



ROBYNE'S NEST

ANNUAL

REPORT

2022



TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Executive Director Summary</u>	3
<u>Our Services</u>	4-5
<u>2022 Impact</u>	6-7
<u>Program Growth</u>	8
<u>Program Highlights</u>	9-12
<u>Student Care Team</u>	13
<u>Events</u>	14-16
<u>Sponsors and Donors</u>	17
<u>Financials</u>	18
<u>Board of Directors</u>	19

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUMMARY



“ In 2023, the Robyne’s Nest partnership will continue with HBUHSD and NMUSD to educate and empower more teens with the skills and resources they need to become self-sufficient. We will grow our program with HBCSD providing group mental health services to at-risk students. We hope to give these students the tools and coping skills that are necessary for their positive mental health before entering high school. We are eagerly working on plans to renovate the newly purchased transitional living home with anticipation to move our students into the house by mid-2023. We hope you will see the value in this missing piece of our community and support our efforts!

As we experience growth and times continue to change, Robyne’s Nest keeps the same resolve as always, to help homeless and at-risk students, with little to no parental support, become high school graduates and work on their individual paths to self-sufficiency. We face the new year with optimism and the opportunity to serve those that need it the most, our youth. Together we are breaking toxic cycles and changing lives!

We are looking forward to a great 2023 and more lives changed and stories re-written.

With gratitude,

Robyne Wood
Director, Robyne’s Nest



“ I feel honored to be a part of the Robyne’s Nest organization and to serve as the President of the Board of Directors. I’m amazed at the growth of our organization each year and 2022 was no different. Last year, we provided over 2,100 nights of safe housing, and, with the purchase of our first house, we can provide safe and secure housing to even more students. We continue to add new programs to meet the needs of students while maintaining our individualized service and support. The dedication of our staff and volunteers is unmatched. Together we are breaking cycles of dependency and steering our local in-need students to a self-sufficient and productive future.

Dick Deaner
President, Robyne’s Nest Board of Directors

WHO WE SERVE



Robyne's Nest provides at-risk and homeless students, who have little to no parental support, with the resources to complete high school and pursue a path to self-sufficiency. Our students are referred to us by the Huntington Beach and Newport Mesa school districts and students must be alcohol- and drug-free.

WHY WE SERVE

Without a high school diploma and the educational foundation to become self-sustaining, these students are more likely to become homeless adults in our community. Statistics show that homelessness generates staggering negative impact on a community. It increases crime and dysfunctional behaviors that a community must deal with. Investing in homeless and at-risk teens is investing in the future of our community, our state, nation, and world.



HOW WE SERVE



Mental Health Therapy

All students in our program are required to attend mental health therapy with one of our licensed therapists. This therapy is a vital part of these student's healing and gives them strategies to manage their past and move forward into a brighter future.



Life Skills Classes

We offer a full curriculum of Life Skills classes that are offered not only to students in the Robyne's Nest program, but also to other students in need. Our classes cover a wide range of topics in personal finance, cooking and nutrition, health and well being, and work and interviewing skills. These classes are taught by community volunteers and help these students be better prepared for adult life.



Safe Housing

Our first priority is to make sure our students are living in a safe and stable environment where they can thrive and focus on their future. To this end, we recently purchased a house for our high school students in need. Our goal is to provide a supervised environment where they learn how to become self-sufficient and productive members of our community.



Basic Needs

Robyne's Nest provides free basic needs items such as food, clothing, hygiene items, household goods, and school supplies. Students may visit our office or their own school pantry. All donations are provided by the generosity of community members, organizations, and businesses. We also provide bicycles or bus passes to students in need so they have transportation to school and work.



Care Coordination

Managing everyday life struggles is hard enough and it is especially difficult when you don't have the guidance, advice and stability of a family with supportive parents. Robyne's Nest fills so many voids in our students' lives and serve as their mentors, coaches and, equally important their cheerleaders. We make sure to celebrate every success from getting a good report card, celebrating birthdays, or even getting a drivers license. We also provide stability and boundaries which are critical to their path to self-sufficiency.



