



COVID-19 RESPONSE

2020 IMPACT REPORT



“May God bless you for helping us during these difficult times. Thank you so, so much!”

- Ayala Family



BRESEE COMMUNITY CENTER
A GIFT OF THE S. MARK TAPER FOUNDATION

Dear Friends,

In mid-March of 2020, like all of you, our world was completely upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. In the midst of our fears those first few days, one of my mentors shared a quote by Vivian Greene with me. She said, “Life is not about waiting for the storms to pass, but learning to dance in the rain.” I shared this message with our staff the next morning along with an old picture of a rainbow rising above the Bresee Community Center. Fearful of the unknown, our crew wrestled with how our little, grassroots non-profit could adapt to bring meaningful resources to the youth and families in our community struggling through this pandemic storm?

Then a wave of need, like nothing we’ve ever experienced here at Bresee came down upon us. Families, already far below the federal poverty guideline, losing hours at work or being laid off from their jobs wondering how to put food on the table for their children; Seniors afraid to leave their homes completely cut-off from the ability to secure groceries; Heads of households experiencing heightened fear, anxiety, and depression over how to pay their rent and utility bills; Students attempting to access school from home, lacking devices, poor or no internet, and no one to help them with their homework; And then, in conjunction with our area’s population density, some of the highest rates of COVID-19 infection and death in the county of Los Angeles.

Responding to this surge of need, our board, donors, government partners, philanthropic colleagues, volunteers, and incredible staff mobilized. Over the next nine-and-a-half months, Bresee transformed into an emergency-command center and would disburse over \$6 million dollars in direct financial support to nearly 7,000 clients via food distribution, emergency financial assistance, and educational support.

The outpouring of gratitude from our community has been overwhelming. As we strive to stabilize our youth and families with the basic human rights of food, shelter, and education, we thank you for continuing to dance with us in the rain.

Peace,



Seth Eklund
Executive Director

COVID-19 RESPONSE

IMPACT SUMMARY

MARCH-DECEMBER 2020

Totals



6,932

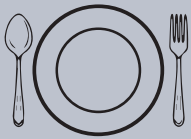
clients served



\$6,194,184

in direct resources
disbursed

Food Security



\$198,100

in food security



10,550

bags of groceries
distributed

Emergency Financial Support



\$3.7 Million

in emergency rental
assistance



\$1.9 Million

in prepaid debit cards
distributed

Educational Support



612

laptops distributed
to youth



257

students supported with
virtual & onsite tutoring and
counseling



\$84,660

in college scholarships

Food Security

Grocery Gift Cards

Provided \$63,000 in grocery gift cards to 148 families, in \$300 and \$500 increments based on family size.

Grab'n' Go

In partnership with the LA Regional Food Bank distributed 3,000 total meals, 100 per day, Monday-Friday, between 11:30-12:30 from the front door of the Bresee Community Center.

Drop'n' Go

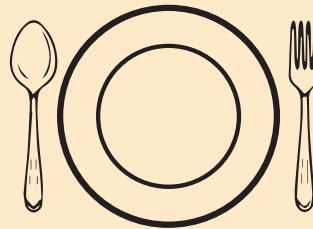
Purchased, bagged, and dropped off 2 weeks worth of groceries to 518 of our most vulnerable clients.

Holiday Food Distribution

Distributed full Thanksgiving turkey meals and Christmas food baskets to 985 families in our community during the holiday season.

"This is great because it helps people, especially those in need. Thank you so much for this program."

-Bresee Parent



\$198,100

in food security



Emergency Financial Support



Prepaid Debit Cards

In partnership with the Mayor's Angeleno Campaign, provided \$1,990,600 to 2,153 clients. Families already meeting the federal poverty guidelines who experienced job loss due to the pandemic received gift cards of \$700, \$1,100, or \$1,500 depending on family size.

Emergency Rental Assistance

With support from CA Community Foundation, Angels Fund, and the City of LA's Family Source Center program, distributed \$307,760 in direct emergency rental assistance to 174 clients.

ERAS Campaign

Assisted 1,720 families each with \$2,000 in rental assistance through the Los Angeles city Emergency Renters Assistance Subsidy (ERAS) program.



\$5,742,260

in emergency financial support to 4,047 clients

"Thanks to Bresee, I've been able to complete enough for my rent."

