

BRIDGE OF
HOPE
& HUMANITY



Change a Life Foundation
2008 Foundation Report

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OUR MISSION IS TO SIGNIFICANTLY
ASSIST INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES WHO,
THROUGH NO FAULT OF THEIR OWN,
HAVE EXPERIENCED AN INJURY, ILLNESS,
OR CATASTROPHIC LIFE EVENT, AND WHO
ARE SUFFERING FINANCIAL HARDSHIP.
CHANGE A LIFE FOUNDATION PROVIDES
SUPPORT FOR CRITICALLY-NEEDED ASSISTANCE
THAT PROMOTES SELF-SUFFICIENCY,
AND IMPROVES QUALITY OF LIFE.







This past year the word *change* was used a lot among the general public, including the media. It was touted by the candidates seeking political office in this special election year of 2008 deemed as “The Year for Change.” As we all know, one thing in life is for sure, that change is inevitable. We have seen an increase in basic life needs with the jobless rate increasing. Home foreclosures are at an all-time high, and there is a lack of affordable housing, and many are faced with an inability to pay for healthcare costs or COBRA payments. Life is overwhelming when something catastrophic occurs. Then what? How does one survive?

Change a Life Foundation is a bridge of hope and humanity for so many individuals who have nowhere else to turn, and need help crossing through the challenges of life. The transition through a crisis can be financially devastating, emotionally toxic and ultimately destroy families who need compassion and empathy.

Grants for Individuals may only come to us through the case management of our pre-selected, Board approved, non-profit partners. We collaborate for a shared purpose – life change for individuals in need. By working through the non-profit organizations, we know the individuals are provided the additional support that they need beyond our financial assistance. Hence, we do not work with individuals directly. Together we change one life at a time... and enable individuals to walk across the bridge of hope through the humanity Change a Life Foundation provides.

Words cannot express our appreciation to the hundreds of case managers, social workers, intake coordinators, discharge planners and development staff that work diligently on grant applications for their clients who need a bridge of hope. They offer their hands of humanity towards Change a Life Foundation. We say thank you.

Richard E. Tomlin
Board Chairman

Lisa C. Fujimoto
Executive Director

CHILDREN & YOUTH

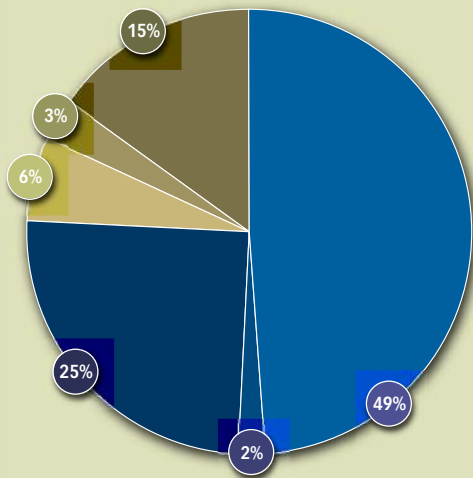


Children are resilient – even though they can suffer and experience some of life’s darkest hours through: homelessness, abusive behavior by a parent or guardian, have no health or dental care, often by neglect, and reside in poverty. Whether a child experiences one or all of these awful circumstances, it can be amazing to see how a child survives and overcomes the odds. Through bridges of humanity... they rise!

Change a Life Foundation in 2008 funded over 100 direct grants through 17 youth serving non-profit organizations, \$416,736, to individual youth at risk that needed that bridge of hope to become self-sufficient... to become resilient again. We funded grants for youth in residential care, foster care, and wrap around services that needed specialized equine therapy, tutoring, tattoo removal, and orthodontia. All of these things assisted them to find a better place inside – to become more self-confident and believe that they can become self-sufficient with some assistance.

Children who have health or dental challenges cannot concentrate at school. Change a Life Foundation funded over 40 medical and dental grants for children at risk such as: specialized medications, surgeries, extractions, prosthetics, asthma medication, diabetes test strips, physical therapy, speech therapy, remolding helmets, power wheelchairs, real hair wigs for alopecia, glasses, retainers, voice-activated computers, Braille note, and service dogs.

