

# 2019 Annual Report

A Year of Accomplishments.



### TO OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS

2019 was a big year for us. Not only were we able to expand our Van Nuys Drop In Center, but we hosted our first press conference in Los Angeles City Hall and took over a city-wide awareness campaign to educate local businesses about human trafficking.

There have also been many personal triumphs in the lives of our clients. From having convictions vacated to starting new careers and reuniting with family members, they have made the transition from survival to hope and hope to freedom.

We have much to be thankful for, and we know these wins would not be possible without the continued support of Journey Out family and friends like you. Your tireless fundraising, volunteering, and donating is the reason we are able to do the work that we do.

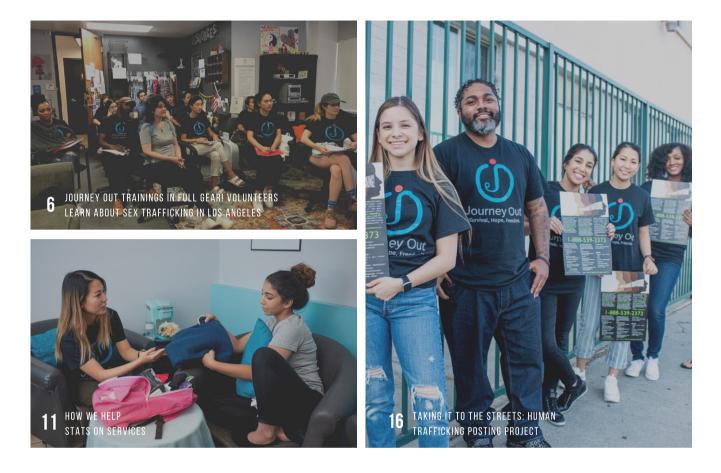
As we embark upon our 40th year, we look forward to continued growth, opportunities, and success for our clients. We hope you will join us in celebrating these milestones, then, now and in the future.

With appreciation,

**Dr. Stephany Powell** Executive Director



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Home Sweet Home

## OUR HOME MAKEOVER

WE'VE EXPANDED!





### **OUR MAKEOVER**

#### Bigger and better than ever

As the range of services we offer at Journey Out expanded, so did our need for space to accommodate the varying needs of our clients. We now operate on two floors at our Haskell Avenue location. The first floor continues to house our drop in center, complete with a therapy room for clinical counseling, computer stations for independent learning and job training, private quarters for HIV testing, and a newly revamped space for group classes. The third floor houses our communications, finance, and grant development teams.

"Having a beautiful, soothing space for therapy allows our clients to recognize that we prioritize their comfort and honor their journey towards healing." - Jennifer Dean, LCSW In addition to hygiene products, toiletries and beauty supplies, we offer a range of new clothing for our clients. Many of them are homeless and some come to us in extreme crisis, without shoes and other essential items. Committed to providing our clients with nothing but the best, we have an ample stockpile of interview clothing, undergarments, pants, skirts, dresses, and footwear. We accept new donations all year and have seen our clients grow with these added resources. From completing interviews to starting jobs in a range of fields, our clients are prepared for success from the inside out!

The increased space has made it easier for our clients to have a private environment reserved just for them. Media, visitors, and tours are only permitted when classes are not in session, allowing for a closed, uninterrupted, safe space for our clients to feel safe, heard and accepted. The additional room has also permitted many different activities to occur simultaneously, from health screenings to clinical counseling to job training activities. In addition to our active South Los Angeles location, our clients have embraced the new environment, participating in holiday parties, birthday events and other celebrations that further make it their own.



## PROJECT BEACON

One of our biggest successes this year was launching Project Beacon with the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office. Project Beacon is an initiative to identify and assist human trafficking victims who have been arrested for prostitution. After a screening process, anyone identified as a victim of human trafficking immediately receives services.

Regardless of whether they are identified as a victim, anyone in the program may opt into 8 sessions of diversion programming with us at Journey Out. These 8 sessions are group sessions specially designed for anyone involved in a life of commercial sexual exploitation. They are also coupled with employment opportunities that can aid in exiting the Life. Because this is a pretrial proceeding, clients avoid the traumatizing and intimidating process of having to appear before a judge as a result of their exploitation.

Those who complete the program with us are not prosecuted; the offense does not show up as an arrest on their record.

Project Beacon eliminates the need for having charges dismissed or vacated. This is a huge victory for clients, who often face an uphill battle obtaining jobs as a result of arrests for prostitution on their record.

## LASHES: A WAY OUT

One of the largest hurdles for those seeking to exit the life is a lack of employment opportunities, particularly for those who have an extensive arrest record. In what might be our most innovative offering yet, we recently partnered with a beauty professional to provide an alternative: eyelash extension technician training.