*- Maria G.,
single mother of four kids*

Educational Support

Laptops

With the support of major donors, Bresee distributed 612 free laptops to our students at a value of \$127,950.

Virtual Tutoring & Counseling

Through Bresee's Middle School, High School, Gang Prevention, and Sports Leadership programs, provided 257 students with online support during the summer.



Safe Center

Provided a safe space with computers and internet access for 26 students to take their school classes online from Bresee. Worked with 15 students on Bresee's campus to provide additional English language support during the summer.



\$283,950

in direct educational resources to our students

Paid Internships

Provided \$41,100 in paid internships to 49 students through Bresee's Goals for Life, LAFC Youth Leadership, and College to Career Pathways programs.

"I'm very happy that both of my daughters now have their own laptop and also have something that will help them focus on their classes."

- Ms. Mateo



"It truly means a lot. It really fills my heart to be able to say that I helped one of these kids and hopefully they can grow up to be a leader as I am." - Kim M., LAFC YLP alum



2020-2021 Scholarship Recipients

First Year

Alexis G.	Cal State LA
Amanda Z.	UC Davis
Azucena O.	Cal State LA
Carolina R.	Cal State Dominguez Hills
Christopher T.	Cal State Northridge
Elizabeth H.	UC Riverside
Esmeralda M.	Cal State LA
Daniela M.	Cal State Northridge
Fatima V.	Cal State LA
Jason C.	USC
Jenna P.	San Francisco State
Jocelyn M.	Cal State LA
Jose J.	Bucknell College
Leslie Roman C.	UCLA
Paola T.	Cal State Northridge
Rachel R.	West LA College

Sophomores

Akwia J.	Victor Valley College
Angelica M.	UCSB
Blanca M.	SMC
Esther F.	UCSB
Francesca A.	UCLA
Jacky A.	UC Davis
Lindsey S.	UC Merced
Maria F.	Cal State LA
Paul E.	Cal Poly Pomona
Miguel C.	UC Berkeley
Reza M.	UCSB
Valerie G.	UC Santa Cruz

Juniors

Ana S.	Princeton
Ashley P.	Cal State Northridge
Brian C.	UC Merced
Beatriz R.	Cal State La
Bryan P.	Cal State Los Angeles
Christy U.	Cal State Dominguez Hills
Hazel R.	UCLA
Jazmin U.	Cal State Dominguez Hills
Karen M.	Mount St Mary's
Michelle T.	Cal State Long Beach
Xeyla H.	UC Davis
Zeila P.	Cal State La

Seniors

Alejandra M.	Cal State LA
Asma S.	UC Irvine
Christian B.	LACC
Elvis G.	UCSB
Gerardo C.	Cal State LA
Jose C.	UCLA
Karla R.	San Francisco State
Kiara S.	San Francisco State
Maricela L.	Smith College
Nancy M.	LACC
Odalys R.	Cal State LA
Riza P.	San Francisco State



\$84,660

in scholarships awarded to **51** students. **100%** of scholarship recipients are first generation college students

Investing in L.A.'s Future



Leslie Roman

Age: 19

University: UCLA

Major: Undeclared

Bresee Programs: Media Internship, College Access, Bresee Scholarship, College Mentoring

Future Goal: To find a job where I can give back to my community

"I am from El Salvador and came to the US when I was 10 years old. My parents both had a stable job until COVID-19 hit. My stepfather lost his job and was unable to secure one for at least six months. This past month, both of my parents tested positive for COVID-19 and being unable to work, I had to step in and provide for our needs.

Bresee staff were so generous to not only ask me what was going on but provided the funds needed to pay for three months of rent. When my mother received the

money, she started crying in appreciation. Thanks to Bresee not only was I awarded a scholarship, but they also provided me with a mentor. My mentor has helped give me tips on the best way to get through COVID-19 and is there whenever I need support academically.

With Bresee's support I am here today working on my Bachelor of Science degree to later find a job in which I could give back to my community".

Miguel Castro

Age: 20

University: UC Berkeley

Major: Double Major, Economics/ Business Administration

Bresee Programs: LAFY Youth Leadership, Bresee Scholarship, College Mentoring

Future Goal: Investment Banker

"Originally from Guatemala, I arrived in the U.S when I was 16. I encountered barriers I was not expecting. I could not speak English, and accessing higher education was tough since I didn't have knowledge of how to navigate the educational system. Nor did my mother.