Financial Stipends

For our students still in high school, we offer gift cards to local supermarkets and stores to purchase essential items like fresh produce and meat that we are not able to store and distribute. Most of these students must work to survive and these stipends allow these students to work fewer hours so they can focus on school and their future. To be eligible for the stipends, students must be passing their classes and have satisfactory attendance at school.

2022 IMPACT

ROBYNE'S NEST STUDENTS WRAP-AROUND SERVICES

903

hours of
mental health
therapy

2,184

nights of
safe
housing



\$4,970

food
pantry
service

\$4,100

living
stipends

\$4,235

food
gift cards

100% Graduation Rate

- All 17 of our high school seniors graduated.
- 6 are working full-time.
- 11 are working part-time and in community college.

2022 IMPACT

SCHOOL SERVICES



1,860 food bags for
412 students
\$149,701



scholarships
\$13,500



food gift cards for
412 students
\$23,515



49 life skills classes
attended by 70 students



school pantries in 7
schools serving 750
students
\$2,000/month

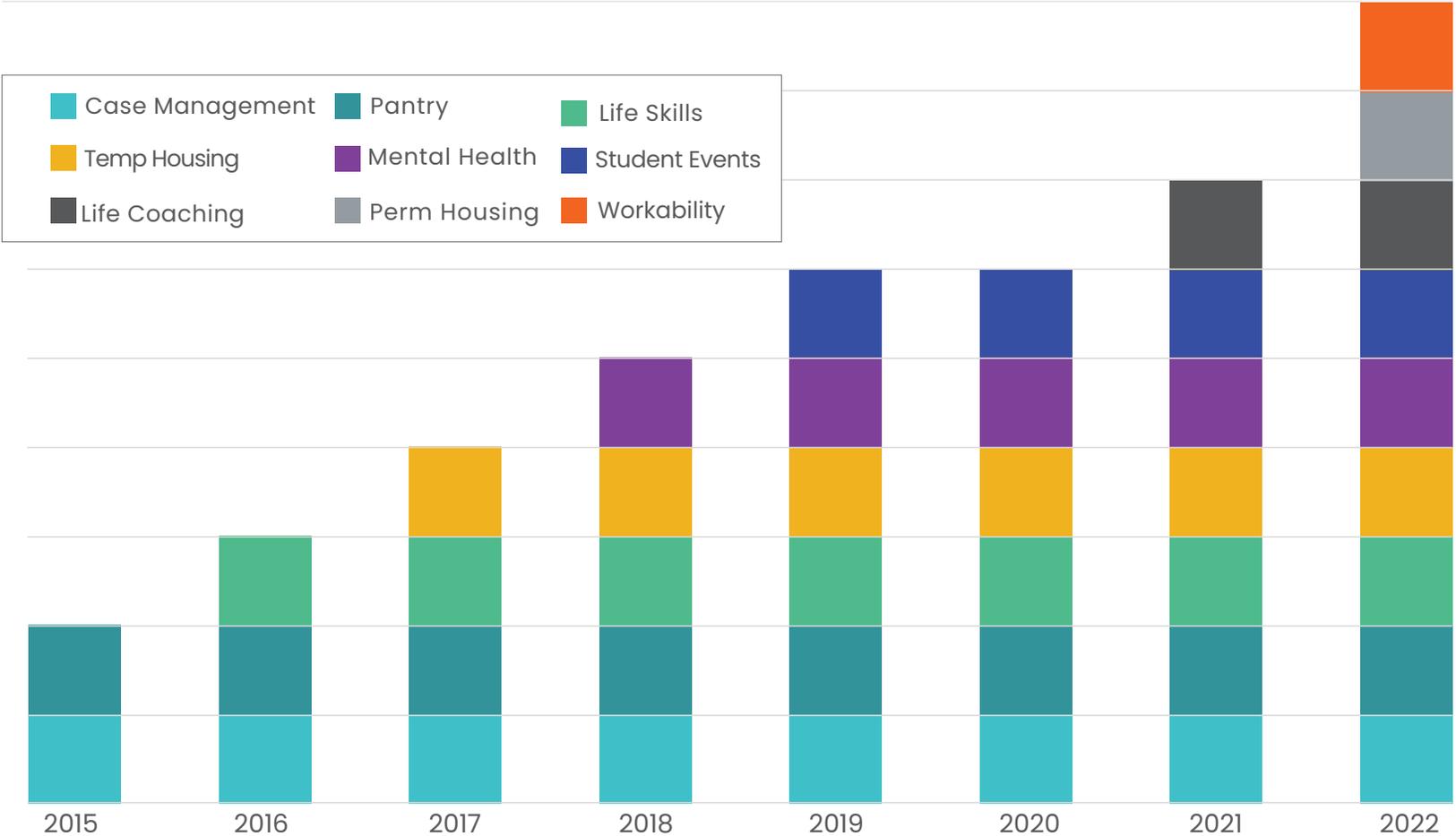


holiday gifts for
102 students
\$31,500



PROGRAM GROWTH BY YEAR

Robyne's Nest continues to add services to support the needs of our students. We are dedicated to doing everything in our power to help these students graduate from high school and achieve their goals.



Mental Health Therapy

Samantha's Story

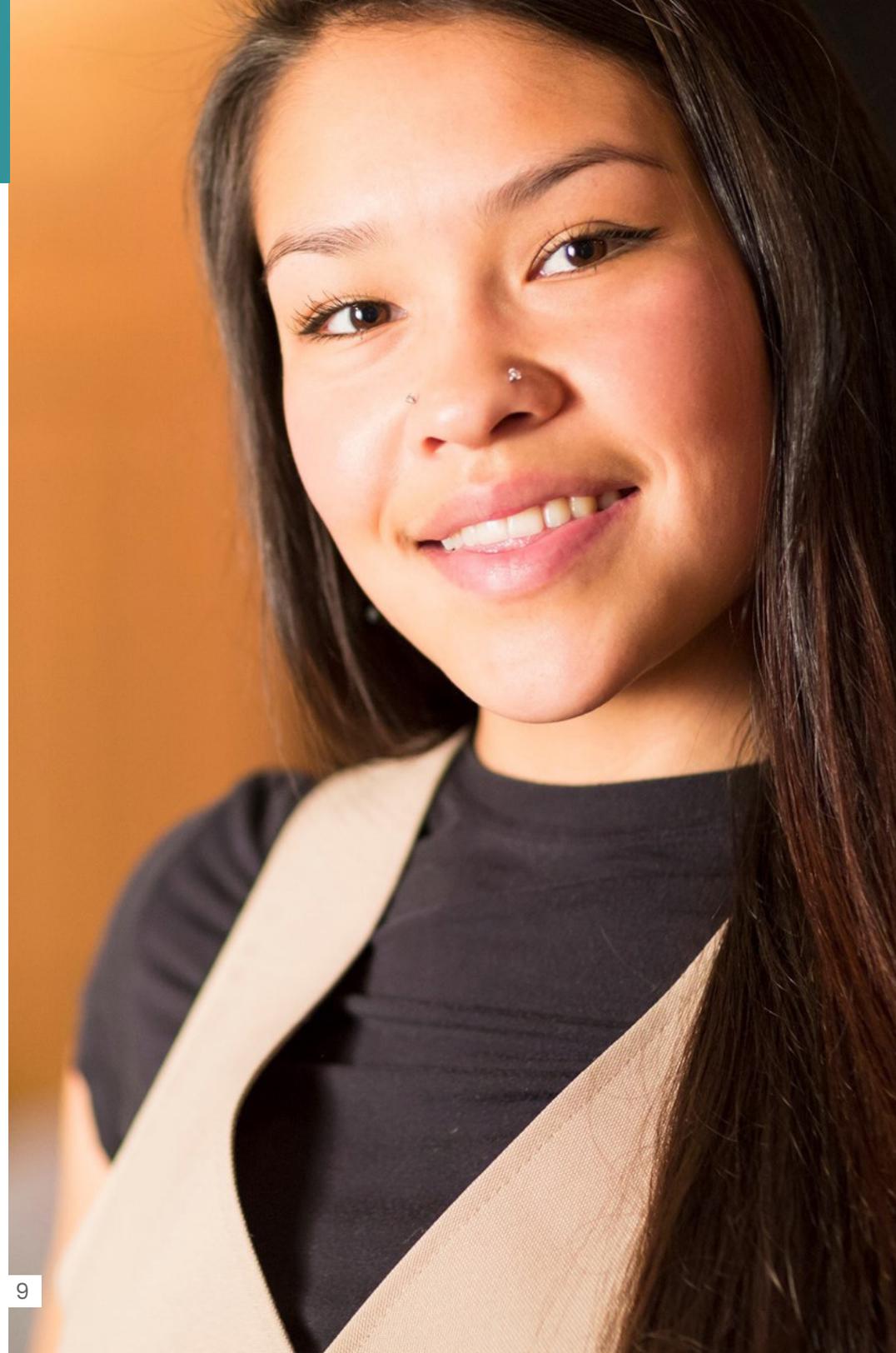
These past three years have allowed me to heal and grow from an untimely situation in my life. Both of my parents were sick all of my high school years. In my senior year, my mom passed away in April and my step-dad in June.