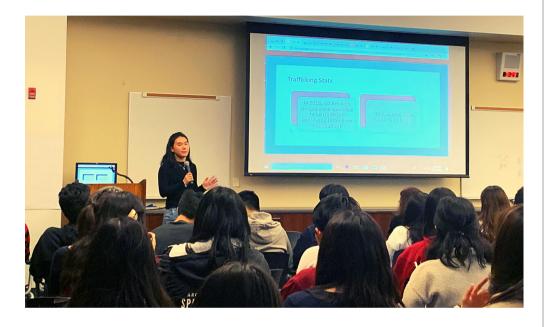
As eyelash extension technicians, our clients learn not only the skills to successfully apply eyelash extensions, but they also learn about pricing, managing a businesses, building a clientele, self empowerment, and other critical components of being an entrepreneur. Many of them view this as a stepping stone into esthetician school, cosmetology training, and other related fields. They also gain more confidence to develop and pursue their long term goals, earning a certificate at the end of the program. Each client also receives a lash kit with everything they need to start their own eyelash extension business.

### Clients in our lash technician training program can earn \$250 per lash extension

Clients have truly fallen in love with this program, and so have we! Each empowered client is one step closer to securing true freedom.

## **Prevention: Teens Leading the Way**

Committed not only to intervention and rehabilitation, we are tackling prevention of sex trafficking with teen leaders



#### Social media, increased loneliness and anxiety have made

teens more susceptible to sex trafficking than ever before. That is why we have partnered with passionate teen leaders to create the Teen Advocates Club.

The Teen Advocates Club is a program where teens are directly involved in creating and presenting content to educate other teens in their own communities. Alongside our staff, teens organize and lead training events at highschools across Los Angeles. In one hour workshops, our advocates explain the dangers of sex trafficking, warning signs, and how to get help. Every event includes a call to action, where students can opt to become teen advocates and directly assist in Journey Out's efforts by participating in outreach events, designing collateral content, and rallying others in their community in the fight against sex trafficking.

Our Teen Advocates have garnered significant recognition and praise for their efforts. They were even spotlighted on #MyFreedomDay, a CNN Freedom Project initiative to highlight youth around the world discussing the meaning of freedom in order to shed light on modern day slavery.







"I became a Teen Advocate because I wanted to do something about sex trafficking in my neighborhood. No one deserves to be trapped. The more we educate our peers, the more we can stop the cycle."

Flora Chen, leading teen advocate and co-founder of her own anti-trafficking organization, Future Unchained

To request a Teen Advocate presentation, please email us at mary.david@journeyout.org



### SPEAKER ADVOCATES

In addition to training youth as speakers, Journey Out has been working hard to mobilize the greater Los Angeles community and beyond as speaker advocates. To that end, we launched the Speaker Advocate Certification Training Program, a one day training event that equips participants to speak out publicly in their communities and to their networks.

Over the course of the training, speakers receive in depth training from our staff on various aspects of sex and labor trafficking including but not limited to: statistics, key terminology, risk factors, recruitment tactics, and specific indicators of



### ADVOCATES TRAINED

trafficking. We also provide every participant with a specially designed presentation that they can use in their own outreach. Local anti-labor and sex trafficking nonprofit leaders share additional resources and insights. Interactive in nature, there are various role-playing activities and brainstorming sessions that allow participants to actively engage with the content.

### SPEAKER ADVOCATE TRAINING PROGRAM OUTCOMES

From leading small group discussions to organizing donation drives and large scale educational forums, our participants have truly run with the content. Many have gone on to join our Speakers Bureau, a talented group of skilled professionals who speak alongside or on behalf of Journey Out regarding commercial sexual exploitation and human trafficking.





"I live in Oregon, but I flew to Los Angeles when I saw Journey Out was offering this training. It is one of a kind, and I had not seen or done anything like it. I'm so glad that I did."

- MARK WANG

2019

# OUR CLIENTS

IDENTIFY AS BIPOC

OF VARYING GENDERS, AGES, AND FAITH BACKGROUNDS

First ....

CLIENTS WHO EXIT THE LIFE AFTER COMPLETING OUR PROGRAMMING

CLIENTS AYEAR IN: REVIEW COYRIGHT 2020, JOURNEY OUT

JOURNEY OUT PROVIDES EXTENSIVE SERVICES SPANNING CLINICAL COUNSELING, JOB TRAINING, EMERGENCY CRISIS RESPONSE, STREET OUTREACH, SURVIVOR MENTORSHIP, AND EDUCATION TO THE PUBLIC AND AT RISK YOUTH. READ ON TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR OUTCOMES.

