



Child & Family Center



Nurturing Lives

Cultivating success

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The theme of our 2008 Annual Report, *Nurturing Lives*, is a true expression of the work done throughout the year at the Child & Family Center and the Child & Family Center Foundation.

You will read some of the touching success stories of children and their families who were nurtured and strengthened through their experiences as clients of the Child & Family Center. What you may not think about is the enormous amount of caring hours our therapeutic professionals, various other staff and executive team members spend with and on behalf of these individuals. Along with our volunteers and donors, they create an amazing team of caregivers.

At the beginning of the year we began to see the economic decline take effect in the housing market, and although that sector represents an important facet of local business, our contributors remained loyal. The Corporate Family Program ensured that sponsorships remained strong.


The year also represented outstanding support from the philanthropic community, as Southern California private foundations granted the dollars necessary to complete our building expansion and supply us with the funds needed to adopt an urgently needed updated electronic client information system with combined grants of \$450,000.

Finally, and most notably, the founding leadership of Liz Seipel came to the end at the close of the fiscal year with Liz's retirement. The search for a new CEO to continue in Liz's tradition of service was a serious and challenging endeavor. We were delighted when the candidacy of Darrell Paulk emerged and he was handed over the reins. There will be more about Darrell's outstanding leadership in the 2009 Annual Report, but at this time we celebrate the foundational work of Liz Seipel and Carol Gelsing, and we look forward to new traditions being forged by the leadership team of Darrell Paulk and Lois Bauccio who heads up the Foundation

We thank each and every one of the supporters named in this report. You understand the importance of the Child & Family Center for the ever-strengthening health of our families.



Terry Martin, Chair
Child & Family Center



Steve Sturgeon, Chair
Child & Family Center Foundation



Programs that nurture

"Strengthening families through counseling, education & support"

Counseling

Mental Health Counseling

Children and teens suffering from depression, anger, destructive behavior, hyperactive behavior, autism disorders with emotional issues, or other behavioral or emotional problems receive individual, family and group therapy.

School Based Mental Health Services

Students receive therapy on elementary, middle and high school campuses.

Intensive Home Based Mental Health & Support Services

Children, teens, adults, and their families receive intensive individualized mental health and supportive services in their own home.

Crisis Intervention

Children and teens up to age 18 who express suicidal or homicidal thoughts or have recently experienced a traumatic event are given immediate help during clinic hours.

Substance Abuse Treatment & Prevention

Adolescents abusing drugs or alcohol are given services at the clinic, at home and at school.

Infant Toddler Services

Parents of children ages 0-5 learn how to strengthen the parent-child bond and to address traumatic experiences.

Education

Specialized Parenting Classes

Parents of children with specific disorders or problems benefit from specially tailored classes.

Preschool / Daycare

Children from low-income families attend preschool / daycare program.

Substance Abuse Prevention Education

Students in grades 7-12 who are caught with or are at risk of using drugs or alcohol attend a five-day education program on substance use.

Mental Health Consultation & Training

Mental health professionals consult with schools, children's camps and group homes.

Support

Job Coaching & Support

Adults transitioning from welfare support into the workforce receive mental health services to overcome barriers to employment.

Domestic Violence Support

Children and adults victimized by domestic abuse receive help and support.

Community Referral Network

Clients are provided a network of community resources to help them achieve self-sufficiency, while the general public who call-in for help are referred to appropriate services.

Blooming

Darren was an angry teenager. When he came to the Center, he was homicidal and suicidal. He displayed aggressive and defiant behavior at home and at school. He had been expelled from two local middle schools after stalking students. In addition, he had been dismissed from two foster homes because his behavior was so disruptive. As a result, he was placed in a Pioneer Boys Ranch group home.

His therapist worked with Darren for several months. He was also prescribed medication to control his outbursts. His behaviors began to improve, and eventually he was able to return home to live with his father.

Today, he is in a special program on a high school campus, is making friends, and interacts appropriately with his peers. He continues to take his medication and follows rules at home and at school.



