Fostering long-term stability and growth in high-risk youth, young adults, and their families through caring relationships and supportive services since 1992.
Friends,

As you know, we walk alongside young people who have experienced trauma, instability, and hardship. We provide the protective relationships and safe spaces where youth can heal, grow, and engage in life-affirming arts and employment projects—work we simply couldn’t do without your support.

In recognition of this work, we were awarded the 2018 Leadership Peacemaker Award by the Community Boards, the longest running nonprofit conflict-resolution center in the United States. We could not be more proud of our staff and young people.

Other things your support has made possible this year:

**Growing Staff and New On-Site Charter School**
This year we welcomed three new team members—Pedro Reyes (Creative Arts Specialist), Carrie Peng (Chinese-speaking Family Success Coach), and Melissa Laureta (Development and Communications Associate). We also became a site for the nationally acclaimed Five Keys charter school, a Harvard Innovations in American Government award winner, which offers our young people the opportunity to complete their education and obtain a high school diploma or GED.

**Youth Engagement with Our Local Community**
As part of our ongoing community-building efforts, for the past 24 years we have facilitated the annual Sunset Community Festival—a landmark event that we established to celebrate the rich diversity of the Sunset and provide a stage for young local performers like our SYS youth. Staff organize the event and collaborate with community partners such as Sunset Mercantile, while our youth are employed as cooks, performers, photographers, merchandise promoters, and sound engineers. With pop-up marketplace, food trucks, stage, and kid zone, the festival attracts over 2,500 families, young people, and local visitors!

**Sunset Community Festival 2019**
Mark your calendars for September 21, 2019, and come support our amazing youth artist community!
Partner with us as an event sponsor or come volunteer with your work group or faith community!

Every day these resilient overcomers amaze us—pursuing education and work, diving deep into arts projects, performing for their communities, and—as evidenced by a 90% non-recidivism rate—daring to choose creativity over violence and crime!

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**Signature**

Dawn
We support the most vulnerable and disconnected youth in the city.

**WHO WE SERVE**

**AGE DISTRIBUTION**

- 14-15 years old: 6%
- 16-17 years old: 44%
- 18-24 years old: 50%

**ETHNICITY**

- African-American: 41%
- Latino: 24%
- Multiracial: 15%
- White: 6%
- Asian: 6%
- Pacific Islander: 3%
- Other: 5%

**GENDER**

- Male: 76%
- Female: 24%

**MOST SYS YOUNG PEOPLE experience:**

- Poverty
- Childhood trauma, abuse, abandonment, or neglect
- Unsafe neighborhoods
- School suspension or expulsion
- Incarceration

**WHERE SYS YOUTH LIVE IN THE CITY**

17 did not report zip codes.

14-15 years old:
- Presidio: 50%
- Golden Gate Park: 44%
- San Francisco: 41%
- Mission: 24%
- Inner Sunset: 15%
- Outer Sunset: 6%
- Potrero Hill: 6%
- South of Market: 3%
- Richmond/Seacliff: 5%

16-17 years old:
- Presidio: 50%
- Inner Sunset: 44%
- Outer Sunset: 41%
- Mission: 24%
- Inner South of Market: 15%
- Inner Richmond/Seacliff: 6%
- Outer Richmond/Seacliff: 5%

18-24 years old:
- Presidio: 50%
- Inner Sunset: 44%
- Outer Sunset: 41%
- Mission: 24%
- Inner South of Market: 15%
- Inner Richmond/Seacliff: 6%
- Outer Richmond/Seacliff: 5%
SYS builds strong families, supports healthy communities, and helps young people chart a stable path to adulthood.

We bring digital arts programs to public schools as an outreach to high-risk youth.

We help young offenders re-enter society through partnerships with Juvenile Hall, Young Adult Court, and California Academy of Sciences.

We help youth positively connect with their neighborhoods through local employment opportunities and arts events that showcase their talents.

We are a member of the Sunset Family Resource Center and offer parenting classes to support teen parents and high-risk families.

**Youth in Focus**

**Top left:** Jack prepares food in the Upstar Café for our youth community.

**Top right:** Khuron and Rymo, Digital Arts Creative Lead, edit a video for a new song.

**Bottom left:** Local singer-songwriter Rachel Garlin collaborates with youth artists Angelina and Joey on a series of original songs.

**Bottom right:** Staff members Wendy and Vicky (with daughter Sa’rai), celebrate Cameron’s graduation from Life Learning Academy and his acceptance into college.
OUR ATTACHMENT COMMUNITY MODEL
Healthy attachments create safety, security, and a sense of well-being. We provide a caring web of relationships woven throughout our programs. Connected youth are better equipped to thrive in school, at work, in families, and in other social systems.

OUR PROGRAM PATHWAYS TO CONNECTION & HEALING

JUSTICE SERVICES

61 YOUNG PEOPLE
90% NON-RECIDIVISM RATE
Percentage who do not reoffend during program participation

We provide 1:1 support, crisis counseling, referrals to services, and education and career guidance to help justice-involved youth achieve personal goals and break patterns of violence.