I thought if I just focused on school, I would 'just be ok', but after a year of trying that approach, I realized that wasn't working so well. Asking Robyne's Nest for help and therapy was the first step for me to heal in a healthy way.

Before therapy, I was trying to distract or cover up the emotional pain and trauma I experienced. It got to a point where I actually almost gave up on myself and the will to continue my life. I have never been so afraid of my emotions until that moment, and that's when I knew it was time to start somewhere! With the support of Robyne's Nest and their therapy program, I've learned many skills and most importantly to accept my feelings. I've learned that it's ok to not be ok! To let go of the loss and find my own peace. To forgive not only myself but others too. To remind myself that I am much more than the 'bad' things that have happened to me. You can't wait until life isn't hard anymore before you decide to be happy.

Thank you Robyne's Nest for giving me the opportunity to be a better version of myself and the gift of healing. Thank you for always supporting me and guiding me through this process. I am extremely grateful for everything! — Samantha

This photo is a representation. We keep our students anonymous.



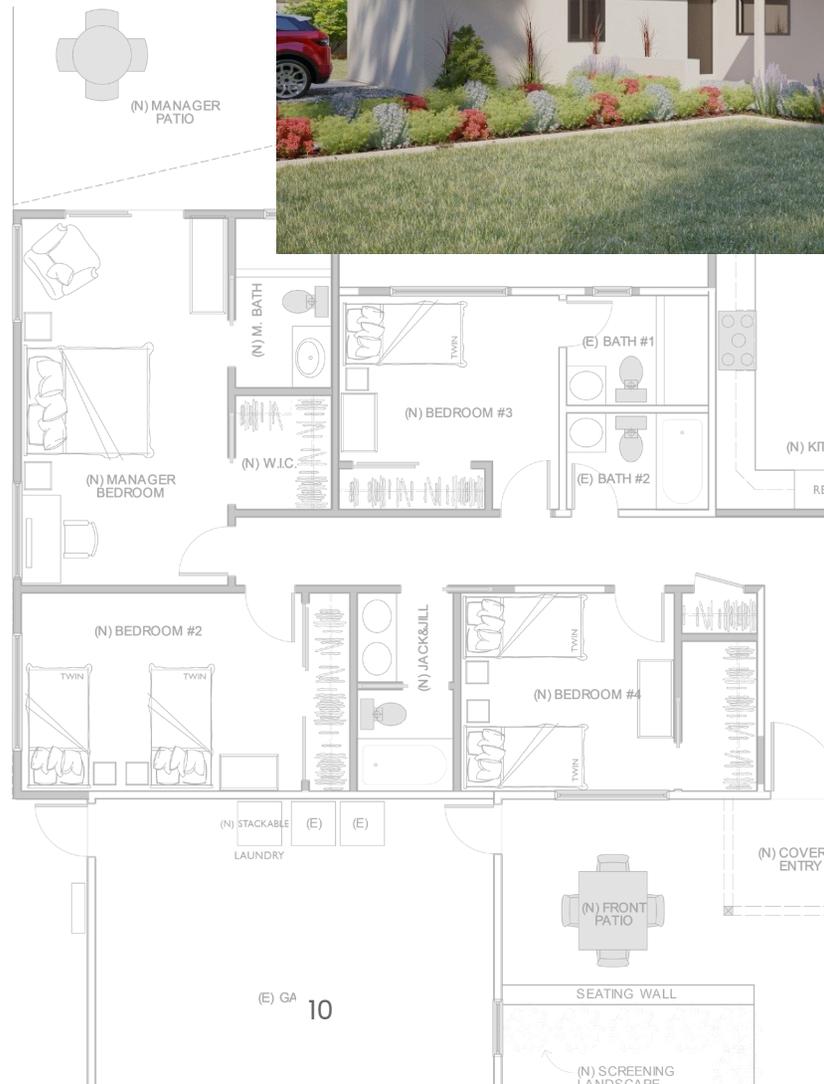
Supportive Housing Program

We are homeowners!

We are so excited to offer supervised stable housing for our students and to provide a safe place for them to thrive. Many of these kids have never had a safe place to live with rules, boundaries and a full refrigerator. Our goal is to teach them how to live with others, share responsibilities and to become self-sufficient adults. We'll have fully trained house managers on site to support the students along their path. We have major renovations planned in 2023 and our goal is to have students living in the home in the fall.

“To have safe stable housing means that I don't have to live in fear or worry. It means I can focus on succeeding in school and only worry about what test I'm taking next instead of worrying for my safety. It means I can focus on achieving my goals so I can build a future that look forward to. — Sara

“The safe and stable housing from Robyne's Nest has given me a sense of security and relief in my life. I know I can come home and won't be walking into any unnecessary stress or drama. And my roommates have become close friends to me, almost like family and we love spending time together. — Peter



100% of students placed in 2022 remain in stable housing.

95% of the 42 students placed since 2017 remain in stable housing.

Fireside Chats