When the pandemic hit my second semester in school, I was forced to move back home into virtual learning. I was not well equipped to start navigating this new system and lacked some of the most pivotal technology to embark on this journey at home. Thus, I applied for one of the funds Bresee had at its disposal for students who like me, needed them the most. In my

case, I needed a computer and Bresee provided me with one.

Furthermore Bresee provided me with a mentorship opportunity, where I had the chance to connect with a mentor who offered me personal advice and career guidance. Another great support has been the Bresee Scholarship which pays part of my school tuition.

I want to give back to my community by getting involved in solving the social issues that many low-income and disadvantaged communities suffer from, that is the lack of advocacy and proper resources to thrive".



"It almost seemed like it was 24/7, like I could just text or email anyone and they would reply to me and be there for me, whether it was emotionally, mentally, just in every way that I could imagine." - Elizabeth H., Bresee Scholarship Recipient



Alexis Galdamez

Age: 19

University: Cal State LA

Major: Double Major, Film/ Sociology

Bresee Programs: Teen Tech Center Council, Media Internship, Geek Squad Academy, Upright Citizen's Brigade Improv Class, College Access, Bresee Scholarship

Future Goal: Filmmaker

"My family and I are from El Salvador. I live with my mom who is a single mother, my sister and my brother. My mom used to work in a restaurant as a cook but she lost her job at the beginning of the pandemic because the restaurant closed. She wasn't able to work and pay for rent and groceries for two months.

Thanks to the Bresee scholarship, I was able to talk to Nathalie about my situation and she

really did a great job providing me with financial support. My family and I were able to participate in Bresee's Grab'n'Go meal program, coming almost everyday to receive free bags of meals. Bresee also helped my mom with rental assistance through the FSC program.

My wish is that Bresee grows to help more people and their future because thanks to Bresee, people can find new doors and pathways to success".

Michelle Tapia

Age: 19

University: Cal State Long Beach

Major: Child Development & Family Services

Bresee Programs: Goals for Life Internship, College Access, ACT Prep, Girls Who Code, Finance Workshops, Career Pathways, Bresee Scholarship

Future Goal: Early intervention with autistic children

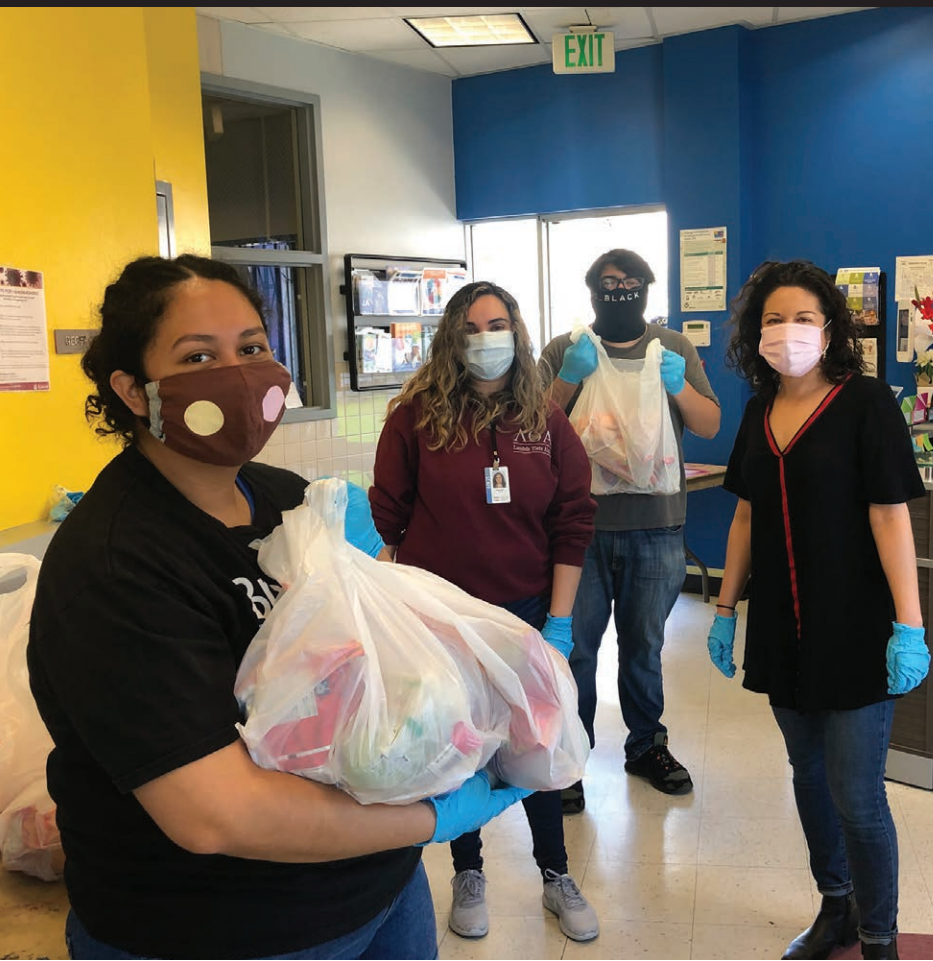
"My parents both immigrated from Mexico during the late 1980's. My father had difficulty looking for work since he is undocumented, but that has never impeded him to support his family. I am currently the second youngest child in a family of seven. Unfortunately, both my parents and myself have been impacted by COVID-19. Luckily enough, it was not an extreme case of COVID and within a grace period of two weeks, we all felt better. It has been extremely difficult to look for work under these circumstances.