**VIEW FULL STATS** 

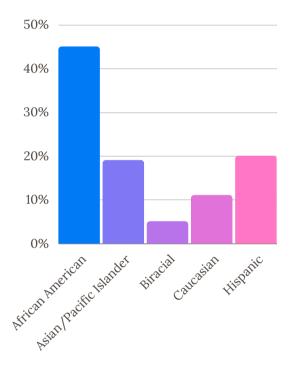
## **CLIENT DEMOGRAPHICS**

Our clients span a variety of ages, races, and nationalities.

### BY AGE

# Age 40+ 21% Age 18-24 (TAY) 37%

#### **BY RACE/ETHNICITY**





# 1 IN 5

of our clients were born outside of the US.

#### STATISTICS

#### PAGE 13 | 2019

# **11,924** SERVICES

were provided. This included art therapy, HIV education, transportation services, providing food/clothing, completing referrals for housing/legal assistance, job training, survivor mentorship, clinical counseling, and case management.

## **3,211** PEOPLE

were educated about human trafficking by our staff. They included members of law enforcement, government agencies, community organizations, faith leaders and their constituents, and service providers.

**1,159** уолтн

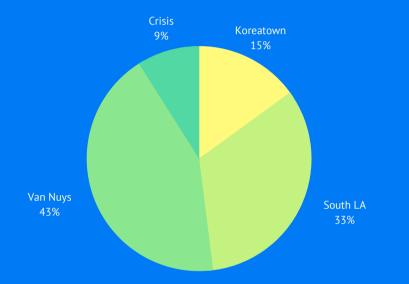
received sex trafficking prevention education in schools, religious and community groups, and special programming.

## **112** CLIENTS

completed the Prostitution Diversion Program. <u>955 clients have</u> <u>successfully completed the</u> <u>Prostitution Diversion Program</u> <u>since its inception.</u>

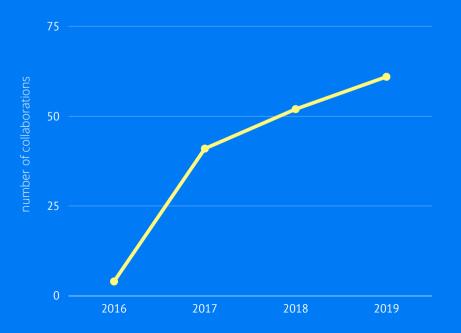
# In the trenches: Our case managers

From out on the tracks in South Los Angeles to the Valley, our case managers assisted our clients in multiple locations. While the majority were served at our Drop in Center, a large percentage also received services at our South LA office, APAIT in Koreatown, and directly in locations of crisis.



#### LAW ENFORCEMENT COLLABORATION

Journey Out works extensively with the Los Angeles Police Department in the aiding of those in the Life. Our crisis response managers are often the first called when law enfocement uncovers a potential victim.





## Journey Out served 329 clients this year

## Human Trafficking Posting Project:

MAKING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFER



#### STATS OVER THE PAST WEEK

In July 2019, Journey Out launched the Human Trafficking Posting Projecting (HTPP), continuing the legacy of the poster initiative spearheaded by the National Council of Jewish Women. This is in partnership with the Los Angeles City Attorney's Office, the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office, and City Council President Nury Martinez, among others.

#### PART EDUCATION

Journey Out educates volunteers and local businesses about Senate Bill 1193, which mandates that certain establishments post the local and national human trafficking hotlines prominently on their premises.

#### PART RESOURCE PROVISION

Trained volunteers provide mandated establishments with copies of the hotlines to post on site, giving victims and the public a way to get help or report a tip.



394

Businesses visited and provided with posters throughout Los Angeles



Volunteers trained in sixth months



unique jurisdictions/ congressional districts canvassed

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers are crucial to the work we do. We are wholeheartedly grateful to have volunteers like Jerron Mosley conducting outreach and serving as a role model and resource for at risk youth,

"Through volunteering at Journey Out, I have learned respectful, authentic, and effective approaches when offering services to victims. I have also learned to present essential information to people in various settings, from students in high schools and medical and mental health service providers to law enforcement and corporate nonprofit entities."



### **JERRON MOSLEY**

# 383.75

hours in service were provided by our volunteers from August 2019 - December 2019. These hours include conducting outreach in the community, tabling and helping coordinate events, and carrying out specialized projects.



volunteers assisted Journey Out in 2019.

# **STORIES OF HOPE**

\*names changed to protect identity

Kiara<sup>\*</sup> got into the life right out of high school. Growing up in Long Beach, she came from a home that was just above the poverty line. She didn't want to burden her family and was just looking for a way to get by.

Filled with enormous shame and desperation, she tried very hard to keep the Life a secret, but it ate away at her. This strained her relationship with them, isolating her and pushing her more into the street.

In her mid twenties, Kiara found herself at Journey Out. She started out dejected and unmotivated, but over the next two years, she really wanted to get her life back on track. Through her work with one of our case managers, she was able to get a job working as a security detail for a major television network.