We introduced a new program in 2022 to bring in people from various businesses and trade to share their experiences with the students. We keep the numbers small so the students have an opportunity to ask questions and learn about possible career paths they may have an interest in exploring. It's also a great opportunity to introduce some non-traditional career opportunities that the students may not even know exist. So far, the chats have been very well received and we look forward to adding even more in 2023.

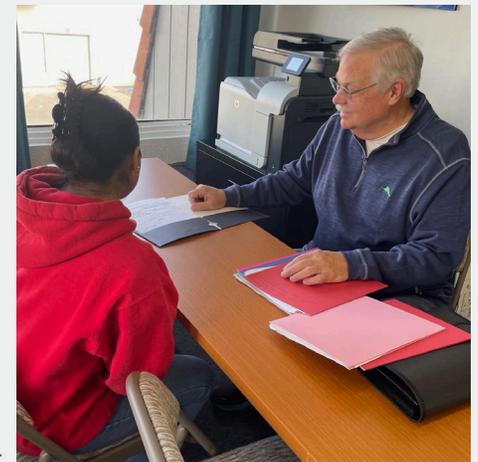


Life Skills Classes

We provide life skills education classes that are required for all students in our program. Robyne's Nest also teaches in the high schools during the Saturday School classes to provide this valuable instruction to a wider audience of teens and young adults. Classes include personal wellness, employment, finances, coping skills for stress, dangers of vaping and tobacco, housing, transportation and many more. These classes help our students to learn to live within their means breaking the cycle of dependency on government programs.

One-on-One Coaching

Some students are more comfortable in one-on-one environments and need that individualized attention. We started pairing up volunteers with students in areas like personal budgeting, career readiness and navigating Microsoft Office. This offers a non-threatening environment for each student to learn new skills and ask individual questions to make the experience solely about their specific situation. This is a new experience for many of the students and we are learning they need some time to trust and share information but know this is a valuable learning experience for them.





On a Path to Success

Sammy's Story

Robyne's Nest has helped me in a countless number of ways. I first met Robyne my senior year of high school during a difficult time. I was going through a rough patch in my life that seemed like it never had an end. Robyne not only gave me amazing resources but was also someone I could count on to be there for me. From learning how to manage my credit to attending a yoga class, Robyne's Nest really has it all. The people I have met through Robyne's Nest have shown nothing but love and support for me; they are my constant cheerleaders. I am a bit shy when you first get to know me, but every time I walk into Robyne's Nest everyone knows my name and genuinely cares about my well being. The other students I have met through this program have also supported and inspired me. No matter where we cross paths there is nothing but good times and smiles. Robyne is as selfless as they come and I look up to her everyday. There will never be a way to show just how much I appreciate Robyne and her team at Robyne's Nest and I will forever be grateful for their support. – Sammy

This photo is a representation. We keep our students anonymous.

