

# Help ne Child

MAKING CONNECTIONS, CHANGING LIVES



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022





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TABLE OF CONTENTS



03

A LETTER FROM OUR  
FOUNDERS

04

BOARD OF DIRECTORS &  
STAFF

05

FINANCIALS

06

IMPACT REPORT

07

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

11

VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Help  One Child



# A LETTER FROM OUR FOUNDERS

Dear Followers and Supporters of Help One Child,

It's a whole new world, although because of your faithfulness, the virus did not bring Help One Child to a halt. As you will read within this report, **we were able to continue our critical work of strengthening families and providing necessary resources in moments of need.** In fact, although we had to pivot much of what we do, we were able to serve more children than ever and see our reach continue to grow to new areas of the bay area.

We are now excited about the reopening of in-person support groups and parent trainings. Our recent camp for children was a reminder of how grateful the children are, too, and how important it is for their mental health and development. They had a blast! **You have made all of this possible and we are so very grateful.**

Looking forward, we expect an increasing need to expand the ministry of Help One Child and the CarePortal program. We are thankful that you are helping us do our best to see that the foster, adopted, and disadvantaged children in the Bay Area are all touched with the love of Christ in a tangible way.

God bless you and your family. We greatly appreciate your support of Help One Child.

JoAnne and Mark Morris



# BOARD OF DIRECTORS & STAFF

With a presence in seven counties, our staff now stretches around the Bay Area. With two primary focuses in each county, we continue to **support families**, county and community collaborations alongside **church partnerships**.



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jay Chesavage, Chair  
Mark Morris, Founder and Corporate President  
JoAnne Morris, Founder and Corporate Secretary  
Eric Miller, Operation and Logistic Support  
Sarah Dodson, Development Committee Chair  
Helen Matsumoto, Spiritual and Strategic Committees  
Amy Barberi, Human Resources Support

## STAFF

Valerie Crane, Executive Director  
Judy Holmes, Director of Family Connection & Community  
Danielle Gruba, Director of Church Relations  
Regina Khoo, CarePortal Regional Manager  
Katherine Tom, Regional Ambassador  
Cristin Winn Reyes, Director of Education & Support Groups  
Elizabeth Saravia, Executive Administrator  
Emma Caster, Regional Ambassador  
Terah Hagy, Marketing & Communications Director



## FINANCIALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

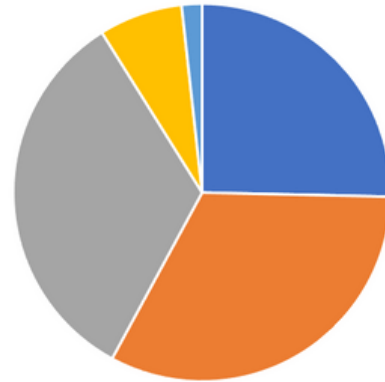
We are so grateful for the opportunity to partner with so many individuals who ensure our programming exists year after year. Join our family of families and ensure we can continue this important work. All gifts are appreciated.

### FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

#### TOTAL EXPENDITURES

**\$604,602**

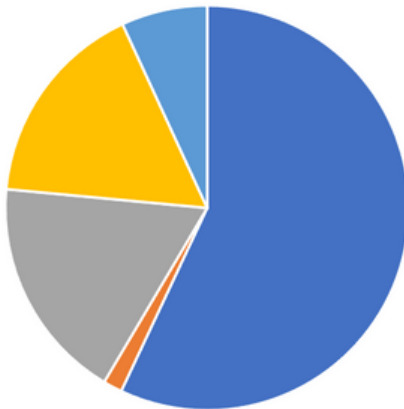
- 25% CULTIVATING COMMUNITY
- 33% TRAINING & AWARENESS
- 33% RESOURCES
- 7% ADMINISTRATION
- 2% FUNDRAISING



### FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

#### TOTAL INCOME

**\$588,156.98**



- 57% INDIVIDUAL DONORS
- 1.5% CORPORATE GIFTS
- 18% GRANTS
- 16.5% CHURCHES
- 7% DONATED FACILITIES

YEAR	FY 2019-20	FY 2020-21	FY 2021-22	FY 2022-23
INCOME	\$573,164	\$559,640	\$588,157	TBD
EXPENSE	\$446,805	\$455,146	\$604,602	\$685,000 PROJECTED

# IMPACT REPORT

## MAKING CONNECTIONS CHANGING LIVES

Help One Child strengthens families impacted by foster care and adoption.

By partnering with local churches and community agencies, our mission is to strengthen foster, adoptive, and at-risk families by providing them access to **education, community, and tangible resources**. By addressing the unique needs of foster, adoptive and vulnerable families, we strive to positively impact the long-term health and stability for family preservation.



4,098  
CHILDREN  
BENEFICIARIES

8,276  
VOLUNTEER  
OPPORTUNITIES

14,009  
VOLUNTEER  
HOURS

83  
PARTNER  
CHURCHES



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

## THE POWER OF EDUCATION

### ELANA'S STORY

We adopted our daughter, Allyson from China when she was 23 months old. She was born prematurely at 31 weeks old and spent 52 days in the hospital neonatal unit. These **early traumas led to a lot of violent episodes** of her waking up from naps kicking and screaming for the first 1.5 years she was with us. In addition, she had very little appetite and would often rake her fingers over her face and pull her hair.

Thankfully through prayer and God's grace, many of these initial outward expressions of trauma eventually disappeared. However, there were still internal ones left behind. These dysregulated states would come when she had difficulties in doing her homework or when we would try to discipline her. We soon became very frustrated, exhausted, and felt very alone in this journey as many of our friends could not relate to our challenges.

