental Health Department to support our youth by building protective factors and skills, increasing support, and reducing stress factors and to support wellbeing in their lives. CFLC's Clinical Therapists are Certified Clinical Trauma Professionals who provide individual, group, and family therapy, as well as case management, crisis intervention, and follow up after-care services. Additionally, trauma-informed psycho-educational groups are provided consisting of the Seeking Safety Model to simultaneously help our youth with a history of trauma and substance abuse.

## Resource Family Agency

**"CFLC is the best! They make fostering children a joy and help us be better in caring for them."**

Our Resource/Foster parents provide a safe



environment and give each child much needed love and guidance. CFLC Resource Family Agency (RFA) ensures that children who come to us know that their safety and well-being is our primary goal. We do everything within our power to safely reunite them with their family. While the children remain in secure temporary homes, we work with their birth families with the expectation that reunification can be established when a healthy environment can be provided by them in the future. We strive to provide a healthy permanent home for the children who are unable to reunite with their birth parents through adoption. Our RFA provides over 200 children a home in one of our 65 dedicated foster homes.

### **Job Training and Education**

**“I was bullied in high school and eventually dropped out. I came to the Youth Opportunity Center and I learned how to make friends with the right people, how to think for myself, how to study and how to set goals. I got my high school diploma and recently my first job!”**

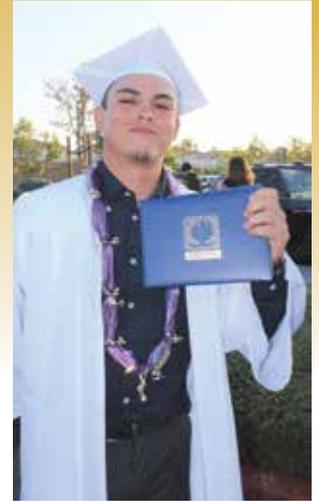
CFLC’s three Youth Opportunity Centers (Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Rubidoux) offer young adults ages 16-24 the opportunity to not only finish high school, but to continue to pursue their goals to higher education, advanced

training and employment. The program supports youth to successfully graduate from high school while providing them with the skills they need to find and maintain employment. Many of the youth have little or no work experience, may be struggling in school or have other circumstances that make it difficult to obtain a job. Connecting them to the education and career opportunities helps guide youth to a pathway of success. Each of CFLC’s YOC’s provide access to a safe and stable environment.

### **Chaplaincy**

**“ I didn’t have hope and now I do. It’s the first time I feel safe.”**

CFLC Chaplaincy is built on a foundation of renewed faith and hope for the future. Our monthly Blessing Breakfast is a time of gathering together with our foster families, kinship families, youth and staff to share and celebrate hope. At Christmas we have our Giving Tree program that provides gifts for our children, youth and families to bring joy at Christmas time. Faith is a powerful force in healing for the many children and youth that have been victims of abuse and neglect. Our Chaplaincy program encourages a deeper exploration of their spirituality. CFLC provides opportunity for children and youth in our care to connect to faith based camps, sports, special



outings, faith-based learning, community service, celebrations, conferences and concerts. We are grateful for the many individuals, businesses, and organizations who support our mission through financial gifts and volunteering that bring hope and help change the life of a child.

## Kin Care

**“At first when my grandchildren moved in with me, I thought how can I provide them the best care they deserved, I needed help.... I heard about Kin Care and they were there to support and help. The Kin Care staff are angels!”**

CFLC Kin Care provides services to relatives who are caring for their relative children when birth parents are unable or unwilling to provide that care because of illness, drug addiction, imprisonment, or death. It is through kinship services that there is an increase to the chances for children’s success by building the capacity of the families served to meet their health, financial, social, emotional, and parenting needs. Support groups help our kin care families to provide for the day-to-day care of children and adolescents. The support for families includes Family Fun Nights, holiday parties, picnics, camps, recreation activities and family outings.