### **"OUR CLIENTS KNOW THAT SER VICES DON'T END WHEN THEY GET THROUGH COURT. WE ARE WITH THEM THROUGH THE LONG HAUL."**

- Stephanie Grant, Group Facilitator

of our clients received survivor mentorship in 2019, including job

> preparation and learning interview skills

STORIES OF HOPE | 2019 EDITION

## Jade's STORY

Jade<sup>\*</sup> grew up in Los Angeles and ran away from home after enduring years of emotional abuse. While sleeping in her car, a pimp who saw her vulnerable state offered to give her the stability and comfort she was lacking. He soon began trafficking her in and out of hotels. Jade was recovered through Project Beacon and immediately began working with Journey Out.

After securing emergency housing for Jade and her mother, Journey Out case managers were able to get Jade into a housing program for youth. Jade was also able to enter the LAX Hospitality program as a result of Project Beacon. In addition to earning a steady wage, she received an industry-recognized certificate and continued to work on her resume, next securing employment at two more commercial establishments.

### But she didn't stop there...

Case managers assisted Jade in completing paperwork, obtaining official documents such as her birth certificate, and providing her with interview clothing, vocational training and survivor mentorship. Jade went on to enroll in the Lash Technician class offered through Journey Out. After becoming a certified lash technician, Jade soon secured her first client. While she builds up her clientele, she is working on her GED, continues to receive counseling, and eventually wants to own her own business. We are so proud of Jade!

### **OUR PARTNERS**



"These fearless leaders have taken our capacity, our mission, and our services to the next level."

DR. STEPHANY POWELL

Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team Health Center **Bienestar California Massage Therapy Council California State Senator Robert Hertzberg Communities in Schools Covenant House Dignity Health Empower Her Family Assistance Center** Harbor UCLA Trauma Recovery Center **Haven Hills** Jenesse Center Los Angeles California Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice Los Angeles City Attorney's Office Los Angeles City Council President Nury Martinez, Council District 6 Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Los Angeles District Attorney's Office **Los Angeles Police Department St. Francis Medical Center Strength United Tarzana Treatment Centers** Westmont Counseling Center

## DONOR ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### Our work would not be possible without the major gifts of those listed below:

- Adamma Foundation
- Affordable Housing Access
- Alison Thomas Racial Justice Fund
- Burton Bettingen Foundation
- Calvary Presbyterian Church
- Carl E. Wynn Foundation
- Cherise Charleswell
- City of Los Angeles
- Coalition to Abolish Slavery &Trafficking
- Cohn Reznick
- Dignity Health Northridge Hospital
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
- First Presbyterian Church (Santa Monica)
- First Presbyterian Garden Grove
- First Presbyterian Church of Granada Hills
- L & N Andreas Family Foundation
- Los Angeles Water & Power Employees Association
- LWML Zone 4
- Morgan Stanley
- National Council of Jewish Woman
- Raymond James Charitable Endowment (Francis Levy Memorial Fund)
- The Rest Cottage Association
- Ebell of LA
- Sahm Family Foundation

- Selah Way Foundation
- Serving USA
- Shepherd of the Valley United Presbyterian - Deacon Fund
- Sherman Oaks Lutheran Church
- Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
- Soroptimist Int'l of Artesia
- Soroptimist Int'l of the Conejo Svc Fund
- Soroptomist International of Downey
- Soroptomist International of Simi Valley
- St. Francis Memorial Center
- St Lawrence Martyr Catholic Church
- St Luke's Presbyterian Church
- St Matthew's United Methodist Church
- State of California-CAL-OES
- Visionary Women
- Weingart Foundation
- Whitney Young Children's Foundation
- William C. Bannerman Foundation
- Woodland Hills Presbyterian Church
- YWCA of Greater Los Angeles
- Donors who wish to remain anonymous

#### APAIT CAST

City Attorney of Los Angeles Covenant House Whovian Running Club Ebony Williams Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble True Moxie Photography Sexy Boss Babe St. Francis Trauma Recovery Center Strength United UCLA Van Nuys United Methodist WEAVEO Westmount Counseling Zonta Club of Burbank

eci

NBB Academy for Professionals Rhiannon Jane Love RIDE Diana Biglari

### TO THOSE WHO DIRECTLY ASSIST OUR PROGRAMMING

LA Works Leah Switzer Lia Richardson UCLA Bruin Belles Hospitality Training Academy of Los Angeles

Jocelyn White/Slavery No More Jenesse Center Jennifer Gold Family Assistance Program, Open Door Christina Brinkerhoff Westchester College of Health Sciences Marie Valencia & Rotary of Greater Van Nuys Ron Knerem Photography De Jur Jones



## SURVIVAL. HOPE. Freedom.

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