STUDENT CARE TEAM

We are so fortunate to have a team of individuals dedicated to supporting our students.

Student Care Coordinators



John French, Student Care Coordinator

Nicole Trani, Assistant Student Care Coordinator

John and Nicole help guide our students through the twists and turns of young adult life while teaching valuable life skills along the way. John meets with students to discuss work on their individual care plan in relation to their schoolwork, employment, and any obstacles in their path to success. He is not only there to help them move forward, but work through their life choices and the consequences of their decisions. Nicole coordinates tasks to make sure students are getting taken care of and the team is on track. Both John and Nicole head up our student programs including life skills education, student events, and more.



Mental Health Therapists

Dr. Robin Baroway, Ph.D.

Gladys Teske, Clinical Social Work/Therapist, MSW, LCSW

A vital part of our students transformation is helping them put their past behind them and envision a bright future. Dr. Robin and Gladys meet with our students to help them with their mental health healing. At the request of our district, we added some on-site group therapy for local middle school students.

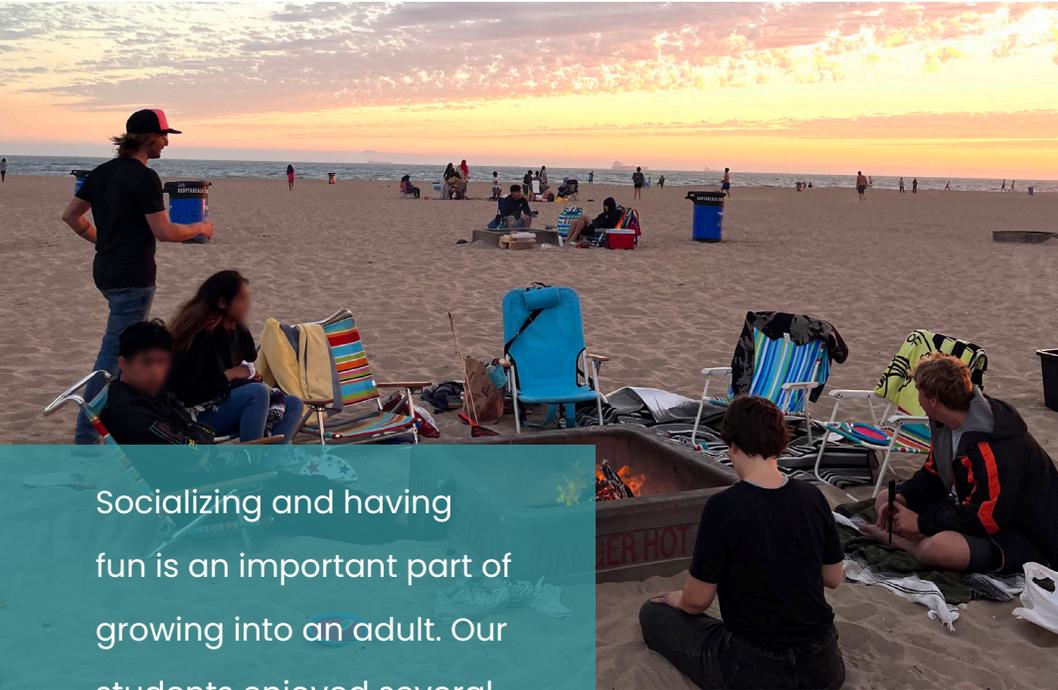
Career and Leadership Coach



Janet Anderson

Janet helps our students through a self-discovery process to uncover their interests and goals and to shape their passion into a career plan. Her ultimate goal is to find opportunities to support their future career and life success.

STUDENT EVENTS



Socializing and having fun is an important part of growing into an adult. Our students enjoyed several outings this year including a beach bonfire, bowling and pumpkin carving. For several of these students, it was their first time enjoying these activities.



