

CHILD WELFARE FUNDERS



Imagine yourself turning 18. A stranger hands you a small amount of money and tells you, “You are now on your own. Good luck!” With no immediate family to turn to, no job, no high school diploma, and nowhere to live, your prospects for the future are bleak. You have the highest risk to become homeless, live in poverty, be unemployed, and turn to crime. You have just emancipated from the child welfare system.

The Child Welfare Funders began meeting in 2006 as a group of foundations and corporations interested in learning more about the child welfare system and issues facing children and families served by the system.

Over the course of many months, the funders group examined current strategies, met with County Child Welfare officials, held a strategic planning workshop, and hosted a regional workshop with the State Department of Social Services on best practices throughout the state.

A funding collaborative of  **San Diego Grantmakers**
Strengthening Philanthropy

Based on all the collective learning, strategic planning process and review of evidence based best practices, the CWF developed a theory of change to improve outcomes for youth aging out of the foster care system.

The four specific strategies and programs which local funders are currently supporting through aligned funding are:

MENTORING FOR WOMEN AGING OUT WHO ARE PREGNANT OR PARENTING: MENTORING MOMS — A PROGRAM OF JEWISH FAMILY SERVICES

Goals: Young women will graduate high school, continue their secondary education, and postpone parenting a second child through one-to-one mentoring by volunteer community members and enrollment in parenting education.

WORKPLACE MENTORING FOR YOUTH AGING OUT: SAN DIEGO FOSTER YOUTH INITIATIVE AND SOUTH BAY COMMUNITY SERVICES

Goals: Youth will increase employment success and career development through workplace mentorship with volunteer mentors at area businesses, exposure and connection with business community. They will learn both the soft and technical skills needed to become a competitive and productive employee.



SAN DIEGO GRANTMAKERS

The mission of San Diego Grantmakers is to connect, educate, develop and inspire a diverse group of foundations and corporations to stimulate effective philanthropy in the San Diego region. Our vision is a vibrant, effective and growing philanthropic community that improves the quality of life in the San Diego region.

SUPPORT FOR EMERGENT NEEDS OF YOUTH: JUST IN TIME FOR FOSTER YOUTH

Goals: Youth will increase knowledge and practice of successful financial management, and receive support for one-time urgent needs that will enable them to get and keep employment and housing. This program is an outgrowth of Just in Time's Opportunity Passport savings program & emergency assistance program, currently serve more than 700 foster youth per year.

ASSISTANCE TO INCREASE ENROLLMENT IN POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION: GUARDIAN SCHOLARS PROGRAMS/ACE SCHOLARS

Goals: Increase number of foster youth that enroll and complete secondary education through financial assistance (scholarships, emergency loans) and mentoring. Programs currently operate at UCSD, SDSU, CSUSM, and community colleges.



Child Welfare Funders include:

- Alliance Healthcare Foundation
- Casey Family Programs
- Commission on Children, Youth & Families
- Cox Communications
- First 5 Commission
- Jacobs Center for Neighborhood Innovation
- McCarthy Family Foundation
- Price Charities
- Qualcomm, Inc.
- San Diego National Bank
- San Diego Social Venture Partners
- Alex Smith Foundation
- United Way of San Diego County

SDG's Funding Collaboratives invite you to join our efforts to learn together, share our experiences and knowledge, and build opportunities for insightful and strategic funding for the benefit of the community.

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