Typically, children are the ones who make the call to the police in a domestic violence incident or 911 calls. Children are the innocent victims of horrific situations and need specialized care and treatment – Change a Life Foundation has provided counseling, emergency child care and emergency transition for families in crisis. For emancipating youth in crisis, the Foundation is available to be a support system in a myriad of ways: job training, car repairs, housing assistance and scholarships.



2008 Grant Allocation by Area of Interest

-  Children & Youth Services
-  Crisis Intervention
-  Dental Services
-  Disabilities Outreach
-  Housing & Family Self-Sufficiency
-  Medical Services

2008 Youth Grant Awards		
Children & Youth Services	49	\$206,356
Crisis Intervention	2	9,400
Dental Services	25	84,639
Disabilities Outreach	6	36,207
Housing & Family Self-Sufficiency	3	18,124
Medical Services	15	62,010
TOTAL	100	\$416,736



CELESTE

After years of moving and school transfers – 17 schools between the 1st and 3rd grades – Celeste was finally removed from her mother’s care due to mental illness and drug addiction. She then found stability in the home of her grandmother. But the years of upheaval had taken their toll and left her behind in school. The tutoring services that Change a Life provided have helped to support her positive growth and academic success. She now has a strong foundation on which to begin the 7th grade and beyond.



ETHAN



My baby, Ethan, has overcome many challenges and is nothing short of a miracle baby. Your support has provided him with ongoing assistance for two things that many of us take for granted – a beating heart and the ability to breathe. The furnace you provided doesn’t just keep my baby warm, it keeps my baby with heart disease from turning blue when he is cold. The air conditioner doesn’t just cool us on a hot day, it keeps my baby from sweating and losing weight that is critical to his survival. So thank you from all of us.

STELLA



When Stella and her mom found out she would be receiving physical therapy thanks to the generosity of Change a Life, they were overwhelmed with emotion. Being the single mother of a disabled child had been hard on Richere, but she was committed to providing the best for her daughter. And watching her daughter's success has inspired her to continue the fight. With her determination, along with the help of others, Stella has improved in leaps and bounds.



MARIA

At the young age of 16, Maria has endured more than most will their whole lives. As a child, she was removed from her home due to severe neglect, physical abuse and emotional trauma.



Eight years later, Maria is still recovering from her injuries, but is living happily in a foster home and adjusting to her new life. Unfortunately, the years of neglect had taken their toll on her dental hygiene and was causing her great pain. Thanks to Change a Life, her health and outlook have improved significantly.

ADULTS & FAMILIES

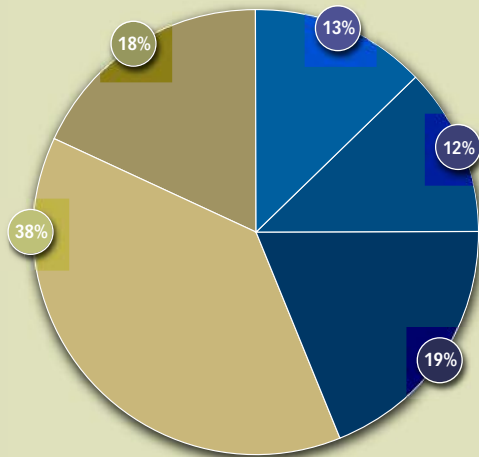


2008 was a year filled with change for families... difficult change. For many families there were job layoffs, foreclosures on homes, and loss of insurance. When a catastrophe hits - devastation can lead to depression, spiral into chaos, then to despair, and often into homelessness. How does a family move out from this place? How do they rise up and overcome?






Change a Life Foundation partners with 31 pre-selected, board-approved, non-profit organizations who work with families and adults to meet the critical needs and assist individuals to move toward self-sufficiency and a greater independence once again. The Foundation provided 167 grants totaling \$739,042 with life changing impacts throughout California to hundreds of adults and families. Change a Life Foundation funded 51 grants to individuals in the medical and dental focus areas, totaling \$170,341. Examples of items that were funded in these categories include: rehabilitation for burn victims, hearing aids, speech therapy, reconstructive surgeries, dentures, extractions, crowns, prosthetic devices, walk aides, and COBRA insurance coverage as a bridging grant.