CHILI COOKOFF



Our first Chili Cookoff was a tremendous success with 13 participants and over 200 attendees. Guests enjoyed tasting and judging the chili and also hamburgers and hot dogs straight off the grill. We had amazing raffle baskets and wrapped up the night with music by a local band Muffler. We are already planning next year's event!



FOOD DRIVES



FOOD DRIVE

Help us provide food bags to homeless and low-income students.

Local in-need students rely on free breakfast and lunch provided by the school -- food that is not available when school is not in session.

To meet this need, we held three successful food drives to distribute food these students during school breaks.

Local businesses and organizations helped by organizing food drives, volunteering to assemble and deliver food bags to local schools. We could not help so many students without this community support.

- 16 schools in the Huntington Beach and Newport Mesa school districts received food bags.
- Over 250 student families received food, hygiene kits, and grocery store gift cards during each drive.
- 1,823 food bags were delivered.



16 schools
1,823 food bags
Over 250 students per drive

SPONSORS AND DONORS



**THE GALLIPEO FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

**THE KUPFERSTEIN FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

**THE KANNOV FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

**THE SHROEDER FAMILY
FOUNDATION**

**THE WORAVKA FAMILY
FOUNDATION FOR CHILDREN**

**THE KATIE THOMAS HAYNES
MEMORIAL EDUCATIONAL
FOUNDATION**

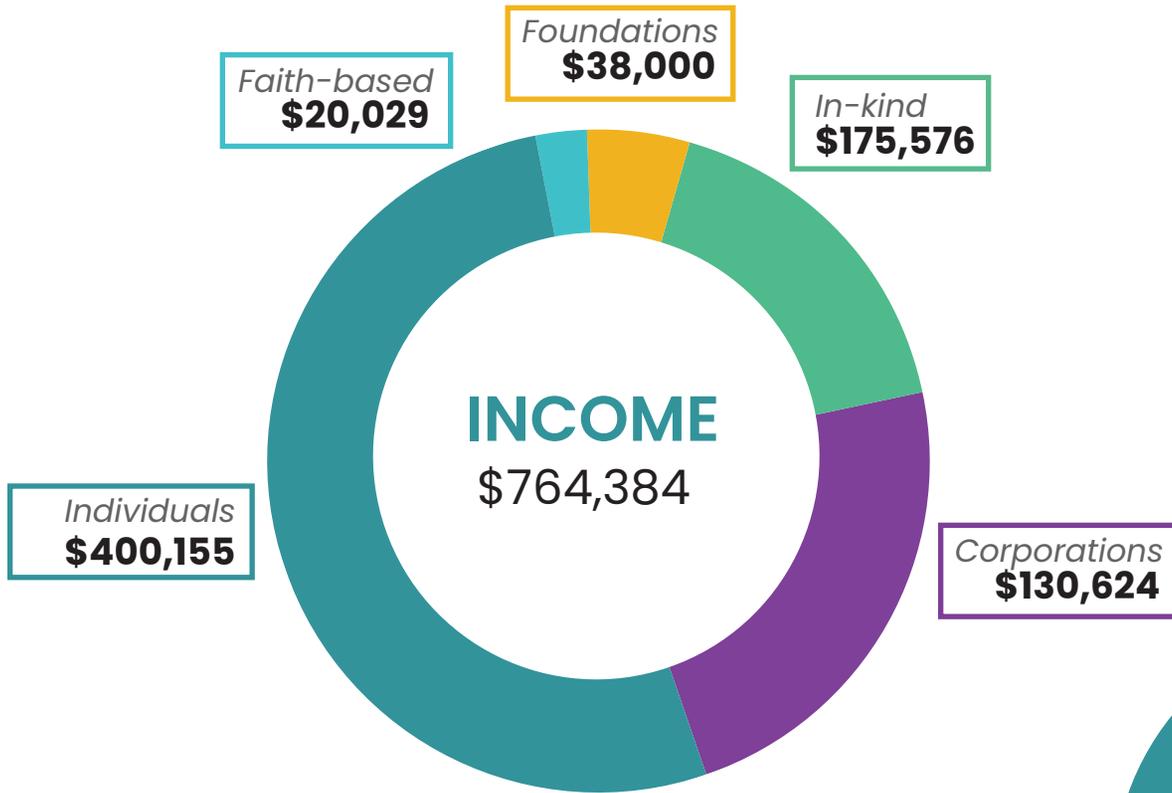
Local Businesses and Community Partnerships