Darren

Blossoming

Eight-year-old Evan came to the Center with symptoms of anxiety and fear. He believed that monsters were coming to get him. He refused to be alone in any room of the house, and could not sleep alone.

His sister, Emily, had passed away a year earlier and the family had not come to terms with the loss. His parents did not believe that his fears were a result of his sister's death, since he had not expressed any negative emotions at that time.

Evan and his family began weekly therapy. Before therapy, the family had put away any reminders of Emily and they stopped talking about her completely. The family began to see that by pushing away all of their sadness, they were missing out on positive memories and happier feelings. They brought in pictures of Emily and talked about her. They learned how to talk to each other about their feelings and began to grieve.

Today, Evan is doing very well at home and at school. He is able to express his feelings, and his fears have gone away. His parents continue to process their own grief, and the family unit is doing better.



Evan

Flourishing



Karen



Seven-year-old Karen was waking up every night and screaming uncontrollably until exhaustion took over. She was throwing violent tantrums, kicking, biting, hitting, spitting, throwing things and destroying everything in her path. Her mother brought her to the Center for help.

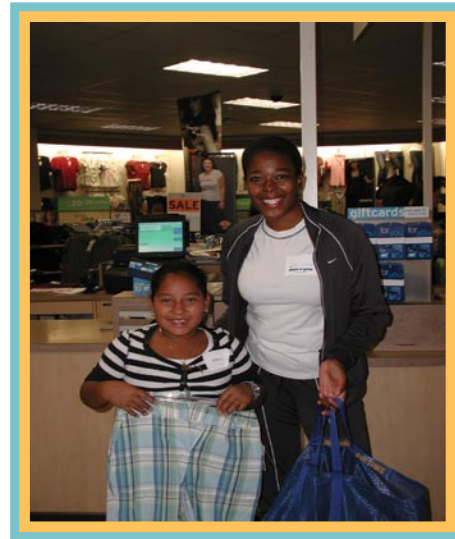
Through therapy, Karen learned how to express and receive love and affection, something she was never able to do. She learned to communicate her feelings with words rather than violence.

Using tools such as reward-based behavior charts, social skills games and modeling appropriate behaviors, she learned to listen to her mother, follow directions, and comply with household routines.

She now sleeps through the night. The tantrums have been reduced in both frequency and intensity. Lastly, and perhaps most important of all, Karen now asks her mother for kisses and hugs.

Planting the seeds

Child & Family Center Foundation

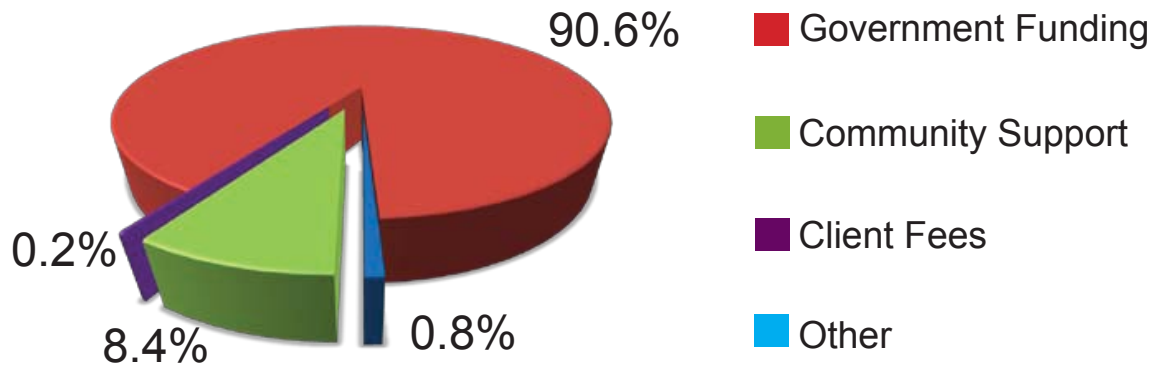


Child & Family Center Foundation supports the Center's programs through fundraising events and community donations. Highlights from 2007/08 include from top right, clockwise:

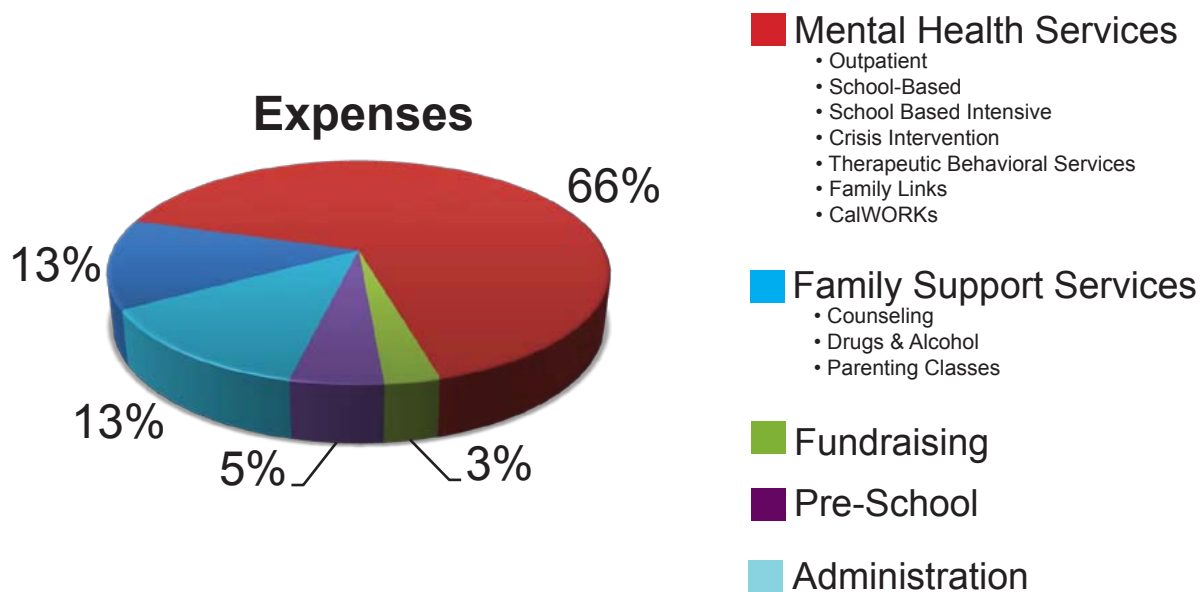
- Cheri & Don Fleming of Valencia Acura, title sponsors of Taste of the Town held in May, with Lois Bauccio.
- Mervyns and a local real estate networking group sponsored 100 children for a back-to-school shopping spree.
- The Women's Auxiliary were honored at National Philanthropy Day in November.
- The 9th annual golf tournament was held at Valencia Country Club in July. Seen here are Andrew Ghassemi, Moe Hafizi, Bob Benjamin and Ernest Guaderrama.
- Over 100 exhibitors and 5,000 children and parents attended the 5th annual Kid Expo in October.