The majority of the relative caregivers who assume the care of their relative children are grandparents making a commitment that is keeping children out of foster care and connected to a loving family. Most grandparents have not planned to begin parenting all over again so changing their lives to care for children is not easy. Kin Care provides assistance with basic needs such as, food, clothing, household items helping each family to stabilize.

Family stability is increased through support groups, physical and mental health services, educational services, parenting workshops, permanency planning, links to legal services, child care and respite care options. An annual event for our Kin Care is celebrated with the theme “Our Family, Our Future” to help raise funds to keep families together as they build towards a better brighter future for their children.

**CFLC**  
California Family Life Center



# YEAR IN REVIEW

California Family Life Center

## ASSETS

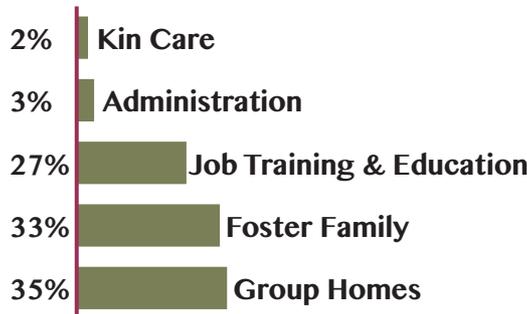
\$2,644,911

Kin Care Families  
505

Foster Family Placements  
213

Occupational Certificates Earned  
235

## EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION



2,133 CHILDREN & YOUTH SERVED

## DONATIONS

Giving Tree... \$111,646.09  
 SWIAEE Golf Tournament... \$22,830  
 Our Family, Our Future  
 Kin Care Fundraiser... \$9,609.20

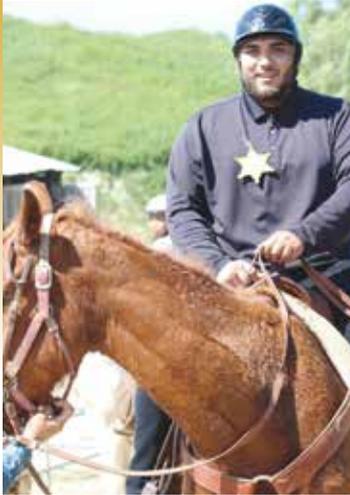
TOTAL DONATIONS... \$192,277.47

REVENUE, GRANTS & CONTRIBUTIONS  
\$10,594,478

Youth Employed  
150

Youth Enrolled in College  
91





### **Administration**

951-765-6955

Executive Director – Mary Jo Ramirez

Fiscal Director – Elena Nadih

Human Resources – Mary Snow

### **Youth Homes**

Sheila Stephenson

Group Home Director

951-765-6955

### **Resource Family Agency**

Pamela Elie-Dunkley

Resource Family Director

951-654-2352

Jodi Wozniak

Facility Administrator, Indio

760-347-2728

### **Youth Job Training**

Lenore DeJesus

Career Administrative Coordinator

951-765-0917

Greg Snow

Empower Youth Program Coordinator

951-765-0917

Jerry Fite

Planet Youth Program Coordinator

951-471-8415

Jeremy May

Rubidoux Youth Program Coordinator

951-683-9622

### **Kin Care**

Kathy Hadley

Community Resource Counselor

951-791-3557

Kathy Williams

Community Resource Counselor

951-791-3586

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**Mission Statement:** To provide safety, comfort and healing to children suffering abuse and abandonment; to teach love and trust; to instill self-esteem, values and hope for the future; and in so doing, assist children trapped in hopelessness and despair become compassionate and contributing members of the community.

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# CFLC Board of Directors

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**Vice Chairman of the Board**

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Groundwater Consultant

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**Bill Tornquist**

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Clinical Manager, MHN Health Net

**John Veytia**

Real Estate Broker,  
Engle & Voelkers Real Estate

**Nicole Hoover**

**Fundraising**

Vice President, Worksite Benefits  
Empire Solutions

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## California Family Life Center

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www.cflckids.org •  @CFLCkids •  @CaliforniaFamilyLifeCenter

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