**We thank God that we found a Help One Child adoption support group.**

Here we found a supportive environment with others going through similar experiences. It has been **a safe place to share & relate**, learn new **parenting tools** around children coming from hard places, and pray for one another.

We also recently attended a Hope for the Journey conference organized by HOC. The 2-day conference helped us to better understand the importance of **addressing the child's need to feel safe** when they begin to get dysregulated and act out, and how to compassionately and more effectively extend care during these times. And, after only implementing some of these techniques for a month now, we have seen improvements. We are slowly teaching her how to voice her thoughts and needs in more constructive ways. We thank God for the Help One Child ministry, its dedicated & caring staff, and are very grateful to all the generous supporters who make it possible!



1,540

ADULT  
BENEFICIARIES

18

SPECIAL  
EVENTS

15

PARENT  
TRAININGS

566

COMMUNITY  
EDUCATION  
ATTENDEES

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: COMMUNITY



"My experience with Dads + Donuts has been absolutely wonderful. To know that there's a **common thread in terms of our faiths and heart for fostering** is what I never knew I needed. Learning from the experiences of other foster/adoptive dads, and also just sharing stories and updates from our lives has been a huge encouragement, particularly when we've had placements enter/leave our family. I'm very thankful for this ministry, for those who make it happen, and also for the **friendships being built** with the other dads!" - Stephen, Foster Dad

"Our support group was a great way for our son to see other families like his and **helped 'normalize' our situation**. It has helped our son gain confidence and create a personal narrative to use when speaking to peers about foster care and adoption. The friendships we've developed through the group have been a lifeline. When I went through intense cancer treatment, **our group was there for us in every way** and we could not have made it through without them. My husband and I have gained lots of practical knowledge and greater insight into the challenges of kids and families from hard places. It's an opportunity to vent, learn, pray, cry, and **laugh with others who really 'get it'**. It has been fun seeing our kids grow up together!" - Amanda



"The Help One Child support group made an enormous difference for me. The challenges and complexities of being in an adoptive family had felt isolating since most of my friends and relatives did not understand the unique situation and dynamic of my family. **I felt understood and connected** in the HOC support group and learned so much from the experience of the group members and from the **educational components of the group**. I gained confidence and was able to more quickly discover the tools that I needed to support my kids." -Suzanne



# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: RESOURCES



“  
Well, now I know what  
kind of people the  
foster care system  
produces:

Young people who have  
never made a negative  
comment about another.

”

**"You gave me the opportunity to begin tutoring Lorena Peña**, now Lorena Sterne, on FaceTime 26 months ago, in April 2020. She had left her friends and much of her family behind the year before, immigrating from El Salvador as a 15-year-old to the USA. Not long after arriving, speaking little English at the time, she abruptly had to be removed from her home, entering the system and being received by another family better than 100 miles away. She experienced being in courtrooms in front of judges and sadly, deaths in her immediate family. When adoption didn't work out, she was told to start from scratch again. She was relocated once more, eventually being adopted by a loving woman who is also a teacher at her high school.

She and I have many things in common, such as having to change high schools only a year before graduating. Other experiences of hers I didn't have, one being her straight A's in physics. I'm still relieved I passed that class with a B.

After more than two years of sharing time with her on FaceTime, just today I was blessed with the chance to meet her in person, face to face, for the very first time. **Lorena graduated with honors**, multiple awards and a 3.9 GPA from Sequoia High School in Redwood City. Beyond words can express, I am forever humbled and thankful for this opportunity. Thank you!" - Paul

# PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS: RESOURCES



## SERVING THE VULNERABLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

As the local implementer, Help One Child **coordinates with county child welfare workers** to identify tangible needs, and communicate those to local churches. Church members are able to meet real needs in real time.



**462**

CHILDREN SERVED

**700+**

CHURCH RESPONDERS

**\$171,248**

ECONOMIC IMPACT

**215**

REQUESTS MET

A request came in for storage fees. A mother was re-entering residential treatment after a recent relapse and had no way to pay for the storage of all the family's items in the meantime. This was this mother's last chance to get sober and reunify with her ten-year-old son. Two churches immediately stepped up to cover the fees.

The social worker stated, "CarePortal responded to a need I had no other way of meeting. Getting this mom's storage paid for while she goes to residential treatment was very important and supported her in doing what she has to in order to reunify with her child. I strongly agree that meeting this need supported me in my work and improved the well-being of the family/child involved."





# VISION FOR THE FUTURE

**What would it look like** for the foster care system to be impacted by the faith community? What would it look like if it wasn't just about the one crazy family in a church willing to welcome youth in their moment of need, but an entire community within a church, within a county, and across the bay? This community, once equipped and positioned with opportunities to wrap around that family, vulnerable youth, the biological family, and the social worker, **this community will make a far greater impact** than just the one crazy family.

At Help One Child we see this lived out through all our support programs. There is a collective, bringing what they have to contribute to bolstering the vulnerable youth we serve; **it's a pooling of resources and gifts.**

Each has something to bring to the table: some have money, others have compassion, others have the know-how/experience, and others do the difficult work of putting themselves in uncomfortable situations, because if they don't, who will?

**But in the end, it takes us all.** So when I dream of what it would look like, I am blessed by the glimpses I get to see played out through our programming. This past year, we saw more children served by our programs, and done so through the hands and feet of the faith community across the bay area. Will you help us see that multiplied? Will you help encourage those in your community to find a place at our table and join this collective that is making an impact?

I look forward to seeing this dream become a reality through your partnership.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Valerie Crane". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Valerie" and last name "Crane" clearly visible.

Valerie Crane



## WE DO THIS TOGETHER

Connect with staff in your area and learn more about how you and your community can serve vulnerable children and families.

Become a financial partner by investing in the ministry of Help One Child. Enable us to serve more families and children around the bay area.

**HELP ONE CHILD**  
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