The Foundation funded 32 disability grants through \$142,048 impacting the lives of hundreds of individuals. Grants included special assistance dogs, wheelchairs, scooters, ramps, lifts, low vision equipment, voice activated software technology, van conversions, home modifications, and specialized therapies to name a few. All of the grants that were funded are to assist individuals toward a focused independence, mobility and self-sufficiency.

Medical emergencies, loss of employment, or loss of transportation can cost a family everything, ultimately their self-sufficiency. In 2008, the Foundation supported over 500 individuals with 63 grants totaling \$350,818 for self-sufficiency. The Foundation contributes funding for vocational training, trade school kits, auto repairs, child care, and last building supplies for Habitat for Humanity homes in an effort to move families toward self sufficiency.



2008 Grant Allocation by Area of Interest

-  Crisis Intervention
-  Dental Services
-  Disabilities Outreach
-  Housing & Family Self-Sufficiency
-  Medical Services

2008 Adult/Family Grant Awards		
Crisis Intervention	21	\$75,835
Dental Services	20	72,014
Disabilities Outreach	32	142,048
Housing & Family Self-Sufficiency	63	350,818
Medical Services	31	98,327
TOTAL	167	\$739,042



BRIAN

When the loving mother of Brian, 31, who is diagnosed with profound mental retardation, severe cerebral palsy, seizure disorder and chronic respiratory conditions, reached out for help, Change a Life was there. Brian is dependent upon his mother Nancy for all his daily living needs, as well as transportation to and from medical appointments. So when they were offered the gift of a van lift - a resource they needed but could not afford - both mother and son were overjoyed and very grateful.



HOMAN

As a young man burdened with caring for his ailing parents while putting himself through college and dental school, Homan has struggled to overcome many obstacles, but his mission to help the poor and underserved has gone unwavering. Change a Life's gift has given him new hope. In his words: "I didn't believe in miracles, but you made me believe."



KELLEY



Thanks to Change a Life, the Vandervort family's dream of homeownership is now a reality. Kelley and her four children lived together in an apartment where conditions were deplorable and mold was a very real health issue, especially for little Emma's asthma. There were days when Kelley "used to lock myself in the bathroom and cry. I didn't know if we could keep going." But with their new home came a new hope and security that has changed their lives forever and offered a promising future.



D.J.

Thanks to your help, my family and I are back together again. This would never have been possible without your help in getting me through trucking school. I feel like a man again because I can provide for my family and pay rent. I hope more people have the chance to turn their lives around like I did. Thank you Change a Life!



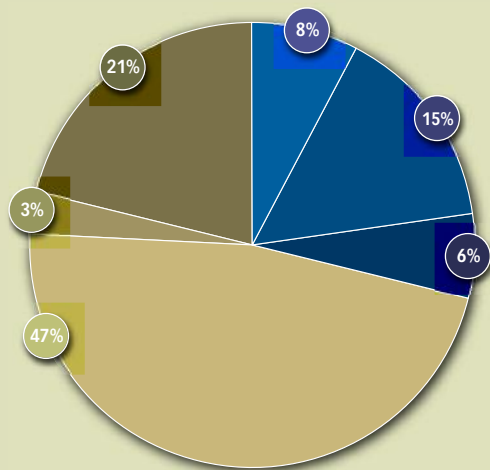
ELDERLY INDEPENDENCE




In 2008, Change a Life Foundation provided 103 direct grants to seniors focusing on elderly independence through \$380,703. Many seniors cannot work – they are not well or not physically able to. Change a Life Foundation provided 37 medical and dental grants directly to needy seniors in 2008. Some of the types of grants included: dentures, hearing aids, cataract surgery, prosthetic limbs, physical therapy, speech therapy, aqua therapy, occupational therapy, medical transport, respite care, skilled care, medications not covered by insurance, diabetic medications, extractions, crowns/root canals, and specialized therapies. These grants provided a bridge of hope to these individuals as a last resort of funding.