Advanced Office Solutions
 ExperTec
 First Christian Church Huntington Beach
 Huntington Beach Adult School
 Huntington Beach City Employees
 Huntington Beach Homeless Task Force
 Huntington Beach Kiwanis Club
 Huntington Beach Police Department
 Huntington Beach Union High School District

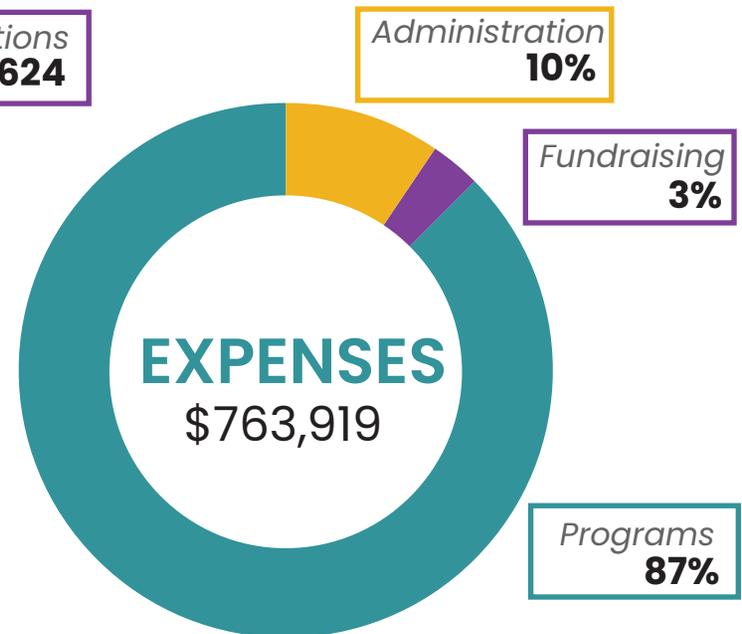
Indian Motorcycle Rider Group
 The Katie Thomas Haynes Memorial Educational Fund
 Lions Heart Club
 Newport and Huntington Beach NCL
 Newport Mesa Unified School District
 OC Department of Education
 Sts Simon and Jude Church and Men's Club
 The Rotary Club of Fountain Valley
 The Rotary Club of Huntington Beach

Splunk
 Starbucks
 St. Peters by the Sea Presbyterian Church
 St. Wilfrids Episcopal Church
 The Sunrise Rotary Club of Huntington Beach
 The Tutoring Club of Fountain Valley
 Varsity Driving Academy
 Westminster Grocery Outlet
 Westminster Police Department
 WHIPSAW Media

FINANCIALS



Overall giving grew by **\$100,000** over the previous year!



Volunteer Work
5,403 hours valued at
\$161,820

Platinum
Transparency
2022
Candid.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DICK DEANER, President
Project Manager, Jacobs Engineering, Retired

ALEX ALVAREZ, Treasurer
Advance Tube Engineering

ELISABETH HASSANZADEH, Secretary
Fountain Valley Montessori, Retired

ROBYNE WOOD, Member
Founding Director – Robyne's Nest

DR. MORGAN SMITH, Member
Principal, Marina High School

KIRBY WOOD, Member
District Manager, FedEx

DR. PATRICIA FRENCH, Member
Program Director, Boeing, Retired

LISA FARMER, Member
Information Technology Director, Boeing, Retired

STAFF

ROBYNE WOOD
Founder and Executive Director

LISA FARMER
Assistant Executive Director

JOHN FRENCH
Student Care Coordinator

NICOLE TRANI
Assistant Student Care Coordinator

AMY SCUNCIO
Office Manager

BARBARA WITTICK
Fundraising & Event Coordinator

Keeping students in
school. Eliminating barriers.
Breaking cycles. And
putting students on a path
to self-sufficiency.



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www.robynesnest.org

Robyne's Nest is a non-profit organization
exempt under the 501(c)(3) section of the
Internal Revenue code.