DIGITAL ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

304 YOUNG PEOPLE
(55 IN JUVENILE DETENTION)

1482+ Individual songs created
15 Albums produced
24 Videos + 2 for Uphill Arts recorded

We provide training, 1:1 mentoring, and studio time for young people to create meaningful personal projects.

FAMILY SUPPORT

150 FAMILIES
(unduplicated)

25 Families received ongoing crisis support
19 Families engaged in parenting classes
46 Families attended parent education workshops
125 People participated in family bonding outings
2000 lbs. of supplemental groceries given weekly

Read about our trauma support on p. 7 to learn how we help young people in crisis.

This year our youth created, planned and performed live in local events that were attended by over 3,000 people.
**38 YOUTH INTERNS**
1,635 hrs. of work-based learning
608 hrs. job readiness/transition planning
"We Bounce Back" double album (27 songs)

Youth leaders engage in career training at our in-house record label, working as marketing associates, sound mixers, live sound engineers, and music producers.

**20 YOUNG PEOPLE**
3-4 hours per day, 3 days a week
Youth prepare nutritious homemade snacks and meals for their peers at our youth center.

**16 YOUNG PEOPLE**
1 Grant for $10,000 written by youth to fund a 4-school tour and record release party for their new album

We employ youth in short-term projects, such as youth advocacy, tabling at job fairs, and mentoring peers in our mobile booth outreach at public schools.

**24 TAY* IN THE JUSTICE SYSTEM**
Transitional-age youth* appointed by Young Adult Court and supported by our staff are trained and employed in a variety of positions, including as security officers with the California Academy of Sciences.

**Program Spotlight**
**RECORD, RECONNECT, RESTORE**
Bringing the Arts and Re-Entry Services to Juvenile Hall

Rehabilitation happens in the context of relationship, not isolation. In order to build meaningful relationships on the inside that can help sustain youth once they are on the outside, we bring cutting-edge recording studios into San Francisco’s juvenile incarceration facilities. Music creates the draw, relationships build the bridge, and employment opportunities provide the incentive for youth to keep on track once they are back on home turf.

**55 YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS**
engaged in our Digital Arts Programs while locked up in juvenile incarceration facilities in FY18.
“Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) are stressful or traumatic events that children experience before age 18, such as violence at home, neglect, abuse, or having a parent with mental illness or substance dependence. High or frequent exposure to ACEs, without the buffering support of a caring adult, can dysregulate children’s stress response.” - Center for Youth Wellness

In addition to neglect, abuse, and abandonment, our young people have experienced numerous destabilizing experiences, shown here:

Stable, safe, caring relationships are at the core of SYS’s unique "Attachment Community," an innovative research-based paradigm for youth development that provides long-term support and healthy attachments for vulnerable and disconnected young people. Trauma-trained staff recognize and respond to the many ACEs that mark our young people's lives—providing steady relationships, encouragement, crisis counseling, and referrals to services as well as education and career guidance to help young people break patterns of violence, build resilience, and achieve stability.

What do young people say about SYS?

95% of those surveyed said:

“I feel safe and respected in this program.”

“A staff person at this program really cares about me.”

“At least one staff person here understands what my life is like outside the program.”

*Of youth surveyed (SF Dept. of Children, Youth, and Their Families FY18)
Thank you for investing in the stability and growth of our young people and their families!

**Income**

- Individual Donors: 21%
- Public Funders: 73%
- Other: 1%

Total: $1,282,472

**Expenses**

- Programs: 74%
- Administration: 18%
- Fundraising: 8%

Total: $1,229,762
WHO WE ARE

We are a 501(c)(3) organization.
Federal Tax ID: 93-1004117
SunsetYouthServices.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Liz Zarr, Chair
Keith Hitchcock, Treasurer
Alexandra Costanzo, Secretary
Michael Costanzo
Dr. Richard Jacobs, MD
Jeff Purganan
Dr. Don Williams, PsyD
Jenny Yung
Aaron Trank

STAFF

Executive Team
Dawn Stueckle, Co-Founder, Executive Director
Delvin Mack, Co-Founder, Director of Operations
Ron Stueckle, Co-Founder, Director of Justice Services

Justice Services
Kimo Uila, Supervising Juvenile Case Manager
Natalie Rodriguez, TAY Case Manager
Abdul AliAkbar, TAY Case Manager

Digital Arts & Technology Program
Joel Tarman, Director
Wendy Baker, Facilitator
Rymo Cortado, Creative Lead
Pedro Reyes, Creative Arts Specialist
Beronica Zelaya*, Creative Arts Specialist

Workforce Development Program
Lisa Litsey, Director
Vicky Fashho*, Employment Coordinator
Mutasem Dajani*, Life Skills Coach

Family Support Services
Maria Dajani*, Family Success Coach
Carrie Peng, Family Success Coach

Development, Communications and Finance
Mary Loebig Giles, Assoc. Director, Dev. & Communications
Melissa Laureta, Dev. and Communications Associate
Marissa Majid, Bookkeeper

*Former SYS youth

2018 Leadership Peacemaker Award
communityboards
Building Community Through Conflict Resolution

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