Harvesting the fruits of our labor

Revenue

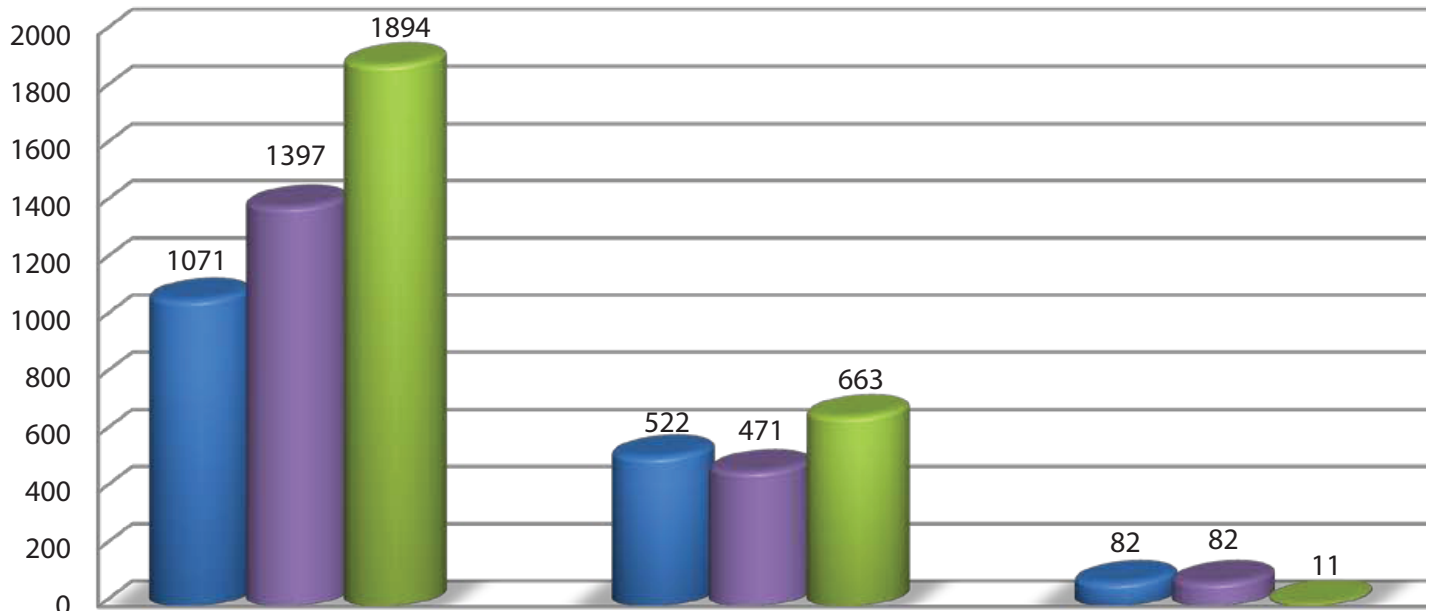


Expenses



Children & Adults Receiving Services

Families # Adults # Children



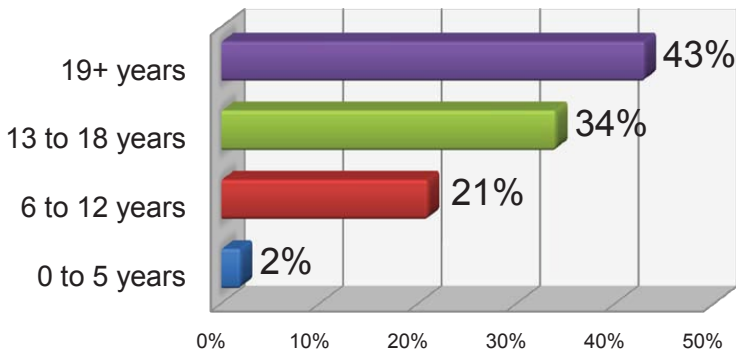
Counseling
 Mental Health Counseling
 School Based Services
 Intensive Home Based Mental Health
 Crisis Intervention
 Infant Toddler Services
 Substance Abuse Treatment & Prevention

Education
 Preschool
 Specialized Parenting Classes
 Substance Abuse Prevention Education
 Mental Health Consultation & Training

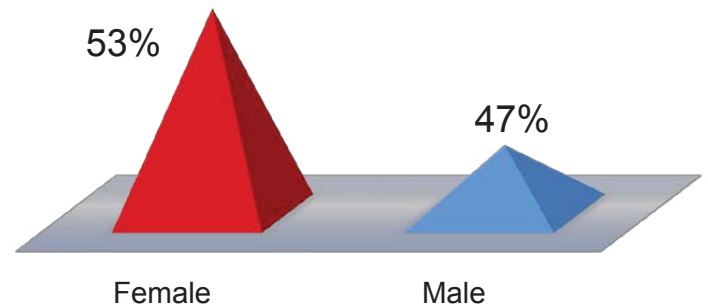
Support
 Job Coaching & Support

* In addition to those helped by direct services, 5,617 people were helped through various outreach activities, including referrals to community resources, health fairs and seminars.