I was fortunate enough to receive the Bresee Foundation Scholarship. Bresee has also helped with other resources such as financial stability, immigration services, rental assistance, and even food assistance.

I am a proud first generation Latina college student. I believe the only way I can give back is by supporting and helping those in need."



Thank You!



Special thanks

We thank all the foundations, corporations, government entities, and donors listed below, who have gone above and beyond their normal contributions to provide support for Bresee's youth and families during the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, special thanks to the hundreds of individuals and families who contributed towards Bresee's COVID-19 Response work through the 12-for-Good, High-5-for Hygiene, Richard Orosco Memoriam, Christmas Adopt-a-Family distribution, and Invest In LA's Future Campaign.

- Albertsons Companies Foundation
- Americo Cascella
- Annenberg Foundation
- Banc of California
- Best Buy
- California Community Foundation
- Chay Lapin & Kim Nelson
- Clif Bars*
- Comerica
- County of Los Angeles; Supervisor Hilda Solis
- Erika Glazer
- Dale Young Jr.
- Frank Chen
- Georgina-Frederick Childrens Foundation
- Green Foundation
- Hispanic Star
- Jeff Brown
- Jonathan Park
- JP Morgan Chase
- KHEIR Clinic*
- Kroger
- LA Care*
- LAFC Foundation
- LISC Los Angeles
- Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles
- Michael Shea
- Mike Mackel
- Molina Health*
- National Association of Hispanic Nurses, Los Angeles Chapter*
- Oportun
- Pacific City Bank
- Patti's Way Foundation
- Rose Hills Foundation
- Semptra Energy
- Shea Moistures, INC.
- Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet*
- Steve Lipp
- The Eisner Foundation
- Tim & Miiko Martin
- TK Foundation
- W.M. Keck Foundation
- *In-kind donors**



Looking forward to 2021-22

While Bresee continues to invest in meeting the basic needs of our community through food distribution, emergency financial support, and virtual education, we are also expanding our services to help families get back on their feet financially in the upcoming year. In 2021-22, we will be working with our government and philanthropic partners to offer:

Financial Literacy & Coaching to assist our families with budgeting, building savings, credit counseling, and debt consolidation.

Intergenerational Programming to ensure our seniors maintain food security and connect them with our community of staff and students.

Sports Leadership expansion of youth leadership and sports development in central and south Los Angeles.

Grocery Intervention for Vital Emergency Needs (GIVEN) to support our families experiencing financial hardship with free groceries.

Safe Center for Online Learning (SCOL) supporting middle and high school students onsite for virtual learning, academic enrichment, and meals.

Free Immigration Consultation to help our youth and families with DACA, obtaining temporary or permanent residency, and citizenship.

Eviction Defense Assistance Program (EDAP) to support our families experiencing landlord-tenant issues with rental assistance, utility bills assistance, landlord/tenant dispute resolution, and legal service to prevent evictions.