For many seniors mobility becomes a challenge. The loss of independence can be the greatest sense of isolation and depression. Change a Life Foundation gave back dignity and life to over 50 individuals by providing the “wheels” of independence through funding scooters and wheelchairs, lifts for vehicles, and ramps so individuals could come and go as they please and have a great sense of freedom as they once had in life. “To be robbed of their independence is to feel like they are imprisoned...” is how one grantee shared in their follow up report. Change a Life Foundation “gave me my life back.”

For a senior, remaining safe and independent in their own home is clearly their life-long goal. To be prematurely institutionalized in a nursing home is a senior’s greatest fear. However, for most seniors, they do not have the funds to remain safe in their homes. Change a Life Foundation assisted with 22 grants for seniors for home modifications to ensure safety and secure environments and to prevent isolation and injury.



2008 Grant Allocation by Area of Interest

-  Crisis Intervention
-  Dental Services
-  Disabilities Outreach
-  Elderly Independence
-  Housing & Family Self-Sufficiency
-  Medical Services

2008 Senior Grant Awards		
Crisis Intervention	8	\$15,685
Dental Services	15	46,236
Disabilities Outreach	6	11,678
Elderly Independence	49	203,083
Housing & Family Self-Sufficiency	3	22,495
Medical Services	22	81,526
TOTAL	103	\$380,703



NICK

Since receiving his electric wheelchair, Nick's wife Susan has noticed a big difference in his attitude. Mobility gives him confidence and gardening gives him joy and peace. Rather than just giving planting suggestions to Susan from his living room chair, he is able to work in the soil himself. He says it gets him closer to his Italian roots.



DAKOTA

Dakota is a happy woman with a beautiful smile. Thanks to the gift of new dentures, her self-esteem has "shot sky high". She is no longer self-conscious about her smile and "there's nothing she cannot chew". She had her first pork chop in 20 years to prove it!



DOLLY

A spirited, intelligent woman that had managed to remain optimistic despite declining health, Dolly took a fall one day that resulted in two broken vertebrae and severe back pain. Along with the severe spinal curvature that she already lived with, this injury left her not only with limited mobility, but declining self-esteem and quality of life. The simple gift of a lift chair helps to lift her spirits as well as her body.



KATHLEEN



A healthy and cheerful woman living independently, Kathleen was active in her church and volunteering at Red Cross and YWCA. But the rapid decline in her hearing over the last several years had her retreating from her social activities. The isolation soon led to sadness and depression. Thankfully Change a Life stepped in and offered the gift of two desperately needed hearing aids. Now Kathleen is back to her active and independent lifestyle.

ALICIA



For a long time I avoided people and rarely looked in the mirror. Abused as a child, I had little self-esteem and all I saw when I looked at myself was a monster. Your gift of dental work has given me a ray of sunshine.

ANNIE

After a physical disability caused by a hit-and-run driver caused me great emotional and monetary loss, I found myself on a fixed income and in fear of losing my home. In desperate need of repair, the money you provided literally put a roof over my head and changed my life by keeping hope alive.



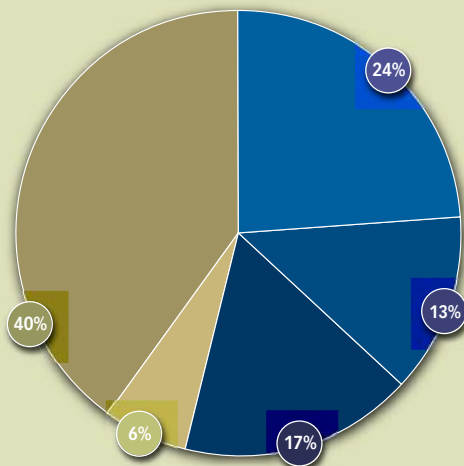
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

According to a report in November 2008 by the Institute for Higher Education Policy, non-college attendees indicated college cost and the availability of aid as primary reasons for their inability to enroll in college. This report also points out that there are other costs involved with attending college. Students not only need funding to cover their tuition, fees, books, transportation and living expenses; they have to consider the cost of attending college in place of earning wages or helping with family obligations.