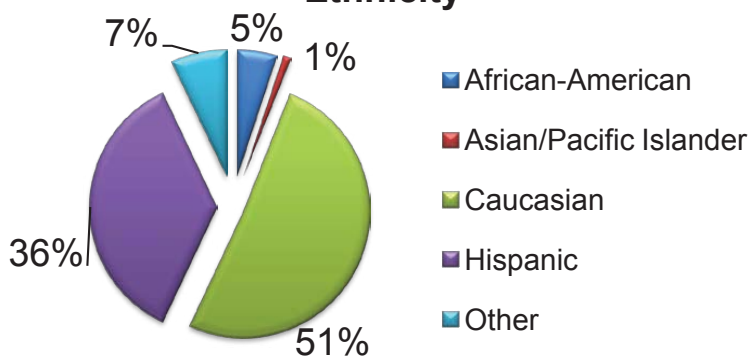
Age



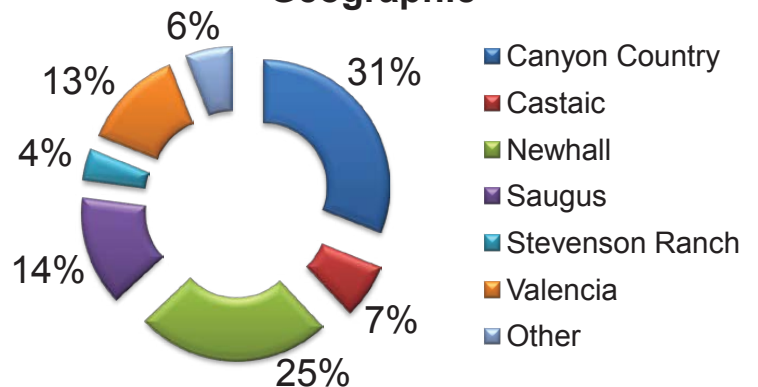
Gender



Ethnicity



Geographic



Reaping what we sow

We are deeply grateful for the support of all of our donors. The donor list in this report reflects the total gifts received between July 1, 2007 - June 30, 2008. If we have inadvertently omitted your name, please accept our apologies and contact the Foundation office.

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Mann Biomedical Park
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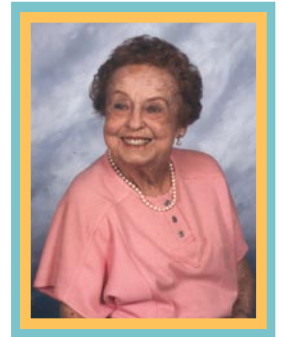
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William S. Hart Museum

Planning Ensures A Strong Future

The lovely lady pictured here has a familiar face to many in the Santa Clarita Valley. Her name was Beatrice Flatz, and she was a dedicated volunteer for many decades, electing to serve children, the elderly and her church, among others. She knew she had a little money to leave when her time came.



After planning carefully for her heirs, there was some money left, so with the help of her financial advisor, she created a simple charitable bequest. Upon her passing, her heirs would each receive a certain dollar consideration and then her favorite charities would each receive a percentage of the remaining money.

This was done a few decades prior to her passing, and she lived out her final years comfortable in the knowledge that her loved ones would be cared for and her "causes" would also be remembered.

Last spring we were notified that Bea had sadly passed away and that there would be something for Child & Family in her will. We had been unaware of her intentions until that time, and when November rolled around we expected to receive a modest but meaningful donation of a few hundred dollars. Well, over the number of years that Bea's investments had grown, the percentage left to Child & Family (5%) had grown to equal \$140,000! If you do the math, you'll see how significant Bea's nest egg had grown to be.

What a difference that gift has made to the thousands served at our Center over the past year!

With few exceptions, everyone has an estate! Bea's story reminds us that planning carefully can ensure a strong future for the things that have touched us in a special way during our lifetime. We can all do this! Regardless of the size of our "estate", we know it will grow over time.

Corporate Family



Child & Family Center

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Our Mission

Child & Family Center helps to build a healthy Santa Clarita Valley by providing mental health, behavioral and educational services to children, adults and families.

