



Sunset Youth SERVICES

Opening Doors of Creativity and Connection for SF Youth

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



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

A Year in Review

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!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dawn".

MOST SYS YOUNG PEOPLE

experience:

Poverty

Childhood trauma, abuse, abandonment, or neglect

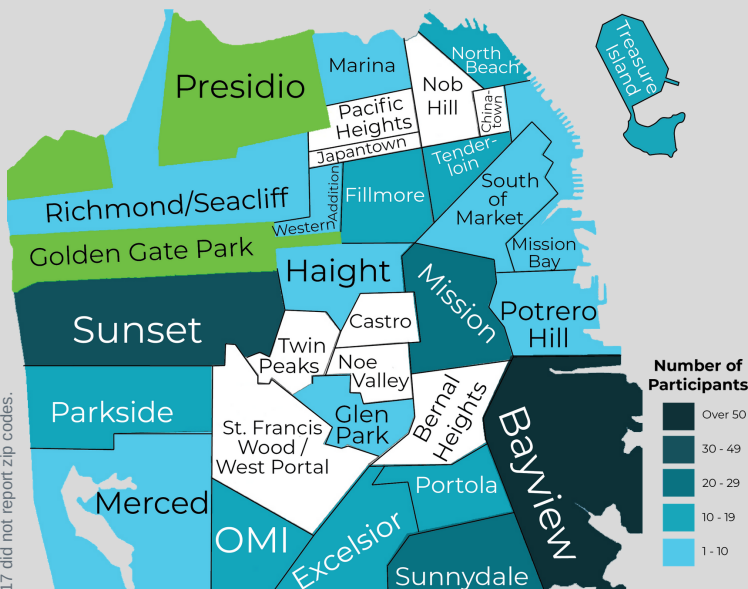
Unsafe neighborhoods

School suspension or expulsion

Incarceration



WHERE SYS YOUTH LIVE IN THE CITY

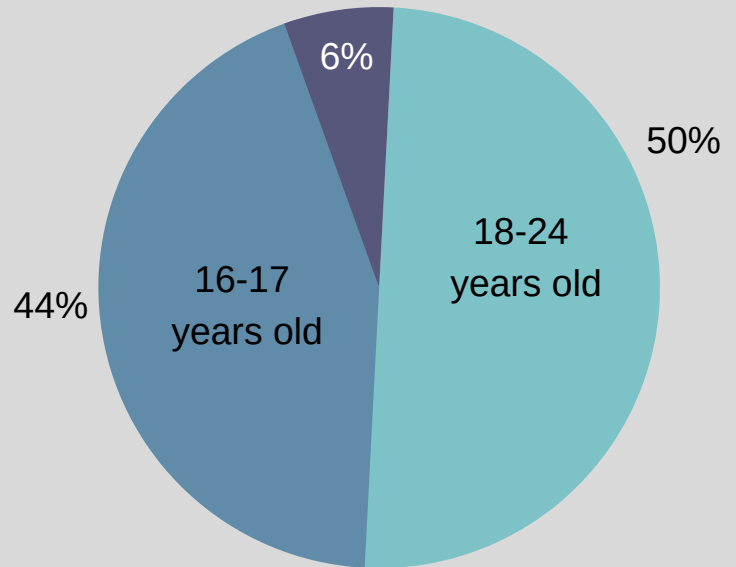


WHO WE SERVE

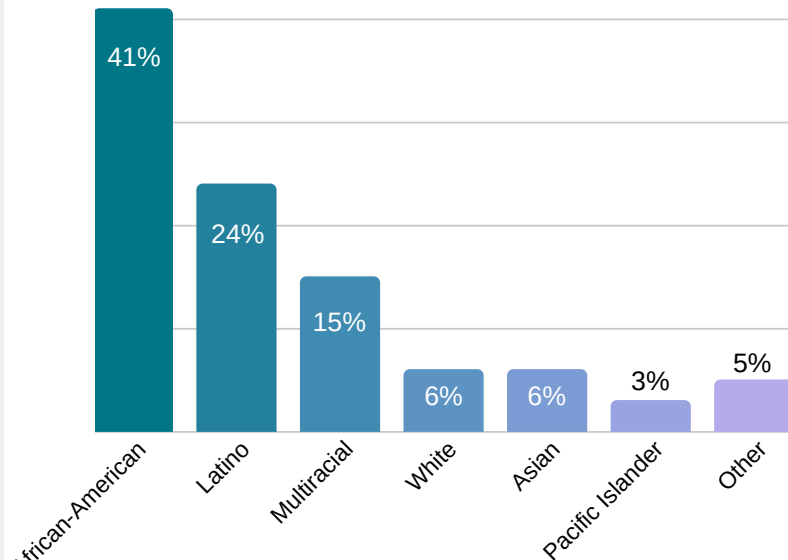
We support the most vulnerable and disconnected youth in the city.

AGE DISTRIBUTION

14-15 years old



ETHNICITY



GENDER



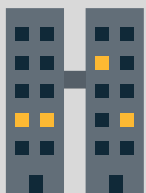
WHAT WE DO

SYS builds strong families, supports healthy communities, and helps young people chart a stable path to adulthood.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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



JUVENILE HALL

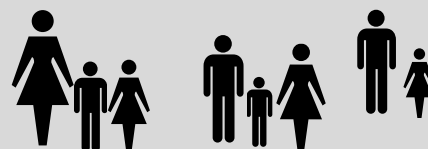
We help young offenders re-enter society through partnerships with Juvenile Hall, Young Adult Court, and California Academy of Sciences.



NEIGHBORHOODS

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

FAMILIES



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.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

UPSTAR RECORDS



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.

OTHER EMPLOYMENT



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.

UPSTAR CAFÉ



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.