The Change a Life Foundation scholarship program wishes to bridge the financial gap that college-bound students face by providing scholarships to students with great potential, high financial need, strong academic demonstration and community/civic involvement.

Change a Life Foundation scholarship recipients are those students that believe they are likely to receive a college degree. They are the ones that make the decision to apply to college because they realize that a college education is the way to a brighter future. They can only be described as intelligent, motivated, ambitious, inspirational and determined individuals. In 2008, the Change a Life Foundation provided \$510,316 in scholarship funds to 102 amazing scholars.





2008 Scholarship Allocation by County

- Orange County
- Los Angeles County
- San Diego County
- Emancipated Youth
- Reapplicants

2008 Scholarship Awards

Program	County	Scholars	\$ Amount
Anaheim Union High School District	Orange	10	\$50,000
Los Angeles Unified School District	Los Angeles	14	66,938
San Diego County Office of Education	San Diego	18	89,003
Santa Ana Educational Foundation	Orange	14	70,000
Orangewood Children's Trust Fund	Orange	1	6,000
Emancipated Youth	Various	4	26,900
2nd Year Reapplicants	Various	41	201,475
TOTAL		102	\$510,316

ALAN

After my mother lost her job and my stepdad hurt his back on the job, I saw an air of apprehension and melancholy come over them. They seemed to age so much in such a short time. The support and hope you provided is allowing me to repay some of the love and energy my parents have poured into me. While they still struggle, at least they no longer have to worry about my tuition. My family and I are so grateful to you for that.



MAGGIE

Thank you Change a Life for alleviating my financial burdens. As an emancipated foster youth, I had only myself as a safety net. With your generous intervention, I was able to get through my first year of college having worked only two jobs, rather than three. I could not have done it alone. I owe you my future.



JOANNA



Being from a single-parent home, my family has always struggled to make ends meet. My mom works constantly to try and give us all the things we need. I was sure that college would not be possible for me. But instead of giving up on my dream, I remained hopeful. And now, thanks to you, I am the first young woman in my family to go to college!



DENNIS

For 16 years it had been a dream of mine to become a doctor - to help the people with the most need and be able to give the gift of life. Now, thanks in part to your financial assistance, I am a pre-med student. But what you've given me is more than money. You have helped give me the education I need to reach my goal of giving life to others.



NOTABLE ACHIEVEMENTS



Our grants impacted more than **19,542** individuals this calendar year. Over **419** case managers and social workers were trained on how to access our grants program to assist their clients through Change a Life Foundation. This represents our staff going to **25** non-profit organizations and providing in-service/technical assistance trainings on-site, along with collaborative trainings, and our annual Agency In-Service Training held in December.

Change a Life Foundation awarded **370** grants and **102** college scholarships, funding \$2 million to individuals to assist them in moving their lives toward greater self-sufficiency and life change.

The Foundation brought on **12** new non-profit partners from all over Southern and Central California. The Foundation now has over **84** non-profit strategic partners who we collaborate with to assist individuals and to change lives through case management.

The Foundation also brought on **7** new preferred vendors that our non-profit partners can utilize with confidence for their clients receiving grants, and also benefit from a preferred vendor discount.





PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

Los Angeles County Partner Agencies

Alisa Ann Ruch Burn Foundation
Asian Pacific Women's Center
Center for the Partially Sighted
Chai Lifeline West Coast
Children's Bureau
Community Senior Services
David and Margaret's Home
Five Acres
Fred Jordan Missions
Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles
Hathaway-Sycamores Child & Family Services
Jewish Family and Children's Service
of Long Beach
Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles
Jewish Home for the Aging
Jewish Vocational Service
Junior Blind of America
Long Beach Memorial Medical Center
Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society,
Southern California Chapter
Partners in Care Foundation
Penny Lane Centers
SCAN Health Plan
Southern California Rehabilitation
Services, Inc.
St. Joseph Center
Violence Intervention Program
Wise & Healthy Aging