2019-20 Program Highlights



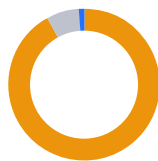
FAMILIES: 4,925

YOUTH: 1,361

TOTAL: 6,286



100% At or below the Federal Poverty Line (FPL)



92% Latino
7% Asian/Pacific Islander
1% Black



46% Female
53% Male
1% Non-Binary



*“Thanks to this foundation for making us feel part of a family, part of the community, and it makes us feel supported.”
- Angelina Padilla, single parent of two children*

FamilySource Center (FSC)

- Increased the aggregate income of **3,720** clients by **\$2,795,663**
- Case managed **530** clients
- **85** participants in Adult Computer Literacy, ESL, and Financial Literacy Classes
- Provided free tax prep to **274** clients helping them earn **\$499,418** in refunds
- Provided **82** families with **\$208,880** in emergency housing and cash relief

Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD)

- **153** students enrolled
- **94%** program graduation rate
- **100%** family involvement
- **1,614** hours of family and individual counseling

Bresee Academy for Middle Schoolers (BAM)

- **162** students enrolled in BAM
- **85%** attended and completed program
- **25%** increase in GPA in Math and English
- **100%** promoted to High School

Education & Career Exploration

- Provided **\$84,705** in college scholarships to **51** students
- **98%** college access students enrolled in college
- **77%** college persistence
- **48** students exploring STEAM through the Teen Tech Center
- **78** students completed financial literacy workshops

Sports Leadership

- Served **349** elementary and middle school students with sports leagues and recreation
- Provided **\$27,000** in paid internships to **27** students in the LAFC Youth Leadership Program
- **100%** of the **17** graduating Seniors enrolled in college
- Over **80%** growth in social skills and academic self-efficacy



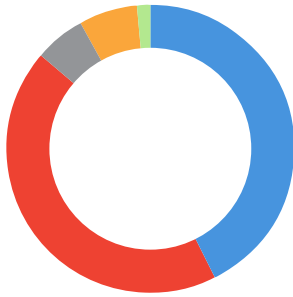
\$2,795,663

in increased aggregate
income to our
community



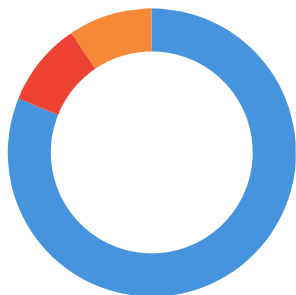
July 2019- June 2020 Donors

Income: \$3,371,540



- 42.6% Government
- 43.7% Foundation & Corporate
- 5.6% Individual Support
- 6.6% Special Events
- 1.5% Other Income & In-Kind

Expense: \$3,409,473



- 81.1% Programs
- 9.5% Fundraising
- 9.4% Administrative

\$200,000 +

California Community Foundation
City of Los Angeles - FamilySource Centers
City of Los Angeles - GRYD

\$100,000 to \$199,999

Ballmer Group
Best Buy Foundation and The Clubhouse Network
LAFC Foundation
Los Angeles Unified School District - ASES
The Rose Hills Foundation
Weingart Foundation

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Chay Lapin and Kim Nelson
Dwight Stuart Youth Fund
LA84 Foundation

\$25,000 to \$49,999

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Gordon L. and Julia P. Tuthill Family Foundation
Kenneth T. and Eileen L. Norris Foundation
Laureus Sport for Good Foundation USA
Mark Hughes Foundation
Patti's Way
The Albertsons Companies Foundation
The Eisner Foundation

\$10,000 to \$24,999

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City of Los Angeles
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Orange County Community Foundation
Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors - Fund for Shared Insight
Sempra Energy Foundation
SheaMoisture's Unsung Businesses Awards
Steve Lipp
The Carol and James Collins Foundation
U.S. Bank
United Way of Greater Los Angeles
Variety - The Children's Charity of Southern California
Women in Institutional Investments Network (WIIN)

\$5,000 to \$9,999

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Camino Nuevo Charter Academy
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\$2,500 to \$4,999

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\$500 to \$999

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"I gave to Bresee because I have seen first hand how hard the team works to support communities in need and the positive impact of that work." - Rob Longnecker, Bresee Board Member

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Up to \$99

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Our Mission

Bresee battles poverty by empowering youth and families in Los Angeles with the skills, resources, and relationships necessary to thrive.

Our Vision

A diverse community of Angelenos working together to break down barriers and lead fulfilling lives.

Our Values

Integrity | Resilience | Life-Long Learning
Community | Compassion



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