CLEAR PATH EMPLOYMENT



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.

55 YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

engaged in our Digital Arts Programs while locked up in juvenile incarceration facilities in FY18.

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.

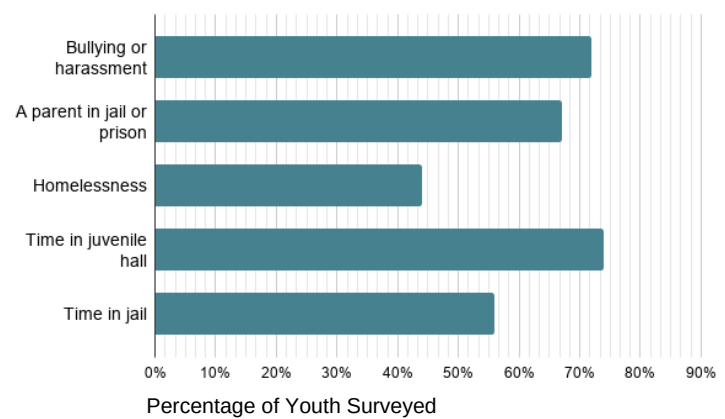
Youth & Trauma

“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:

Destabilizing Youth Experiences



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.”

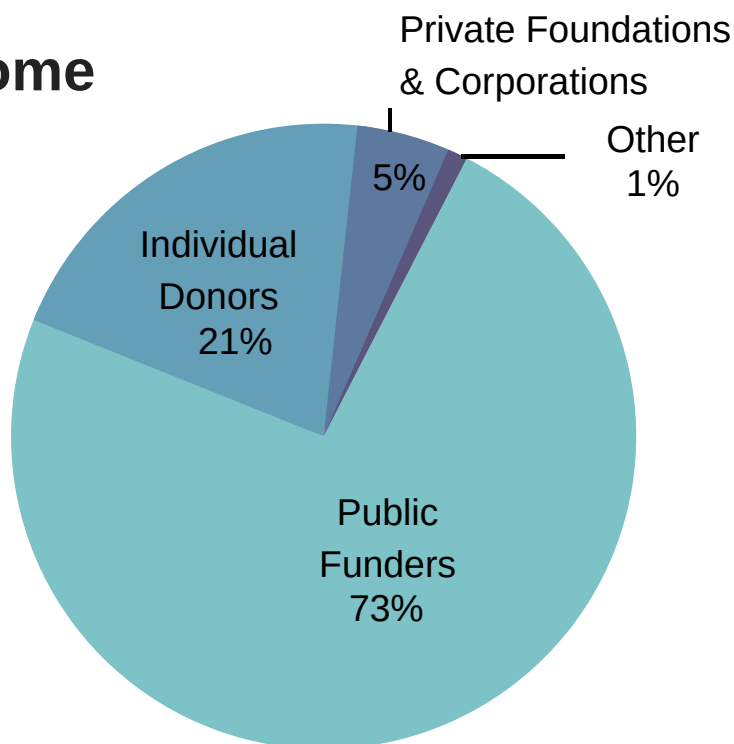
*Of youth surveyed (SF Dept. of Children, Youth, and Their Families FY18)

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.

YOUR DONATION AT WORK

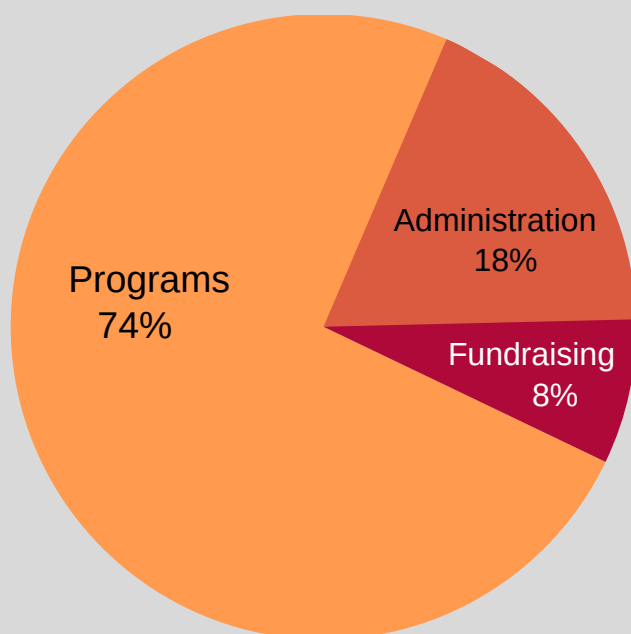
Thank you for investing in the stability and growth
of our young people and their families!

Income



Total: \$1,282,472

Expenses



Total: \$1,229,762

You make our work possible!

Our Faithful Individual Donors

We're humbled by your generosity and sacrificial giving. Thank you!

Public Funders

Dept. of Children, Youth and Their Families
First 5 San Francisco
Mayor's Office of Housing
Public Utilities Commission
SF Neighborhood Arts Collaborative
San Francisco Arts Commission

Private Foundations and Corporations

Adobe
Altria Group Inc.
AT&T
Bloomberg
Clorox
GGS Foundation
George H. Sandy
Google
Henry Mayo Newhall
Humanity United
Miranda Lux
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Recology
Ross Stores Foundation
San Francisco Parks Alliance
Sunset Family Resource Center
SHARP Neighborhood Association
United Health Group
Walter and Elise Haas Fund
Youth Empowerment Fund

Faith Communities

Citizens Church
Common Table
Cornerstone Church of San Francisco
Crescent City Nazarene
Crossroads Community Church
Napa Living Vine
New Life Church
Norcal District Church of the Nazarene
Santa Clara Nazarene
St. Paul's Presbyterian Church
Sunset Ministry

WHO WE ARE

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 Tarkan, 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

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