Orange County Partner Agencies

Boys and Girls Clubs of Anaheim
Blind Children's Learning Center
Child SHARE
Community SeniorServ
Council on Aging, Orange County
Families Forward
Family Support Network
Goodwill Industries
Habitat for Humanity Orange County
Heritage Pointe
Human Options
Jewish Family Service of Orange County
LifeSTEPS
Mercy House
Rebuilding Together
South County Senior Services
SPIN (Serving People in Need)
St. Joseph Hospital Foundation
United Cerebral Palsy Orange County
With Hope, The Amber Craig Memorial
Foundation

San Diego County Partner Agencies

Arthritis Foundation, San Diego Area
Burn Institute
Deaf Community Services of San Diego
ElderHelp
Fresh Start Surgical Gifts
Habitat for Humanity, San Diego
Jewish Family Service of San Diego
San Diego Center for Children
San Diego Youth & Community Services
SAY San Diego
Senior Community Centers of San Diego
Survivors of Torture
United Cerebral Palsy, San Diego Chapter

Riverside and San Bernardino County Partner Agencies

Blindness Support Services
Canine Support Teams
Desert Samaritans for the Elderly
Episcopal Community Services
Habitat for Humanity, San Bernardino
Inland AIDS Project
Inspire Life Skills Training
Jewish Family Service of the Desert
Loma Linda University Children's Hospital
Olive Crest
Thessalonika Family Services

Santa Barbara and Ventura County Partner Agencies

Children's Mental Health Diagnostic
& Treatment Services
Habitat For Humanity Santa Barbara
New Beginnings Counseling Center
RISB Foundation
Storyteller Children's Center
St. Vincent's
Transition House
Ventura County Children Services Auxiliary

Northern California Partner Agencies

Family Service Agency of San Mateo County
Jewish Family and Children's Services
of San Francisco
Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley
Lucile Packard Foundation for
Children's Health



Catherine Gomez-Holly, *Grants Assistant*
Mikelle Meyer, *Grants & Scholarship Administrator*
Lisa Fujimoto, *Executive Director*
Brenda Walters, *Program Officer*
Jaclyn Duarte, *Program Officer*
Richard E. Tomlin, *Board Chairman*



Services Funded

Adaptive Strollers
Adjustable Beds
Air Purifiers
Asthma Medication
Attachment Therapy
Attendant Care
Auditory Development Intervention
Augmentative Communication Device
Auto Mechanic Tools
Automated Door Opener
Backpacks and School Supplies
Balance Platform
Bath/Shower Chair
Bathroom Modifications
Beauty School Supplies
Building Materials for New Home
Bus Passes
Brain Spect
Car Repairs
CCTV
Childcare
Chiropractic Treatments
COBRA payments
Computer Center
Cosmetology Course
Cranial Remolding Helmets
Dental Work
Dentures
Desktop Computer with
Adaptive Equipment
Diabetes Supplies
Drama Workshops
Educational Equipment
Electric Scooter
Electric Wheelchair
Emergency Grants
Environmental Control Unit
Equine Therapy
Extra Long Beds
Eye Movement Desensitization
and Reprocessing Therapy
Flooring
Gait Trainer
Hand Controls for Vehicle
Health & Fitness Educator
Hearing Aids
Heater Replacement
Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatments
Infant Supplies
Laptop Computer with
Adaptive Equipment
Manual Wheelchair
Martial Arts Classes
Medical Insurance
Medications
Motion Table
Moving Expenses
Music Therapy
Nutrition Counseling
Optical Tech Training
Orthodontia
Paint Supplies
Physical Rehabilitation
Portable Wheelchair Ramp
Power lift chairs
Psychotherapy
Qualified Interpreter Certification
Radiation Therapy
Recliner Lift Chair
Reconstructive Surgery
Roof Repairs
School Supplies
Septic Systems
Service Dogs
Shade covers for playground
Shelving Units for Media Center
Speech Device
Speech Therapy
Staircase Gliders
Summer Camps
Surgeries
Tattoo Removal Tutoring
Trade School
Trailer for Motorized Scooter
Tutoring
Vehicle Lifts
Vehicle Modifications
Vertical Lift
Washer and Dryer
Wheelchair parts
Wheelchair ramps
Wigs

