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,

We meet vulnerable young people where they are throughout the city—at our youth center, in school, at the hospital, in court, and at juvenile hall. Steeped in trauma, our youth desperately need the buffering power of relationships to help them navigate instability and develop the kind of resilience needed to resist gangs and gun culture, invest in creative projects as musicians and artists, complete education, form healthy relationships, grow the skills needed to sustain a first job, and thrive as independent adults.

This kind of work takes a village—one that has a growth mindset and chooses hope over despair when faced with news of incarceration, gun violence, teen pregnancy, and lost jobs. Our kids don’t simply get a second chance. They get as many chances as they need to know that failure is not the end and that theirs is a future worth fighting for.

Thank you for standing with us, for giving generously, and for powering our work with these tenacious overcomers.

And our thanks doesn’t stop there. 2019 has been a banner year for growth of all kinds, including:

- **Increased public funding**, allowing us to expand staff size to better meet the complex needs of systems-involved young people
- **A fabulous youth center renovation** with new carpeting, painting, furniture, kitchen space and appliances (Come visit us some time!)
- **Innovative arts partnerships** with the prestigious Kronos Quartet and local singer-songwriter Rachel Garlin
- **A brand-new public-access Upstar TV channel**, created by our youth community producers, performers, and artists
- **Our collaborative work with city leaders and other agencies** to close juvenile hall and advocate for a more restorative justice model

Read youth stories and more about our work for Juvenile Justice Reform on our website!

To top it off, we were awarded the San Francisco Symphony’s 2019 Ellen Magnin Newman Award in recognition of our “significant contribution strengthening the City’s cultural fabric and serving vulnerable individuals and families to create a more just and equitable society for everyone who lives in San Francisco.”

With humble thanks and great joy,

[Signature]
We help young offenders re-enter society through partnerships with Juvenile Hall, Young Adult Court, and other justice stakeholders.

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

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.

In the Spotlight

UPSTAR TV LAUNCH

YOUTH CENTER REMODEL

"BLACK FUTURES MONTH" AWARD

SPRING BREAK

WHAT WE DO

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

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

**PATHWAYS TO CONNECTION & HEALING**

**JUSTICE SERVICES**

- **102** young people
- **95%** non-recidivism rate

Our Justice Services Team provides ongoing case management and barrier removal to help young people break patterns of violence, navigate the justice system, and participate in SYS programs to reach personal, educational, and employment goals on the path to stability. The vast majority, 95%, do not reoffend while in our program.

**FAMILY SUPPORT**

- **47** families in crisis support
- **34** families in parenting classes
- **364** participants in family outings
- **2,000** lbs. of weekly groceries

Our Family Support Team meets weekly with under-resourced families and teen parents to provide support, referrals, and case management. They help parents identify needs, brainstorm options, and establish positive parenting goals. The team also supports families by offering the evidence-based Triple P parenting program three times a year, and coordinating family-bonding outings.
Our Digital Arts Team works with young artists on creative projects in which they can speak their truths and gain skills in songwriting, digital audio recording and engineering, beat sequencing, DJ instruction, instrumentation, live sound, photography, and video shooting and editing.

**DIGITAL ARTS & TECHNOLOGY**

- **252** YOUNG PEOPLE
- **5,130** HOURS SPENT IN RECORDING STUDIOS
- **48** MUSIC & TV VIDEOS
- **3,000+** PERFORMANCE ATTENDEES

**WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**

- **37** UPSTAR RECORDS YOUTH INTERNS
- **20** UPSTAR CAFE YOUTH INTERNS
- **24** CLEAR PATH YOUNG PEOPLE
- **32** PARTICIPANTS IN OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Digital Arts staff train and mentor youth leaders at our in-house record label as marketing associates, sound mixers, live sound engineers, and music producers.

Our Life Skills Coach mentors and trains young people in restaurant-readiness skills, safe food handling and preparation, and serving nutritious meals to our youth community each week.

Our Case Managers work with transitional-age youth who have been incarcerated to remove barriers, gain job skills and experience with partners like Cal Academy, and build stable lives.

Our Workforce Development staff also place young people in other jobs in car restoration, radio production, healthcare, and sound engineering for festivals.
For years, Sunset Youth Services has been working with the Juvenile Justice Providers Association and other community leaders to promote restorative-justice practices and reform a punitive system that mirrors prison and sets kids on a path to future incarceration. In November 2018, we and other community partners began laboring alongside city supervisors to stop juvenile incarceration, which set the wheels in motion for a historic vote in June of 2019 to end the practice in San Francisco.

Sunset Youth Services staff spoke out against juvenile detention at the May 16, 2019 SF City Hall meeting. After three hours of public comment and a groundswell of support to close Juvenile Hall, a unanimous committee vote pushed the measure to the full board, and on June 4, 2019 ten city supervisors—a veto-proof majority—signed on to support the legislation.

We look forward to working with community leaders in pioneering a restorative justice model that gives young people hope, the resources essential to thrive, and the support needed to chart a positive path to adulthood.

Our role in the process? To keep the needs of young people and their families at the forefront of justice conversations, encourage collaboration among stakeholders, and model a restorative process in which politics are set aside in favor of what serves our communities best. We advocated for young people and their families and engaged community-based organizations as valued subject-matter experts. We believe this process has the potential to lay the groundwork for national juvenile justice reform.
Our Faithful Individual Donors
We’re humbled by your generosity and sacrificial giving. Thank you!

Public Funders
Dept. of Children, Youth & Their Families
First 5 San Francisco
Grants for the Arts
Mayor’s Office of Housing

Private Foundations and Corporations
AAA NCNU
Adobe
Advent
Altria Group Inc.
AT&T
Bloomberg
Chirp Films, LLC
Clorox
George H. Sandy
Google
Kimball Foundation
McKinsey & Co.
Northern CA Community Loan Fund
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Recology
Ross Stores Foundation
San Francisco Parks Alliance
United Health Group
Walter and Elise Haas Fund
Youth Funding Youth Ideas

Faith Communities
Common Table
Cornerstone Church of San Francisco
Crescent City Nazarene
Crossroads Community Church
Norcal District Church of the Nazarene
Santa Clara Nazarene
Sunset Ministry

Income

Total: $1,865,098

Expenses

Total: $1,693,631
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
Natalie Rodriguez, Case Manager
Kaitlin Wahl, Case Manager
Brandon Carter-Hicks, Case Manager

Digital Arts & Technology Program
Joel Tarman, Director
Wendy Baker, Facilitator
Rymo Cortado, Creative Lead
Miguel Navarro, 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

Healing Arts
Erika Pappas, Director

Development, Communications and Finance
Mary Loebig Giles, Assoc. Director, Dev. & Communications
Melissa Laureta, Dev. and Communications Associate
Debbie Shen, Executive Assistant
Marissa Majid, Bookkeeper
*Former SYS youth

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Liz Zarr, Chair
Keith Hitchcock, Treasurer
Alexandra Costanzo, Secretary
Michael Costanzo
Dr. Richard Jacobs, MD

Jeff Purganan
Jenniisen Svendsen
Dr. Don Williams, PsyD
Jenny Yung
Aaron Trank

San Francisco Symphony
2019 Ellen Magnin Newman Award

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